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THE CRITIC.

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THE CRITIC,

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EDITORIAL NOTES.

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.

The New York *Witness* says that there are now in the United States 150 black editors. We were under the impression that a much larger number of editors looked black, but we presume the statement in the *Witness* is somewhat colored.

The Czar of Russia has awakened to a realization of the results which are likely to follow the annexation to Burmah by Britain. An Anglo-Chinese Alliance he evidently regards as most undesirable, and it is said that his Russian emissaries are already at work among the Chinese to frustrate its accomplishment.

A Scotch minister, in descending upon the evils growing out of the accumulation of wealth in the hands of the few, endeavored to enlighten his congregation as to the whereabouts of the late Mr. Vanderbilt, stating that he had no hesitation in concluding that Mr. Vanderbilt had not reached Heaven, seeing that railway kings could find no employment in the "home of the blest."

During the late campaign in the Soudan, it was alleged that the bayonets supplied to the troops were of an inferior quality of steel, being so soft that they were practically useless in an engagement. In a recent test of 3000 bayonets, upwards of 600 were rejected by the military authorities, as worthless.

Between Saxony and Russia is a little strip of land, 960 feet in length, by 400 in width, the owner of which pays no taxes, is exempt from the laws which hold good in the adjoining Kingdoms, and acknowledges allegiance to neither Prince nor Emperor. Were this "no man's land" more accessible, it would soon become the fashionable resort for American bank cashiers, who use the funds of their banks to speculate in stocks.

The weight of royalty rests heavy on the brow of at least two European princes. The King of Bavaria is in serious financial embarrassments, his debts amounting to \$4,000,000; and much discontent has manifested itself among his creditors. The King of Greece finds the duty of ruling over the present inhabitants of the land of Solon, Plato and Pericles, so uncongenial that he purposes abdicating the throne, and retiring to Denmark.

At length, after many years of weary search, the source of the Amazon has been discovered. In a recent paper read before the Royal Geographical Society, London, Mr. Thum, the discoverer, made a graphic description of his perilous clamber up the steep face of Mount Rovainia, upon the opposite declivity of which he discovered a small lake; from this a little rivulet flows down the mountain side, which is the source of the world's greatest river. We can imagine the feelings of satisfaction of Mr. Thum, as he stood beside the tiny stream, which finally entered the sea by a magnificent estuary 180 miles wide, after a course of nearly 4,000 miles.

For grand scientific schemes, the Frenchmen of to-day can compare most favorably with any other people. Witness the Suez and Panama Canal undertakings, the use of inoculation as a cure for rabies, the project of converting the Sahara into an inland sea. And just now we read of a proposition made by French astronomers to construct maps, shewing in their exact positions the twenty millions of stars included in the first fifteen magnitudes. The undertaking, as novel as it is gigantic, and requiring the co-operation of the astronomers of all nations, is to be accomplished by means of photography. Such maps, preserving for the study of future astronomers the present aspect of the heavens, will be of immense importance to their investigations.

The growing disregard of the Sabbath in American cities, so noticeable to foreigners, is leading to a reaction. In Philadelphia, a proclamation has been issued by the Mayor to the effect that the old existing laws against Sabbath desecration will be put in force. In Cincinnati, the Law and Order League have presented Governor Foraker with articles of impeachment against the police authorities for culpable neglect in not having enforced the laws bearing on Sunday theatrical performances. The minority, who are believers in Sabbath observance, may call this the tyranny of the majority, but, after all, a government's duties are largely of a paternal character, and the freedom of action of one of its children must sometimes be restricted in the interests of the family.

A special despatch to a New York paper gives an account of a most striking incident, said to have occurred at a place called Millersburg, Pa. A crowd of carousers at a hotel were going through, with mock solemnity, the form of partaking of the Lord's Supper, when their horrible impiety was interrupted by the appearance of "an immense ill formed beast with great cloven feet, pointed horns, and eyes that flashed fire." All fled in terror, and the man who was administering the sacrament soon died a maniac, declaring that he had seen the Evil One. But then, men who have imbibed too freely have had glimpses of His Satanic Majesty before, even without the aid of such impiety or the imagination of a New York reporter.

A most important movement has just been inaugurated by committees of the Presbyterian and Methodist Churches in Canada. At a conference held in Ottawa, the two committees decided on a plan of co-operation in mission work, which will obviate the necessity of maintaining two missions in a poor field. They recommended that a joint committee of the two churches be appointed to consider the wants of such mission fields, and to report to the proper courts of both churches on the advisability of one church giving way to the other. The idea is certainly a liberal, apparently a practicable, and if so, a decidedly beneficial one.

The broadest as well as the most delicate question, to-day, in European politics, is the ownership of the soil. Communistic ideas, in some modified but none the less decided form, shew themselves in the utterances and the measures of some of the leading European statesmen. It is by out-bidding communists that Bismark controls communism. In the newly-formed British Cabinet there are at least two ministers, whose theories are communistic in their tendency, Mr. Morley and Mr. Chamberlain. Mr. Gladstone, too, is strongly suspected of having similar leanings; but Mr. Gladstone's opinions on great and dangerous questions are generally matter for conjecture. The Irish Land Question will afford this Cabinet, if it is so disposed, an excellent opportunity for inserting the thin end of the wedge into the present system. The Crofters of Scotland, the tenant-farmers of Wales, and finally the farmers of England, will furnish fresh openings.

The contributions of the Island of Cape Breton to the revenues of Nova Scotia and the Dominion, since 1867, amount to almost ten million dollars. The expenditures of the two governments on the Island since that year, for lighthouses, breakwaters, roads and bridges, &c., &c., do not amount altogether to even a fair moiety of that sum. If both governments, or either of them, were using the unreturned monies in paying off public debts, Cape Breton might find some consolation in the reflection that she was being treated as well as the rest of the Province. The fact is, however, that both governments have, since 1867, incurred heavy liabilities in making elsewhere public improvements which have been denied to Cape Breton. This is neither equitable nor politic. It is a stigma upon the reputation of our public men, and it gives the lie to the contention that our public affairs are administered with perfect fairness and impartiality.

THE PEOPLE'S RAILWAY.

From all sides we hear complaints of the way in which the I. C. Railway is at present being managed. These complaints are either without foundation, or they arise from a condition of affairs which require immediate investigation. This railway is the people's road, and it cannot, therefore, with justice to the people, be run so as to unduly favor the interest of private individuals or particular sections. To work the Intercolonial Road upon commercial principles, is the avowed aim of Mr. Collingwood Schrieber; but, if in doing this, he gives to St. John wholesale dealers unfair advantages over those of Halifax, Truro, and Amherst, in the matter of rates, and establishes a tariff, prejudicial to the interests of Halifax manufacturers, as compared with those of Montreal, it is time his commercial principles were remodelled in the direction of commercial equity.

Private individuals have an undoubted right to enter into a legitimate enterprise such, as the building and carrying on of the Inch Arran hotel at Dalhousie; but they have no right whatever to use their positions, official or otherwise, to ensure the success of their enterprise, by the issuing of free tickets over the people's railway to the guests who put up at this particular hotel. We believe that Messrs. Pottinger and Taylor are most capable railway officials; but we think, that in view of the many direct charges made against the management of the railway, they should, in justice to themselves, court the fullest enquiry as to the grounds upon which these charges are based. The public interests demand that a careful investigation be made, and this without delay. Should such an investigation prove that the affairs of the road are being honestly and judiciously administered, we shall gladly give publicity to the same.

But if matters are allowed to drift along, as at present, without any effort being made by the railway authorities to refute the serious charges that have been made against their management, we shall use our best endeavors to ascertain and give publicity to the causes of the present dissatisfaction.

A BROAD COMMERCIAL UNION.

Undoubtedly, the people of Canada favor reciprocal trade relations between the Dominion and the United States, but they will require something more than mere assertion to convince them that the doctrine of Commercial Union now being promulgated by Wharton Barker, of Philadelphia, and Professor Goldwin Smith, of Toronto, is the doctrine to which they are called upon to pin their faith. With unrestricted Commercial Union, the Custom Houses on each side of our southern boundary line would be abolished, and this it is claimed would open to Canada a market eleven times as great as that which she now enjoys; but it would, at the same time, throw open to the competition of the 55,000,000 people in the United States the restricted markets of Canada. And it yet remains to be proved that the extension of our markets would compensate for the keen competition that would follow in our home markets. The advocates of Commercial Union appear to count upon the Mother Country quietly acquiescing in an arrangement by which American manufacturers would secure privileges from which the manufacturers of Britain would be shut out by a hostile tariff equal to that of the United States. If the theory of Protection is tenable, the supporters of that policy cannot endorse the doctrine of Commercial Union with a country like the United States of unlimited wealth and resources, the outcome of which would be the annihilation of our infant industries. If the free trade theory is correct, the supporters of that broader and more enlightened policy cannot go back on their principles by uniting their commercial interests with a country in which the Protectionist's ideas predominate, thus cutting themselves off from the possibility of closer Commercial Union with the only free trade country under the sun. Let us first obtain Commercial Union within the British Empire, and it will then be time enough to talk glibly about making a similar arrangement with the United States. The British Empire, including Great Britain and Ireland, with forty Colonial possessions, has an area three times as great as that of the United States, and a population more than five times as large. The field for Commercial Union in this direction is certainly wide enough to satisfy those who clamor for the extension of our markets. Moreover, such a union would not be fraught with the same grave dangers to our political existence as is that advocated by Goldwin Smith and Wharton Barker.

A MEDAL FOR THE POLICE.

We see by our exchanges from the North-West that great dissatisfaction exists in the Mounted Police at the denial to that force of the medal awarded to the troops engaged in the suppression of the Riel insurrection. Nor is the dissatisfaction confined to the Police, for it seems to be fully shared by the Press of the territories, a large portion of which is outspoken in denunciation of an injustice which certainly appears to us to be flagrant. Strong assertions are not wanting that the services of the Police have been systematically depreciated, and the force insulted, in a manner (if the allegations are correct) in the highest degree discreditable to the high-functionary to whose charge this petty jealousy is laid. It is not altogether easy to believe that the treatment of the force has been quite as disgraceful as has been confidently and unhesitatingly affirmed, but we do not forget the extreme difficulty which we experienced during the operations of last spring in accounting for movements, or want of movement, of the causes of which it seemed desirable that the public should be made aware. The impenetrable mystery which obscured the sources of information was quite inexplicable, tho' it did not then arouse suspicion that the solution of problems might be discoverable in sinister motives in a quarter where it would never have occurred to men of honor believing in honor—especially in military honor—to look.

To those who know Col. Irvine, for instance, the inactivity of his immediate command while General Middleton was approaching Batoche, gave an unpleasant impression, which was far from being dispelled by the tardy and unsatisfactory explanation that he had no horses.

Now, in 1871, in bad fall weather, Col. Irvine marched his infantry and artillery force at a moment's notice, from Fort Garry to Dufferin, to repel the Fenian raid, which Col. Wheaton the U. S. Commander at Pembina had, with the most honorable promptitude, and owing to his close vicinity, already crushed. But, in the then existing state of feeling south of the border, Irvine could not calculate on so rapid and friendly an action, and there being then no telegraph, was in fact unaware of it. It was therefore natural to suppose that in default of horses he would have advanced to take the rebels in the rear, on foot.

The N.W. press unhesitatingly solves the puzzle by asserting that Irvine was kept stationary by imperative orders which it does not scruple to ascribe to very base motives. However this may be, General Middleton cannot be acquitted of perverted preceptions in the gross injustice of his resolute refusal to recommend the police for the medal.

His alleged reason is, if correctly reported, absurd. He is stated to have based his action on the fact that the Police is a force paid for regular duty. If such a plea be admitted, the whole system of giving medals to the Imperial army is unsound.

We are of opinion that granting a medal at all was a mistake. But, being granted, there is no reason or equity in withholding it from the Police, the strong discrimination against whom is most invidious. As it is, the Police trooper has no grant of land to look forward to, after five years' hard service, while the volunteer gets (as he deserves) his grant for three or four months.

It is a matter the Government should look to at once.

OCEANA.

The present and future relations of England and her colonies are attracting so much attention at present that the publication of Mr. Froude's new book "Oceana," is as welcome as it is timely. Written in an easy style, and filled with the pleasant chit-chat peculiar to books of travel, it incidentally throws much light on the question of Imperial Confederation, and the present condition of the Colonies. But first, a word as to the name "Oceana." It is borrowed from a work of the same name by the great political writer Sir James Harrington, who dedicated his book to Oliver Cromwell. Harrington's *Oceana* is a description of an ideal republic, and in this respect it resembles Plato's *Republic* and Sir Thomas More's *Utopia*. Harrington, however, takes occasion to indulge in a prophecy as to the future greatness of the British people; and it is this feature which has led Mr. Froude to adopt the name "Oceana."

In December, 1884, the author left England, on a tour around the world, in which he visited Cape Colony, Australia, New Zealand, the Pacific Islands, and the United States. The result of that trip is the book "Oceana." One most important colony of Britain, Mr. Froude, for a very insufficient reason, did not visit. While at Buffalo he looked out, saw the waters of Lake Erie skirted with broken ice, and concluded not to tempt the rigors of an arctic clime by entering Canada. Had he been less timid, he might have met with many an agreeable surprise, even in the matter of climate; and Canada might have received her due share of encomium from his facile pen. As it is, he is most enthusiastic when describing Australia, "where the people are busy with their own affairs, and the harbors are crowded with ships, and the quays with loading carts, and the streets with men; where every one seems occupied, and everyone at least moderately contented."

Mr. Froude points out the change which has come over the views of English statesmen respecting the importance of the colonies to Britain. After mentioning several amusing instances of ignorance concerning the colonies on the part of former statesmen, the author says:—"The temper represented in this cool indifference is passing away. The returns of trade show, in the first place, that commerce follows the flag. Our colonists take three times as much of our productions, in proportion to their number, as foreigners take. The difference increases, rather than diminishes, and the Australian, as a mere consumer, is more valuable to us than the American. What more he can be, his voluntary presence at Suakim has indicated for him to all the world." His summing up of the arguments for and against Imperial Federation is as follows:—

"The wish will be its own realization. Two pieces of cold iron cannot be welded by the most ingenious hammering; at white heat they will combine of themselves. Let the colonies say that they desire to be permanently united with us; let the people at home repudiate as emphatically a desire for separation, and the supposed difficulties will be like the imaginary lion in the path—formidable only to the fool or the sluggard. No great policy was ever carried through which did not seem once impossible. Of all truly great political achievements the organization of a united British Empire would probably be found the easiest."

In schools and colleges there is a rapidly growing tendency to allow the learner to choose his own course. It is found that different minds have different aptitudes, and it is thought best to allow each individual to decide what subjects he can study to advantage. As far as advanced college work is concerned, the principle is a good one, because the college student is tolerably capable of judging. But boys are often allowed by their indulgent parents to omit work which is of the highest importance, on the specious plea that they have no liking for it. A great deal they know about it! Their parents are only telling them take the primrose way to weakness of will and one-sidedness of culture.

TO PUZZLE CONTRIBUTORS.

We have no more puzzles on hand. We hope to hear from some of our contributors before next issue.

Answer to Double Acrostic published last week.

S O I L
N I S I
A R A B
R O A R
L A R A
E W E R
R U B Y

TIT-BITS.

Read the following illustrations of the importance of punctuation ; and if you ever feel unkindly towards a printer who had dropped a comma from your article, just grasp him gently by the hand and thank him for not having done worse and made you appear an out and-out idiot. The illustrations are old but not generally known.

1. "Every lady in this land
Hath twenty nails upon each hand ;
Five and twenty on hands and feet,
And this is true without deceit."

In the same, not in other, words :—

"Every lady in this land
Hath twenty nails ; upon each hand
Five ; and twenty on hands and feet,
And this is true without deceit."

2. A barber's sign, as understood by the customer :—

"What do you think ?
I'll shave you for nothing,
And give you some drink."

How different, when explained by the barber as follows :—

"What ! Do you think
I'll shave you for nothing,
And give you some drink ?"

Here is something to please the spelling reformer :—

If an S and an i and an o and a u, with an x at the end, spell "Su,"
And an o and a y and an e spell "i," pray what is a speller to do ?
Then if also an s and an i and a g and an h o d spell "side,"
There's nothing much left for a speller to do but to go and commit Siouxeve
sighed. —Chicago News.

KEEPING HIS PLACE.—Sir George : "Look here, John ; my lady complains that when you see her in the street you never salute her. What do you mean by it?" John : "Beggin' your pardin', Sir George, but in a book on ettykotty which I possess, it is set down the lady ought to bow first."—Judy.

"I see that the emperar of Germany has conferred the order of the red eagle upon General Wolseley," observed Ebenezer Jones to Zebedee Smith.

"Yes, so I noticed. Is that the principal German order?" asked Smith.

"Oh, no."

"What?"

"The principal German order is 'Zwei Beer.'"

An exchange says: "Last week a stranger came to our town with a turned up nose and run down boots." A town with a turned up nose and run down boots cannot hope to become a great commercial center.

A country boy applied to an editor for a position. "Have you ever done any newspaper work?" the editor asked. "Naw," the boy replied, "but I ken do it," then, noticing the editor tearing wrappers from exchanges, he said: "I ken do that sorter work better'n the next man, fur I allus wuz a boss hand at shuckin' co'n."

It has been arranged that a sum of £100,000 is to be taken yearly from the King of Bavaria's civil list for the payment of his Majesty's private debts.

Benjamin Fish, secretary of Barnum's big show, has handled over \$10,000,000 during the past ten years without making, so far as known, a single error.

London pays \$7,000,000 annually for milk, and possibly ten times as much for beer.

In Paris the dress-making trade represents the movement of \$50,000,000 a year, and gives employment to 30,000 women. Some of the society women spend as much as \$20,000 a year on their costumes.

Cars made of compressed paper are to be used on a New York street railway.

Lord Wolseley is writing a history of Marlborough's campaigns.

The gold and silver plate which the Duke of Cumberland has just inherited from the late King of Hanover and the Duke of Brunswick weighs upwards of eighty tons.

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Print in colors
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Who have printing to do.

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Clerks, Auctioneers
Print for druggists,
For dealers in wares.

We print for drapers,
For grocers, for all,
Who want printing done,
And will come or may call

We print pamphlets,
And bigger books, too ;
In fact there are few things
But what we can do.

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Of all color in use, sirs,
Especially fit for
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Best Golden Syrup and Bright Molasses, Large,
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170 bbls "Pillsbury's best" Flour
200 bags (40lbs) do do
250 bbls American K. D. C. Meal
6 bbls Shoulder Hams
100 pieces Rolled and Breakfast Bacon
1500 hhd's Liverpool Salt
500 full bound Mackerel Barrels
5000 boxes tall and flat Lobster Box Shook

General Fishing Supplies.

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233 Barrington Street,

(Next Door to H. Lethbridge's Clothing
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—Mince, Apple, Blueberry, etc.; Oat Cake,
Short Bread etc., etc.
Best in the city. Try them.

H. MONTGOMERIE.

R. F. McCOLL,

232 ARGYLE ST., North of Colonial Market.

Ladies' and Children's Wool Hosiery
at Bottom Prices.

Men and Boys' Knitted Gloves at
COST to CLEAR.

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HALIFAX, N. S.

NEWS OF THE WEEK.

Subscribers remitting money will kindly look for receipt in next paper.

A one dollar bill, sent to W. L. Lowell, Treasurer of the Poor Association, will, in the hands of the committee, do more in the way of helping our suffering poor, than twice that sum bestowed upon street and door beggars. By the way, door beggars in Halifax have become an intolerable nuisance, and their dirty subscription papers, upon which are paraded the names of the charity advertisers, are simply disgusting. Our benevolence should flow through proper channels, and one of the best of these channels, in Halifax, is the Poor Association. Send your money to W. L. Lowell.

During the heavy storm which occurred in this city on Monday night last, St. Andrew's Church was struck by lightning. On examination it was ascertained that the boards and shingles of the steeple were torn off in many places, and that other parts of the building had suffered considerable damage. The cost of the repairs will be considerable.

Cotton stocks have touched bottom, and are now on the rise, the outlook for cotton manufacturers in Canada, has, during the past twelve months, greatly improved. This is due to the fact that the mills have varied their products.

Winnipeg is now discussing the prospects of the Hudson Bay Railway and the probability of its early construction. It will only cost \$8,000,000; and this is considered in the prairie city a mere bagatelle. It might be well to establish the feasibility of the projected route before expending even such a small sum. A fraction of the amount would give Cape Breton all the railway facilities she requires, complete the "Missing Link," the Nictaux and the Atlantic, and the proposed Hants County Central Railway.

A friendly critic takes exception to a paragraph which appeared in our columns, respecting free church sittings, upon the ground that the church includes the whole body of the faithful scattered throughout the world, and that the word as used by us was misleading. We think, however, the general public will consider free sittings in a church as synonymous with free sittings in the buildings in which Christians gather to worship. The distinction is hypocritical.

With reference to the origin of the name by which Nova Scotians are known, both at home and abroad, "New Brunswick," in a letter to the *Boston Globe*, says:—"The people of Nova Scotia derived the name of 'Blue Nose' by a remark made by George IV. of England. When he was Prince of Wales, he spent a number of years in Halifax. On his return to London one of the guests inquired where those fine mealy potatoes were grown. The Prince replied—'They grew in Nova Scotia, and they call them 'blue noses.' They were the early blue variety, then a great favorite with the people of Nova Scotia." A correspondent, who is himself a native of Nova Scotia, writes us that the seed of the "blue nose" potato was brought to this country by the Loyalists, at the time of their expulsion from the United States.

The barque *C. S. Parnell*, of Richibucto, was recently boarded by the naval authorities, while undergoing some repairs in the harbor of Dublin. "What's in a name?" The barque's papers were found to be correct, and no dynamite was discovered in the ship's hold. The name she bore was sufficient to arouse the suspicion of the authorities, despite the fact that the Canadian flag was flying at the mast-head.

Gladstone is evidently preparing to introduce a measure for Irish land reform. The question of Home Rule will probably be deferred until the more difficult land problem is solved.

The Professor's houses in connection with King's College, which were destroyed by fire some years since, and upon which there was an insurance of \$6,000, are to be re-built. Kings is making a determined fight for existence.

It is said that an emissary of the Mormon Church has been secretly disseminating its doctrines in Nova Scotia. He mistakes the intelligence of the "Blue Noses," if he imagines that a church which encourages bigamy can have any attractions for them.

President Washburn, of the Minneapolis and Annapolis Railway, and Sir George Stephen, of the C. P. R., have shaken hands across the Sault St. Marie, and have agreed to at once proceed with the construction of a railway *via* the Sault, connecting Minneapolis with the Algoma Mills branch of the C. P. R. Upon the American side a direct line 270 miles in length; and upon the Canadian side a line of 85 miles—in all, 355 miles will be required. By this road the distance between Minneapolis and Montreal will be 870 miles, while between the same cities *via* Chicago, it is 1240, a difference in favor of the Northern route of 370 miles.

An attempt is now being made to form a northern colony of French Canadians about Lake Temiscamisque, in the Province of Quebec. The founders of the new colony are holding out strong inducements to expatriated French Canadians.

Messrs. Davidson & McManus are always ready to suit their customers. Good material, good workmanship, and moderate prices, they recognize as the essentials in the prosecution of their tailoring business.

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It has been intimated that the government intends making the next three years a "close season" in the lobster fisheries. Those who are engaged in the lobster business should have timely notice of the government's intention, otherwise they may prepare for the prosecution of their business, as in former years, which, in the event of the fisheries being closed, would entail a heavy loss.

Martin Chuzzlewit was disappointed in finding his American Eden a swamp. The *Glasgow Herald* publishes an account of a recent land swindle, in which a number of well-to-do stockmen were induced to purchase land at a place called Sarasota Bay, in Florida. 150 persons emigrated for the purpose of settling the lands, and found, on their arrival, that they were the unhappy owners of an extensive waste of sand.

The Truro Condensed Milk Company are to be congratulated upon the success of its enterprise. The milk condensed and canned is now acknowledged by those who have given it a fair trial to be of first-class quality. With the reputation for honest dealing, which the company has established, its business without doubt will steadily increase.

The following arrangement respecting the Newfoundland French Shore question has been agreed upon by the joint commission, and will, if ratified by the British, French, and Newfoundland governments, come into force. The French government are not to object to the establishment of different industries on the coast, the French rights of fishing are to be maintained; the police of the fisheries is to be managed by the ships of war of England and France; the French government abandons the salmon fisheries in the rivers, and French fishermen are to be exempt from paying duties for articles necessary for their fishing.

A public meeting was held in Dartmouth on Monday evening last in the interests of the new Halifax and Dartmouth Steam Ferry Company. A large and enthusiastic audience was in attendance. The chair was occupied by Warden Frazee, who voiced the sentiment of the meeting in favor of improved ferry service. Messrs. A. C. Ross, J. C. Mackintosh, H. F. Worrall, B. F. Chipman, and C. F. Fraser, addressed the meeting, urging upon the people of Dartmouth the necessity that existed for their taking stock in the new company. Better ferry accommodation was now within their reach, and with their support, would soon become an accomplished fact. At the close of the meeting stock lists were opened and a large number of those present put down their names as subscribers.

Try the fruit syrups manufactured by Moir, Son & Co., a good article has only to be known to be appreciated. The bread, biscuit, and confectionery manufactured in the establishment are already favorably known.

The Dominion Line of steamers plying between Halifax and Liverpool, of which A. G. Jones and Co. are the agents, have on the route first-class freight and passenger steamers.

The marked moderation of tone and the wise absence of menace which characterize Parnell's speech on the reply to the address from the throne, has elicited encomiums from English Liberal papers.

The Directors of the Nova Scotia Sugar Refinery propose issuing preferential stock to the value of \$300,000, of which it is supposed the Merchants Bank of Halifax will take up a large portion, and thus enable the company to wipe out a portion of its indebtedness to the bank.

The New Brunswick lumbermen are again agitated over the high stumpage taxation which they are obliged to endure. \$1.25 per M. feet of spruce does seem a very heavy percentage to pay into the treasury.

All classes and all creeds have reason to feel thankful that Pope Leo XIII has recovered from his recent illness. Pope Leo is one of the most broad-minded pontiffs that has sat in St. Peter's chair for many centuries. His policy is peace.

We understand that Mr. W. H. Johnson, the enterprising dealer in Pianofortes and Organs, will leave in a few days for a short visit to the Southern States. Mr. Johnson has by his application and forethought built up a splendid business. His warerooms, which are most spacious, are filled with first-class pianos and organs. Enterprise has its own reward even in Nova Scotia.

There appears to be small prospect of the renewal of the Fishery Treaty between Canada and the United States. The New England fishermen have done all in their power to belittle the privileges granted to them under the Washington Treaty, and affect to regard our inshore fisheries as worthless. Under these circumstances they will have no reason to protest should their fishing smacks be seized when found poaching within the three mile limit.

The company who are occupying the boards at the Academy during the present week are among the best that Halifax audiences have the privilege of listening to. The repertoire is an extensive and varied one. Apart from the dramatic genius of the principal actor, Miln, the strength of the company lies in its all-round excellence. Some members of the troop show a disposition, as Hamlet says: "To tear a passion to tatters, to very rags, to split the ears of the groundling;" and from this charge very few modern actors are free. But, generally speaking, the different members of this troupe are admirably selected and thoroughly trained to fill their respective roles.

The proprietor of the Albion Hotel is fully determined to keep abreast of the times. A fire escape has been erected on the front of the building which conduces to the safety of the guests and presents a very neat appearance.

RELIGIOUS.

CATHOLIC.

STATISTICS OF LOUVAIN.—According to the annual statistics just issued, the Catholic University of Louvain had a much higher number of students during the academical year just closed (1884-85) than ever before—the inscriptions reaching a total of 1,638 as against 1,555 in the preceding year. Some idea of the rapid growth of the *Alma Mater* may be obtained from the following figures showing the number of students registered: 1834-35, (first year), 86; 1844-45, (first year), 777; 1854-55, (first year), 600; 1864-65, (first year), 764; 1874-75, (first year), 1,160; 1884-85, (first year), 1,638. Again, to show the influence which the University has had upon the ecclesiastical and professional life of Belgium, we may remark that, since its establishment in 1834, no less than 3,942 candidates have passed through the faculty of theology; 10,746 through that of law; 9,563 through that of medicine; 7,406 through that of science, and 5,762 through that of philosophy and letters (our "arts"). Again, during last year, the *Alma Mater* gave to Belgium 49 *avocats*, 15 notaries, 44 medical practitioners, and 38 engineers. Nearly all civilized countries are represented among the students, among the rest three English and one Irish.

METHODIST.

The friends of the Rev. W. Ryan, pastor of the Methodist Church at Kentville, will be sorry to learn that he has been ordered by his physician to desist from preaching in consequence of heart trouble.

Twenty-six Wesleyan ministers died in Britain last year at the average age of sixty-nine years.

Bishop Warren says that Utah is the hardest missionary field of the Methodist Episcopal church. Fifty missionaries who have from time to time gone there full of zeal, full of faith, and the Holy Ghost, have become discouraged. Now that the government is asserting its power, he sees the dawn of a brighter day.

BAPTIST.

We are pleased to learn that the Rev. C. H. Spurgeon has improved in health. He expects shortly to leave Mentone and resume his work at the London Tabernacle.

The Baptists of Northfield, Queens Co., expect to open their new church on the 28th inst.

The Rev. E. H. Hows, at present in New Brunswick, will shortly assume the pastoral charge of the Baptist Church at Lower Aylesford.

The Finance Committee of Acadia College report that \$14,000 of the amount subscribed towards the Indebtedness Fund have been received. Out of this amount they have been enabled to pay off floating liabilities and also the mortgage on Chipman Hall. The Board are anxious to remove the two remaining mortgages of \$10,000 each before the meeting of convention.

PRESBYTERIAN.

The students of Pine Hill College, Halifax, presented the Rev. Dr. Macrae, of St. John, with a silver tea service as an expression of their gratitude for his kindly feelings towards them as catechists.

We are pleased to learn that Grove Church, Richmond, is making rapid progress since the settlement of their pastor, the Rev. John M. Allan. Last Sunday eighteen were added to the membership of the Church.

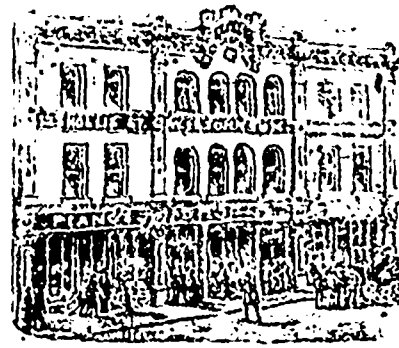
The *Presbyterian Witness* of last week contains a very full and interesting account of the life and work of the late Rev. Dr. McGregor.

In the United States there are 22 colleges, having 2,007 students. Of these 1,363 are church members, and 341 are studying for the ministry.

CHURCH OF ENGLAND.

The Church Army is an organization which has been started in England to supply among the members of the Church an opportunity for missionary work among the lapsed masses. It has met with great success, and is rapidly spreading throughout the country. It has sent men to some of the Colonies, and will, it is hoped, soon have its officers working in Halifax. The principle of it is the labors of working men among working men. These officers are duly trained at a Home in London, and are not sent out to a field of labor until fit. They are paid a reasonable sum for their services, but handle no money themselves. The army must be approved of by the Bishop and Rector of any parish before it can begin to work, and its whole system is constructed with a view to the cultivation of the spirit of the Church of England. The officers wear a uniform and the members a red cord; probationers a red and white one. No person can be a member until he or she is a communicant; till then they are probationers. There is permanency in this work because it uses to the full the means of grace provided in the church; while organizations which ignore these carry in themselves the reasons of decay, and will die out, as the history of the church shows in many previous instances.

Will any of the church people of Halifax encourage this movement? Members of the Church who would contribute to a fund for necessary preliminary expenses may communicate with Dr. Partridge, of St. George's Church.



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[FOR THE CRITIC.]

PLAGIARISM.

No. II.

Some few months ago, in an article which appeared in *THE CRITIC*, entitled "Plagiarism," I mentioned that, as far as I know, Milton had never been charged with Plagiarism, and in that particular had been more fortunate than Sterne, Paly, and other distinguished writers. I showed, however, how he might, with some appearance of reason, be accused of borrowing, without acknowledgment from a famous poet of a very distant age, and I cited a number of passages from Hesiod in proof of the position—passages in which the sentiments and imagery, and even the language of the Aescraean bard were remarkably reproduced in the writings of our great Epic poet. These resemblances, it may be remembered, I was not disposed to ascribe to dishonest appropriation, but attempted to show that they could be accounted for quite as satisfactorily on other grounds, on which grounds I ventured to hint, we might also, perhaps, successfully rebut the charges of plagiarism, urged so determinately against the other writers I have mentioned.

Since the publication of my article, it has proved that Milton was not secure from attack. The Messrs. Trubner have issued a work, entitled "Milton and Vondel," from the pen of the Rev. G. Edmundson, Vicar of Northolt, Middlesex, in which the writer attempts to show that the author of the "Paradise Lost" had borrowed largely, and without acknowledgment, from certain works of the eminent Dutch poet, whose name is associated with that of Milton in the title of the book. The works to which it is claimed that Milton was indebted, not only for much which is to be found in the "Paradise Lost," but in his other poetical works, are the "Lucifer," the "Sampson," and the "John Baptistes." But, as I suggested in my former article, when comparing passages in the "Paradise Lost" with similar ones in the "Theogony" of Hesiod, a good memory would account for the similarity observable in the imagery of the respective poems, and that form of the faculty known as a vested memory, would explain the resemblance in the language employed. So, and to a like extent, in the case before us. I will be here understood as not referring to a voluntary exercise of the memory, but to that involuntary action of the faculty by which what we read or hear becomes our own, without effort on our part, and whether we will or not.

But if the suggestion does not remove all the difficulty, it must be admitted that obstacles exist on the other side. The writings of the Dutch poet, at the time when Milton was publishing his, were fresh from the press, and the relations between Britain and Holland were very intimate. In such circumstances he would be a bold writer, indeed, who would purpose employ the thoughts and the words of another, and endeavour to palm them off on the world as his own.

But how is it that Mr. Edmundson did not fortify his charge by reference to the "Theogony" of Hesiod, which would have furnished him with as good examples as any he cites? Indeed, he needed not to go as far back by hundreds of years for weapons of attack. Even the *Metamorphoses* of Ovid would have supplied all he required. Take, for instance, the Fable of Narcissus. Like Eve, he was enamoured with his own beauty, as seen in the glassy pool. Like her, he returned and re-turned to gaze upon the entrancing vision; and he is made by the poet to utter almost the same words as Milton puts into the mouth of our fair, first mother, "the fairest of her daughters," lovely Eve. One is almost led to conclude that Mr. E., though an Oxon, M. A., was not a classical scholar, and that he therefore relied exclusively upon the writings of a Dutch poet to establish his charge against the integrity of Milton.

As unfortunately, however, there is a wide-spread propensity to ascribe resemblances in the writings of authors to plagiarism on the part of one or the other, we may expect that the theory of Mr. E. will have its adherents, and that no pains will be spared to rob our illustrious bard of the honors which have hitherto been universally accorded to him as a poet. His reputation may indeed be assailed from a political and even a religious stand point, for he was a virulent and uncompromising partizan; and his views of Christian doctrine would generally be denounced as far from Orthodox; but it is not at all likely that even the Vicar of Northolt will be able to persuade the world that Milton was not a great poet, or that he was a plagiarist; although we may admit that he was acquainted, possibly, intimately so, with the writings of Vondal, of Ovid, and of Hesiod.

PHILO-CLASSICUS.

Wolfville, Feb. 8, 1886.

[FOR THE CRITIC.]

WINTER AT THE LAHAVE.

Very few subjects are more talked about than the weather, except it be politics, or the externals of religion, and, perhaps, nothing is more changeable, unless it be human conversation respecting it. Webster defines weather as "the state of the air or atmosphere with respect to heat or cold, wetness or dryness, calm or storm, clearness or cloudiness." This is certainly more definite, comprehensive, and more easily understood, than one that recently came under my observation—"Meteorological variations, ascertained by the barometer, thermometer, hygrometer and anemometer."

And what are these incessant changes in the air, but repetitions of what has been taking place, and will occur while the present constitution of nature continues.

None of them interfere with the literal fulfilment of the Divine declaration and promise made to Noah, just after the deluge—"While the earth remaineth, seed-time and harvest, and cold and heat, and summer and win-

ter, and day and night, shall not cease." The varieties of weather in the seasons never so encroach on each other as to destroy their identity. In no part of the world has spring been turned into summer, or autumn into winter, since the days of Noah.

The present winter, thus far, in this region of Nova Scotia, has been very unlike some of its predecessors; but its features have been sufficiently developed to prove, that notwithstanding its mildness and warmth, it has been neither spring nor autumn. It is probable that what I write on this subject from this Atlantic seaboard locality, the mouth of the LaHave—will not apply to some other portions of the Province. The winters differ very much in the Northern and Southern parts of Nova Scotia. A minute comparison would surprise many.

December was a beautiful month, with the exception of one day, 26th, when we had a regular blizzard, which more than equalled anything known for about twenty years. Inferior sleighing continued only a few days; nor have we had any since, up to the present, Feb. 3rd. We, of course, expected the usual January thaw, but did not anticipate that it would last the whole month. There was, indeed, more than once, a fall of snow, but the rain and warm air did not permit it to stay. Waggon and mud are not desirable accompaniments of locomotion in January, but necessity compelled endurance.

The ladies of a certain congregation provided, in connection with a "sewing circle," a fifty dollar sleigh for their minister's use, but its beauty and brilliancy have been wasted in an unsightly barn. But hope is gathering brightness, for while I am writing, the snow is beginning to fall. That minister will probably be soon attracting more attention than usual.

The LaHave River closed about the middle of January, but was nearly all open again on the 2nd of February. It is now, February 4th, closing again, much to the delight of skaters and wood-haulers.

But the most remarkable fact about the winter of 1885-'86, has been the cold, and even frost, in the Southern States. Never before was there such destruction of oranges, as of late. The cold wave, which we felt in Nova Scotia, was severely felt in Texas, and even on the northern shores of the Gulf of Mexico.

If the heating apparatus of the Gulf-stream, the Carribean Sea, and the Gulf of Mexico, should lose their intensity, there would soon be widespread changes, not only in America, but also in Europe. If the climate of Ireland should become like that of Labrador, the fiery ambition of that restless people would become cooler than it has been of late.

After all the varieties of the seasons on this Continent, there is probably, one year with another, about the same amount of heat and cold, storm and sunshine, rain and snow.

We talk about open winters and early springs, but I believe an observing old gentleman was correct in saying—"Go on the 10th of June, into the field and the woods, and every year you will find nature at about the same point of forwardness."

It is well for our world that the changes in the weather are not under human control. If this were the case, there would be more changes than ever, and none for the better.

LaHave, February 4th, 1886.

ALPHA.

[FOR THE CRITIC.]

OUR MONTREAL LETTER.

NOTES AND GOSSIP.

The recent floods which have caused much damage and distress are likely to occur again in the spring. The City Council is endeavoring to devise some means by which they can be prevented.

The Civic elections will come off some time in March. The influential requisition presented to Mayor Beaugrand, to stand for re-election, will, in all probability, settle the question of the Mayoralty for another year. The duties of the office for the term just finishing, were arduous and responsible, and it is for the praiseworthy manner in which he has discharged them, that has won for him the esteem of the people.

A new paper, known as the *Trade Bulletin*, mention of which has been previously made in your columns, has made its appearance; and by its neat get-up, and the valuable commercial news it contains, is being favorably received. It is a well-printed four page, twenty column, weekly paper, edited and published by Mr. H. Mason, late of the *Journal of Commerce*.

The Board of Health, after much trouble and expense, can at last congratulate themselves that small-pox has disappeared from the city, there not being at present an infected house, and only a few persons now remaining in the hospital, who are convalescent. What the epidemic cost the city, is not yet definitely known, but it is supposed that extra taxes will be levied to make up the unforeseen expenditure from the Civic Treasury.

On returning from England, Sir George Stephen, Bart., who was knighted by the Queen for his exertions in completing the Canadian Pacific, of which he is President, and his colleague, the Hon. Donald Smith, were tendered a complimentary banquet by the members of St. James' Club. The gathering was a representative one, a brilliant success, and well worthy the object for which it was given.

An agitation is now being made in military circles, to send a few of the best regiments to represent Canada, at the celebration of the Queen's Jubilee, in England. A request to this effect has been sent to the Minister of Militia, who, it is thought, will favorably consider the project.

The question of the estates belonging to the Jesuits, which were confiscated by the Crown, when the order was suppressed in Lower Canada, is now almost decided, and Mgr. Taschereau, who was appointed by the Pope to negotiate with the Quebec Government, will accept \$400,000 as final settlement. The disposal of this amount will be left to the discretion of

the Archbishop, who, it is understood, will give a part to the maintaining of seminaries in poor dioceses, and Montreal will be benefitted by the greater part of it being devoted to the building of branches of Laval university.

The announcement of the death of Mr. Joseph Doutre, one of Canada's most eminent counsels, was heard with regret, and much sympathy was expressed by his confreres and his many friends. Although Mr. Doutre had been ill for some time past, death came upon him somewhat unexpectedly, its cause being attributed to the diseased state of his liver. Mr. Doutre's high reputation as a learned counsel was established in connection with the Nova Scotia fishing question, the Guibord burial, and the Hamerando extradition cases. The funeral was nearly a mile in length, and was one of the largest ever seen here.

The city, lately, has suffered severely from the unprecedented number of fires which has caused much pecuniary loss to individuals and extensive damage to property. A meeting of the leading Insurance men was lately held to consider the advisability of raising the Insurance rates, and protesting against the inefficient state of the Fire Brigade. The meeting led to an investigation of the Fire Department, at which many interesting disclosures were made, which proved that the management of the force had not been properly attended to, from the fact that the chief had not sufficient authority to carry out his own views in conducting the affairs of the department, being hampered by the interference of the committee of management.

The "Mikado," Gilbert and Sullivan's latest operatic production, was lately sung for the first time here, and was accorded a most enthusiastic reception by the largest and most fashionable audience which has assembled at the Academy this season. The opera in outline practically differs from others by the same authors; it is novel and interesting, and possesses that peculiar technique, general attractiveness, and charming conviviality, which immediately places it in its foremost rank with other operatic productions of the same conventional order. The plot, if such it may be called, has been aptly described as a tissue of eccentricities and a complication of absurdities, which, being cleverly arranged with unique verse and amusing dialogue, makes up a pleasing ensemble. The music is lively and catching, and though not replete with bright and animating airs which could be easily retained, is in many places of a high standard, and runs smoothly throughout. The costumes are odd and antique, elaborately set, and are entirely Japaneseque, contrasting beautifully with the scenery which is much to be admired. The "Mikado" made such a favorable impression here, that at the request of many lovers of opera, the company which previous produced it, will shortly return.

ONLOOKER.

[FOR THE CRITIC.]

RANDOM SHOTS.

When will your readers, I wonder, hear again from Philo-Classicus, whose article on "Plagiarism" gave us so interesting a quotation from Hesiod?

And when will Mr. F. Blake Crofton give us such another treat as his "Poets and Pronunciation"?

It seems, according to the disgusting quack medicine advertisements which occupy columns of the papers, that we are all suffering from Bright's Disease, tho' nobody knows it. Where ignorance is bliss, it would indeed, be folly to be wise. One is lost in wonder where the fools are to be found who render it possible for quack medicine advertisements to pay. I suppose Carlyle was right, and that if Paracelsus reappeared on earth he would not want a constituency proportioned to population.

Some gentlemen have been discussing (somewhat hotly) recently, the Irish question. I do not myself, I hope, regard the Irish view from any standpoint of English prejudice, but one advocate of Ireland (in the *Herald*) has the following:—

"England drove King James from his throne for reasons scarcely more than sentimental;" and again, "How loyal were Englishmen to Charles the Second?"

Now the first assertion is simply nonsense. The query which follows, I should think, a slip of the pen, and that the writer meant Charles the First. If he really meant Charles the Second, the answer is, that Englishmen were far more loyal to that worthless reprobate than he deserved. What he did deserve was dethronement for degrading England by accepting the alms of Louis Quatorze, the great European Freebooter of his day, who started France on that career of lust of domination which has made her the curse of Europe ever since; which culminated with Napoleon; which was faintly attempted again by the mean intrigues of Louis Philippe, and yet again by Napoleon the Little; and which it will probably take one or two more crushing humiliations to knock out of her.

If Charles the First was intended, he was a perjured traitor to the liberties of his people, and, although his execution may be regretted as a savage blunder, it excites compassion but little on any other score.

As regards James, if Judge Jeffries (and he was the material embodiment of James' policy) was a "sentimental reason," then indeed the *Herald* correspondent's allegation is unanswerable.

But if this extraordinary sentiment is grounded on a Catholic view of history, its assertion opens a wide field of discussion which I refrain from entering upon unless the *Herald* correspondent challenges it.

The fact is, James endeavored to do to England in a far more truculent way, what England is accused of doing, and in fact, has done to Ireland, i.e., to rule in direct contravention of the instincts, characteristics, most cherished ideas, and strongest convictions of her people. Moreover he was an imbecile unfit to occupy a throne. It was all briefly summed up by an

Irish officer, I think, (but I have not time to look) the good gallant Sarsfield, a truly noble Irishman, who said, after the Boyne Campaign, "if we could change Kings, and go over it again, we should have full confidence in doing so," or to that effect.

I am duly grateful to a correspondent mentioned in your issue of 5th inst., for his favorable opinion: the more so that I fancy he who speaks truth (or what he deems truth) boldly, is likely to find more enemies than friends. There is only one person more exasperating to the conventional mind than the one who dares to think for himself. That one is he who not only dares to think, but dares also to express his thought, indifferent to the good-will or opinion of Priest, Party, Politicians, or Prohibitionist. There is nothing, for instance, so exasperating to the Political Partizan as the Independent Press, where ancient Mr. David Mills has recently been making a "large-sized ass" of himself. I acknowledge, with thanks, my indebtedness to one of your respected daily contemporaries for this elegant and expressive term. Mr. Mills says that independent folks have no convictions. The astute gentleman is however mistaken. Their convictions are very decided, and one of the strongest of them is that the political partizan is utterly unscrupulous, unprincipled, and mendacious, whenever politics are in question. However, there is, as I said months ago, a human animal more obnoxious and more mischievous than the politician. He is the ignorant religious bigot. The politician may have, and doubtless often does have, a heart as well as brains. Those of the religious fanatic are scorched and calcined in the Gehenna of his gloomy soul.

I do not look with disfavor on the recently developed German ambition of colonization. When there are available waste places on the face of the earth, I think it is especially good for the world that many of them should be occupied by the great Teutonic Race. Other races have their good and some great qualities, but there can be little question that more has been done for the world by the Teuton than by any other member of the human family.

There was, as you imagined, something omitted in one of my bundles of Odds and Ends—I could not remember, when you mentioned it, what I had sent, but I now recollect that I excised a paragraph from the *Day Star*, giving the result of an investigation in New York of the working of gas-meters. It appeared that meters kept in a warm place register in excess. I do not know how it is in Halifax, but in England gas meters are often placed in the kitchen, which fact may go far to account for the frequent disappointment of the householder when he has every reason to believe that his month's, or quarter's, expenditure has been slight. *Verb: say:*

FRANC-TIREUR.

SILOS AND ENSILAGE.

(Read at the Provincial Grange).

The subject of Silos and Ensilage has been prominently before the public on this side of the water since 1879, when Mr. J. B. Brown, of New York, translated and published the original work of M. Auguste Goffart, which gave an extended account of his experiments in the art of preserving green fodder. This gentleman had, for several years, at his farm, at Burtin, France, vainly endeavored to revive this lost art, and finally, in the face of many failures and discouragements, and after the expenditure of a fortune, his efforts were rewarded by success. When he published the result of his experiments for the benefit of others, M. Goffart received the decoration of the Legion of Honor in recognition of this service to his country.

Upon the strength of this publication, several of our enterprising neighbors across the border determined to demonstrate for themselves the practicability of the new system, and, accordingly, built and filled silos in the manner described by Goffart. The little volumes which soon appeared, among which were, "The Book of Ensilage, or the New Dispensation for Farmers," by John M. Bailey, Winning Farm, Billerica, Mass., and "Ensilage of Green Fodder Crops," by R. H. Stevens, Echo Dale Farm, Dover, Mass, in addition to a large amount of correspondence on the subject in many of the leading American Agricultural papers, aroused a general interest in the matter among all farmers and stock-raisers.

In contemplating the building of a silo, one of the most important subjects for consideration is the

SITUATION,

which should, in all cases, be in close connection with the feeding floors. If the silo is to be of a permanent character, built of masonry, which I consider most economical in the end, the buildings should, if possible, be arranged on a hill-side. The bank may be excavated from 10 to 20 feet, as the situation will permit, making the top of the walls on a level with the high ground, which will enable the filling to be done from above. Let the stables be on a lower level, as low as the bottom of the silo, if possible, with the manure cellars under the stables. While such an arrangement will be found most convenient, farmers whose stables are already built, as will be the case with the majority, must put the silo in the most convenient situation possible, with a view to minimizing the labor of distributing the feed. In the

BUILDING OF SILOS,

it was at first considered the structure must be of solid masonry or concrete, and practically water tight; but, while in the long run, such may prove the most economical, it has been demonstrated, beyond a doubt, that such expensive pits are by no means necessary. Empty horse stalls, or any spare space in the stable or barn, may be boxed up, and have been found to answer a very good purpose, though a somewhat large percentage of feed is

damaged. Even a crib of poles, under a temporary roof, in the yard, has been tried, and while only serving to hold the mass together, it is reported as turning out very good feed. But the latest, and perhaps the greatest stride from an economic point of view, comes to us this season from across the water, where ordinary stacks of ensilage are being opened and fed out, having only 5 per cent. of damaged feed. These stacks were built, from grass as it fell from the scythe, directly on the ground, and weighted with from 120 to 150 lbs. to the square foot. Above the weights was a quantity of thatched straw, forming the only protection. The mass was found to be in excellent order when opened, save about six inches of the sides, which was hurt from exposure to the weather. The success of this experiment must be of inestimable value to the English farmer, living in a climate, where, as has been the case in recent seasons, it is impossible to cure hay in the usual way. In addition to this advantage, the superiority of this feed over ordinary hay, is another large item in its favor.

Both in this country and in the United States.

THE CROP

generally used for ensilage purposes is cornstalks, grown, in most cases, from the seed of white Southern corn, which is found to produce a greater burthen per acre than any other variety, although some growers prefer the smaller varieties of sweet corn, which are said to make the better feed.

My own experience has been chiefly confined to the Southern corn, although I have ensilaged clover of both first and second crops with great satisfaction. Portions of my corn crop have at different times been estimated at 30 tons per acre, many of the stalks measuring 12 feet in length, and weighing 7 pounds the single stalk, but 20 tons per acre may be considered a fair average crop, and one that may reasonably be expected from ordinary good land, with sufficient manure applied, broadcast, to produce a good crop of potatoes or wheat. For planting the corn, after the land has been thoroughly prepared, we use a small one horse drill known as the "Albany" planter, and using about one bushel of seed to the acre, putting the rows 3½ feet apart. This planter does one row at a time, dropping and covering the seed at the same operation, and has a fertilizer attachment, which, however, is not very satisfactory, except in the use of very dry material. When the seed is about ready to burst through the surface, the whole field should be thoroughly harrowed with a Thomas harrow, which will be found most effective in pulverizing the soil, and at the same time checking the growth of the weeds. And just here let me say, that no farmer can afford to be without this valuable implement, a harrow with twelve bars, and seventy-two small, round steel teeth, sloping backwards at an angle of 45 degrees. This operation may be repeated one or more times, until the corn is four or five inches high. In addition to this, it is advisable to go at least once through the rows with the cultivator and hand hoe, after which the corn may be reckoned in possession of the field.

Before the autumn frosts appear, the corn should be cut. In open fields, where the stalks stand upright, and are not of too heavy growth, this may be best done with a common self-raking reaper; but when planted among fruit trees, or tangled by wind storms, corn hooks or sickles have proved most useful. Each cutter taking two rows, lays the stalks in gavels ready for loading on dump carts, which are used for convenience in unloading beside the cutting table. From this, the stalks are passed through a cutter run by horse or steam power, and chopped into pieces from half-an inch to three quarters of an inch, as may be required. If, as in the case of the writer, the silos are excavated, the cutter is placed so that the corn falls from it directly into the pit; but should the structure be above ground, an endless elevator attachment will be necessary to carry the feed over the hole. Formerly, it was considered necessary to fill as rapidly as possible, but it has been proved that this was not only unnecessary, but unadvisable, as the slower process gives the temperature opportunity to rise to a sufficient degree to partially cook the food, and in a measure, prevent the acidity which follows rapid filling.

THE COVERING AND WEIGHTING

of the ensilage is considered by many inexperienced persons a serious drawback, and has, no doubt, deterred many from engaging in this new departure. After packing and leveling off, the surface is covered with boards or planks, laid as close together as possible, some even putting tarred paper under them, the better to exclude the air. Many contrivances for pressing the ensilage into the silos have been suggested—screws, boxes or barrels of sand or water, earth, which is afterwards used in the stables as an absorbent, bags of grain, the ordinary farm implements and machinery—all have been recommended for some particular merit. Where they are to be had conveniently, probably nothing is better or more economical than common field stones. They require no housing, but may, after a few weeks, be thrown out and the doors closed for the winter. I have no means of knowing what weight of stone is used in my own silos, but where a stone rests, as large as a man can carry, we put nothing more above it, and distribute the weight as evenly as possible. The covering and weighting is done as soon as the cutting is finished, making, perhaps an hour's work for a crew of 7 or 8 men, and the stones may be removed on a leisure half-day by a couple of men, at any time after the mass is done settling.

FEEDING

may begin as soon after as desired. The ensilage is reached by removing a few of the planks from the side farthest from the feeding passage, using the remainder as a platform to work across. In getting the feed out, we use bushel baskets, and common 4 or 6 tined forks. A basketful will weigh from 35 to 40 pounds, and is sufficient for the mid-day meal of an average-sized animal; and with the additional ration of hay, night and morning,

will, with ordinary care, keep cattle in a thrifty condition during the winter. Ensilage, supplemented by ground grain or meal, will make beef as rapidly as almost any other feed. As to the

COMPARATIVE VALUE OF ENSILAGED CORN STALKS AND GOOD UPLAND OR DYKED MARSH HAY—

three tons of the former may be safely placed as equivalent to one ton of the latter. Placing the average corn crop at the very low estimate of 18 tons, we have an equivalent of 6 tons of hay per acre, with the chances decidedly in favor of the corn. Cows fed upon ensilage, produce a much better quality and larger quantity of milk and butter than upon dry hay. Every year is developing better and cheaper modes of harvesting and preserving green fodder, so that already, the cost is reduced to a figure that would only cut and cure its equivalent in hay under the most favorable circumstances; in fact, it is even claimed by some enthusiasts that the cost of production and preserving is decidedly less in the case of ensilage.

Quite recently, reports reach us of silos being opened in excellent condition where no weights had been used, but simply a covering of hay or straw to the depth of a foot or so, which by absorbing the moisture protected the mass under it.

Instances are also cited where whole stalks of corn have been packed into the silo, with a greater or less degree of satisfaction, but as a matter of course, this method would necessitate a great amount of labor at feeding time.

In the case of the last mentioned methods, while in an emergency, either might be adopted, it would not be advisable to risk too much before testing their respective merits.

In conclusion, let me say, that after six years' practical experience, I consider my venture in this direction a profitable one, though had as great results been anticipated as were painted by Bailey and others, doubtless, we should have been disappointed. The inspection of silos, and cattle fed from them, in the United States, convinced me that the system was a good one, and the opinion then formed, I have had no reason to change. By the use of ensilage, I have been enabled to increase my stock of horned cattle one-third, and the whole are kept in a more thrifty condition through the winter, than would be possible upon dry hay alone.

C. R. H. STARR.

[FOR THE CRITIC]

THE COW BAY BREAKWATER AGAIN.

To the Editor of the Critic:—

DEAR SIR,—For your information, and that of your readers interested, let me say a few words on "The Cow Bay Breakwater," a subject you treat of in your issue of January 15th.

Since this work was purchased by the Government, there have only been two occasions when any work of construction or repairs was done thereon, without being "under the supervision of a competent engineer." These are (1) when Archibald & Co. built a "block," costing some \$6,000, without the permission of the engineer-in-charge, and against the protest of his foreman; and (2), last year, when the sum of nine hundred dollars was expended on repairs. With these two exceptions, every sum voted by Parliament has been expended according to the plans proposed by Mr. Milledge, the assistant engineer of Public Works, and it stands to his credit that his estimates of cost were always sufficient for the work he undertook.

As to the relative merits of Messrs. Milledge and Shewen as engineers, I cannot pronounce. You strongly endorse the latter, and, by inference, condemn the former. I think it only fair and just, in this connection, to say, that a part of the Breakwater that *did not* undergo any repairs at the hands of Mr. Shewen, a "block" designed by and built under the supervision of Mr. Milledge, although it is in the most exposed position, did not sustain any damage through the late storm. You will, therefore, see that you pass unjust judgment on the department of Public Works, and gravely charge a most competent engineer when you say—"The moneys voted by Parliament for the maintenance and improvement of the Breakwater have been expended most injudiciously."

Let me add further, that the breaches made by the late gale are in part of the work repaired by Mr. Shewen. No reasonable man will, however, say that the money he expended "was literally thrown into the sea."

Now, a word with reference to the expenditure of the vote of 1885. It was granted for the purpose of repairing a breach made by a most ordinary storm, in a portion of the work that had undergone personal inspection, and repaired under the supervision of Mr. Shewen a month or so before. The winter and spring storms increased this breach very materially, so much so, that, as you say, "the graut was not sufficient to repair it." Without even this admission on your part, I fail to understand how you can say, as you do, in the next sentence—"Had this sum (\$900) been judiciously expended, under the supervision of a competent engineer, the late disaster would, in all probability, have been averted"—a disaster that is the result of one of the greatest storms experienced here, and only comparable to that of 1873, many thinking the seas of the late gale being the greater!

The policy of expending such small votes as you suggest, may secure the best results; but it is scarcely practicable where there are so many scattered over this Dominion of ours. Where political influences are so baneful, and local jealousies so intense, the policy of doing such work by tender and contract must commend itself to the people.

Yours truly,

ARTH. MCKINNON.

Cow Bay, C. B., Feb. 9th, 1886.

[FOR THE CRITIC.]

EVENTS AND COMMENTS.

The recent death of General Hancock leaves but two of the Union Generals of prominence in the late American war—Generals Sherman and Sheridan. McDowell, Grant, McLellan, and Hancock, have all died within the past twelve months. Grant's reputation will make his book-publishers rich; McLellan, the beau-ideal of a soldier will not soon be forgotten; but Hancock's name and fame will live securely and absolutely in the hearts of his countrymen, North as well as South, by the promulgation of his order, after the close of the war when the South was rendered a pandemonium of lawlessness by an unscrupulous administration at Washington. The order referred to reads as follows: "In war it is indispensable to repel force by force, to overthrow and destroy opposition to lawful authority; but when insurrectionary force has been overthrown, and peace established, and the civil authorities are ready and willing to perform the duties, the military powers should cease to lead, and the civil administration resume its natural and rightful domain. Solomnly impressed with these views, the General announces that the great principles of American liberty are still the inheritance of this people, and ever should be. The right of trial by jury, the *habeas corpus*, the liberty of the press, the freedom of speech, the natural rights of persons, and the rights of property must be preserved."

VETERAN.

THE CHINESE QUESTION.

A language which has "only 400 and odd distinct sounds" with which to express "10,000 words" would appear at first sight to be in a very anomalous condition. And, as a matter of fact, many of these words are homophonous, although, by an ingenious system of inflections of the voice, the number of separate sounds—to a Chinese ear, at least—is more than trebled. These inflections are the tones. In Peking there are only four of them; but in the south those who are knowing in such matters declare there are twelve or more. It is obvious that where the sense of a word depends on such a nice distinction as the tone of the voice in which it is uttered, the opportunities for making blunders become boundless.—*London Athenaeum*.

COMMERCIAL.

FISH.—The fish trade in this city during the past week has been unusually dull. We think there has not been a sale of a single barrel of fish. There have been no arrivals from the coast, and it is impossible to give quotations; as far as we can learn the position of the West India markets are no better than some days ago. Quite large quantities are going forward almost daily from here and the Western shore ports.

Advices from Boston fish markets for week ending Feb. 12, are as follows:—

The fish trade during the past week has been fair, but has been badly effected by the continuous poor weather. The fresh fish trade has been active all the week. Plenty of haddock and cod arriving every day from Georges' Bank. Mackerel move very slowly, being held for higher prices. Sales of a few choice lots at \$5.50 to \$6.00 for 3's.; \$8.00 for 2's.; and \$20.00 for 1's. There is a slight advance we note on Dry Bank cod, sales have been made during the week at \$3.25 for large; Pickled Bank remain about the same, and considerable quantities are being moved at \$2.50 per qt. for both medium and large. Georges' cod are being sold as fast as they arrive at about \$2.50 for early, and from \$3.00 to \$3.50 for late caught. The warm weather of the past week has given the frozen herring business a set-back, they have been selling during the week at 50 cents per hundred. There were in the port of Boston at the T., Commercial, and Lowie wharves, on Thursday last, 11th inst., 52 sail of vessels from Georges' Banks and Ipswich Bay with over 2,000,000 pounds of fresh fish, sending down the price from \$2.50 to 60 and 75 cents per 100 pounds.

Below will be found a comparative statement of arrivals of mackerel at the port of Boston, for week ending Feb. 12, during the past four years:—

1886	1885	1884	1883
2446 Bbls.	3311 Bbls.	6866 Bbls.	6408 Bbls.

Advices from the port of Gloucester for week ending Feb. 12, are as follows:—

There arrived at this port the previous 48 hours 8 sail from Georges, and this a.m. 16 sail, all with good fares of cod and halibut. There has been more enquiry for fish the past week with quite large sales of cod and mackerel. The market remains steady with no change of importance. Bank Cod \$2.50 to \$2.75, large sales at \$2.62; medium \$2.25; Georges \$3.25 to \$3.75; medium \$2.75; shore \$3.50; mackerel, shore 3's. \$5.50; 2's. \$6.50; extra 2's. \$8.00; 1's. \$20.00. Two cargoes of frozen herring arrived yesterday from Fortune Bay and one from Eastport, selling at 85 cents per 100, Georges halibut selling this a.m., fresh, 6 and 4 cents.

The arrivals at the port of Gloucester for the week ending February 12, were as follows:—

Fares.	From.	Cod. pounds	Halibut pounds	Haddock pounds.	Frozen Herring Count.
27	Georges	699,000	83,300	16,000	.....
2	Browns	52,000	6,000	.....	.....
7	Grand Banks	.....	198,000	.....	.....
3	Fortune Bay	.....	.....	.....	1,180,000
1	Eastport	.....	.....	.....	220,000
10	Ipswich Bay	143,000	.....	.....	.....
50		894,000	287,300	16,000	1,400,000

MARKET QUOTATIONS.

WHOLESALE RATES.

The following Price-Lists have been corrected up to the time of going to press and are thoroughly reliable and accurate.

GROCERIES.

SUGAR.	
Cut Loaf	8 to 8 1/2
Granulated	7 to 7 1/2
Circle A	6 1/2 to 6 3/4
Extra C	5 1/2 to 6
Yellow C	5 1/2
Yellows	5 1/2
TEA.	
Congou, 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	30 to 32
Demerara	30 to 35
Diamond N	43
SOAPS.	
Ivory bar, 1 lb, 2 lb and 3 lb	6 1/2
Erasive	6
Dominion	6
Surprise	6 1/2
Tiger	6 1/2
Extra Pale, 1 or 5 lb	5 1/2
"Linen Towel" for 30 bars, and 30 towels	6.00
Canada	4
Imperial	4
No 1 Family	4
Hermine	3 1/2
Iran	3
Brown	2
Toilet 15 to 60c. per doz.	
CANDLES, 6s and 8s	11 1/2
Do. Paraffine	10 to 20c
BISCUITS.	
Pilot Bread	2.60 to 2.90
Boston and Thin Family	6 1/2 to 7 1/4
Soda	6 to 7
do. in 1 lb. boxes, 50 to case	7
Fancy	8 to 10
CONFECTIONERY.	
Assorted in 30 lb Pails	12
Royal Mixture	11 to 20
Lozenges	12 to 15
1 cent goods, 144 in a box	95 to 110
Toys per hundred	65 to 73
Clear Candy Toys	18
Brooms	1.60 to 3.25
Starch, Blue and White	7
" Lilly White	9
Prepared Corn	9
BUTTER.	
Canadian	16 to 20
N.S.	15 to 20
Cheddar	9 to 10
Eggs	19 to 20
Tobacco—Black	39 to 46
" Bright	42 to 58
Blacking, per gross	3.00 to 4.00
Blacklead	2.00 to 10.00
Paint Blue	2.50 to 3.00

BREADSTUFFS.

PROVISIONS AND PRODUCE.

Our quotations below are our today's wholesale selling prices for cash within ten days after shipment.

FLOUR.	
Graham	5.25 to 5.50
Patent high grades	4.75 to 6.00
" mediums	4.75 to 5.00
Superior Extra	4.50 to 4.85
Lower grades	3.50 to 4.45
Oatmeal, Standard	4.50 to 4.75
" Granulated	5.00 to 5.50
Roller Oats	5.50 to 6.00
Corn Meal—Halifax ground	3.00 to 3.25
" Imported	2.00 to 3.00
Iran per ton—Wheat	20.00 to 22.00
" —Corn	18.00 to 20.00
Shorts	22.00 to 24.00
Middlings	25.00 to 28.00
Cracked Corn	29.00 to 30.00
" Oats	25.00 to 30.00
" Barley	34.00
Pea Meal per bri.	3.75
Feed Flour	3.25 to 3.50
Oats per bushel of 34 lbs	42 to 45
Barley " of 48 "	75 to 80
Peas " of 60 "	1.10
Corn " of 56 "	88 to 85
Hay per ton	14.00 to 18.00
Straw	9.00 to 10.00

A. GUNN & Co., 253 Barrington Street, Halifax, N. S.

PROVISIONS.

Beef, Am. Ex. Mess, duty paid	13.00 to 13.50
" Am. Plate	13.50 to 14.00
Pork, Mess, American	14.00 to 14.50
" American, clear	13.50 to 14.00
" P. E. I. Mess	15.00 to 15.50
" " " "	14.00 to 14.50
" P. E. I. Thin Mess	12.00 to 12.50
" Prime Mess	11.00 to 11.50
Lard, Tubs and Pails	11 to 12
" Cases	12 to 12 1/2
Hams, P. E. I.	12 to 13c
Duty on Am. Pork and Beef \$2.20 per bbl.	

Prices are for wholesale lots only, and are liable to change daily.

These quotations are prepared by a reliable wholesale house.

WOOL, WOOL SKINS & HIDES.

Wool—clean washed, per pound	20
" unwashed	18
Green Hides—Ox, inspected, No 1	7 1/2
" Cow	7
Salted Hides—Ox in Lots, No 1	7 1/2
" Cow	7 1/2
Calf Skin	8 to 10
" Deacons, each	30 to 35
Woolskins	25 to 30

The above quotations are furnished by W.M. F. FOSTER, dealer in Wool and Hides, Conuors' Wharf.

LUMBER.

Pine, clear, No. 1, per m.	25.00 to 28.00
" Merchantable, do do	14.00 to 17.00
" No 2 do	10.00 to 12.00
" Small, per m.	8.00 to 14.00
Spruce, dimension good, per m.	9.50 to 10.00
" Merchantable, do do	8.00 to 9.00
" Small, do do	6.50 to 7.05
Hemlock, merchantable	7.00
Shingles, No 1, sawed, pine	3.00 to 3.50
" No 2, do do	1.00 to 1.25
" spruce, No 1	1.10 to 1.30
Laths, per m.	1.20
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.

POULTRY.

Fowls, per pair	40 to 50
Turkeys, per pound	11 to 13
Geese, each	65 to 70
Ducks, per pair	55 to 70

The above are corrected by a reliable victualer.

LIVE STOCK.

Steers, best quality, per lb.	4.50 to 5
Oxen	3 1/2 to 4
Fat Steers, Heifers, light weights	3 1/2 to 3 3/4
Wethers, best quality, per lb.	4
Lambs, (70 lbs. and upwards)	4

These quotations are prepared by a reliable victualer.

The above quotations are corrected by Mackintosh & Co., Jericho Warehouse.

FISH FROM VESSELS.

Prices nominal. No arrivals. No sales.	
MACKEREL.	
Extra	10.50 to 11.00
No. 1	9.00 to 9.50
No. 2 large	7.75 to 8.00
No. 2	3.25
No. 3 large	3.00 to 3.25
No. 3	3.00
Small	1.00
HERRING.	
No. 1 Shore, July. No sales ..	2.75 to 3.00
August and Sept.	2.25 to 2.50
No. 1 Round Shore, Scarce ..	3.00
No. 1, Labrador	none
ALSKWIVES, very scarce	2.75
CODFISH.	
Hard Shore tolqual	none
Bank	1.00 to 2.25
Bay	none
SALMON, No. 1	
No. 2	none
No. 3	none
HADDOCK.	
HARK	none
CUSK	none
POLLOCK.	
FISH OILS.	
Cod A .....	.35 to .36
Dog A .....	.25 to .29
Pale Seal	none
HARK SOUNDS	45 to 50c per lb.

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

HOME AND FOREIGN FRUITS.

APPLES, No. 1, per bbl.	2.00 to 2.75
Oranges, per bbl. Jamaica (new) ..	.00 to 6.50
case, Valencia	5.50 to 6.00
Lemons, per box	3.50 to 5.50
Cocoanuts, per 100	4.50 to 5.50
Onions, (barrels) per lb.	2 1/2 to 3 1/2
Grapes, Almeria, kegs	6.50 to 7.00
Foxberries, per bbl.	3.50 to 3.85
Cranberries	6.00 to 6.50
Figs, 1 lb bxs.	10 to 18c
Dates, layer	7 to 8c

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

THE SEA WITCH.

(Continued.)

Victory! The well-known albums were dragged down from their shelves Mrs. Wynne was wedged in between the sofa and the table, with the open books before her; Conington, forgetful of everything except the matter in hand, was bending over her and doing the explanatory showman. "That is Venice, from the sea. The gondolas in the foreground have wobbled about a little; but it's a pretty picture. Those are the falls of Niagara—no; the Mer de Glace, taken from the Montanvert. That appearance in the sky is owing to a slight fault in the plate. Looks like the moon, doesn't it? I thought I would leave it so," etc., etc.

I sauntered as far as the foot of the companion, with my hands in my pockets, whistling. Then I mounted a few steps to look at the barometer and rap it with my knuckles. A few more steps, taken very slowly and deliberately, brought me upon deck, where my demeanor underwent a sudden change. I was over the side and seated in my gig in the twinkling of an eye.

"Shove off," I said, in an agitated whisper, and in a very short space of time I was once more on board my own vessel.

A certain huntsman (it was one of the well known Hills family, I think) being told that fox hunting was a cruel sport, replied that he could not see in what the cruelty consisted. The hounds liked it, the horses liked it, and he firmly believed that the fox liked it too. It may very well be so. For choice, I should always prefer pursuing to being pursued; yet, from personal experience, I can strongly recommend running away to all who desire to make trial of a novel and intense emotion. I shall ever remember the brief period which intervened between the moment of my quitting the *Sirocco* and that when we rounded the island of Kerrara as having been, upon the whole, the most exciting of my life. How I blessed the rugged hills which shut out Oban from us and us from Oban! I was perfectly safe now. Out of sight and out of hail, I might have been in the other hemisphere for any chance that Mrs. Wynne had of getting me into her power again. I dare say neither she nor Conington noticed my absence before we were well on our way down the Firth of Lorn, bowling along merrily with a fair wind.

When I pictured to myself what their faces would be like on finding that I and my yacht had vanished as if by enchantment, I gave way to paroxysms of ecstatic mirth. Jackson, who must of course have understood the nature of the case, was grinning from ear to ear; the men, too, collected together in the fore-castle, were bursting into intermittent guffaws. Poor fellows, why shouldn't they laugh? It isn't every day that I can provide my crew with a really first-class practical joke to laugh at. I didn't grudge 'em their hilarity; I wouldn't have grudged anybody anything at that moment. I was in such good humor with all the world that I could not harbor unkind thoughts even of Mrs. Wynne. I bore her no malice; I had paid her out so handsomely that I could afford to forgive her, and, after such a lesson as she had received it was scarcely likely that she would molest me any more.

The day passed pleasantly and peacefully away; and not until we had left Jura and Islay far astern and were out upon the long Atlantic swell did I remember that I had all the poor woman's luggage on board. That recollection damped my spirits considerably. I had never intended to put her to such dreadful inconvenience as I must have done, and the more I thought of the situation the less I liked it. Obviously it was my duty to restore Mrs. Wynne's property to her with all possible despatch; but whither was I to send it? I knew of no address at Oban, even supposing, what was most unlikely, that she would remain another day or two in that place; and she had not told me anything more about her destination than that she wanted to catch the train at Glasgow. All things considered, the chances, I thought, were in favor of her having been on her way to visit her daughter, and I determined to put into Stranraer and forward her belongings thence to Cumberland, where Lady Charles' new home was situated. I did so the next day at the same time addressing the following telegram to Stapleton. "Have sent you four packages by express; property of Mrs. Wynne left on board my yacht by unfortunate mistake. Don't know where she is, so am obliged to direct them to you. Hope it's all right. Am sailing to-day for Portsmouth."

This done, I resumed my voyage in a somewhat less jubilant mood. The episode of the purloined baggage might, I felt, cause awkward complications, and it would always be difficult for me to give any satisfactory explanation of its having been on board my yacht at all. What with one thing and another, it took me nearly a fortnight to get round to Portsmouth, where, on my arrival, I found the following letter from Charles Stapleton awaiting me:

"DEAR GENERAL RIVERS,—The boxes which you were kind enough to send from Stranraer reached this safely a day or two before Mrs. Wynne joined us. Of course she was very glad to have them again, but she had been obliged to get herself a complete new rig-out at Glasgow, which was rather a bore for her. There certainly does seem, as you say, to have been some unfortunate mistake. I don't wish to be officious, and would much rather not interfere between you and my mother-in-law in any way; but I may as well tell you that she is very much hurt by what she calls your inexplicable behaviour. She says you left her at Oban without any reason or any warning, although it had been arranged that you were to take her to the Clyde; and that if it had not been for the kindness of Lord Conington, who insisted upon placing his yacht at her disposal, she does not know what would have become of her. Her conviction is that you went off in a

fit of pique, because you didn't like her spending a long time with old Conington looking over a photograph book or something. I must say that I have some difficulty in believing this extraordinary statement, but I thought I had better let you know what she says.

Alice is sure that it would all be set right and explained if you and her mother could meet, and she begs me to say, with her love, that she hopes you will come and stay a few days with us, if you can manage it. I need not add how glad I shall be to see you. Mrs. Wynne will be here for another month, I expect, but the sooner you come the better, because she will go on talking about it to everybody, and one doesn't want outsiders to be entertained with family differences.

Sincerely yours, CHARLES STAPLETON."

This letter caused me extreme discomfort. I was unwilling to lose the friendship and esteem of the Stapletons, but I saw at once that I must chance that. As for meeting Mrs. Wynne, I would as soon have met the whole of Wombwell's menagerie lose on Salisbury Plain. I would not even answer Charlie's letter, but only sent him another telegram: "Sorry I can't come. Just off to the Mediterranean for the winter. No explanation at all necessary or desirable."

If he had a grain of common sense he would understand that, I thought; but if he didn't understand, I couldn't help it. I kept my word and sailed for the Mediterranean as soon as ever I could make the necessary arrangements, and there I have been ever since. It was only the other day that, taking up one of those weekly papers whose mission it is to chronicle social events, I came across the subjoined astounding paragraph.

"It is announced that a marriage will take place very shortly between Viscount Conington and Mrs. Wynne, whose daughter, Lady Charles Stapleton, was one of the beauties of last season, and who is herself considered by many people to be *filia pulchrior*."

Well, I am sorry for poor Conington; but it's an ill wind that blows nobody any good, and I suppose I may go home now.

THE END.

COUNT WALDEMAR.

I.

It was in Homburg that I first met him. I had finished the noonday breakfast which I always take at the Kursaal, and was sitting on the terrace in front of that establishment, smoking the one morning cigar allowed me by my doctor, and contemplating with indolent satisfaction the sunny gardens before me and all the soft lights and shades that lay upon the distant woods, when he clattering down the steps of the restaurant in his tight blue hussar uniform, his Hessian boots, and flat forage-cap, and, pulling up suddenly within a few paces of my chair, began to slap his breast and rummage in his scanty coat-tail pockets in search of something which was evidently not to be found there. He was a tall, handsome young fellow, with clear blue eyes and a fair mustache, a young fellow of a type by no means uncommon in the German army; but something—I don't know whether it was his size, or his good looks, or a prophetic instinct—attracted my attention to him at once. A slight cloud overspread his features as he realized the futility of his search, and for a moment or two he seemed uncertain what to do next; but presently, becoming aware of the scrutiny of an elderly Englishman of benevolent aspect, he cheered up, as with a sudden inspiration, and, approaching me in a couple of strides, raised his right hand to the side of his cap, bowed very low from the waist, and gratified me with one of the brightest smiles I had ever seen upon a human countenance.

"I have done a most stupid thing," said he, speaking with a strong accent, but without hesitation or a shadow of embarrassment; "I have left my *cigarren-etui* at the hotel. Dare I give myself the liberty to ask if you have a cigar to spare in your pocket?"

Of course I handed him my case without further ado. I suppose there is no man living could be churl enough to refuse such a request; but I was amused by it nevertheless; for it was one that an Englishman would have died rather than address to a total stranger; and, indeed, the article required was to be purchased close at hand in the Kursaal restaurant, where my esteemed friend M. Chevet keeps some of the choicest brands.

The young officer, however, had his reasons for not choosing to address himself of this convenient proximity, and disclosed them with engaging candor, after taking a light from me.

"Now this is a very good cigar," he was kind enough to remark, seating himself astride upon an iron chair. "If I would buy such a one of M. Chevet, I would have to pay a mark for him. One mark—yes, that is what they have asked me last night—it is unheard of! For you Englishmen who pay without bargaining, that is very well; but we Germans" (*Char-mans* he pronounced it) "are not such fools—I mean, we know better what is the fair price."

His case of manner was simply inimitable; I have never seen anything like it before or since. It arose, I imagine, from the unsuspecting good-will towards the world at large which makes children who are not afflicted with shyness such charming companions. I was delighted with him. I chatted away so pleasantly and amusingly for a quarter of an hour that I was quite sorry when a formidable posse of comrades in arms—dragoon uhlans, hussars, and I know not what other specimens of the Imperial German cavalry—came clanking along the terrace, and carried him off with them. Before this he had given me his card, which bore the name

Count Waldemar von Ravensburg; had informed me that he held a lieutenant's commission in a Württemberg hussar regiment, and was in Homburg for the purpose of riding in some proposed military steeple-chases; and had strongly advised me to dine that evening at the Hessischer Hof, where he said I should get good German fare, greatly superior to the spurious French cooking of the more fashionable hotels.

"I shall be dining there myself mit all my friends," he added, by way of final inducement.

Under ordinary circumstances such a consideration as this would have sufficed of itself to drive me elsewhere in search of my evening sustenance; for sincerely as I appreciate the many amiable social qualities of German officers, I know what these gentlemen are when a number of them get together, and I am fond neither of being deafened nor of having to hellow like a skipper in a gale of wind in order to make my own remarks audible. But I had taken such a fancy to Count Waldemar, he struck me as so genial and original a type of fellow-creature, that I was loath to lose an opportunity of prosecuting my acquaintance with him; and accordingly the dinner-hour (half-past five), found me at the door of the little Hessischer Hof.

A most cacophonous din burst upon my ears as I entered, from an assemblage of spurred and uniformed warriors, who, as the manners of their nation is, were exchanging civilities in accents suggestive of furious indignation. My young hussar detached himself from the group, greeted me with the warmth of an old friend, and presented me to each of his comrades in turn:

"Meestr Clesford—Herr von Blechow, Herr von Kochow, Herr von Katzow, Herr von Wallwitz, Herr von Zedlitz, Herr von Zeschwitz," etc. etc. Perhaps these were not their names; indeed, now I come to think of it, I believe they ran into considerably more syllables; but it does not much matter. They were all very polite, and indeed were as pleasant and jovial a set of youths as one could wish to meet. During dinner the conversation turned chiefly upon races and steeple chases, giving opportunity for many thrilling anecdotes, and with our desert we had some sweet champagne, over which we grew very merry and noisy.

When it was all over, Count Waldemar hooked his arm within mine, and in this familiar fashion we strolled out into the street, where (for it was early in August) broad daylight still reigned, and slant sunrays from the west streamed upon the long row of yellow droschkes with their patient, net-covered horses, upon the shiny hats of the drivers, upon the trim orange trees in their green tubs, and upon the distinguished visitors—English almost exclusively—who, by twos and threes, were slowly wending their way towards the terrace, where the band would soon strike up. Gusts of cool, fresh air were sweeping down from the blue Taunus range, setting the little flags upon the Kursaal fluttering, and banging a shutter here and there. Imagine to yourself a stalwart young-hussar, moving with that modicum of swagger from which no cavalry man that ever lived is quite free, and which very tight clothes render to some extent compulsory upon their wearer; imagine, arm-in-arm with him, an Englishman of something under middle height and something over middle age, clad in a gray frock-coat and trousers and tall white hat, and you will have before your mind's eye a picture which, I grieve to think, is not wholly wanting in elements of the ridiculous.

I have reason to believe that the droschke-drivers saw it in this light; I fear that my compatriots did; I know that I did myself. But I am perfectly sure that the excellent Count Waldemar was not only free from the faintest suspicion that our appearance could provoke a smile, but that he never could have been brought to understand in the least why it should do so. No one could laugh louder or longer than he, upon occasion; but then he must have something to laugh at; and it would have been impossible to convince him that there could be any joke in the simple fact of two gentlemen walking together arm-in-arm. He was in all things the most completely un-self-conscious mortal I have ever known.

For my own part, I am not ashamed to confess—or rather I *am* ashamed but do confess—that the notion of being promenaded up and down the terrace, under the eyes of all my friends and acquaintances, by this long-legged and rather loud-voiced young officer alarmed me so much that I was fain to insist upon leading him down one of the more secluded alleys. He did not want to walk that way; he said we should neither hear the music nor see the people there; but I pointed out to him that it would be impossible for me to give my whole attention to his conversation in a crowd; and so, being a most good-natured soul, he yielded, and went on chatting about Stutgard, and his regiment, and his brother officers, and his horses, in all of which subjects he seemed to think that I must be greatly interested. And so, indeed, I was—or, at least, in his treatment of them.

Just as we reached the point where the Untere Promenade crosses the Kursaal gardens we were met by a party of English people—an old lady, three young ones, and a couple of men carrying shawls—who came up the steps talking and laughing, and passed on towards the band. I should not have noticed them particularly had not a sudden convulsive jerk of my captive arm made me aware that my companion had some reason for feeling moved by their vicinity. The manner in which he paused, and, gazing after them, profoundly sighed, would have sufficiently revealed the nature of that reason, even if he had intended to conceal it—which of course he did not.

"Now I shall tell you something," said he, with an air of confidential candor all his own. "The lady you see there—the tall one who is walking alone—it is she whom I mean to make my wife."

"Indeed?" I answered. "I am sorry, then, that I did not look at her more closely. May I venture to ask her name?"

(To be Continued.)

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Ample stabling and good attendance.
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Incorporated under Provincial Act, which limits the liability of subscribers to the amount of their shares.

Capital Stock, \$100,000,
with power under Act of Incorporation, to increase to \$200,000, if deemed necessary by the Company.

Shares, Ten Dollars Each,
Payable \$5 on allotment, and the balance as and when required by calls, of which thirty days' notice will be given.
The present issue is limited to 20,000 shares, which will be allotted according to priority of application.

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B. W. CHIPMAN, Esq., Warden County of Halifax, Merchant.
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PROSPECTUS.

This Company has been formed for the purpose of establishing an improved Steam Ferry Service between the City of Halifax and the Town of Dartmouth, and has secured suitable Docks on each side of the harbor.

It is proposed to build or purchase first-class modern Ferry Steamers, constructed with a view to the safety and convenience of the travelling public, two of which will be constantly employed in the direct ferry service; a spare boat will be remuneratively employed for excursions and picnics during the summer months on the harbor. The proposed boats are planned to afford superior facilities for the service; they will be similar in style and accommodation to those plying between New York and Brooklyn, and they will have a capacity to meet the growing requirements of the increasing travel and traffic between Dartmouth and Halifax.

Comfortable Waiting-rooms for the convenience of passengers will be erected.

A few of the many reasons why this enterprise should receive the support of the public, apart from its being a paying investment, may be given, viz.

The great need of improved ferry accommodation.

The saving of time in crossing.
The fact that horses and carriages, as well as the teams of market people, will be under cover during the crossing of the harbor.

The convenience to the citizens of Halifax and Dartmouth in having the Ferry Boats running regularly until 12 o'clock midnight.

The success of the Halifax and Dartmouth Steam Ferry Company may be considered already fully ensured, over three hundred shareholders, principally from among the residents of Dartmouth and the farmers and market gardeners of Cole Harbor, Cow Bay, Lawrence town and Eastern Passage, having taken stock in the enterprise. These stockholders form the principal customers of the ferry, and will naturally patronize their own Company.

No ordinary stocks in any country pay as well as ferry stock. Wherever men are separated by unbridged water they must use the ferry, and hence its revenue is never affected by trade depression.

In view of the fact that the Green Markets of the City are now, and must continue to be, mainly supplied from the Eastern section of the County—that the population on both sides of Halifax harbor is increasing—that the industries of Dartmouth are multiplying and extending that the traffic between the City and Dartmouth is becoming heavier and must continue to grow—that there is a universal demand for a more modern and better class of Ferry Boats and lower rates of carriage;—there is a sufficient guarantee that the enterprise will yield a certain and ample return upon the capital invested.

Applications for shares should be made to J. C. Mackintosh, Esq., Banker, 166 Hollis Street, Halifax, N. S., or to A. C. Ross, Esq., Agent of Halifax and Dartmouth Steam Ferry Co. (Limited), Halifax Hotel, Halifax, Nova Scotia.

THE MARITIME PATRON,
AND ORGAN OF THE
Maritime Provincial Grange—Patrons of Husbandry.

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

INTRODUCTORY.

At the Annual Session of the Maritime Provincial Grange, held in Halifax, on the 17th February, 1885, the worthy lecturer, Dr. C. H. Monroe, M. P. P., advocated the advisability of some established means of regular and constant intercommunication among Patrons in the Maritime Provinces, of expressing Grange opinion and sentiment, and for advocating the principles and objects of the Order, and the policy and measures adopted by the Maritime Provincial Grange.

The proposal was regarded with favor, and a committee, of which the worthy lecturer was chairman, was appointed to ascertain whether arrangements, and if so, what arrangements could be made with a non-Sectarian and non-Partizan Journal, to publish Grange literature, and to devote a portion of space as an official organ of the Order in the Maritime jurisdiction, as outlined in the preceding paragraph, and report at the next session of the Grange.

During the interval between sessions, correspondence was had with, and offers were received from several county papers, but on mature reflection, it was concluded, that although county journals were on the fence with reference to religious and political sectarianism, they were necessarily too exclusively devoted to the interests and gossip of their several counties to be acceptable in general circulation.

Attention was then turned to the Halifax Critic, as being a journal quite suited for the object the Grange and its committee had in view, and correspondence, and finally a personal interview, was had with the editor of that paper, the result of which was reported to the Provincial Grange, and the following Resolutions were unanimously adopted at the session held on Wednesday, the 10th inst:—

Resolved, That the offer of the editor of THE CRITIC to devote a portion of the columns of that journal for the use of the Order in this jurisdiction be accepted, and that THE CRITIC, or the Grange columns of that paper be declared to be the Official Organ of the Maritime Provincial Grange.

Upon motion of Dr. Monroe, seconded by R. W. Starr, Esq., it was unanimously

Resolved, That Edwin S. Creed be appointed editor of the Grange department of THE CRITIC.

Having, subject to conditions to be hereafter mentioned, consented to attempt the additional work and responsibility imposed upon me, it becomes my duty to offer a few words by way of

SALUTATORY.—I presume not to take even a humble place, commensurate with my territory, among the crowned kings of the Fifth Estate, whose sceptre is the pen, whose columns, though "only on paper," are more powerful and victorious than those which compose the armies of the greatest of earth's monarchs. Nor do I under-rate or under-value the position I have been called upon to assume in relation to an Order so truly noble in its principles and purposes, the determined and only champion and organized representative of Agriculture and of Agriculturists. I magnify mine office, and for myself and for all who in this, our organ, truly and fairly represent, defend or advocate the Order of the Patrons of Husbandry and its principles, objects and interests, I claim fair hearing, fair play, and a fair field.

We make our bow to politicians, and say, we do not purpose playing at the universal game of "follow my leader." We purpose discussing political questions from the Farmers' standpoint, and with reference to the interests of Agriculture. Party political feeling, or political partizanship, blinds all minds over which it dominates to real issues, places the interests of party above that of country and men before measures.

We aim to be SOLID for our interests and approved measures.

PATRONS OF HUSBANDRY.—We have in these columns a field, probably adequate to our present wants, and that may be enlarged as needed for general interchange of ideas, plans, sentiments, and wishes, and for official expression. I have consented to attempt the editorial management of the space allotted to us in THE CRITIC. The conditions of my acceptance of this position—the reverse of a sincere—are that you will give me the remuneration of success. Subscribe for this paper because our official organ is planted in it, and send your best thoughts and the results of careful observation and experience to your MARITIME PATRON. My knowledge of your ability with the pen assures me that I shall have reason to be proud of the contributions you will send.

Brother farmers and sister farmers too—Patrons of Husbandry have no other aims or interests than those that are yours also. If you do not unite with us, we claim, what we have already earned, your moral support. Let us know that you are in sympathy with me and appreciate our efforts in behalf of our profession.

We shall be no less pleased to receive your contributions than those of Patrons.

In the present number of THE CRITIC we publish Bro. C. R. H. Starrs instructive paper on "Silos and Ensilage." In our next issue, Past Worthy Master, W. F. George's address will be given, and in subsequent issues valuable essays from Patrons pens will be published.

I am respectfully and fraternally yours,

EDWIN S. CREED.

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Secretary.

58 Bedford Row, Feb. 10, 1886.

ESTATE OF CATHERINE
BINNEY, DECEASED.

The undersigned invite tenders for the purchase of that well-known property, formerly the residence of the late Edward Binney, Esq., situate on the corner of Pleasant and South Streets, with Stable, Outbuildings, Garden, &c. This is one of the choicest situations in Halifax, and the land measuring about 98 feet on Pleasant Street and 105 feet or thereabouts on South Street, can be divided into extra Building Lots. The property, as a whole, could be utilized for a first-class family Hotel, or for one of our Benevolent Institutions, the extensive grounds affording room for any necessary additions to the house.

Possession can be had on 1st May next. The House is in excellent order, and is fitted with all modern improvements. Tenders in writings will be received up to the 15th day of March next, but the undersigned do not bind themselves to accept the highest or any tender, and should no satisfactory tender be received, the property will be otherwise disposed of.

R. T. BRAINE,
B. G. GRAY,
Executors, &c.

Halifax, 4th February, 1886.

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Twenty-Second Annual Statement

The Travelers
INSURANCE COMPANY,
OF HARTFORD, CONN.

Cash Capital, \$600,000.

Assets, \$8,417,038.21
Liabilities, 6,321,199.35
Surplus, \$2,095,838.86

Life Department.

No. of Policies written to date, 44,800
New Life Insurance written in
1885, \$5,645,950
Gain during year in amount in
force, \$2,477,317
Paid Life Policy - Holders to
date, \$3,290,147.02
Paid Life Policy - Holders in 1885, \$379,420.79

Accident Department.

No. Policies written to date, 1,186,313
No. written in 1885, 108,246
No. Claims paid to date, 137,331
No. paid in 1885, 17,583
Total Claims paid, \$8,145,128.41
Amount paid in 1885, \$885,012.34

GAINED IN ASSETS. GAINED IN SURPLUS.
GAINED IN NUMBER OF POLICIES ISSUED.
GAINED IN LIFE INSURANCE WRITTEN.
GAINED IN AMOUNT OF LIFE INSURANCE IN
FORCE.

All claims paid immediately on receipt of satisfactory proofs.
All Policies contain Equitable Non-Forfeiture provisions. Accident Claims paid pro rata in event of occupation being changed.

OUR NEW LIFE POLICY,

(issued commencing January 1.) will satisfy everybody. Contains no burdensome conditions or restrictions. Cash Surrender Value. Paid-up Policy, or Term Insurance, at option of Policy-holder; amounts clearly stated on each Policy.

Jas. G. Patterson, Pres. Rodney Dennis, Sec.
GEO. ESSON, 95 Hollis St.
Agent for Nova Scotia and P. E. Island.

EYE, EAR and THROAT.

J. R. McLEAN,
Office—91 Hollis, Corner Salter Street,
Halifax, N. S.

MINING.

SALMON RIVER.—We understand that the owners of the Salmon River Mine have been offered for that valuable property the sum of \$400,000, but we believe that they have not yet finally decided to sell out. Messrs. Archibald and Mott are to be congratulated upon the manner in which they have worked the Salmon River mine, and upon the handsome profits which their enterprise has yielded.

SACKVILLE, N. S.—An assay has been made in New York of some quartz taken out of a lead discovered in this place in December last. From the assay, it would appear that the quartz carries five ounces of gold to the ton. The lead is only three inches in thickness, but expert miners believe that it will widen out as we go down —[COM]

BRIDGEWATER.—*Mr. Editor,*—I quite endorse what your correspondent says in last week's CRITIC with reference to the miners camp meeting, and I feel certain if a few of the mine owners living in Halifax would take up the matter it would soon be successfully carried out. A circular signed by half a dozen of these gentlemen would have the effect of drawing together a large number of mine-owners as well as miners, and if the meetings were informal many of us would be glad to give our experience of gold mining in this Province. But I am afraid, *Mr. Editor,* that you Halifax people are wanting in enterprise, and that your suggestion, although a good one, will not take practical shape for a generation or more.

Yours, A MINE OWNER.

The original discovery of gold at Kempt in this county was made by Mr. Reeves, and no little excitement was occasioned in that quiet village by the production of the boulder or large piece of surface stone which was just speckled with gold-like plums in an old-fashioned plum-pudding. This boulder was brought to Yarmouth, and was subsequently broken up and the gold extracted, over \$500 worth being obtained, besides numerous pieces of ore reserved as specimens.

To find the lead this boulder came from was then an incentive to great exertion at Kemptville. Several companies were formed, but the only two which settled down to solid, practical work were the Cowan Gold Mining Company and the Kempt Gold Mining Company. Others have property in the vicinity of these mines, but have not done the same amount of work in developing their claims.

We have before now devoted considerable space to a description of the Cowan mine, and have recorded from time to time the product of their crushing. The Kempt Gold Mining Company have sixty acres on the south side of Little Lake and but a few steps from the village of Kemptville. The present proprietors of the mine paid \$15,000 for the property. The directors, who are also among the principal stock holders, are Messrs. J. R. Kinney, M. P., J. R. Wyman, George W. Johnson, A. W. Eakins, and R. S. Eakins. Considerable work had been done in sinking shafts and prospecting when the present company took hold of the property. They put up substantial buildings, engaged a corps of first-class miners under the superintendence of Mr. Forman Hatfield, put up a powerful steam mining pump of most improved make and proceeded to work the mine in earnest. As they sunk their shafts they constantly took out quartz which showed gold in paying qualities, but had not come across any lead approaching in richness the boulder first discovered.

On Monday morning, however, the directors in town were electrified by a telephone message from the superintendent at the mine of a splendid find. At once the news spread through town that gold was being taken out at the Reeves mine by the shovelful. Four of the directors, Messrs. Kinney, A. W. Eakins, Wyman and Johnson, went up to Kemptville on Monday afternoon. A representative of the *Times* and several parties interested in neighboring claims also drove up. It was found that the foreman of the Reeves mine had discovered a lead 17 inches thick, only four feet from the surface. This on being opened up was found to be of dazzling richness. Old miners employed at the different mines, men who had spent years in other mines in this province and abroad, unhesitatingly pronounced it the richest lead ever found in Nova Scotia.

The directors yesterday were working on the lead themselves, and every moment getting out richer and richer specimens. The greatest excitement prevailed among the miners. Many rich mines have very little gold visible to the naked eye, but here every piece of rock broken out was richly laded with the bright yellow metal. The representative of the *Times* was presented with specimens enough to ensure the running of the paper for three months more.

We warmly congratulate the people of Yarmouth on the now unquestionable value of their gold mines, and the shareholders of the Kempt Gold Mining Company on the splendid luck which has attended their efforts to develop their property. Their faith, enterprise and industry has truly had a golden reward.—*Yarmouth Times.*

A fourteen pound nugget of gold has been found in Siberia.

Colorado is credited with the production of \$5,000,000 of gold in 1885.

The latest reports from Granite Creek are excellent. Two Chinamen are reported to have taken out \$2,200 of gold in one day, and one man dug out in half a day with his pen-knife.

The production of gold and silver in the Republic of Mexico from 1877 to 1885, is given as follows: Gold, \$3,747,013; silver, \$186,032,500; total, \$189,779,513.

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MINING—Continued.

Although four-fifths of the world's sulphur supply comes from Sicily, the deposits of Popocatepetl in Mexico are much more extensive and of better quality.

New South Wales can boast of 100 iron and tin works, and sixty iron, brass and copper foundries.

The general average yield of black tin of six large mines upon the great flat lode of Redruth, Cornwall, in 1876, was 2.21 per cent, ranging from 1.47 to 3.02.

Gold is said to have been discovered in Mouriligan harbor, Queensland, by a diver, while engaged in blasting rock.

The exact value of a ton of gold is \$602,927.23.—*Chicago, Mining Review.*

A gold mine has been discovered at Laky, Tex., that yields from \$68 to \$300 per ton. Prospectors are flocking to the locality in large numbers.

DISCOVERY OF RICH GOLD LODES IN HONDURAS.—Chicago, January 26. —A Syndicate of Americans was formed some months ago to prospect for gold in Honduras. James Rector, who was sent to Honduras with experts, reports that the field is likely to prove as important a one as any of the great placer districts of California, the new field lies in the eastern portion of Honduras, about one hundred and fifty miles from the Atlantic coast. The placers are in and adjacent to the head waters of the Leupac river, which is one of the tributary streams of the Rio Patuca, a region long known for its mineral resources.

Rector and his party have explored the stream and its gravelly bottom for nearly fifty miles, and have found scores of places where gravel yields from 10 to 80 cents per pan. They have begun regular mining, however, in a place where, after much toil, they succeeded in turning the river from its native bed. Here they dug down, and found bed rock at six feet in depth in a strata of clay and gravel. They are sluicing out from seven to ten dollars per cubic yard, a yield fully equal to that of the best placer diggings in California. The bed of the river they have reclaimed covers many acres in extent, and under the laws of the republic they can lay claim to it all. The facilities for placer mining are unsurpassed. A quantity of gold which has been sent up was exhibited here yesterday.

NEVADA.—This State, with its vast area of unproductive lands, deserts of sage brush and sand, stands without a peer in the amount of silver bullion produced from its mines. Dating from their discovery up to within two years past, the principal mines of the Comstock lode yielded to stockholders the sum of \$116,441,000 in dividends. The working of these mines is now confined principally to the vast amount of low grade deposits in the upper levels, the supply seeming to be inexhaustible, the California and Con. Virginia mine shipping bullion to the amount of \$480,000 for the last six months, the Belcher, Yellow Jacket and Crown Point adding corresponding amounts. Whilst Nevada has passed through several years of great business depression from the closing of many of her mining properties in Storey, Eureka and Lander counties, there has at the same time been a marked revival of mining in various other parts of the State, notably so in Sweetwater district, Esmeralda county, and in some of the mines near the Idaho line.

PORT ARTHUR.—It is reported, on good authority, that a mill for the reduction of silver ores will be built at any early date at the Rabbit Mountain mine, and that the Rabbit Mountain Company have completed arrangements with the syndicate of capitalists now controlling 40 T., the adjoining property through which the same vein runs, and on which the Milwaukee company did some development work last year, to work the two mines together on an extensive scale.

The arrangements for the sale of a part interest in the Beaver, Silver Creek, and another mine in the neighborhood have been finally concluded, and these three mines continue work with increased forces at each. Mr. Kirkland, the manager who has charge of the work at these properties for the new company, is busy engaging additional miners and surface hands for these mines. This company has also decided to build a large mill and reduction works in connection with their mines.

There are now, including the Twin City, five working mines in the Rabbit Mountain district. This is the kind of activity and work which will give a genuine impetus to mining in the district, and bring in satisfactory returns to the parties engaged in developing the country, and mining for profit. The machinery will be taken in this winter over the old Rabbit Mountain road, which will be repaired and widened for the purpose.—*Weekly Sentinel.*

DECREASE OF GOLD.—The value of the gold product in 1884 is placed at \$93,000,000, and that of silver at \$120,000,000. These figures mean little, except as taken in comparison with those of previous years. The value of the gold production is seen, however, to be two per cent. less than that of 1884; nine per cent. less than that for 1882, and thirteen per cent. less than that for 1881. Between 1851 and 1860 the annual yield was \$134,000,000, or thirty per cent. more than that for the past year, and in the succeeding decade, 1861-1870, it was twenty-five per cent. greater. Thus has the production decreased, not only since the golden period of 1850, but year by year since 1880.—*Bradstreet's.*

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SEALED TENDERS, addressed to the Postmaster-General, will be received at Ottawa until Noon, on FRIDAY, 12th March, for the conveyance of Her Majesty's Mails, three times per week each way, between

Upper Musquodoboit and West River, Sheet Harbor,

Under a proposed contract for four years from the 1st APRIL next.

The conveyance to be made by a vehicle drawn by not fewer than two horses.

Printed notices containing further information as to conditions of proposed Contract may be seen and blank forms of Tender may be obtained at the Post Offices of Upper Musquodoboit and West River, Sheet Harbor, and at this office.

CHARLES J. MACDONALD,
Post Office Inspector.

Post Office Inspector's Office,
Halifax, 29th January, 1886.

Christmas, 1885.

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Fur Tippets (a large assortment)
Real Dogskin Jackets,
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A large assortment of Wool Squares, B. Shawls,
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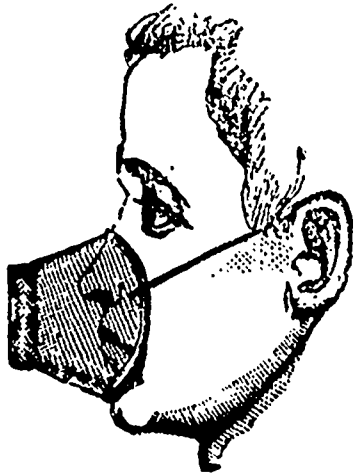
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H. G. WILSON, 125 Granville Street. HALIFAX, N. S., June 24th, 1885.
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Dear Sir,—Having been troubled with weak lungs and hemorrhage for some time with every indication of speedy consumption, concluded to try your "INHALATION TREATMENT" with the most flattering results. In fact to-day I am attending to my general business without noticing my former weakness, or that my lungs were ever affected. Your treatment cannot be too highly recommended.

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Capt. Wm. SALTER.

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CAPITAL	\$1,000,000 00
GROSS SURPLUS	3,910,483 36
	<u>4,910,483 36</u>
ASSETS.	
UNITED STATES BONDS	\$1,099,500 00
OTHER STOCKS AND BONDS	1,491,006 10
LOANS ON BOND AND MORTGAGE (value of property, \$672,300)	342,750 00
LOANS ON CALL (market value, \$76,615)	50,450 00
CASH IN BANK AND OFFICE	458,816 05
REAL ESTATE, UNENCUMBERED	738,512 58
PREMIUMS IN COURSE OF COLLECTION	648,132 48
INTEREST ACCRUED	13,326 71
BILLS RECEIVABLE FOR MARINE PREMIUMS	62,230 87
RENTS DUE AND ACCRUED	3 158 57
TOTAL	<u>\$4,910,483 36</u>
LIABILITIES.	
RESERVE FOR UNEARNED PREMIUMS	\$2,845,018 84
RESERVE FOR ALL UNPAID LOSSES	344,473 63
ALL OTHER LIABILITIES	6,793 47
CAPITAL STOCK	1,000,000 00
NET SURPLUS	714,167 42
TOTAL ASSETS	<u>\$4,910,483 36</u>

STEPHEN CROWELL, President.
W. R. CROWELL, Vice-Pres. PHILANDER SHAW, Sec.
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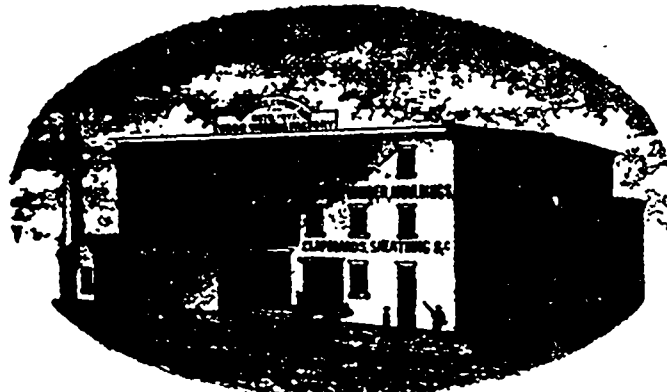
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