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# THE CRITIC:

A Maritime Provincial Journal.

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## THE CRITIC,

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

## EDITORIAL NOTES.

Grip with good sense wishes success to the effort about to be made for the election of a lady school trustee from each division of Toronto. "Woman's gentle influence," it says, has "notably improved the High School Board, and the other body seems to need it still more. As a measure of common justice and wise expediency women ought to be represented in the body which manages the affairs of the school in which one half the pupils are girls." Not only "woman's gentle influence," but her sound common sense might with great advantage be included in many boards of management.

The question of running the street cars on Sunday is again agitating the people of Toronto, and appearances indicate that a large majority of the citizens of the Queen City are opposed to the innovation. The *Toronto Week* turns the matter over and looks at it all round and finally sides with those who oppose the introduction of Sunday cars. The *Week's* reason for this decision is fear of the ultimate result of running Sunday cars. It thinks it would be likely to lead to enlarged opportunities for both business and pleasure to be attended to on Sunday, and while it expressly states that it does not regard the question as one of religious objection, holds to the view that faithful observance of the day of rest is the best thing for the city. In Halifax we have not found the Sunday cars bring in their train any of the evils feared by the *Week*; they have rather aided the cause of religion by carrying hundreds to places of worship every week. It is all very well to theorize about the question, but the practical test is what tells. The idea that a man may drive in his carriage on Sunday, and a poor man may not be allowed the conveyance afforded by the street car, is not likely to prevail for long.

The bomb throwing experiment practiced on Russell Sage by a man whose remains have since been identified as those of Henry L. Norcross, of Boston, supposed to have been insane, has been imitated in Germany, but not to the extent of actually throwing the bomb. The man in this case lost nerve and cleared off, but that a wave of this sort of criminality is in motion is indicated by the murderous attack made on Mr. Abbott, paymaster of the Rideau Canal, on the 17th inst. The affair took place in the Rideau Canal office, where Mr. Abbott was sitting with a satchel containing some hundreds of dollars, for the payment of the hands, before him. The would-be assassin and thief struck Mr. Abbott from behind with a piece of rubber hose

filled with lead in the end, at the same time making a grab for the satchel. Mr. Abbott tried to capture his assailant, and received several more heavy blows, but the man finally escaped—without the booty. Even had he succeeded in carrying off the satchel he would have secured but a small portion of what he must have expected, for the bulk of the money—about \$3,000—was in Mr. Abbott's pocket. It is to be hoped that Norcross' example will not be fruitful of many more of these events.

In weighing the results of the recent elections in the United States it must be remembered that many of the elections turned upon purely local issues, but taken as a whole they have resulted favorably to the Republican Party, and would apparently indicate the probable success of that party in the Presidential election of 1892. The collapse of the Farmers' Alliance, which endeavored to work upon an independent platform, ensures the re-absorption of its members by the Republican Party. The reaction against the McKinley Bill, which was so manifest in the Autumn of 1890 has apparently spent itself, and the people appear to be settling down to the conviction that the merits or demerits of the Bill cannot be determined until it has had a fair trial. This conviction greatly strengthens the Republican position. Wherever the free coinage of silver has come under discussion the Democratic politicians have been found supporting the movement, while the Republicans held true to a sound currency. The Republicans will therefore have all the prestige which a wise conservative money policy can ensure. For these three reasons we think the chances of the Republicans for electing the next President are much better to-day than they have been for many a year.

If she means she draws, the woman who calls herself, and is called, the "Little Georgia Magnet," is well named. London (G. B.) seems to have gone wild over her. She performs such wonderful feats—lifting six men heaped on a chair, raising billiard cues held down by six men, making herself so heavy that strong men cannot lift her, and many other remarkable actions, that the public and the press are agape with astonishment. Some papers firmly believe all is done by trickery, but just where the trick is puzzles them. This lady, Mrs. Abbott, has been an unusual attraction at the Alhambra, where she has been giving exhibitions of her prowess for some time. A London physician writing in the *Illustrated News*, inclines to the opinion that though frail in appearance, Mrs. Abbott is really a remarkably strong woman and aids this strength by various devices known to the initiated. Her claims to some abnormal force or magnetism he does not entertain for an instant, and goes into lengthy explanation of how, from his point of view, the lady manages to do what she does. However this may be, Mrs. Abbott has been successful in making a sensation, and probably a goodly sum of money out of her ability to do things which ordinary people either do not understand or cannot perform if they did.

The Quebec crisis has been the chief political topic of interest during the past week, and floods of editorial ink have been expended in setting forth the different sides of the question. As every one is aware, Mr. Justice Jette was taken ill at a critical time in the history of the Commission—just when it was expected to make a report—and besides his own illness, those near and dear to him were suffering, and Mrs. Jette, his mother, died but a few days ago. The report, which was impatiently awaited, certainly could not be fully prepared under the circumstances, and it would be uncharitable to blame an ill and sorrowful man for the delay. In the meanwhile Judges Baby and Davidson presented a report unfavorable to the Mercier Government, upon which Lieut-Governor Angers immediately dismissed his advisors—a course that has excited much criticism, and it is questioned whether it is constitutional. It has been stated, and is generally understood, that Judge Jette does not concur with the other members of the Commission, but we have no means of knowing if this be correct. The new premier is Mr. De Boucherville, and the legislature will probably be formally called on December 29th. The Lieut-Governor will open the House and give a synopsis of what has occurred during the last three months, after which the House will be dissolved, and the elections will follow shortly. Mr. Mercier has issued a manifesto to the Lieut-Governor stating that the preliminary report upon which Mr. Angers bases his right to dismiss him, is the report of two partisans, from which he has dragged an unjust and unfounded opinion on the investigation. We believe in turning boodlers out, but it must be done constitutionally, and if the stealing of \$100,000 and its distribution amongst the members of the Mercier Government—excepting Hon. Messrs Ross, Sheehy, Boyer and Dahamel—has been proved by the investigation, the process would be no less sure because of a little judicious delay. It would appear to be a simple question to settle whether Governor Angers acted within his rights, and perhaps when the violent talk on both sides has ceased, some constitutional authority, Dr. Bourinot probably, will pronounce on the matter.

Walt Whitman, "the good gray poet," is so ill that he was unable to send a few lines of congratulatory verse to John Greenleaf Whittier, the Quaker poet, who was eighty-four years old on the 17th inst.

A correspondent writes us that the marriage market in Manitoba would not be overstrained by the importation of young women from England, but that they ought to come properly chaperoned and not expect engagements while stepping from the cars, as is sometimes talked of. No doubt there is room for able women in parts of the Northwest, but in the east there are sufficient for the present.

In the *Illustrated London News* there is no department better worth perusal than James Payn's "Note Book," but Canadians often have cause to wish the able author of those jottings a more amiable disposition towards the Dominion and its people. Mr. Payn knows everything that is worth knowing—presumably—and speaks of things Canadian in a tone that may be supposed to settle whatever subject is under consideration for all time. He frequently scoffs at any suspicion of any good—literaturely speaking—coming out of Canada, or America altogether for that matter, and in so doing exhibits his colossal ignorance of the real state of affairs. He was, we are happy to say, constrained not long ago to give this continent the credit for a piece of original literary criticism which commended itself to his favor. In doing so he had the ill-grace to remark that it was from a quarter from which no sound literary criticism was expected—a slur on our men and women of letters as unmerited as it was uncalled for. Mr. Payn would do well to remember that his stinging sentences are widely read on this continent, and that the wit, even though it resembles a diamond, both to sparkle and cut, should not be directed against those who are not in a position to return the civility. He should not forget that this fine young country of ours is chiefly populated by those whom Britain bore in her flank, and who are in all respects as proud of Britain's glory as if they still lived in the isle "bound in with the triumphant sea." It is not fair to run down everything Canadian in the fashion Mr. Payn is doing, but perhaps when he considers that our literary aspirations are sufficiently crushed he will let us alone and turn his attention elsewhere.

According to the results of the naval manoeuvres during the past year, the Whitehead Torpedo in practice appears to be a most costly and almost worthless weapon. A record was kept of the discharge of eight of them—being apparently all which were in operation. They were of recent pattern, incorporating nearly all the improvements that have been suggested by many years' experience, and had an extreme speed of about twenty-six knots. In spite of the beauty of their mechanism and the experience of the officers and men in charge, three out of the eight utterly failed to run; three ran, but failed to hit anything; one missed its aim and hit something else, but so gently as to make it doubtful whether the concussion would have exploded the charge; and only one hit its mark and theoretically did its work. This great want of success is a disappointment to those who held extreme views as to the deadliness of this immensely costly piece of mechanism. Besides the fact that many of the torpedoes failed to speed, the torpedo-boats were so long in discharging their weapons that in actual warfare they would, in all likelihood, have been absolutely disabled and out of action. Two and a quarter minutes at close range under a heavy fire is considered sufficient to cripple these greyhounds, and each of the discharges, save that of one torpedo which failed to run, was made after a longer delay than was sufficient to permit an enemy to knock the boats to pieces. The success of the torpedo in the *Blanco-Encalada* affair off the coast of Chili, may have been more from good luck than good management. Its efficiency as a weapon should be further and thoroughly tested by the War Office. The nation is paying a pretty penny for what is evidently an undeveloped combative implement.

The fashion of cutting prices, which has obtained in Christmas papers and some other lines this season, is to be deprecated from every point of view. We do not mean to say that we are not as glad as anybody to have an opportunity of getting things at a low rate—for our means are limited—but we think the system is decidedly unfair to the purchasers at the original price. The first purchasers are valuable, because they help to establish the reputation of a paper or book, but the people who hold back until the price drops ought not to be considered. If a person buys a Christmas paper, or several of them, for fifty cents each when they first arrive, it is not fair to that person to reduce the price to twenty-five cents each for the benefit of those whose purse strings are more tightly drawn. Papers and books should, as far as practicable be kept at a fair, even price, or else those who paid the most money should have it refunded. We speak, of course, of changes within a short time such as the Christmas season. If papers or books can be sold at a profit at a "cut price," then the price from the first should be low, but if the "cut price" means a loss, some means should be taken to prevent the market being demoralized in this way. Many people who purchased "*Illustrated Halifax*" at seventy-five cents are wishing they had waited until it was "cut," as advertised by one firm last week, and we do not see why, if it can be sold at a profit for sixty cents, the quickest buyers should have been obliged to pay seventy-five cents for it, and if it is being sold at a loss it is not fair to the publishers and the more conservative dealers. If this sort of thing continues the public will always wait for the "cut," and precious few things will be sold at the first price. In order to adjust matters so that money will not be lost, publishers will then have to name the first rate high, in order to be able to afford the "cut." A nice state of trade, truly, that would be!

Extreme youth is not a positive necessity to enable one to partake at times with relish of that popular juvenile beverage, the juice of the cow. Even those who have reached years of discretion, and who are not unfamiliar with the taste of other drinks, may sometimes refresh themselves with the fluid that is said to contain all the constituents necessary for the nourishment of the body. The *St. John Progress* last week sought to be sunny by re-publishing, with the heading "Still in its Infancy, Vol. VIII, No. 50," our remarks on the Halifax Creamery's gift of milk to us. Milk is not our usual diet, but we are happy to say, we are still young enough to appreciate its merits. The Creamery Company owes *Progress* thanks for the puff.

The season for good resolutions will be upon us in another week, and many an old scarred page in the lives of individuals will be turned down, and new ones started with hopes for a fairer completion. No matter how many failures may result; no matter how many firm and good resolutions may be shattered, if only a few succeed in laying the foundation of better lives at this time the season will not have come in vain. We may all of us rely upon this, that a "Happy New Year" lies very much in our own power, and if we live according to the laws of God, and observe those of our country, as well as carry a firm determination to let nothing us dismay, even if fortune does not smile upon us during the twelve months coming, we will at least possess an inward contentment that is better than gold or precious stones. With all good-will we again greet our readers, and wish them a happy and prosperous New Year!

If we were once children, and a great many of us have been, we know full well the excitement among the young ones at this season. All has been commotion, and the increased activity has culminated with Christmas. This time-honored day seems just as full of joy for the youngsters as ever. They still take as lively an interest in it as we did, and we should therefore be ever willing to give them those pleasures which were once our own. What if we are older and less ecstatic than formerly! We must at least not be selfish. Let us always do what we can that those who are yet children may on this day have such gratifications as our conditions warrant. People's ideas, however, are elastic, or rather contractile, in this respect, be it so said to their shame. Let us resolve to err on the right side—that of liberality—and to err on the right side is not to err at all. Let us spend a little more than we think we can spare. After all it will be usually found that we could afford to be generous at such a gladsome time. Our bread thrown on the water will return in the shape of joy to those we hold dear; their joy will become our own. If we become happy, has not the money been put out at a high rate of interest and is it not now returned, principal and increase, in the shape of a buoyant conscience, one which is aware of good done to another; and we further receive from those we remembered, a check for good-will, payable to the bearer, which will be cashed when all other paper is refused. A true friend is far more precious than gold. If you have not found that out, do not doubt it because ignorantly unaware. Be most careful not to stultify yourself in giving gifts; do it not for expediency's sake, making a mere mockery of generosity. Scorn such hypocrisy. Do not hold out the hand to receive another material offering. Desire not to be repaid in kind, but in kindness. You will at least receive the latter, and it is a God-sent balm to the chaffings and scratches we receive by rubbing against this hard, rough world, whose chief growth seems to be brambles. Those who look sharply among the prickles, however, will find occasionally the luscious fruit, for it is there in season. If our good-will can be of service, we extend it to everyone with all heartiness. Let each one prosper and enjoy whatever comes to hand, for contentment is physiologically equivalent to prosperity.

In connection with the tax reform movement in this city it is interesting to notice that the New York Tax Reform Association has reached a decision quite opposite to that of our association. The *Engineering and Mining Journal* of New York says:—"Every one who has given any thought to the subject admits that we are very far from having reached an ideal system of taxation. In fact our so-called tax systems resemble our systems of weights and measures, being, like those, relics of barbarism. The New York Tax Reform Association is making a strong effort to educate the people in the following 'planks' from its 'platform': 1. The most direct taxation is the best, because it gives to the real payer of taxes a conscious and direct pecuniary interest in honest and economical government. 2. Mortgage and capital engaged in production or trade should be exempted from taxation, because taxes on such capital tend to drive it away, to put a premium on dishonesty and to discourage industry. 3. Real estate should bear the main burden of taxation, because such taxes can be most easily, cheaply and certainly collected, and because they bear least heavily on the farmer and the worker." It is safe to say that every form of indirect taxation bears most heavily on the poor, the wage-earners and those of moderate means. These are not able to defend themselves and are universally the victims. The rich can always escape. Every man, every poor man especially, should advocate the most direct taxation. He can then learn who pays the taxes; and he will soon see to it that public expenditures are economically administered. The best way for any man to get rich is to hold on to what he gets, and not let his hard-earned means be taken in taxes, whether concealed as an outrageous tariff or as a personal property tax that is paid by the poor and honest and evaded by the rich and dishonest." Our proposed professional tax is being vigorously opposed by the doctors and lawyers—clergymen are exempt from its possible operations,—and they are busy signing a petition against it. Reform for some may not be regarded in the same light by others.

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## CHIT-CHAT AND CHUCKLES.

## HOW MUCH A MAN IS LIKE HIS SHOES

For instance, both a soul may lose,  
Both have been tanned; both are made tight  
By cobblers; both get left and right.  
Both need a mate to be complete,  
And both are made to go on feet.  
They both need healing; both are sold,  
And both in time will turn to mould.  
With shoes the last is first; with men  
The first shall be last; and when  
The shoes wear out, they're mended new;  
When men wear out, they're men dead too;  
They both are trod upon; and both  
Will tread on others, nothing loath.  
Both have their toes, and both incline  
When polished in the world to shine.  
And both peg out. Now would you choose  
To be a man or be his shoes?

Snodgrass (after Snively finishes a fish story)—“Well, I like a liar!”  
Snively—“You egotist!”

The Prince of Wales has made many crooked lines, but the British people hope that he will be straight when he is a ruler.

AT THE MUSEUM.—Mrs. X—My dear, I want you to observe this beautiful statue of Apollo. That one is his wife, Apollinaris.

School Teacher: “Bobby, you may define profit.”  
Bobby (whose father is a druggist): “Four hundred per cent.”

No psychologist has ever yet explained why it is that when a handsome man and a handsome woman and a homely woman are walking on the street together the homely woman is always in the middle.

When a hen succeeds in hatching a chicken from a china egg, and a soldier kills an enemy at a hundred yards with a blank cartridge, then a merchant may hope to do successful business without advertising.

A MISUNDERSTANDING.—Young lady (in contralto tones of remarkable depth and richness)—“Have you got any low French songs?”

Music publisher (indignantly)—“Certainly not, miss. You must try some other establishment.”

THE DAY SPOILED.—Smith—Your wife doesn't seem to be in very good humor to-day.

Jones—She has had some very bad luck this morning, poor thing. She went out shopping to buy some ribbon, and she found just what she wanted in the first store she went into.

Editors as a rule are kind-hearted and liberal. An exchange tells of a subscriber of a certain paper who died and left fourteen years subscription unpaid. The editor appeared at the grave just as the lid of the coffin was being screwed down for the last time and put in a linen duster, a thermometer, a palm leaf fan, and a receipt for making ice.

THE ONE DRAWBACK.—Inventor—Oh, the fatality of things! Here I have an invulnerable, non-atmospheric, spectacular, refractive, non-reverberating, non-oscillatory watch, perfect in detail and mechanism, and yet I am almost starving.” Friend—“Why don't you sell the patent?” Inventor—“The fools won't buy it, just because it won't keep time.”

Young Lord Russell, whose domestic difficulties are now the sensation of London, wooed and won his wife in the guise of a mechanic while supervising some electrical work at her mother's house. Such a romance, of the time story-book order, was too good to last after marriage. Perhaps it would have been better for Lady Russell's happiness if her noble lover had been a real instead of a pseudo workman.

CAKE AND BREAD LANGUAGE.—Little Dot—Oh, I just love cake. It's awful nice. Mamma (reprovingly)—You should not say you “love” cake; say “like.” Do not say “awful”; say “very.” Do not say “nice”; say “good.” And, by the way, the word “just” should be omitted, also the “oh.” Now, my dear, repeat the sentence correctly. Little Dot—I like cake; it's very good. Mamma—That's better. Little Dot (with an air of disgust)—Sounds as if I was talkin' 'bout bread.

The late Mr. Florence never aspired to be a temperance lecturer, but he gave some excellent advice to toppers. If you must drink, said he, buy a gallon of whiskey at a time, and make your wife the bar-keeper. When you are dry, give her fifteen cents for a drink, and when the whiskey is gone she will have, after paying for it, \$6 75 left, and every gallon thereafter will yield the same profit. This money she should put away, so that when you have become an inebriate, unable to support yourself and shunned by every respectable man, your wife may have money enough to keep you until your time comes to fill a drunkard's grave. There's some practical philosophy for you.

It was Mr. Emerson who said “the first wealth is health,” and it was a wiser than the modern philosopher who said that “the blood is the life.” The system like the clock, runs down. It needs winding up. The blood gets poor and scores of diseases result. It needs a tonic to enrich it.

A certain wise doctor, after years of patient study, discovered a medicine which purified the blood, gave tone to the system, and made men—tired, nervous, brain-wanting men—feel like new. He called it his “Golden Medical Discovery.” It has been sold for years, sold by the million of bottles, and people have found such satisfaction in it that Dr. Pierce, who discovered it, now feels warranted in selling it under a positive guarantee of its doing good in all cases.

Perhaps it's the medicine for you. Your's wouldn't be the first case of scrofula and salt-rheum, skin disease, or lung disease, it has cured when nothing else would. The trial's worth making, and costs nothing. Money refunded if it don't do you good.



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## NEWS OF THE WEEK.

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

Parliament will not open until February.

Quebec's new cabinet was sworn in on Monday evening.

Rev. A. W. McLeod, D. D., founder of the *Wesleyan*, is dead. He was 81 years of age.

Three railway mail clerks, Eliot, Armstrong and McDonsid, have been suspended.

The mother of Judge Jette died from la grippe on the 17th inst. She was 92 years of age.

It is not yet certain that a contract has been signed with the Allans for the renewal of the old service at the old rates.

Give your friend a year's subscription to THE CRITIC as a New Year's gift. You cannot get better worth for your money.

Sir Alex. Campbell, Lieut-Governor of Ontario, who has been suffering from a paralytic stroke, is considered to be out of danger.

Since the editorial on the Quebec matter was in print the Quebec Legislature has been dissolved and the elections will be held on March 8th.

The steamer *Premier* is now running on the Canada-Atlantic route in place of the *Halifax* for the winter months. The *Halifax* will make a series of trips between Boston and Bermuda.

The steamer *Alpha*, from Halifax, arrived at Bermuda on the 20th, somewhat damaged by a heavy gale through which she passed. One of the horses she carried died on the passage.

Mr. Mercier is carrying on a vigorous campaign in Quebec. He went to Montreal on the 18th and made an appeal to the people to support him against the encroachments of the federal power.

The Christmas entertainment given by the pupils of La Salle Academy, in the Academy of Music on Tuesday evening, was in every point a decided success. There was a full house, and the entertainment was first-class.

The crew of the wrecked barque *Anna*, who were for sixteen days on the island of Anticosti, were taken to Quebec by the steam schooner *Anna McGee* on the 17th inst. The men suffered terribly while on the island.

Last Friday a large and representative meeting of bankers was held in Montreal for the purpose of forming the Canadian Bankers Association. This was done and a constitution adopted and officers and council elected.

The trial of the Halifax election case was begun on Monday. The agency charges were investigated, and the case has been adjourned until Monday. The petition against A. R. Dickey in Cumberland was up for trial on Monday.

The Church school for girls at Windsor closed last week for the Christmas vacation with 81 names on the register. The new building is ready for occupation and is one of the notable structures of the pretty town in which it is situated. Success is attending this institution.

We regret to learn that Mr. Ed. H. Barnstead has severed his connection with Zera Semon's Novelty company. Mr. Barnstead leaves on Saturday to join Josie Mills Dramatic Company, having signed to manage the above company for two years. We wish him every success.

Bishop Courtney has not forgotten his diocese at this season. He has written a circular letter, dated London, 1st week in Advent, 1891, to the clergy and other members of the church of England in the diocese of Nova Scotia, a Christmas greeting to his flock which is highly appreciated.

George Shrum of Dartmouth, who actuated by jealousy tried to shoot William Thibadeu, was arraigned before Stipendiary Russell last Friday, and had nothing to say to the charge. The Stipendiary committed the prisoner for trial and he was sent to the county jail to await the action of the grand jury.

Vice-Admiral Sir George Willis Watson, K. C. B., is about to retire from the active list. He completes his 65th year on the 5th of April next, and will therefore be compulsorily placed on the retired list. During his command of the North American squadron Sir George has made many friends in these parts.

The *Morning Chronicle* and the *Morning Herald* are both going to be enlarged to eight pages. THE CRITIC was enlarged last spring and with the New Year we contemplate using a superior quality of paper, which will make our journal extremely neat in appearance and show off advertisements to the best advantage.

The city council considered the fire department matter on Monday evening. Captain Condon has been appointed a firewarden and the purchase of new apparatus was authorized. Alderman Boak's outline of a paid department to cost about \$32,000 was taken up, but a motion to adjourn came up and the matter dropped.

In the Presbyterian churches of the city an exchange was made last Sunday for the purpose of preaching missionary sermons. One of the best addresses delivered was Rev. Mr. Stewart's, which was listened to with great attention by the congregation of Chalmer's Church. Mr. Stewart is pastor of St. James' Church, Dartmouth.

Premier Blair of New Brunswick visited the School for the Blind on Friday last, and after fully inspecting all the departments promised to urge upon the New Brunswick Government the advisability of adopting a just law for the education of the blind children of that province who attend the Halifax School.

The performances of the Orpheus Minstrels are announced for Tuesday and Thursday evenings of next week, and their success is already well assured. Mr. A. Johnson is general manager and Mr. W. J. Hutchins will direct the musical programme. The orchestra, under the leadership of Mr. H. B. Hagarty, is making preparations to excel at these entertainments, and we have not the slightest doubt that a genuine treat is in store.

The fishing cruiser *Constance*, built for the Dominion service on the Upper Lakes by the Polson Iron Works Company, of Toronto, has been transferred to the Customs Department, and will be used to prevent smuggling on the St. Lawrence below Montreal. The Government has contracted with the Polson Iron Works Company to build a similar vessel for the fishing service, for which the *Constance* was originally intended.

Messrs. Rhodes, Curry & Co., the well-known Amherst manufacturers and builders, have sent us two very pretty calendars, for which we are duly grateful. The Quebec Fire Insurance Co., J. T. Twining & Son, agents for Nova Scotia, has also contributed one of these useful presents with a handsome view of Quebec, and Messrs. P. & J. O'Mullin, of the Foyle Brewery, have issued two beauties, portraits of Mrs. Langry and Ellen Terry, the latter in the character of Lady Macbeth, attracting admiring attention. The Eastern Fire Assurance Co., of Canada, A. M. K. Duill, agent, is presenting its friends with handsome calendars. The head of a moose is the appropriate engraving. John F. Kelly, manufacturer of harness, has issued a large picture with Calendar. It is very well gotten up, and is one of the attractive calendars of the New Year.

Senator Plump, of Kansas, is dead.

The Boston *Herald* is reducing its staff and its quantity of news.

Mr. Russell Sage expresses himself as profoundly grateful to God for his escape from the bomb-thrower.

The arrest of Cyrus W. Field's son for his financial frauds has had a serious effect on the old gentleman. He is said to be hopelessly ill.

The drought in Mexico has caused much distress.

Trouble is brewing between the Hovas of Madagascar and the French.

The illness from which King George of Greece is suffering, which was at first stated to be chicken-pox, is now pronounced small-pox.

Dr. Keane, the McCarthyite candidate for parliament for Waterford, has withdrawn and Michael Davitt has consented to stand for the seat.

The N. S. W. Parliament after a disorderly sitting of 36 hours' duration have passed the Government tariff. This result is a great victory for the protectionist party.

Reports of the ravages of influenza in various part of Europe are being constantly received. The epidemic is spreading rapidly in Jutland, Holland and Denmark.

The "heathen Chinese" have been fighting near Chaogang. The Imperial troops were victorious after a desperate battle in which 1,100 rebels were slaughtered on the field.

A rupture has occurred between France and Bulgaria, and it is all over the expulsion from the latter country of a French journalist. France has withdrawn her representative at Sofia.

Mrs. George Ward, Christian Scientist in California has been found responsible by the coroner's jury for the death of George Lord whom she had been attending and will be prosecuted for manslaughter.

Emperor William has made Chancellor Von Caprivi a count, as a reward for his efforts in the successful establishment of the commercial treaties recently concluded between Germany and several other countries.

England's new battleships are to have 50 ton guns instead of 110 ton monsters of destruction. Experiments with smokeless powder and guns of the smaller calibre have proved that they can do all that is required.

Mr. Hastings, member of Parliament for East Worcestershire, was arrested on Sunday on arriving at Folkestone from the continent, charged with defrauding Malvern College of \$15,000 while under his trusteeship.

The Dowager Lady Deros is again dead. She danced at the famous ball given in Brussels on the eve of the battle of Waterloo and was the last survivor of that ball. This is the second time her death has been reported.

Buenos Ayres advices report that the recent purchase by Baron Hirsch of 3,001 square leagues of land in the northern part of the Argentine Republic for \$260,000 makes him the possessor of a territory larger than is owned by any other man, and which exceeds in area the kingdom Montenegro.

Captains Boileau and Butcher, the cashiered army officers who were concerned in the Manipur massacre, are returning to England to demand that the War Office authorities reconsider their case. A number of military men both here and in India support their appeal. If the War Office refuses to reconsider, the matter will be brought before Parliament.

The British Admiralty is much excited over the growing record of defects in great guns on English warships. Five vessels have recently been officially declared to be carrying unreliable guns. In the 110-ton gun of the ironclad *Benbow*, which has been in commission only a few weeks, a crack developed in the inner tubes after firing a few rounds of 950 pounds each, constituting the service's full charge. Similar accidents have happened to guns on the *Victoria* and *Sanspareil*. Generally the heaviest weapons are becoming distrusted, and the Admiralty has ordered that a number of them be taken to the Ordnance works to be strengthened. Meanwhile, the 75-ton guns of the French fleet are acting perfectly.



The Conservative organs are trying to educate the British public into approval of a Parliamentary grant raising the income of the recently affianced Duke of Clarence and Avondale to £25,000 yearly. The Queen, it is understood, will not consent to open the coming session of Parliament unless the Cabinet will assent to taking the risk involved in bringing forward the proposal. The Ministers in the meantime are unwilling to go further than to propose a dowry for Princess Victoria Mary, or an annuity of £5,000 as a marriage settlement. The Radicals will agree to a moderate dowry, but to no further grant to the Duke of Clarence, and if the Government ventures to ask for a special provision for him the Opposition reckon on a vote of 200 against the measure. This, though a minority, will take the heart and cordiality out of the grant and be a pill for the Royal family, besides weakening the cause of the Government in the coming elections. The Emperor and Empress of Germany, the King of Greece and a host of German and Danish princelings will come to the wedding of the Duke and Princess. The bridal dress will be purely of English manufacture.

An attempt was made at Turin on the 16th by a man in the confessional, to assassinate Canon Maronetti. The Canon was badly wounded and his assailant escaped.

Piso's Remedy for Catarrh is the Best, Easiest to Use, and Cheapest.

**CATARRH**

Sold by druggists or sent by mail, 60c. E. T. Hazeltine, Warren, Pa.

Acts like magic in all stomach troubles.

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A WONDERFUL REMEDY

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Useful Christmas Presents.

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A refreshing and Valuable Stock of Xmas Presents, consisting of

**FURS**

of Every Description, including Ladies' Alaska Seal Jackets, Fur-lined Russian Circulars, Sealette Jackets, Gent's & Children's Furs, &c.

all of which will be sold at

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As we intend to carry no Fur Stock over this season, the public will find Bargains by calling at

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**JAN. 4, 1892.**

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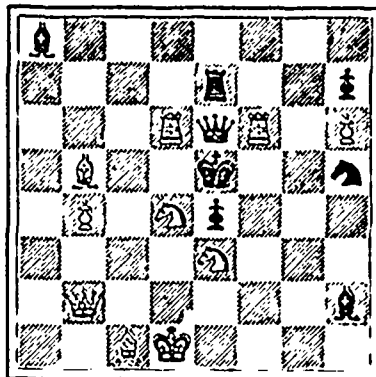
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ESPECIALS given on application.  
488 UPPER WATER STREET, Halifax, N. S.

**CHESS.**

**PROBLEM No. 97.**  
From The Week.  
Black 8 pieces.



White 10 pieces.  
White to play and mate in two moves.

**GAME No. 98.**  
Off-hand game recently contested in New York.

- | WHITE.              | BLACK.      |
|---------------------|-------------|
| J. G. Ascher.       | E. Delmsr.  |
| 1 P to K4           | P to K4     |
| 2 P to Q4           | P takes P   |
| 3 Kt to KB3         | P to QB4    |
| 4 B to QB4          | P to QKt4   |
| 5 B to Q5           | Kt to QB3   |
| 6 P to QB4          | KtP takes P |
| 7 Castles           | B to R3     |
| 8 R to K            | Kt to KB3   |
| 9 Q to R4 a         | Q to K3     |
| 10 Kt to R3         | B to K2     |
| 11 B takes P        | B takes B   |
| 12 Kt takes B       | Q to K5     |
| 13 Q to B2          | Castles KR  |
| 14 B to Q2          | Q to K2     |
| 15 P to K5          | Kt to Q4    |
| 16 B to Kt5         | P to B3     |
| 17 Q to K4          | Kt to Q     |
| 18 B to R4          | Kt to K5    |
| 19 Q to Kt4 b       | Kt to K3 c  |
| 20 P takes P        | B takes P   |
| 21 Kt to Q6         | Q to Q4     |
| 22 Kt to B5         | B takes B   |
| 23 Kt at B3 tks B e | QR to K f   |
| 24 R takes Kt       | P to Kt3 g  |
| 25 R takes P ch     | K to R      |
| 26 R to Kt7         | Resigns h   |

NOTES BY J. G. ASCHER.

a Threatening some trouble for black, loss of piece or kindred disaster, anyhow not pleasant.

b Giving black the extreme felicity of availing himself of the "exchange,"

c But black can't see it!

d The knight pokes his nose in here very impertinently.

e R takes Kt now would be "a little previous."

f A blunder, but black was in hot water,—the only move seems to be R to B2, and even that entails loss of exchange.

g From the frying pan, &c.

h As it is loss of Queen or mate in two.

[Mr. Ascher has played the latter part of his game in his old-time dashing style. Ch. Ed.]—Gazette.

**DESPATCH PROBLEM TOURNEY No. 1.**  
Open to the world.

Composers may send any number of original and unpublished three-move problems, unconditional, direct mates. Each problem must be diagramed with full solution and motto. The name and address of the composer must be enclosed in a separate, sealed envelope; the latter will not be opened till the publication of the award. Problems cannot be recalled for correction.

Competing positions must be mailed in the United States or Canada not later than February 15th, 1892, and in all other countries not later than March 1, 1892, to chess editor, Pittsburg Dispatch, P. O. Box 463, Pittsburg, Pa.

Four good prizes are offered.

**SOLUTION OF TOURNEY.**—A solution competition will be held in connection with the problem tournament, the conditions of which will be published in duo time. Five prizes will be offered.

"How are you?"  
"Nicely, Thank You."  
"Thank Who?"

Why the inventor of  
**SCOTT'S EMULSION**

Which cured me of CONSUMPTION.  
Give thanks for its discovery. That it does not make you sick when you take it.  
Give thanks. That it is three times as efficacious as the old-fashioned cod liver oil.  
Give thanks. That it is such a wonderful flesh producer.  
Give thanks. That it is the best remedy for Consumption, Scrofula, Bronchitis, Wasting Diseases, Coughs and Colds.  
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Amidships, will sail

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This boat was only launched last February, is classed 100 A 1, at Lloyds, and is guaranteed one of the fastest and staunchest boats sailing out of Nova Scotia.

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## THE PROVINCE OF QUEBEC LOTTERY.

### BI-MONTHLY DRAWINGS IN 1892

- |                   |                    |
|-------------------|--------------------|
| 7 and 20 January  | 6 and 20 July      |
| 3 and 17 February | 3 and 17 August    |
| 2 and 16 March    | 7 and 21 September |
| 6 and 20 April    | 5 and 19 October   |
| 4 and 18 May      | 2 and 16 November  |
| 1 and 15 June     | 7 and 21 December  |

3134 Prizes Worth \$52,740.  
Capital Prize worth \$15,000.

TICKET, - - - \$1.00  
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**List of Prizes.**

|                              |             |
|------------------------------|-------------|
| 1 Prize worth 15,000.....    | \$15,000 00 |
| 1 " " 5,000.....             | 5,000 00    |
| 1 " " 2,500.....             | 2,500 00    |
| 1 " " 1,250.....             | 1,250 00    |
| 2 Prizes " 500.....          | 1,000 00    |
| 5 " " 250.....               | 1,250 00    |
| 25 " " 50.....               | 1,250 00    |
| 100 " " 25.....              | 2,500 00    |
| 200 " " 15.....              | 3,000 00    |
| 500 " " 10.....              | 5,000 00    |
| <b>APPROXIMATION PRIZES.</b> |             |
| 100 " " 25.....              | 2,500 00    |
| 100 " " 15.....              | 1,500 00    |
| 100 " " 10.....              | 1,000 00    |
| 100 " " 5.....               | 4,995 00    |
| 999 " " 5.....               | 4,995 00    |
| 3134 Prizes worth.....       | \$52,740 00 |

S. E. LEFEBVRE, Manager,  
141 St. James St., Montreal Canada.

## CHRISTMAS CAROL.

Oh sing a merry Christmas song,  
Replete with mirth and gladness,  
And echo it with joy, along  
This old earth steeped in sadness.  
Ring out a spray of silver chimes  
Upon the waiting people;  
A chant of golden, rhythmic rhymes,  
From every church and steeple,  
Light up this sour and gloomy world,  
Its sweetest blessings scoring,  
Ring out old year, ring in with cheer  
The joyous Christmas morning.

Think you the wise men from afar,  
Their costly treasure bringing,  
Grew weary following the star,  
Its radiance round them flinging?  
Think you they grumbled at the task,  
So holy and inspiring?  
Or doubt one question dared to ask,  
Of faith their purpose firing?  
From out of night, and gloom, and sin,  
They hailed redemption's dawning,  
Do we need Him less that we cannot miss  
His birth this Christmas morning?

Was there a note of rapture still,  
Missed in the song's completeness,  
When angels chanted, "Peace, Good-Will,"  
To men with heavenly sweetness?  
Think you the listening Shepherds sought  
Amid the glory's gleaming  
Our Lord, with e'en one selfish thought  
Beyond the world's redeeming?  
God's love for us, as brightly shines,  
His altar shrines adorning,  
The gift is thine, the gift is mine,  
All hail this Christmas morning.

All up and down the gloomy land,  
Pain toils along with sorrows,  
But hope with faith walks hand in hand,  
And over all to-morrows  
Love sheds the lustre of her smile,  
Upon each grief and loss,  
And bids us to be glad awhile;  
Awhile forget the cross;  
Remembering how the angels sang,  
All but God's message scoring,  
To all the earth, of Jesus' birth,  
One joyous Christmas morning.

—Emma P. Seabury, in the Chicago Graphic.

## THE TELEPHONE FIRE ALARM.

The Telephone Fire Alarm, which at the present is receiving considerable attention, and deservedly so, is an invention of great merit. The inventors, Messrs. Spike and McLeod, are to be congratulated upon the ingenuity displayed by them in perfecting such a piece of mechanism.

We believe the idea of utilizing the telephone for fire alarm purposes was original with Mr. Spike. He, in conjunction with Mr. McLeod, has worked on that idea to some purpose, and has perfected a machine that is sure to revolutionize the present system of fire alarm telegraphy.

The Telephone Fire Alarm is a complete system in itself, and can also be used as an auxiliary in connection with any of the systems at present in vogue without in any way interfering with them.

A short description of this device and the method of operating it will no doubt be of interest to our readers.

A semi-circular dial plate bearing a series of numbers, each number corresponding to a fire district; an indicator or pointer travels around this plate. When an alarm is desired to be sounded, the pointer is moved around to the number of the district and the machine started. By means of an arrangement of clockwork and a contact breaker, the number indicated by the pointer is struck on the alarm bells and the exact locality of the fire thus made known to the department. The instrument repeats the alarm four times and then stops automatically. Signals for more assistance, all out, etc., can also be transmitted in the same way by this instrument. The alarm may be repeated by restarting the instrument.

This instrument is made available by districting a city, each block being numbered, or each district may consist of from two to four blocks length in straight lines of a street. Each telephone in the district is provided with a card having printed thereon the number of the fire district in which it is situated, and the transmitter placed in the central telephone office is provided with numbers corresponding to the different districts.

On discovery of a fire in any district it is only necessary to go to the nearest telephone, call up central and announce the fact. The operator places the indicator of the transmitter on the number of the district and the alarm is announced to the entire city or to the fire department as may be desired. When the fire has been extinguished or if more assistance is required the facts are made known by the same means.

All these advantages are secured by the use of one very simple little instrument not liable to get out of order, and, as compared with other systems, at a merely nominal cost, insuring at least as prompt an alarm and affording an incomparably greater protection than other systems.

The automatic transmitter is in reality a compound alarm box set up in the most accessible position in the city (i. e., the central telephone office) always ready, and itself doing the work done by the many complex machines of other systems.

We wish the inventors every success in their enterprise, and trust they will realize handsomely from their patents, which we understand they have secured in both the United States and Canada.

## A WORD ABOUT COFFEE.

Much has been written and printed concerning coffee. Cook books all contain receipts for preparing it in different ways. Every housekeeper considers that coffee is something anybody can make, and therefore she takes no particular pains to make it. It is a fact that on the breakfast table of nine out of ten families, where nice cooking in other respects is the rule, the coffee will be found watery stuff, tasting strongly of chicory, or else so black and thick as to be undrinkable by whoever is used to the better-made article.

In the city the vast majority of housewives buy ground coffee at corner groceries. I think the same rule is good in the country, for most country stores have their coffee-grinder. The groceryman's profit is so large on coffee that of course it pays him well to grind it. And he can, in grinding, adulterate it to so great an extent that he would prefer to sell his "real Java" and "real Mocha" ground, even if he had to sell at a less price than in the bean. The fact that the price is the same, ground or unground, never seems to show people plainly how well it would pay them to grind their own coffee. They may be sure the grocery man does not do it for love.

It is not easy to roast coffee, for it requires much close watching, patience and experience to bring it just to the proper shade, not burnt, not yet too light, neither too little nor too much, but just right. It can be bought freshly and perfectly roasted in the larger grocery houses of good repute. It is best to buy not more than two pounds of this at a time, and it should be kept closely covered until the last grain is used. I have always found that one-third Mocha and two-thirds Java make a good combination. This costs about thirty-two cents per lb. at the larger downtown houses.

A coffee-grinder—a good one—is worth fifty cents. The comfort of the good coffee it gives you is worth far more. It is true Bridget will not grind it unless compelled, and if she hasn't any coffee but unground to use, but it should be made a case of "needs must." If she is allowed to grind it overnight for use in the morning, it should be put into a tightly-covered vessel until used.

I use a coffee cup full, for a family of five. This makes a pound last about a week. Put in an egg-shell, and fill the pot a third full of cold water. When it boils hard, add boiling-hot water to the quantity you wish to make. When that boils up once, put in a dash of cold water and cover the coffee-pot with a folded towel, and set on the back part of the stove until you wish to use it. If you pour into a silver urn, be sure to scald the urn first, that the coffee may not be chilled.

Whoever is used to drinking good coffee, bought and made in this way, will never be content with "grocers' coffee" again.

Always buy a grinder to screw against the wall. It saves time and temper, and is at hand when it is wanted.—*Harper's Bazaar.*

## A CONVERSATION IN A JEWEL CASE.

The Turquoise Ring—She is asleep, is she not?

The Wedding Ring—Yes—by the way, Turq, why are we all taken off to-night? I don't understand it.

The Turquoise Ring (weakly)—She has not worn me for a long, long time. (Meditatively) Ah, I remember the first time she put me on. She was a happy, laughing-eyed girl, then. How delighted she was. Her father bought me for her. It was on her birthday. She wore me for six years, and then one day a young man took me to the jeweler's and when I came back she put me away and—

The Diamond Ring—And put me on instead. I remember the evening. She ran to the light to see me sparkle on her hand. She has never been as happy since that day as she was then.

The Wedding Ring—Bah! She was twice as happy the day she put me on for the first time. I remember it very well; the church, the flowers, the music, and her white dress. She looked lovely. That was eight years ago. In truth she has never been as happy since as she was then. But what has she taken us off for to-night? It is the first time since I was put on her finger, and I did her a good favor once. It was when that tall fellow with the black eyes—

The Diamond Ring—Yes, I remember.

The Wedding Ring—She got to the door with her things all on, and the carriage waiting, and the tall man standing by it, when she suddenly held up her hand and looked at me. Then she burst into tears and ran back into the house.

The Diamond Ring.—Pshaw! You are sentimental. I wanted her to go on. They were going to travel in Europe and settle down finally in Italy. It would have been lots of fun for me.

The Turquoise Ring.—But I was to have been left behind and would never have seen her again. Now is my turn once more. This afternoon she came to me and kissed me and cried over me, and told me that to-morrow she would begin wearing me again, and that you two were to be taken off forever. It is a thing that you call divorce that has done it. I'm sure I don't know what it is, but I'm very thankful for it.—*Life.*

## "THE SEASON" FOR JANUARY

just received, and will be welcome in every household for the beautiful designs found in its pages. If such a thing were possible, *The Season* surpasses even itself this month. The especial feature of this journal is, and has always been, to allow nothing to interfere with the matter of dress and home art work, and nothing old or worn-out is ever to be found in it. It is reliable in all its illustrations, which are strictly original.

Every garment worn by ladies or children can be found in *The Season*. In the art work every known kind of design of new, useful or ornamental designs are illustrated and so carefully explained that anyone can master

the work, whether crochet, embroidery, knitting, scorch work canvas, Berlin lace, painting, ribbon or braid work, with descriptions of stitchos and diagrams. No house, particularly where there are young girls, should be without this valuable monthly magazine, which can be procured at all news-dealers, or by sending 30 cents for monthly part or yearly subscription of \$3 50 to the International News Company, 83 & 85 Duane Street, New York.

## THE CAUSE OF OLD MAIDS.

An American professor was discussing the process of fertilizing plants by means of insects carrying the pollen from one plant to another, and to amuse his audience told how old maids were the ultimate cause of it all. The humble bees carry the pollen; the field-mice eat the humble bees; therefore, the more field-mice, the fewer humble-bees and the less pollen and variation of plants. But cats devour field-mice, and old maids protect cats. Therefore, the more old maids, the more cats; the fewer field-mice, the more bees. Hence old maids are cause of variety in plants. Thereupon, a masquerader, with a single eyeglass, an English umbrella, a frock coat, with his trousers turned up at the bottom, arose and asked: "I sa-a-ay, professah, what is the cause—ah—of old maids, don't you know?" "Perhaps Miss Jones can tell you," suggested the professor. "Dudea!" said Miss Jones, sharply, and without a moment's hesitation.

## INDUSTRIAL NOTES.

The Lunenburg Iron Company, Ltd., was organized last summer by two Yarmouth gentlemen, who enlisted the interest of a number of Lunenburg citizens to establish a foundry. The foundry has now been built, and the first cast, which was a success, was made on December 5th. The following is taken from *Lunenburg Progress* of December 9th:—"The Company is incorporated under the Joint Stock Companies Act, with a capital of \$10,000.00, and Mr. W. T. Lindsay, Chas. E. Patterson and P. O. B. Harris are the provisional directors. The foundry premises consist of a lot of land at the head of the harbor 200x220 feet, with a water frontage of 220 feet, on which are three substantial buildings, one of which is 30x40 ft., two stories used below for engine room and fitting shop and containing engine and boiler, blower forge, lathe, drills, emery wheels, etc. The second floor is devoted to the pattern maker's department, of which Mr. Wm. H. Sanders, one of the stockholders, has charge. Here is also the necessary machinery for making and mounting patterns. Another building is the moulding shop and foundry, size 35x65 ft., well lighted and ventilated, with floors of cement and iron copings on which the moulding is done. The furnace or cupola for melting the iron is in this building, and is 44 inches in diameter and 28 feet high, made of steel and lined with fire brick 9 inches thick clear to the top. These bricks were specially imported from Taunton, Mass. The pipes which feed the wind chest, to force the draft while the iron is being melted, are brought in under ground from the 'blower' in the other building. The moulding sand here used is brought from Albany, New York, the only place in America where it is found suitable for stove plates. Connecting these two buildings is a shed 15x20 in which is the 'gingler,' a machine used for cleaning the sand off the castings as they come out of the moulds. Here is also the pickling tank in which iron patterns are 'pickled' in sulphuric acid before being used. The third building is 20x30 ft., used as a storehouse for sand and coal, and is conveniently situated within the yard, which yard is enclosed with a substantial fence and used for storing pig iron, fire brick, coarse sand, wood, etc. Eight hands are now employed, and it is expected that some six or eight hands more will be required in the near future. The patterns of some eleven stoves are now being bearded, including three cooks, three ranges and two office or cabin, and three parlor stoves, some of which, it is expected, will be on the market by New Year. The Company intend making a specialty of their cook stoves, called 'Our Own,' made expressly for them at the Vedder Pattern Works at Troy, New York, design of which is registered at Ottawa. They also have the patterns of two parlor stoves which they call the 'May-flower,' also made for them at Troy. Besides making stoves they are prepared to do general casting and jobbing, and will soon have a full line of vessel-casting on the market."

Capt. McGray, of the *City of St. John*, is making the experiment of sending live lobsters to England by the steamer *Historian*. His method is to pack the crustaceans one deep in iron frames secured to the deck, with a cover screwed down on them. Near the frames is a reservoir of sea water, which flows in a constant stream through the lobster frames with which it is connected by rubber hose. The reservoir is replenished from the ocean by means of a pump. If the experiment proves a success a large lot will be taken across in this manner next spring. Capt. McGray will take out a patent for his method, which appears to be both simple and practicable. There is a big profit on lobsters in the London market.

The Lloyd Manufacturing & Foundry Co. is much rushed with work. It has two carloads of machinery for saw mills about ready to ship, with many orders ahead as yet untouched. It speaks well for this firm in view of the dull times among saw mill men in general this year, that during the dullness experienced elsewhere all the work that could possibly be accomplished was done, and the workshops were running full blast. The most critical are invited to examine the machinery made by this Company in operation, which may be found in nearly every part of this Province and New Brunswick, come extending as far as Quebec.



## COMMERCIAL.

The general state of trade has shown some improvement during the past week. Though we have not at the present time of writing had any fall of snow, and sleighing is impossible, yet sufficient frost has come to harden the roads and streets and to make travel convenient and even pleasant. This has brought large numbers of people from the country into this city and has made business brisker than it has been for six or eight weeks.

As is usual at this season, the retail dry and fancy goods stores have been crowded, and dealers in these lines are looking happy over the prosperous trade that they are doing.

The evil of fraudulent failures and fraudulent settlements is a growing one, to check which concerted means should be taken by the wholesale merchants of Canada. Instances are yearly multiplied where goods are obtained under false pretences long previous to suspension or failure, and their value is ultimately lost to the creditors for the want of adequate means to recover them or their equivalent. In such cases the creditors may be and often are widely scattered, and the majority, deeming it unwise to "throw good money after bad" in attempting to bring the debtor to justice, too often leave the matter in the hands of the largest creditor, with the result that the debtor generally escapes. Thus the neglect of creditors bears fruit in other failures under similar circumstances in the same branches of trade. Thus emboldened, the number of unscrupulous debtors is increased by this general policy or practice. A remedy that we may suggest is that the creditor who is first acquainted with the embarrassment of the debtor should call an immediate meeting of all parties concerned, since delays are always favorable to a fraudulent debtor. A committee of the creditors should then be appointed to scrutinize the affairs of the debtor, and if crooked motives or actions are discovered every effort should be made to punish to the fullest extent the guilty party or parties. To carry out this desirable end a permanent fund which shall be available at any moment should be established to set the machinery of the law in motion to prosecute dishonest traders. The absence of such a fund is a premium on fraud. It is only natural that merchants should demur about throwing good money after bad, but when this principle is analysed it loses much of its force. Satisfaction is to be derived from bringing the dishonest trader to book and making a salutary example of him. The consequences of misdoing cannot be accurately or fully estimated. Such a course will also frequently either bring back the "bad money" or recover the goods. In addition to these facts it is to be observed that no one can foretell the measure of its influence upon other unscrupulous debtors and the amount of future possible losses that may by these means be avoided. We observe that this question is attracting the attention of the trade press in England. The *Drapers' Record* of the 14th ult. says:—"Apart altogether from motives of self-protection, we urge upon the trade now, as we have done before, the serious consideration of the subject-matter in question, on the very substantial ground that it must be profitable. It is a well-known fact that it would frequently be possible to rescue from oblivion some considerable portion of the goods which are annually consigned there with perfect safety, were there the means in existence for taking prompt action. Take the case in point. Had there been the means at the disposal of a properly constituted authority ready and willing to act at the first suspicion of dishonesty, or even at a later period when events proved the correctness of apprehension, then we have no hesitation in saying that there would have been a great saving to those who now have to look upon a total loss; there would have been a considerable sum in assets available for the creditors where now there is none; and this would have been brought about not by the risking of an increased loss of 2½ per cent. upon a sum already calculated as lost, but by an interest in a fund which in its intrinsic value would require expression in very small fractions. All this must be obvious. Goods cannot be split away; the 'Mahatma Express' is still an invention of the future; goods are to be, and more often than not, could be easily recovered if steps were taken in time. Here, then, is a tangible and commonplace argument for the creation of such a fund, sufficient in itself to justify its establishment without taking into account the influence which its very existence would exercise upon those tempted to ill-doing." It is for the interest of honest debtors no less than of creditors that fraudulent failures should be rigidly investigated and their perpetrators punished. The evil effect of a failure also extends to the merchants and manufacturers who are obliged to endure the competition of bankrupt goods.

New York, December 19.—"The stock market is following the course which our late advices have foreshadowed as likely to be experienced during the closing weeks of the year. Although almost every condition and influence favors the value of securities, the speculative business is very moderate, and on the surface affairs have the appearance of a holiday. Under the surface, however, the feeling does not at all correspond to this outward expression. Under a quiet exterior, there is the throbbing of great expectations and impatience for the beginning of the promised active campaign. The exceptions to this rule are an unhappy minority among the room-traders, who have put themselves in a condition to be very uncomfortably squeezed on "short" contracts; and are eagerly watching for an opportunity to escape from their dilemma."

Bradstreet's report of the week's failures:—

|               | Week Prev. |      | Weeks corresponding to |     |     | Failures for the year to date |       |       |       |
|---------------|------------|------|------------------------|-----|-----|-------------------------------|-------|-------|-------|
|               | Dec. 18.   | 1891 | Dec. 18.               |     |     | 1891                          | 1890  | 1889  | 1888  |
| United States | 313        | 380  | 370                    | 330 | 335 | 11933                         | 10212 | 11353 | 10082 |
| Canada        | 23         | 45   | 35                     | 38  | 40  | 1774                          | 1591  | 1578  | 1697  |

Dry Goods.—Business, especially in the retail branches, has been quite brisk during the past week. Outside of the usual holiday demand the frosty weather has livened trade, and many who have been holding back from the purchase of heavy articles of wear in the hope that there might be "no

winter to speak of" are now coming forward and buying quite freely. This stimulates the wholesale trade, as country dealers are replenishing their stocks, showing more confidence in the future than they have hitherto done this year. If the present cold snap proves to be the beginning of real winter business is likely to be lively. Prices remain unchanged all round. Remittances, as might naturally be expected, are by no means up to the mark.

IRON, HARDWARE AND METALS.—There has been no particular change in pig iron since our last report. Values remain about the same and are not likely to fluctuate much between now and next spring. Manufactured iron (bar) is very quiet, and there is no movement to note except in a jobbing way. Advices from Great Britain quote the demand generally slow and prices steady. Business in tin, terno and Canada plate is practically nil, all that is now doing being merely to supply the actual local consumptive demand. Stock-taking is still the chief occupation of the general hardware houses, and as all the travellers are in off the road for the holidays there is little or no business to report. Indications, however, seem to point to a favorable movement shortly, as stocks of most kinds are not large, and dealers confidently predict a business of an average volume in the immediate future.

BREADSTUFFS.—The local flour market is steady. Although buyers are not urgent there are no stocks pressing for sale, so that dealers await the future with a marked degree of confidence. The oatmeal market is quiet with only a moderate demand, but prices remain steady. The market for feed, bran and shorts is firm, especially for the latter, which, being rather scarce, have slightly advanced in price. Beerbohm's cable reports wheat easier and corn very weak. The French country markets are mostly a turn cheaper. In the leading United States' markets wheat, corn and other cereals have ruled dull and easy, though no appreciable change in values has occurred.

PROVISIONS.—The local provision market has remained very quiet under a small jobbing demand. Prices are still unchanged, nominally, but there is no doubt that pork could be bought below quotations. At Liverpool prices have been steady but sales are slow. The Chicago provision market has been somewhat firmer, but prices remain as before. In that market hogs advanced 10c.; the cattle market was strong and the sheep market steady.

BUTTER.—There is not any change to note in this commodity during the week, except that receipts are somewhat increased in volume, which has a somewhat depressing effect on the market. Holders are firm, however, and claim that the increased consumptive demand will absorb all the stock that is at all likely to come forward. London advices state that: "Butter is considerably firmer, and an advance of 4s to 5s generally characterises the tone of the market. Danish is officially announced 4 kroners up, and 1s has been added to the price of Normandy rolls per doz. lbs. The market is bare here of the latter, and agents here are considering whether it would be wise to add further to the load of price next Monday. They have, however, to consider the arrivals from Australia and New Zealand, which, showing fine quality, are being eagerly snapped up by purchasers. There are arrivals this week from both points of departure, and all doubts as to keeping quality have been set at rest by the manner in which the stuff has turned out, the quality being superb despite the long refrigerating process. Prices have ranged for this article from 100s all the way to 124s, with buyers more numerous in the latter than in the former department. American and Canadian have been enquired for with more than the usual amount of anxiety, and purchases have been made freely of all that is to be had at very fair rates, 112s having been reached, though within the vicinity of 110s would be the fairest report as to the general run of prices for best Canadian creameries, which, however, have frequently touched the top figure."

CHEESE.—Practically nothing is doing in cheese in this market, and prices are unchanged. Considerable quantities of native and Canadian factory products are offering, but we hear of no considerable sales being effected, as holders and buyers appear to be apart as to values. It does not seem that any business will be effected in this article in the near future in this market. A London correspondent writes as follows:—"People here begin to realize that stocks of cheese on the other side already are short, and a general firmness pervades the trade in consequence. It is reported by cable that the export basis is passed on your side, but though this may be true it should not long be so, for the market here is firming up in such a manner that considerably enhanced rates must be current ere long. All stocks are now pretty well cleared, and though holders of prime Canadian September are still parting at 56s., all of this stock can be counted in few figures, and the run on slightly inferior having produced a shortage there also, I look for a general rise before long, the present position of retailers buying from hand to mouth being noticeable for some length of time. One of the best of signs is that English has improved in value, and that holders are firm in asking more money."

EGGS.—The receipts of eggs in this market continue to be less than the demand, and prices, consequently, rule firm. Probably in no previous season have so few, proportionally speaking, eggs been offered for sale in Halifax. Of course a preference is always evinced for those brought from the districts near us, but Cape Breton eggs and even limed ones from Montreal and other Canadian points, do not lack ready purchasers. Eggs are somewhat slow in London, the top rate, 13s per hundred, being too much, as is the bottom, 8s 3d, for buyers of French of all grades. Italians too are off song, and inferior descriptions have the run here as buyers all round cannot possibly pay the extreme rates demanded. Oh! for some Canadians of good quality not asking too much in return, they would go off here splendidly in the vicinity of 9s. In Liverpool, Canadian eggs rule the roost. Demand is good, supplies elsewhere have fallen off, and prices keep up splendidly. Quebec fetch 8s 6d to 10s and Ontario 10s to 11s per 120, with demand active, and no difficulty in clearing. Shippers are playing

splendidly into the hands of disposers. Each works with each, and the style of packing now adopted gives great satisfaction. A large receiver in Liverpool says that he is now receiving his eggs from the Dominion packed in clean straw, which gives them a more lively appearance and renders them more saleable. What do the cavillers say to this season's record—40,000,000 eggs from the Dominion landed at Liverpool alone, exclusive of other ports, and still more in route?

**APPLES.**—There is nothing new respecting apples in the local market. The supply is about equal to the demand, and fruit well packed brings good and steady prices. A London letter says:—"The apple trade keeps extraordinarily firm, the exceptional character of fruit from Canada guaranteeing it a good market. This week sales have been good, the cargoes per the *Stockholm City* and the *Norse King* going off at full rates. In Liverpool trade keeps singularly strong, though the merit of the season's shipments is in danger of being overclouded by the nefarious practices of some Boston shippers, who are top-layering with good fruit, and under-layering with bad. This is suicide and should be immediately stopped."

**GREEN FRUIT.**—All the attention in this line has been practically devoted to oranges and grapes, which, in anticipation of holiday requirements are active and strong.

**DRIED FRUIT.**—The indications of activity noted last week have been verified, and there has been a large turnover of both raisins and currants since our last report. Prices have been much firmer than they were, though we have no actual advance to record.

**SUGAR.**—The local market for refined sugar has undergone no change. The demand is only fair and refineries are not pressing business. The European markets for raws are very strong and a further advance is reported. The *Trade Bulletin* says of the Montreal market:—"Having succeeded in breaking off the wire edge of price; somewhat buyers appear to be a little more interested, and there is a hope that they may consent to handle a greater quantity of stock. As against the present making capacity at work the supply of stock in refiners' hands is fair, but it is expected that with the exception of the Baltimore house the machinery will soon be ready to run again, and if buyers show an appreciation of prevailing low cost of refined goods, consumption may at any moment expand materially. Indeed, it is somewhat better to day, and that in conjunction with an upward turn of the cable advices from Europe, induces holders at the close to speak more cheerfully. Buyers, however, still stand off and refuse to make acceptable bids, and we hear of no new business. It is, however, understood that a cargo of Cebu sold on Friday last at the Breakwater to Philadelphia at 2½c. for 84 test. Stock in four ports of United Kingdom 93,000 tons, against 113,000 tons same time last year. Refined on the whole found a somewhat steadier market for the day. The so-called official quotations were modified to conform to figures every one knew all about yesterday, but on basis of 4c. for granulated outside the combine limits there was a very fair business done, and the local custom is also understood to have taken fair amounts. Still the market is not fully settled yet, and there seems to be a fear of more funny work with the price list at any moment."

**TEAS.**—The local market for all teas continues quiet and no improvement is expected till after the holidays. London market reports say: "For the next seven months the quantity of tea to come from China will only be 1,750,000 lbs., as the season is closed, so that before spring we expect to see a most distinct recovery in values." The *New York Commercial Bulletin*, which is the leading authority in groceries, has the following:—"The line trade is only moderately active, buyers in most cases expressing a disinclination to take in additional supplies until they are better posted as to the quantity and assortment likely to be wanted. This naturally reflects upon the wholesale position and creates a generally quiet sort of market, with a slightly uncertain feeling. Holders, however, construe foreign advices as favorable, and predict that after the turn of the year affairs will assume a more satisfactory shape."

**COFFEE.**—The coffee market here, with stocks almost nil, is very firm at present. In fact there is little or nothing in first hands. The *New York Commercial Bulletin* says of that market:—"For Rio and Santos graded the general conditions remain much the same as for some time past, and there is not much in the way of really fresh information to be found upon the street. Interior custom in many cases appears inclined to move carefully, and from the recent arrivals there is likely to be deliveries that will in a measure satisfy some of the waiting wants of jobbers, but importers appear to entertain about the usual confidence at ruling valuations, and abstain from urging goods upon the market with facedom or depressing effect. They have found encouragement to-day in the general character and force of demand, assisted by the upward turn of exchange values, with a pretty good business accomplished at fuller rates, the market closing strong. On spot lots the general holding view of the situation was about 14c. for No. 7. Sales are reported of 500 bags spot No. 7 at 13.81c; 500 No. 8 at 13½c. per *Sirius*, rumored and possibly closed; 3,000 bags No. 7 at 13½c. per *Seguranca*; 350 No. 8 at 13c. per do.; 700 Nos. 6 and 7 at 13½c. for No. 7 per *Finance*; 4,000 bags No. 7 at 13½c., and 750 do. at 13½c. per *Moorish Prince*; 500 Santos No. 5 at 15½c. per *Chaucer*, and 1,000 Santos No. 4 per *Colonia* on private terms."

**FISH.**—The local fish market has developed no new features during the week under review. Active operations are practically at an end for this season, although a few boats and vessels continue to "chance their luck" on shoals and banks near the shore, and occasionally succeed in making small catches as they will all winter, but what is thus taken does not compensate their owners or crews for the time, labor, expense and exposure involved. The consumptive demand is very small, and there is no profitable market abroad for any fish that we can ship hence. Therefore the business

is practically non-existent at present. Of course toward the latter season the demand will revive somewhat, but the supplies in stock are quite small, and the whole volume of trade in this line in Nova Scotia must prove very insignificant. Our outside advices are as follows:—Montreal, Dec. 23—"There is no essential change in fish for the simple reason that no business at all has been doing really worthy of mention. With the small stocks here though it is quite safe to predict an immediate advance once the movement commences. Indeed it is anticipated that the Lenten demand will be but a short time in reducing stocks to practically nothing, for the scarcity is more particularly noticeable in connection with staple lines, such as herring and cod, than with other lines subject to less call. Therefore the tone is very firm and prices are purely nominal at present." Another Montreal report of the same date says:—"A fair enquiry for pickled cod continues, and prices are generally well sustained. Green cod \$5.50 to \$5.60 per bbl., and large do at \$6.60 to \$7, dry cod at \$5.25 to \$5.50; Newfoundland salmon \$19 to \$19.50 in tierces, and \$13 to \$14 in bbls. Fresh haddock and cod have been sold at 3s. to 4c. per lb., and a few lake trout at 6½c. to 7c. per lb. Yarmouth blasters \$1.25 to \$2 per 100, and St. John blasters \$1.25. Boneless codfish 6c in large boxes and 7c in small." Port of Spain, Trinidad, Dec. 2—"The *Sarah H. Seaton* from Lockport is the only direct arrival during the fortnight, and her cargo was placed by wire to arrive from Barbados at \$21 tierces, \$23 drums, \$5.50 boxes, and \$14 haddock. Several shipments of Newfoundland fish have recently arrived from Barbados, and quality being good it sold readily at \$20 to \$21 medium, and \$23 to \$24 large. The *F. C. Kimber* is on the way down from Barbados with a large cargo of Lunenburg cure, for which we failed to elicit an offer. Dealers are only moderately stocked, but consumption being still restricted the foregoing importations will supply requirements for some time to come. There is at present but a light enquiry for pickled fish, and late sales of herring have been at \$3.25 to \$3.50, and tierces small salmon at \$12."

MARKET QUOTATIONS.—WHOLESALE SELLING RATES.  
Our Price Lists are corrected for us each week by reliable merchants.

| GROCERIES.                               |              | BREADSTUFFS   |  |
|--|--------------|---|--|
| <b>SUGARS.</b>                           |              | Flour remain much the same as last week.  |  |
| Cut Leaf.....                            | 5½           | Oatmeal is steady.  |  |
| Granulated.....                          | 4½ to 4¾     | Corn is lower, but we do not look for lower prices in cornmeal for the present. |  |
| Circle A.....                            | 4¾           | Oats are firmer West.   |  |
| White Extra C.....                       | 4¾           | <b>Flour</b>  |  |
| Standard.....                            | 3½ to 3¾     | Manitoba Highest Grade Patents..... 5.75 to 6.00                                |  |
| Extra Yellow C.....                      | 3½           | High Grade Patents..... 5.10 to 5.20  |  |
| Yellow C.....                            | 3½           | Good 90 per cent. Patents..... 4.90 to 5.00                                     |  |
| <b>TEA.</b>                              |              | Straight Grade..... 4.80  |  |
| Congou, Common.....                      | 17 to 19     | Good Seconds..... 4.40  |  |
| Fair.....                                | 20 to 23     | Graham Flour..... 5.15  |  |
| Good.....                                | 25 to 29     | Oatmeal..... 4.45   |  |
| Choice.....                              | 31 to 33     | Rolled..... 4.60  |  |
| Extra Choice.....                        | 35 to 38     | Kiln Dried Cornmeal..... 3.40   |  |
| Joolong, Choice.....                     | 37 to 39     | In Bond..... 3.60   |  |
| <b>MOLASSES.</b>                         |              | Rolled Wheat..... 5.55  |  |
| Barbadoes.....                           | 35           | Wheat Bran, per ton..... 20.00 to 21.00   |  |
| Demerara.....                            | 35 to 38     | Middlings..... 23.50  |  |
| Diamond N.....                           | 48           | Shorts..... 22.50   |  |
| Porto Rico.....                          | 31 to 35     | Cracked Corn "including bags"..... 35.00  |  |
| Cienfuegos.....                          | none         | Ground Oat Cake, per ton..... 36.00 to 38.00                                    |  |
| Trinidad.....                            | 32½ to 38    | Moulee "..... 21.00 to 22.50  |  |
| Antigua.....                             | 33 to 34     | Split Peas..... 4.00  |  |
| Tobacco, Black.....                      | 45 to 47     | White Beans, per bushel..... 1.50 to 1.55                                       |  |
| Bright.....                              | 47 to 65     | Dot Basley, per barrel..... 3.90 to 4.00  |  |
| <b>BISCUITS.</b>                         |              | Canadian Oats, choice quality new..... 43 to 45                                 |  |
| Pilot Bread.....                         | 3.00         | P. E. Island Oats..... 41 to 43   |  |
| Boston and Thin Family.....              | 6½           |   |  |
| Soda.....                                | 8½           |   |  |
| do in 1½ boxes, 50 to case.....          | 7½           |   |  |
| Fancy.....                               | 8 to 15      |   |  |
| <b>HOME AND FOREIGN FRUITS.</b>          |              |   |  |
| Apples, per bbl., N. S.....              | 2.00 to 3.00 |   |  |
| Oranges, Jamaica, bris.....              | 7.00 to 7.50 |   |  |
| Lemons, per case.....                    | 5.50         |   |  |
| Cocoanuts, new per 100.....              | 5.00         |   |  |
| Onions Am. per lb.....                   | 2 to 2.50    |   |  |
| Canadian.....                            | 2 to 2.50    |   |  |
| Dates boxes, new.....                    | 5¼ to 6      |   |  |
| Raisins, Valencia, new.....              | 6½ to 7      |   |  |
| Figs, Elmo, 5 lb boxes per lb., new..... | 10 to 11     |   |  |
| small boxes.....                         | 9 to 10      |   |  |
| Prunes Stewing, boxes.....               | 7            |   |  |
| Bananas.....                             | 1.50 to 2.00 |   |  |
| Cranberries, per bbl.....                | 8.50         |   |  |

C. H. HARVEY, 12 & 10 Sackville St.

**PROVISIONS.**

|  |                |
|--|----------------|
| Beef, Am. Ex. Mess, duty paid.....                                 | 11.50 to 15.00 |
| " Am. Plate.....   | 15.00 to 18.50 |
| " Ex. Plate.....   | 15.00 to 18.50 |
| Pork, Mess, American.....  | 15.00 to 18.50 |
| " American clear.....  | 17.50 to 18.00 |
| " P. E. I. Mess.....   | 15.00 to 18.50 |
| " P. E. I. Thin Mess.....  | 11.50 to 14.50 |
| " Prime Mess.....  | 11.50 to 14.50 |
| Lard, Tubs and Pails, P. E. Island.....                            | 12             |
| " American.....  | 10 to 11       |
| Hams, P. E. I., green.....   | 9              |
| Prices a. c. for wholesalers only, and are liable to change daily. |                |

**BUTTER AND CHEESE**

|                                      |          |
|--------------------------------------|----------|
| Nova Scotia Choice Fresh Prints..... | 25       |
| " in Small Tubs.....                 | 25       |
| " Good, in large tubs, new.....      | 17 to 12 |
| " Store Packed & oversalted.....     | 18       |
| Canadian Township, new.....          | 20 to 22 |
| " Western.....                       | 18       |
| " old.....                           | 18       |
| Cheese, Canadian.....                | 11       |
| " Antigonish.....                    | 11½      |

**SALT.**

|                                      |        |
|--------------------------------------|--------|
| Factory Filled.....                  | \$1.50 |
| Fine Liverpool, bag, from store..... | 60     |
| Liverpool, ½ hhd.....                | 1.25   |
| " do.....                            | 1.25   |
| Capiz.....                           | none   |
| Turks Island.....                    | none   |
| Lisbon.....                          | none   |
| Coarse W. I.....                     | none   |
| Trapan.....                          | 4.40   |
| " do.....                            | none   |

## HEARTSEASE.

(Continued.)

The rule had been made absolutely in the Divorce Court the day before, and he was a free man; but in that hour of intense bitterness he felt as if he had no future before him, that his life was practically at an end.

If he had never loved Justina passionately, he had believed in her feeling for himself; he had been proud of her; he had done his utmost to make her happy, and she had brought shame on himself and on the honorable race to which she had belonged by birth as well as by marriage.

His eyes were opened. He knew that she had never cared for him, that she had married him for worldly advantages, and that the best affections of her heart had been bestowed elsewhere. Well! She had fled with her old lover, who had doubtless married her, and she would be happy after a fashion—happy as such women are or can expect to be, thought Vincient with sorrowful scorn.

He reviewed his past with weary hopelessness at heart. No one had ever loved him for himself, he reflected.

Suddenly there rose up before him a girl's face flushed and tearful, with a world of love and anguish in the swimming eyes. Then the same face, paler this time, the sweet eyes meeting his own steadily, almost coldly; he found the first picture the most pleasing to dwell upon, the most soothing to his wounded and bruised state of mind.

Vincient had never seen Rose since that eventful morning when the Admiral and Justina had suddenly appeared on the scene. He had never even heard of her after the first week or so, when he had sent lavish presents to each of the inmates of the Lodge as a token of gratitude sincerely felt. He had, in spite of regrets, felt it wiser to absent himself altogether and make no enquiry.

In his misery and unhappiness he forgot Rose's social disadvantages, all her utter unfitness, the thousand and one things which would have tried his patience so sorely had he been quixotic enough to have made the country-girl his wife. He overlooked everything except the one point: that the love Justina had withheld had been freely given by Rose.

A great longing came over him to see her again.

In the shadow of the hedge between the meadow and the wood Rose May sat quietly working, while her baby-boy tumbled and played amid the purple heartsease at her feet.

Vincient St. John had risen to take leave, yet still he lingered and stood almost in silence looking gravely down upon the fair picture of the mother and the child.

His last illusion, he told himself, was dispelled, but it was not all disappointment which he was experiencing. His native good sense told him that things were far better as they were. His inherent manliness was beginning to assert itself; his conscience stirred him with the reminder that life had other outlooks, other possibilities, other duties than were comprised in his lost happiness and his own hitherto narrow range of interests.

Edmund, leaning against the old oak at the back of his wife's chair, regarded him with a look which was secretly compassionate, but wore no shade of disquiet.

Presently Vincient bade them good-bye, and set off on his long, solitary walk to Mosslands, comforted in spite of himself by the sight of old scenes, and the revival of old memories. Edmund walked to the field-gate with him and then returned. He threw himself down on the grass at his wife's feet. A feeling of unutterable thankfulness crept over him for his own blessings; a sensation of infinite pity for the lonely, childless man who had just left them.

The sunset had come over the land, and was flooding the level country, and shining through the vistas of the wood with a light mystical, unreal. He lifted his eyes to Rose's calm face, and spoke for the first time.

"Poor fellow!" His tones were a little unsteady.

"Ah, poor, poor fellow!" murmured Rose in a tone of infinite pity, as she looked down into the honest brown eyes which met her own frankly, with such unquestioning trust, all the dearer to her by reason of his long fidelity, and her own sense of having once trifled with that staunch heart.

And as Edmund half absently plucked and threw on to her lap some of the purple heartsease which grew beside him, her thoughts went back to a past day, and the action seemed emblematic of the love which made glad her life.

THE END.

A STORY TOLD ON CHRISTMAS EVE.

## THE GRAY GHOST OF GILSUM.

"Madam, do you believe in ghosts?" "In ghosts," echoed her ladyship. "Do we live in the nineteenth century for nothing, that you should ask me such a question? There may be a few fluttering rags of superstition still hanging about me, but nothing so worn and threadbare, let us hope, as a belief in ghosts."

Nevertheless," continued Chauncey DeWolf, leaning against the mantel and looking gravely down at the smoldering embers of the fire, "I am prepared to affirm that if any man ever saw a ghost, I am that man."

"You, of all persons! Perhaps you will expect us to believe next that it was your interview with a ghost which turned your hair white before you reached the thirties."

"Exactly that, madam."

"Then you have a great deal to thank him for."

"Oh, I have more than that to thank him for," replied DeWolf, smiling. "Shall I tell you the story?"

"Oh, yes, do tell it by all means," and madam folded her white hands and lifted her pretty, incredulous face toward her guest. He was an old college friend, and had come to spend the Christmas holidays with us in our pretty country home on the Hudson. As he stood in front of the fire, his shrewd, kindly face telling its own story of a successful career, he was, perhaps, the last person one would have supposed guilty of such an anachronism as a belief in ghosts.

A Roman nose is nature's bet on a man's success, and DeWolf had all the benefit of the bet. His clearly cut features and fine, dark eyes were rendered the more striking by the frame-work of snow-white hair which was brushed straight back from his forehead, giving him, in the opinion of the ladies, an appearance altogether irresistible.

I was not greatly concerned about his appearance, but I knew him to be a thoroughly good fellow, and in spite of his profession—he was a lawyer—in the main a truthful one; I was therefore, surprised at the new role which he seemed desirous of playing.

"Are we expected to believe everything you tell us?" asked madam, in a mocking tone, as she assumed a listening attitude.

"Yes, everything," replied DeWolf. "No one who knows me ever accused me of having that fatal gift—imagination, and you may rest assured that I shall confine myself in the most abject manner to simple facts. I am incapable of doing otherwise."

As he spoke, the wind, which had been working with nervous, uncertain fingers at a loose-fastened blind, finally tore it open, slamming it against the window with a crash that startled even the cat from her drowsy dreams on the hearth-rug. It was a wild night, the snow blowing in great, shapeless drifts about the house, the wind roaring down the chimney and rattling among the ice-coated branches of the great elms outside with a sharp, continuous sound like the noise of musketry. Within, the fire had burned low, and the long, white curtains at the windows, looking strangely weird and unfamiliar in the dim light, shivered and trembled as if, in some occult way, they were in silent sympathy with the spirit of the storm.

When we had gathered up the broken fragments of glass and had closed the shutters, DeWolf, who alone had been unmoved by this little household disturbance and the tremendous uproar of the elements, went on with his story.

"It was on a night not unlike this," he said, "when I left Boston to stay a few days with Earle Russell at Gilsun. You remember him at Yale—a very good fellow, but with a *panchant* for missions. He had married and settled down as pastor of a little country church; The wonder is that he did not go to Nova Zembla or Central Africa, but perhaps his wife saved him from that. However, he had found a mission at Gilsun, and as his wife had gone on to New York to spend a week with her sister, Russell invited me to keep bachelor's hall with him during her absence. Well, we were having a cosy time of it together, when, one night, just as we had settled ourselves in front of the library fire, with our cigars and newspapers, a boy drove up to the door in an old, unpainted sleigh, and announced that one of Russell's parishioners, an old man, who lived in an outlying district, was dying and wanted to see the minister. Of course Russell prepared to obey the summons at once, and he did not return till midnight. When he came in, his hands were stiff with the cold and his ears were half frozen, but there was a glow on his face, as he threw off his overcoat and came forward to the fire, which was something more than simple satisfaction at being safely housed again. I actually believe he did not know whether his hands were cold or not.

"Well," he exclaimed, with bright smile, 'I have seen one more happy soul start on its long journey. You've no idea, De Wolf,' he went on, 'how it takes away the fear of death, if you ever had it, to see a good man die. It is such a simple thing, after all, and it is wonderful how simple these people look at such matters. When I entered the house, the old man was lying with his eyes closed, but he looked up and smiled as I took his hand in mine.

'You are ready and willing to go, are you, deacon?' I asked, as his eyes met mine.

"The old man half raised himself on his elbow and replied in a low whisper:

"Wal, to tell the real truth, c'der, I'd rather stay where I'm better acquainted. You see, I've got used to things here, an' I don't know as I care about making any change. But the Lord knows best and I'm willing—yes, I'm willing." When the end came, his old face brightened into a beautiful smile."

"Two days after, I went with my friend to attend the old man's funeral. About six miles out, we drove up to a lonely farm-house and alighted. The short impressive service was soon over, but it was already growing dark when we turned our horse's head homeward.

"It had been snowing in light, fitful gusts all the afternoon, but when the sun went down, the wind rose, and we found ourselves obliged to face a beating, driving storm. The soft, treacherous snow-flakes had changed to sleet, that was hurled at us as if with some fiendish intent. It was impossible to keep our eyes open, and Russell, holding the reins in his hand from force of habit, trusted to Providence and the horse, and hid his face in his coat-collar. In spite of the storm, however, we should probably have reached home safely if, at a turn in the road, we had not encountered a party coming in the opposite direction. The two horses, coming thus unexpectedly upon each other, became frightened and quite unmanageable. What happened to the occupants of the other sleigh I never had the grace to inquire, but Russell and I were both thrown out, and before we could regain our feet, our horse had disappeared. Fortunately, or unfortunately, as it may appear, the accident had occurred in front of the house of one



of Russell's friends. The good gentleman hastened to our assistance and insisted upon our coming into the house.

"As we were thoroughly chilled, and covered with snow from head to foot, we willingly consented. We were ushered into a brightly lighted parlor, where a young lady, who seemed to me, in my possibly somewhat dazed condition, an enchanting vision of loveliness, came forward to meet us. I made some incoherent remark which I am thankful to have forgotten, as I have a very definite impression as to its absurdity; the young lady, who wore a blue dress, and had very bright eyes, laughed merrily, and then left the room to order hot lemonade. The storm continued to increase in violence, and our host finally persuaded us to accept his hospitality for the night.

"I have no very distinct recollection of how the evening passed, but at ten o'clock we were shown to our respective rooms. Mine was on the ground-floor, and as I did not feel inclined to go to sleep, I threw myself on a lounge before a blazing wood fire and gave myself up to a succession of pleasant dreams, in which, I am proud to confess, a young lady in a blue dress played the most important part.

"I had lain there about two hours, so that it must have been near midnight, when I noticed for the first time, that the storm was over, and that a few straggling rays of moonlight were streaming in through the window, making strange, fantastic shadows on the wall and floor.

"I had neglected to draw the curtain, and as I looked up, I was confronted by a face pressed close against the window, and staring in at me with expressionless, pale-blue eyes.

It was the face of the man I had seen but a few hours before in his coffin. There was the same slyly curling gray hair, the same closely cut gray beard, and even the same odd scar over the left eyebrow. Feature and expression were alike identical. Inexpressibly shocked, I rose to my feet, but as I approached the window, the figure retreated step by step. He was dressed in a long, gray garment that fluttered in the wind and took on strange shapes as the shifting light of the moon fell upon its soft folds or left them in shadow.

"I am ready to admit that I was startled, but as there was nothing really frightful in the appearance of my strange visitor, I raised the window and addressed him with careful politeness.

"Well, sir," I asked, "what is your wish?"

"My question met with no response, but the figure raised his hand, pointed to his lips and then seemed to beckon me towards him. The window was a low one, and I leaped out, but as I landed in the snow, the figure turned, and with one wild gesture, ran. I started in pursuit. A few rods from the house, upon the other side of the street, was an old grave-yard, its broken shafts and headstones plainly discernible in the moonlight.

"For a moment I stood still, awed by the silent majesty of the scene.

"Above me rose the sky, lit by the dome of some spacious temple, its sapphire roof supported on every side by pillars of cloud, white like marble or purple in the distance like porphyry."

At this point in the narrative madam, in an unguarded moment leaned forward in her chair, but De Wolf, ignoring this unconscious manifestation of interest, went on:

"Just opposite the house was a gap in the fence which surrounded the deserted burial-place, and my ghostly visitor at once showed his familiarity with his surroundings by turning his steps toward the only place where one could gain admittance.

"I hurried after him, but he was fleet of foot, and as the tall figure of the old man glided in and out amongst the broken grave-stones he seemed of no more substantial essence than a slim, gray shadow driven by the wind.

"Once I came so close to him that I put out my hand to lay hold of his robe, but my feet slipped upon a piece of ice, and I fell prostrate across a grave.

"A strange, discordant laugh fell upon my ear. I rose to my feet. The tall, gray figure was just beyond, still beckoning with its weird, white hand, through which the pale light of the moon seemed to shine.

"I made one more effort, and dashed forward recklessly, conscious of nothing but that dim, shadowy figure, forever eluding, forever mocking me.

"Suddenly the ground beneath my feet gave way. I felt myself falling through space. All around me was darkness—a darkness so absolute, so dense, that I tried to grasp it as I fell, in an unreasoning effort to lay hold of something solid and substantial.

"By quick instinct I perceived that I had fallen through the top of some ruinous old tomb. I groped wildly in the darkness, felt the damp brick walls that shut me in, the stone steps slimy with mold, and saw far above me, through the opening in the roof, a white face distorted with laughter, peering down at me. In vain I tried to scale the walls; then I felt blindly for the door, every faculty absorbed in one wild idea of escape. The melting snow oozed through the broken walls and fell upon my head. I was knee-deep in water, and plunging about in a fruitless effort to find the door, vaguely conscious, all the while, that I was not the only occupant of that loathsome place.

"At last my hands came in contact with cold iron.

"I had found the door, but could I open it? With the desperation of despair I threw myself against it. It yielded, and I found myself outside in the snow.

"How I ever got back to the house I do not tell. Three weeks after, I woke as from some fearful dream, and found myself in the same room where I had fallen asleep after that eventful night. A gentleman whom I recognized as the village physician, and a young lady in a blue dress, sat in front of the fire, conversing in low tones.

(To be continued.)



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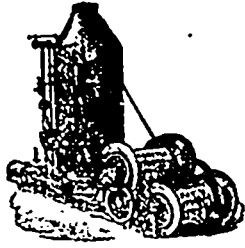
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## MINING.

The mining outlook continues to brighten and there is every prospect that 1892 will prove a most prosperous year. In coal there has been an enormous business done, iron mining has developed considerably, while the gold mines have about held their own. In copper and lead nothing of importance has been achieved but the coming year should see a decided change for the better. In manganese, antimony and other branches of mining there has been almost a stand-still, but the output of gypsum has been large, and the same may be said of the products of the quarries. Taking it all in all the year 1891 closes with much better prospects for the miner than it opened with.

We are now in the midst of the holiday season and wish all our mining friends a Merry Christmas and A Happy and Prosperous New Year.

The new mining act of Quebec passed at the last session of the Local Parliament and a pet measure of Premier Mercier, was a most outrageous piece of legislation, and had the effect of paralysing the mining industry of that Province. The mining men united against it and petitioned the Dominion Government to disallow the act. The Minister of Justice has lately given his decision in the matter, and the act is to be disallowed. Premier Mercier by his unwise act has lost the confidence of the mining men of Quebec, and in the coming contest in that Province they are bound to make their influence felt against him. We congratulate the mining men of Quebec on the success of their united efforts.

Mr. Alfred Woodhouse, the distinguished English mining engineer, whose able address before the Nova Scotian Gold Miners' Association in October last was published in THE CRITIC, arrived in Halifax from London last Tuesday night.

I. Matheson & Co., New Glasgow, have issued writs of attachment against the Minneapolis & Molega Gold & Silver Mining Company for \$3,687.

Edward Keddy, a man residing at Mount Uniacke, met with a bad accident there on Tuesday in the pit of one of the gold mines. While working, a stone fell from the top of the shaft, a distance of ninety feet, striking Keddy on the head, and forcing a part of the skull into the brain. Dr. Black went up in the afternoon train. Keddy is now in a precarious state.

The Torbrook Iron Mining Company have, in the past few days, been prospecting for iron ore on some of the farms in that locality. Their efforts were successful, as they found ore in desired quantities on the farms of Mr. Whitfield Wheelock and Mr. Andrew Foster. It is understood that with the beginning of the year the company will carry on mining operations more extensively, and give employment to a greater number of workmen. One hundred tons of ore per day, it is said, will be raised.—*Bridge-town Monitor.*

The Black Diamond was idle some last week. The Drummond was idle Saturday. The new engine at the latter place is being fixed up so that it will be able to hoist from the new lift sunk this winter. It is just as you predicted. The new blood infused into this company is likely to be a benefit in the future.—*The Journal and News, Stellarton.*

NOVA SCOTIA COAL MINING.—Coal mining in Nova Scotia is heavily handicapped by the suspension of navigation during the winter months. No matter whether the miners are working or standing idle, the bill of expense is about the same, with the exception of the item for the men's wages. In Cumberland county the demand made by the railways has kept the mines at work through the winter; but there is no inducement for the opening of new ones. Cape Breton county is in a worse predicament than any of the others. Heavy insurance rates prevent shipments up the Gulf after the close of September, and the local demand during the winter months amounts to only a few thousand tons. A successful attempt is now being made on a small scale of towing coal from Sydney to Halifax. If the Pictou district is desirous of securing a winter outlet by sea, it can turn to Halifax only, which involves a railway carriage from Sydney to the Strait of Canso. The port of Parrsboro offers excellent facilities for winter shipments, as it is readily accessible, and tugs of moderate power could take large tows. In fact, from this point it would seem that, even with the opposing duty levied in the United States, a successful attempt could be made to introduce Cumberland coal in that market.—*Toronto Coal Trade Journal.*

There was a meeting of the Colchester Coal Mining Company Tuesday night. Recent operations at the mine have developed a three foot seam of coal.—*Spring Hill News.*

On Friday evening last Mr. George Kenty, of the North Brookfield mine, arrived in Bridgewater with a brick of gold weighing 100 ozs., the result of 15 days crushing. This is the mine which was sold some time ago at Sheriff's sale and was purchased by a company of which Mr. Kenty is a member. The mine bids fair to become a bonanza to the new company.—*Enterprise.*

Mr. Partington, manager of the Whiteburn Mining Co's mine, returned on Friday, having deposited a brick of gold in the Bridgewater bank weighing 100 ounces.

**WORLD'S FAIR NOTES.**—A very notable diamond exhibit from Cape Colony, South Africa, will be made by the De Beers Consolidated Mines Company, Limited. This exhibit will give visitors to the Exposition an idea of the various processes through which the gems pass from the time they leave the mine till they reach the hands of the jeweller—crushing the blue diamondiferous clay, washing the earth by means of a rotary washing machine, cradling the pebbles obtained from the last process through a pulvator, hand sorting for the small stones and cutting and polishing the stones. In the Cape Colony exhibit will also be a mass of crystal, elevated on a pedestal, equaling in weight all the diamonds found in the Kimberley mines since 1870. Cape Colony has appropriated \$25,000 and the De Beers Company has voted to expend a like amount.

Among the most interesting exhibits in the Mines and Mining Building will be a collection of the implements used by the 'Forty miners' in California. Commissioner Mark L. McDonald has undertaken to collect a number of relics of the old miners' fraternity and send them to the Fair. Chief Skiff has also been promised an old placer plant in complete hydraulic operation. He will also have an exhibit of the primitive methods employed by the early miners of New Mexico in reducing ores.

Mexico has made a World's Fair appropriation of \$50,000. This is only preliminary, however, and it is fully expected that the whole of the \$750,000, which was asked for, and perhaps more, will be voted.

**NICKEL MINES AND MINING.**—The remarkable development of the nickel mining industry in Canada is one of the marvels in the recent history of mining. In 1889 there was but one company producing in the Sudbury district, and in the following year the output exceeded 1,000,000 pounds of nickel, surpassing the output of the famous mines of New Caledonia. With these two deposits of nickel, both of which are of vast extent and contain ore of high grade, there is evidently no danger that the demand for nickel will outstrip the supply, although consumption of the metal is increasing enormously. During the past year this has been particularly marked, a large amount of nickel having been purchased for the manufacture of nickel steel, both in the United States and in Europe. A large proportion of the world's production of nickel has been absorbed in this way.

At the same time the demand for nickel from other channels of consumption, such as nickel plating and the manufacture of German silver and various alloys has undergone considerable expansion, and bids fair to increase still further, as several new alloys, of which nickel is an important constituent, and which promises to be of considerable use in the arts, have been invented during the past year. This and the fact that the United States Government has definitely decided upon the adoption of nickel-steel for the armor of the new cruisers and battle-ships insures a very large consumption of the metal next year. In view of this the *Societe du Nickel* and the Canadian companies have all been increasing their smelting plants, and the supply of ore being very large, the supply of the metal is limited by the capacity of these works only.

The United States, which formerly led the world in the production of nickel, has dropped to third place since the opening of the Canadian and New Caledonian fields, and for several years its product has been steadily diminishing, owing to the exhaustion of the famous old Lancaster Gap mine. This has been the only important producer of nickel in this country, and although deposits of the ore, which have been considered promising, have been discovered in several places, nothing has come of them so far. Oregon and Nevada are perhaps the most promising localities. Nickel silicate ore having been discovered at Riddles in the former State, and nickel-cobalt sulphide in Churchill County in the latter. Nothing of consequence has been done at the Oregon mines during the past two years, and those of Nevada were also long idle. Last spring, however, one of them was purchased by an Anglo-American company, which has done some development work since then; a considerable quantity of ore has already been taken out, we are informed, which it is thought will assay well, but none has been shipped yet. The results of this enterprise will be watched with interest. It seems very doubtful, however, from the present outlook, whether either the Oregon or Nevada mines will ever replace the Lancaster Gap. The only other producers of nickel in the United States are the Mine La Motte and St. Joseph Lead Company, whose lead ore contains a small amount of nickel and cobalt-bearing pyrites, which is saved as a by-product, but the production from this source is insignificant.—*The Engineering and Mining Journal*.

**NEW PROCESS OF STEEL-MAKING.**—The important practical results attending the new process of steel making, as tested at an experimental open-hearth furnace in Sheffield, Eng., have been published in detail. The process in question is the outcome of Prof. Arnold's valuable researches, and consists in removing all impurities from Swedish pig iron, with the exception of the exact proportion of carbon required for a given purpose, thus obtaining the ideal carbon and iron steel, homogeneous in structure and free from blow holes; these results, as stated, being obtained without the presence of more than mere traces of manganese and silicon, and also without the use of iron ore. According to the account given, it further appears that the average time occupied by this process in the conversion of a ton of pig iron into the highest class of steel yet made, will be about three hours, the fuel used consisting of about half a ton of rough slack, and the very high quality of the steel ingots produced sufficiently indicated the perfect success of the run. The anticipation by Prof. Arnold and others who have investigated the process is that the range of the metal produced will vary from what will be practically wrought iron to the hardest tool steel.

**FACTS ON CANADA'S MINERAL WEALTH.**—Last week mention was made

of the big deal King Leopold of Belgium had made in Canadian iron in the purchase of deposits near Port Arthur. The remarks of a gentleman from Denver, Mr. C. Kerr, a thorough mining man, made to the *Chicago Herald* will be of interest and instruction on this matter. "I have just returned from an extensive trip through Manitoba and the western part of Ontario, and I was surprised to see that the Canadians are asleep while the Americans and the King of Belgium are obtaining possession of all the most valuable iron and silver mining lands. Port Arthur and Fort William, two small towns only three miles apart, are situated on the north shore of Lake Superior. Only 38 miles north-west of Port Arthur, Russell Alger and a number of others from Michigan have secured absolute control of a valuable silver mine. About 100 hundred miles northwest of Port Arthur the King of Belgium quietly invested his money. And there is John M. Stowell and party, of Milwaukee, who slipped up there on the quiet and put \$135,000 in the Ladger silver mine, and they claim they have made all that money back and 25 per cent. clear profit in two years. Then Marshall Field, of Chicago, and Mayor Patison, of Superior, and others have invested largely in the iron range west of Port Arthur. The Americans have the enterprise to develop that country, and they are doing it. They are securing the most valuable concessions. The Canadian Pacific Railroad touches Port Arthur and taps all the country, and the town is destined to be the Duluth of Canada in a short time.—*Canadian-American*.

I. C. R. Shops, Truro, N. S.  
K. D. C. Co.—Dear Sirs:—It affords me pleasure to bear testimony to the prompt and satisfactory effect of your K. D. C. in my own case. I was for thirteen years a sufferer from Dyspepsia and had about lost faith in everything advertised for this complaint and all hope that I could be cured. Hearing of the many cures effected by your remedy I was induced to try it. The effect has been a surprise to me. The first dose helped me and now after using less than one box, I consider myself cured, I feel it my duty to heartily recommend it to others.

Yours truly,  
M. P. RICHANSON.

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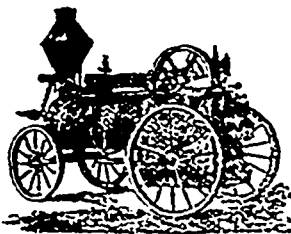
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GEORGE LAWSON, Ph. D., L. L. D.  
Fellow of the Institute of Chemistry of  
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## MINING.

A CHINESE SYSTEM OF GOLD MILLING.

By HENRY LOUIS, A. R. S. M., F. I. C., F. G. S.

From the Engineering and Mining Journal.

(Concluded.)

A stone hammer-head lasts from a week to a month, according to its quality. They are made, as in the foot-mills, from boulders of quartz rock, and it is mostly one man's business to search for these boulders in the bed of the stream, and, when found, to dress them into shape.

The crushing capacity of one of these mills varies from 850 lbs. to 1,400 lbs. per 24 hours, according to the hardness of the rock. It is to be specially noted that the crushing is performed quite dry.

After the mill has been running for a longer or shorter period, according to circumstances, a clean-up takes place. The crushed ore is carried out in large wooden pails to a Chinaman, who washes it, squatting down by the side of a square pit through which a small stream of clear water is kept running. The implement used for washing is a flat, somewhat conical, wooden dish, cut from the spurs of certain hardwood trees, and fashioned with much care. It is known as the *dulang* and much resembles the Spanish-American *batea*, except that the section of the former is that of a very obtuse rounded cone, while the section of the latter is approximately that of a sphere.

Much importance is attached to the correct shape of the conical point, as it is in this that the precious metal is gathered together. The *dulang* is filled with from 10 to 15 lbs. of crushed stone, according to its size, and this is washed by a curious circular, combined with a slight undulatory motion, by which the particles of light, barren quartz are swept over the edge of the *dulang*, which is held just dipping below the surface of the water at the pit, while the heavier particles are collected in the rounded apex of the cone. When nearly cleaned, the gold and concentrates are transferred to a smaller, very carefully made and polished *dulang*, about 1 ft. in diameter, in which the quartz is washed off as thoroughly as possible, and the gold, by a skilful jerk, is thrown clear from the sulphurets, and finally collected in a small brass dish. The sulphurets still retain much coarse gold, to which they cling obstinately. They are ground as fine as possible on a stone and reworked several times, a good deal of gold being thus separated and added to that previously obtained. Even then the sulphurets still carry much gold, the larger portion of which is free. They are stored away in jars while wet and allowed to rust, and after a time they are sometimes reworked and reworked; very often they are merely allowed to accumulate and are not treated further.

The cleaned gold is dried and melted over a small forge provided with a box-shaped wooden blower of the usual Chinese type. The fuel is charcoal. Tiny, conical crucibles, capable of holding about a couple of ounces of gold, are used; the gold dust is melted in these with borax and niter as fluxes; the slag is lifted off the surface of the gold when the latter is supposed to be clean, by means of an iron rod, and the gold is then granulated by pouring into water. If it is not considered to be sufficiently soft and pure it is remelted, and the process is repeated until the gold is quite soft. The principal impurities removed seem to be sulphur, arsenic, a little copper, and perhaps traces of lead. Both the granulated gold and the crude gold dust, as also gold got from river washing, are used as currency in this district, coined money being scarcely ever seen here, and then only in the form of the old Spanish dollar.

In a partial wash-up at one of these mills during my stay in the district the following results, considered to be exceptionally good, were obtained, the quantity washed being as nearly as possible 2,000 lbs. of crushed ore. Rough gold, got before smelting, 3 czs. 11 dwts. 7 grs., worth \$52.60; 5½ lbs. of sulphurets for retreatment, 16 dwts., worth \$14.75; 28½ lbs. of sulphurets supposed to be cleaned, 6 dwts., worth \$5.60; total gold, about 4 czs. 13 dwts. 7 grs., worth \$72.95. The tailings from this (or a similar) washing gave by fire assay, per ton of 2,210 lbs. gold, 15 dwts. 16 grs.; silver 7 dwts. 12 grs.; total 1 cz. 3 dwts. 4 grs.

As a rule, there seems to be left in the tailings about one-third of the gold originally present in the ore, while there must be a considerable additional loss of float-gold carried away in the process of washing, due to the original fineness of some of the gold in the ore, and to the over-stamping already referred to. The Chinese themselves seem to be of opinion that they get about one half of the gold originally contained in the stone.

The following example will show how much gold is retained in the tailings. In working a very rich ore, which assayed per ton of 2,240 lbs.: Gold 6 czs. 12 dwts. 15 grs.; silver 1 cz. 1 dwt. 9 grs.; total 7 czs. 14 dwts. The tailings, after three times pounding and washing, still assayed: Gold, 2 czs. 16 dwts. 10 grs.; silver, 5 dwts. 6 grs.; total, 3 czs. 1 dwt. 16 grs. Thus showing that nearly one-half of the proportion of gold originally present was still locked up in the tailings.

The losses above indicated appear enormous, but it must be remembered that the thrifty Chinamen throw nothing away—not even tailings; however completely these may be exhausted, in their opinion, they still pile them up and keep them. When, for any reason, their mill would otherwise be idle, they repound and rewash their old tailings, and always get some gold out of them. The piles of tailings are, however, left exposed, so that a considerable proportion gets washed down into the streams and rivers by the heavy rains that occur at each change of monsoon; and there are a good many clans of the poorer classes who make a part of living by washing the sands in the river-beds, the gold they get being principally, to all appearance, that which has been thrown into the rivers by the miners up stream. It is noticeable that there is no gold, or very little, to be found in the rivers above the points where there are mines in operation. A fair day's work of

one Chinaman in the river-bed (say six hours' actual work) was found, as the average of several trials, to produce an output of 7.3 grains of gold about .940 fine, worth say \$0.28. This quantity of gold was obtained by washing 22 large *dulangs* of gravel, each holding about 70 lbs. of dirt.

It is interesting to note that in custom-milling, of which there is a good deal done here (many of the "fossickers" sending all the gold quartz they collect, whether by mining or picking out of the river-gravels, to one of the water-mills for crushing), the charge made is equal to \$3 10 per (long) ton of quartz, this payment including the washing of the gold, but not, so far as I can make out, its cleaning and melting.

It is obvious, from the above description, that the total quantity of stone crushed by all the mills in the district, supposing them all to be going simultaneously, and including the foot-mills, could not exceed some 12 tons a day at best, an amount that could be far more economically and efficiently handled in a five-stamp Californian mill of moderate power. Yet the total annual output of gold from this district (including, however, alluvial as well as reef gold) is said to be 4,000 tols (4,861 cwt.) fully .900 fine. The total number of men engaged in mining, in one way or another, is close upon one thousand.

DRAUGHTS-CHECKERS

All communications to this department should be addressed directly to the Checker Editor, W. Forsyth 36 Grafton Street.

As this is our Christmas issue our Checker Editor presents his compliments to his readers, and thinks that he cannot do better than to copy for their amusement the following humorous "Game of Checkers in Verse," by Mr. J. P. Sweet, which was written for and published in the *New York Clipper* about ten years ago. We believe that a parallel of the game below has been found by every scientific player:—

Ned Varnun lived in Warrensburg  
Not many years ago;  
His eye was bright, his step was firm,  
His hair was white as snow.

He loved all kinds of manly sport  
Until the day he died;  
But playing checkers was his forte,  
In this he took great pride.

He knew no books, no rules of play—  
Despised them did old Ned—  
And very oft was heard to say:  
"I play 'em from my head."

He truly had a "knack" at play,  
Could capture "two for one,"  
Sometimes for two he'd capture three,  
Which caused unbounded fun.

He'd been the "Champion" of the town,  
Full forty years or more,  
And his great fame had spread for miles  
Along the river shore.

While he enjoyed his well-earned fame  
Through deep and cunning play,  
A stranger from a distance came  
And chanced to pass that way.

They knew not where the stranger lived  
In north, south, west or east;  
He wore a quiet, easy air—  
His name was M. C. Priest.

A match was made with Uncle Ned  
That evening in the town;  
To see the sport at "Pingree's Inn,"  
Great crowds soon hurried down.

The board was brought, the players came,  
Each ready for the fray;  
"First move" was won by Mr. Priest,  
And thus began the play.

Eleven to fifteen by Priest was made,  
His rival looked quite sly;  
Twenty-two to eighteen, undismayed,  
Was Uncle Ned's reply.

From square fifteen to twenty-two  
Priest took a quiet jump;  
From twenty-five to eighteen next  
Ned's piece came down "kerthump."

From number eight to eleven next  
Priest meekly moved a man;  
From twenty-nine to twenty-five,  
Old Ned's white checker ran.

Four to eight was next advanced by Priest,  
And when Ned "looked it through,"  
He moved from twenty-five, with care,  
To number twenty-two.

Ten to fifteen, now a sable man,  
Moved slowly to the front;  
Old Ned seemed figuring out a plan,  
As he was often wont.

Twenty-four to twenty next he moved,  
And winking, seemed to say:  
"I'll have a king, and very soon,  
If he don't mind his play.

Twelve to sixteen next M. C. advanced—  
Ned viewed the scene with sport;  
From twenty-seven to twenty-four  
He made a quick retort.

Fifteen to nineteen, a sable man,  
Ran modestly ahead;  
Twenty-four to fifteen was the jump  
Next made by Uncle Ned.

Sixteen to nineteen next black advanced,  
Ned gave a knowing leer;  
Twenty-three to sixteen then he jumped—  
Things then to him looked "queer."

Nine to fourteen Priest next moved a man;  
Ned viewed it with surprise:  
All o'er the board his optics ran—  
Could not believe his eyes.

Eighteen to nine now jumped the white,  
And the bystanders said:  
"It is a very curious sight  
To look at Uncle Ned."

From eleven now to twenty-five  
Priest takes an easy stride;  
Ned viewed the board then scratched his gourd,  
His optics opened wide.

From thirty two to twenty-seven  
Old Ned with caution goes;  
Five to fourteen Priest next jumps the man,  
It's drawing to a close.

From twenty-seven to twenty-three  
Ned moves his man along;  
His real plight he cannot see,  
His nerves now grow more strong.

Six to ten now moves a sable man,  
Ned seems to breathe more free;  
Hidden now in black's deep plan,  
His wiles Ned can't foresee.

From twenty-eight to twenty-four  
Ned moves a man "koralap."  
His dancing days will soon be o'er,  
His foot is in a trap.

Fourteen to eighteen Priest now goes,  
Ned jumps from twenty-three  
To fourteen o'er the sable man—  
The end he does not see.

Ten to seventeen the black man jumps,  
And then from twenty-one  
To fourteen now a white man skips.  
There soon will be some fun.

From eight to twelve the black next goes,  
From thirty to twenty-one  
The white man jumps and Ned's poor goose  
Is very nearly done.

Twelve to twenty-eight the black then jumps,  
And captures two white men.  
From twenty-six to twenty-three  
The white replies again.

From twenty-eight to thirty-two  
We see the black advance;  
Ned thinks with even man he now  
Must stand an even chance.

Twenty-one to seventeen he moves,  
And black for his reply  
Moves thirty-two to twenty-eight;  
Ned "casts a wondrous eye."

From twenty-three to eighteen next  
Ned moves his man along  
And says "A King this move will bring,  
Or else there's something wrong."

Then twenty-eight to twenty-four  
The monarch Priest does bring.  
Seventeen to thirteen Ned now moves—  
He's struggling for a King.

Twenty-four to nineteen now the black  
Moves slowly on like fate;  
Thirteen to nine—white wants a King—  
I fear he is too late.

One to five, the black a man does bring;  
A chance there still remains  
For white to move and make a King;  
But not a King he gains.

He thinks he'll go toward thirteen  
From figure thirty-one;  
So thirty-one to twenty-six  
The man comes moving on.

From seven to ten was black's next play,  
Then fourteen to seven jumps Ned.  
Five to thirty now jumps black,  
Oh, "what a heap lies dead!"

Sweat bathes Ned's brow, although 'tis cool;  
His game is quite defunct.  
He says: "I've played it like a fool;  
By thunder, I've got skunked!"

PROBLEM 255.

Taken from the *Liverpool Mercury*, being one of those entered for that paper's competition. Black men on 4, 18, 21, kings 7, 8, 32; white men 13, 17, 20, 30, kings 1, 19; white to play and win.

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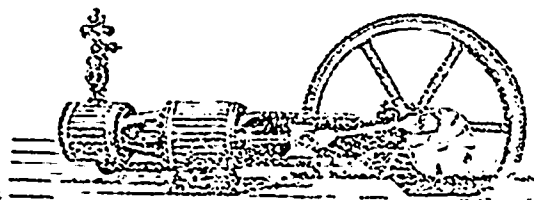
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## CITY CHIMES.

The Recital given last Friday evening in Orpheus Hall by Miss Kathleen Magee was one of the most successful of the season, and notwithstanding the numerous attractions that evening the hall was well filled with a fashionable and appreciative audience. We had not the pleasure of being present ourselves, but we believe Miss Magee delighted her hearers with her selections. The ladies and gentlemen who assisted the talented young elocutionist on this occasion are favorably known in musical circles and a good programme of vocal and instrumental music was rendered, adding not a little to the success of the entertainment. Miss Magee leaves Nova Scotia early in the New Year to pursue her studies in New York.

Hi Henry's Minstrel Troupe at the Academy of Music last week furnished excellent entertainments and were well-received by good houses. The company is a first-rate one and, while unlike the usual performances of minstrel troupes, their entertainment includes a large variety of amusing features, not least among which are the antics of Professor Wormwood's wonderful troupe of trained dogs. These animals show wonderful sagacity and the feats accomplished by them were almost beyond credence. Mr. P. C. Cummings gave a very interesting exhibition of his skill in feats of equipoise, although his hat act needs quite a deal more practice before he can call it perfect. Hi Henry has a marvelous contortionist, who apparently has no bones in his composition, although after his most wonderful performance he stands before his audience a finely formed young man. Verily this man is fearfully and wonderfully made. Hi Henry himself is a fine cornet player and greatly pleased the music lovers among his audience with his well rendered selections. To our mind, one of the most interesting features of this company's entertainments is the famous musket drill of Serg't. Cummings who manipulates a fixed bayonet with the greatest accuracy, skill and rapidity. All in all, the Hi Henry Minstrel Show was well worth attending, and was much enjoyed by those who took it in.

The "private afternoon" people have made arrangements with Mr. Clark for the hire of the rink, and propose if sufficient support is received—which of course will be—having it open on Tuesday and Friday afternoons, and Wednesday morning and evening, from January 5th to March 31st, 1891, and also to have these agreeable and almost necessary accompaniments, a band and tea in the afternoons and evenings. The rates for season tickets may be considered reasonable, but the circular sent out by the committee also states that an admission fee of 25 cents will be charged each evening, which we understand is in addition to the price of the season tickets. Capt. Peacock and Mr. J. F. Kenny are Hon. Secretaries, and the other members of the committee are Colonel Clerke, Capt. Trotman and Lieut. Marsh, R. A. It is gratifying to think that the very mecca of our society people will not, after all the forebodings, be desecrated by the storage of dry, hard, unfeeling furniture within the walls where the glassy surface (this is merely a figure of speech, for the surface of rink ice does not remain glassy for long) was wont in season to be thronged by the youth and beauty of the town, and where we are so often assured, Don Cupid sped many a shaft to its mark. The young people, and others who are not young in years, but are still so in their capacity for enjoyment, will be rejoiced at the prospect of repeating the pastime which they consider necessary to make life go during the winter, and we hope that a rink ticket will be found in many a stocking—or on the breakfast plate, if it be preferred—this joyous Christmas morning.

The little Anglican Church at Three Mile House, now Fairview, is celebrating its Jubilee to-day, and a special service is to be held this afternoon in commemoration of the opening on Christmas day fifty years ago. A special service will also be held on Sunday next which will doubtless prove very interesting, especially to the fathers and mothers of the present generation who remember this church in its more flourishing state. Rev. N. LeMoine is the present pastor of the congregation that worships in this quaint old church, and very interesting services are held on Sunday afternoons.

We are still enjoying remarkably mild weather, and it is hard to realize that the shortest day of the year, formerly supposed to be the beginning of winter, is past. We have had only a few of those days when "the plumber rejoices and the coal dealer throws up his hat," but Stanford's and other ponds and the Dartmouth Lakes have been frozen over and many skaters have taken advantage of the opportunity offered to participate in this delightful sport. It is amusing to observe the variety of opinion expressed with reference to the weather. One complains that it is too warm, very unreasonable, etc., and he longs for genuine old-fashioned Christmas weather, with snow heaped high and air sharp and frosty, while his next door neighbor is rejoicing that old Father Winter is postponing his visit, and trusts the mild weather will continue for many days to come. Truly, "many men, many minds," and it is well ordered that we mortals can only talk weather and not make it; we certainly do our part in talking it. After all it does not make much difference in the cheer of this holiday season whether the weather be mild or severe, and we join in the many merry greetings our friends and subscribers are receiving this Christmas morning and wish one and all a happy day.

The President and officers of the Maritime Commercial Travellers Association have issued invitations for a ball to be held in Masonic Hall on Monday, 28th inst., and their many friends are looking forward to a merry evening to be spent in the ever-favorite pastime of tripping the light fantastic, and in pleasant converse friend with friend. We have not had many

opportunities of airing our dancing pumps of late and this entertainment comes most opportunely at this festive season when "the heart is gay" and merry greetings are echoing from every side. "The boys" are putting forth every effort to make this coming ball one to be thoroughly enjoyed by all who accept of their hospitality, and the preparations that are being made give every indication of a delightful reception.

The Kickapoo Indian Concert Company are still holding forth in Orpheus Hall, and their novel entertainment proves a great attraction to the multitude. Their songs and representations of life in the far west are very good and decidedly mirth-provoking and they have had a crowded house every evening this week. They have an assortment of medicines for sale and have disposed of a large amount of those wonderful cure-alls to their numerous patrons. The admission fee is so small that all can take advantage of the attractions offered by the Kickapoos and an immense amount of fun is to be obtained from their interesting concerts.

In all probability our subscribers will have before this decided what they are going to give their friends for Christmas, but there is still time for us to offer a suggestion for the New Year. What could be more pleasing or profitable to a friend at home or abroad than to receive a year's subscription to THE CRITIC, which is the best all-round family paper published in the province. Send in at once the names and addresses of the friends you wish to remember, with the price of a year's subscription for each one, and during 1892 they will receive a weekly reminder of your good-will. This is one way to make a dollar-and-a-half last a year.

The closing exercises of the Halifax Commercial College were held on Tuesday evening in the college rooms, Barrington Street. The guests and pupils numbered about one hundred and fifty, and an excellent musical and literary programme was rendered. Addresses were made by Rev. Dr. Lathern, J. C. Mackintosh and J. F. L. Parsons in which the growth of the college was noted, and Mr. Whiston congratulated on the high standing and continued usefulness of this educational institution. Not least among the pleasant features of the evening were the presentations and addresses to the teachers of the college. Mr. Whiston received, with best wishes of the pupils, a handsome silver ice service, with a complimentary address; Miss Miller, Mr. W. E. Thompson and Mr. Edwards, Mr. Whiston's efficient assistants were also the recipients of handsome gifts accompanied with expressions of kindly feeling. After the pupils had been cordially thanked for their kind remembrance and the assemblage had partaken of refreshments provided in bountiful and dainty style, the pupils and friends parted with hearty expressions of the good-will of the season, carrying with them pleasant recollections of a delightful evening.

The first concert of the Church of England Institute course was held in the Hall of the Institute on Tuesday evening, and was one of the most successful entertainments of the week. The Hall was crowded and the programme prepared was very interesting and admirably carried out. Mr. Henry and Mr. Norman were unfortunately unable to be present, but otherwise the concert fully came up to the usual high standard of this Association's entertainments. The next event on the programme of the series is the reception to be given on January 7th, by the President and Professors of Kings College.

The "jolly good fellows" of Dalhousie held their annual jollification previous to the Christmas vacation when laying aside books and work they take their departure to their respective homes. The affair came off on Tuesday evening and the students with their friends enjoyed a very merry entertainment, replete with wholesome fun and wit.

The sale of fancy articles and Christmas toys, which has been held in St. Mary's Young Men's Hall this week has been extensively patronized, and the ladies in charge who have so faithfully devoted time and means to further the advancement of a good cause, are to be congratulated on the success which has attended their efforts.

Not least among the many entertainments offered for this week was the series of recitals by the pupils of Frau Doering-Brauer, at the residence of that lady on Tuesday and Wednesday evenings. A large number of the parents and friends of the pupils were present on both occasions, and were more than pleased with the work of the young musicians. The good training that has been received was evidenced, and the progress and efficiency of Mrs. Doering's classes of young ladies must assuredly be gratifying to all concerned. In the Spring, Mr. and Mrs. Doering propose opening a school of music, to be entitled "the Doering-Brauer Conservatory."

Zera Semon's Company at the Lyceum Theatre has been drawing this week, if possible, larger crowds than usual and the hall has been filled to overflowing every evening. Georgio Melnotte's Jockey Minstrels have been giving good performances and the musical comedy "The Quakers' Reception" has afforded much amusement. The comedian Ed Kelley in his original specialty, "Professor Semon Outdove," furnished no end of fun and called forth rounds of applause at each appearance. The Boston Ideal Comedy Company will commence their engagement at this popular resort on Monday evening and Professor Semon's show will no doubt continue to draw the usual large audiences next week.

"An ounce of prevention, &c." Do not neglect that cough! One bottle of Futtner's Emulsion (the cough medicine par excellence) taken now, may save you weeks of illness, and a long doctor's bill. Large bottle, only 50 cents.