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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.

The great orange diamond which was found at the Cape of Good Hope, and which is ten karats heavier than the famous stone known as the Koh-i-noor, now in possession of Queen Victoria, was offered for sale at auction in London lately, but was withdrawn, there being no bidders.

We were favored on Monday morning with a notice in the *Chronicle*, which seems to have fallen into the error that independence is consistent only with colorless opinions. We are sorry if truth stings too sharply, but if it gratifies our contemporary to pitch into us, it is welcome to the satisfaction.

The American Retiring Regulations seem to be even worse than the British, sixty-four being the age, and there is some commotion in military circles over the near retirement of a number of General Officers. Our own Militia Regulations in this respect are, however, a shade worse still, the retiring age being sixty-three. Surely sixty-five is the earliest figure that ought to be set.

We are in receipt of the *Acadia Athenaeum*, (Wolfville,) in which is evident a good deal of power of good writing, sometimes a little marred by indefiniteness, as in an article which begins, "There is a dangerous logic (?) abroad." In one point the writer hits a truth which many speculatists would do well to note, "the frequent mischief of reasoning by analogy." It should have been added "immoderately."

The English illustrated papers contain portraits of the "Prince of Naples," the title by which the Crown Prince of Italy is to be known. The occasion is his coming of age (18). The young prince, who bears the name of his grandfather, (Victor Emmanuel), the "Re Galantuomo," is a Captain in the army, and very popular in that position. He is decidedly good looking, and apparently takes after his mother, the charming Queen Margherita, rather than after his father or his grandfather. He is the only child of King Umberto and his Queen.

A communication to the London Meteorological Society, by Capt. Toynbee, states as his conclusion that clouds of not less than 2,000 feet in thickness are seldom accompanied by rain, or, if they are, it is very gentle, consisting of minute drops; with a thickness of between 2,000 and 3,000 feet, the size of the drops is moderate; with increasing thickness of the clouds comes an increasing size of the drops, and at the same time the degree of temperature becomes lowered, until, when the thickness amounts to more than 6,000 feet, hail is produced.

The plan of the German Government to provide for working men in their old age will be applied at first only to industrial workmen, of which it is estimated the number is 7,251,000. The minimum pension to be allowed is 120 marks yearly, the state, employers, and workmen each contributing one-third of the pension fund, which will be a tax on each individual of 3 marks yearly. It is estimated that a State credit of 22,000,000 marks will be required. All workmen over fifty years of age when the bill is passed will be excluded from its benefits.

The *Week's* London letter contains an anecdote told by a very old servant at Kensington Palace, who went there as a gardener's boy when he was ten years old, and has been eighty one years in service, being now ninety-one. On the occasion of the birth of the Princess Victoria, he was sent off post-haste by the Duke of Kent himself, to the Duke of Wellington, with the news. "Tell him," said the Duke of Kent, "it's a little girl; that we'd rather it had been a boy; but, as it ain't, we'll make the best of her." "And those," added the old man, "were His Royal Highness' exact words."

M. Sadi-Carnot the new President of France has the immense advantage to a high functionary of a talented and charming wife. Mme. Sadi-Carnot is evidently one of the best type of French-women, and none in the world is more charming than that type. She is an excellent linguist, and dresses in perfect taste, but is exceedingly quiet and unassuming. The new President himself is a silent man, of grave demeanor, with a rather long face, and pronounced aquiline nose. He is of average height, but well put together. He is an advanced Republican, but of decided peace proclivities, and unspotted character.

The *British American Citizen*, Boston, Mass., to which we briefly referred a fortnight or so ago, promises to be an important sheet. The ground it takes is new, and it has the rare merit of being fearless in its statements of truth. One of its aims is to induce the large British population of the States to naturalize themselves, and concentrate their power so as to make their strong legitimate influence felt. All that it advocates politically is of a pure type, and it essays to stem the tide of corruption by throwing its weight on the side of integrity. It boldly and ably exposes many gross perversions of history which have been persistently dinned into the ears of Americans, and is altogether well worth the notice of others besides citizens of the United States.

A person in Los Angeles, Cal., rejoicing in the very inappropriate names of Kossuth Von Moltke, a grandson of a member of the Old Guard of Napoleon, is reported in the *Alla California* as having written, on behalf of 50,000 Franco-Americans, to General Boulanger, advising him resign his commission, return to the body of the people, and trust his future to them, and in less than a month all France will appeal to him, and he may be President, Emperor, and recoverer of Alsace-Lorraine. Can anything be more recklessly and, at the same time, deliberately wicked than the acts of some denizens of this continent of European descent? It is quite possible that such a document might add fuel to the vanity of a man afire with ambition, and thirsting for notoriety.

No doubt Canada is one of the poorest and most sterile countries on the face of the earth, and we are not in the habit of regarding the Province of Quebec as altogether the best part of it. yet people are to be found who discover ground for contentment, as witness the *Moniteur Acadien*, which has the audacity to write:—"The Province of Ontario produces more wheat to the acre than New York, Pennsylvania, Ohio, Michigan, Indiana, Illinois, Missouri, California, and Kansas; it produces more oats than New York, Pennsylvania, Ohio, Michigan, Illinois, Wisconsin, Minnesota, Iowa, Missouri, and Kansas; while of barley it produces more than New York, Wisconsin, Minnesota, Iowa, Nebraska, and California. Add to that that the Province of Quebec is the country of the world where real estate is the least taxed, and where the farmer's lands are the least burdened with mortgages. Nine per cent. of our farmers are kings and masters of themselves."

## CHESS IN NOVA SCOTIA.

We are pleased to learn that several clubs have lately been organized in this Province for the practice and encouragement of the game of chess. One club has just been formed at Windsor with very encouraging prospects, and we understand that another is about to be inaugurated at Acadia College, Wolfville. We cordially wish them and similar associations every success, as we believe that they are likely to confer permanent benefits of considerable value on the community at large. Chess has long been acknowledged to be the most intellectual of games. It is played in every civilized nation in the world, and has for many ages been the delight of emperors, kings, warriors, philosophers, and mankind in general. The mental exercise involved in the practice of the game affords a most valuable training to the reasoning and calculating faculties; hence it has even been proposed by some enthusiasts to include chess as a necessary branch of an ordinary school education. We doubt whether the general adoption of this view would commend itself to the majority of our readers, but we have no hesitation in saying that we highly approve of chess being encouraged among the young, for, apart from its intellectual benefits, it is well calculated to serve as a powerful counter-attraction to the numerous games of chance, (for the most part associated with gambling), which are unfortunately so prevalent at the present time. We are, in fact, so thoroughly convinced of the many advantages to be derived from the practice and study of chess, that we have resolved to devote a portion of our space to furthering its interests, and to this end, have arranged with an experienced player to conduct a regular chess column, which will commence with the New Year. As we believe that this will be the only chess column in the Province, we trust that we shall receive the hearty support of all devotees of the game.

## COMMERCIAL UNION.

What Commercial Union means is incidentally, but not inaptly, described in the *Week*, as "the egregious folly of reducing Canada to the condition of an outlying province of the United States, in order to induce the Americans to take full possession of the Canadian fisheries."

Every one knows that Commercial Union is a political party-cry, adapted in lieu of some of the others we mentioned last week, which have not served the turn of their originators so well as might have been desired. At the same time, it is not wholly and entirely insincere. There is no doubt a considerable section of malcontents who have persuaded themselves that it would be a finer thing to be citizens of the United States than Canadian and British subjects. The pains and ingenuity displayed by these folks in leading up to this question, in manufacturing history in advance to tell upon it, and in assuming positions, of the facts of which they know nothing, constitute a curious, if unpleasant study.

We are not concerned to dwell much upon loyalty to the British connection, though that tie saves a politician-ridden country from a very serious addition to the turmoil the politicians would revel in putting it to. The tie is not over-strong, such as it is it is more to our advantage than otherwise, and it is certainly not burdensome. The *Toronto Globe*, a very different sheet now to what it used to be under George Brown's management, professes indeed a super-righteous horror of our being a British Province, but there is no difficulty in tracing its maledictions to the inspiration of the enemies of Canadian autonomy. Some departments of certain Provincial Governments are systematically worked in the interests of annexationism, but we doubt if the sentiment assumes anything like national proportions, or expresses anything like a national desire.

The dismal forebodings of a portion of the Canadian press that the interests of Canada are to be sacrificed wholesale by the extremely able men who compose the British and Canadian contingents of the Fisheries Commission, are entirely gratuitous. It is simply talking of what it knows nothing about, and the wish is evidently father to the thought. Sensible people who decline to be manipulated and excited by the wire-pullers, will quietly await disclosures in this direction when they are due. The probable early future of American politics no doubt shadows forth considerations which may render negotiations far from easy, but we may, perhaps, venture a modest doubt that circumstances will combine to evolve Annexation quite so happily as the pessimists hope and desire.

## THE CONSTITUTION OF THE UNIVERSE.

Mr. Norman Lockyer read last month before the Royal Society a paper embodying a theory which is described as "of the most novel and far-reaching character." "All self-luminous bodies," Mr. Lockyer tells us, "are composed of meteorites, or masses of vapor, produced by heat brought about by condensation of meteor swarms, due to gravity." "This," says a reviewer of the paper, "is the nebular hypothesis in its broadest possible statement," a proposition with which we can scarcely agree. "The broadest possible statement" seems to us to consist in the original postulate of the direct aggregation of suns and planets, from the rotation and concentration of masses of vapor, and Mr. Lockyer's theory to be little more than the interpolation of a new term in the series.

It is the converse of a process with which we have of late years become familiar in theological discussion. When we substitute for the crude idea of spasmodic creation the grander processes of evolution, we only set back the initiative of the Deity. If we are to substitute aggregations of meteorites for the concentration of great vortices of nebulous vapor, we only interpolate an intermediate condition, the meteorite being, according to our conception of the hypothesis, the first product of the concentrated vapor; the sun or planet the ultimate form.

Nevertheless, Mr. Lockyer's theory possesses the value of a definiteness, to which well-known astronomical phenomena lend a high degree of probability. We know that meteorites exist in cosmical space in incredible numbers. Those which enter the earth's atmosphere, and are ignited and dissipated in their passage through it, are estimated at 20,000,000 in the twenty-four hours. But, besides those involved in the Solar System, which are to some extent so distributed, and, so to speak, kept in position, as to afford the spectacle of regularly recurring phenomena, such as the August and November showers, it must be remembered that the Solar System has its own proper motion, so that the earth can never twice occupy the same position in space.

Modern observation of comets has thrown a good deal of light on the subject, but the composition and motions of the rings of Saturn, which are now known to consist of infinite numbers of small bodies, seems to illustrate, as it were under our very eyes, some of the cosmical processes of formation, one of which might perhaps be imagined. Saturn is, on a very small scale, in the state of elemental turmoil, which characterizes the Sun. Being on so much smaller a scale, cooling and condensation are no doubt proportionately advanced. The acceleration of condensation increases density, and, consequently, attraction. A higher power of attraction would, it may be supposed, slow down the revolution of the rings, which may be eventually attracted to the body of the planet. Impact would sustain combustion, and it would seem probable that if, in the course of countless ages, the rings should be absorbed, Saturn may some day shine for a time with vastly augmented power, heat, and light. It does not seem improbable that Jupiter may have passed through this stage, and may owe his present effulgence to the bygone absorption of rings, or of some form of meteoric nebulae of enormous extent. These are, of course, the merest speculations, but they are not out of accord with phenomena of which we may be said to have some knowledge. They are, moreover, fitted to the special case of Saturn, the only heavenly body exhibiting, so far as we know, the peculiar phase of rings. The supposed more general mode of condensation is admirably described in the review we have before us, but we have not space for it in this notice of the subject.

Mr. Lockyer's hypothesis is meantime received by the Royal Society with a reserve, which is no doubt wise. Yet meteorites and gravity are all that it postulates, "and these are known to exist and to act in certain cases in the way that the hypothesis requires;" and it may fairly be assumed that the existence of meteorites postulates the existence of the supposed nebulous vapor from which they themselves are found. We shall scarcely in our day get behind the vapor, or the perhaps still farther back ether, or whatever human understanding may elect to call the ultimate possible to it.

## CIVIC REFORM.

Turning off the water from premises where the water-rates still remain unpaid after notice is, in many respects, a justifiable measure, but during the prevalence of epidemics, or in the summer months, when there may be danger to a whole neighborhood from choked and unflushed drains, this remedy should be applied with due caution. Landlords are primarily liable for these rates, and they are a lien upon the property, but by a wise and liberal provision, landlords who furnish the authorities with a list of their tenants, at a certain time each year, are relieved from the responsibility for the water rates which are assessed or charged against the tenants. Having complied with the law in this respect, they materially conclude that they have no further responsibility in the matter, and such is the evident intention. Some day, however, they awake to find that this idea is a serious mistake. The tenant fails to pay the tax, and the water is turned off. A tenant who is unable to pay the water rates, may also leave his landlord in the lurch, and either before or at the end of his term, vacate the premises. A new tenant takes possession, and, finding the water turned off, applies to the landlord, who sends word to the collector to have the water turned on. Back comes the information that the water will not be turned on until the rates have been paid, and so the poor landlord, in order to keep his new tenant, has to pay up the back rates. This construction of the law, if not absurd, is certainly unjust, and must cause the legally defrauded landlord to have anything but kindly feelings for the act or the officials who so unjustly construe it.

The civic officials may have no option in the matter, and, if such is the case, it would be expedient to have the act amended, in this respect, as speedily as possible.

While we are on this subject, we might pause for a moment to glance at the manner in which civic elections are conducted. It would naturally be supposed that the office of alderman, with no pay attached, would be a prize but little coveted except by a self-sacrificing citizen who was wishing to serve the community at the expense of personal comfort. In fact, that the office should seek the man, and not the man the office.

In reality this is far from being the case, and we have known candidates for the apparently unthankful office of alderman to spend large sums of money to secure their elections. As there is little honor attached to the office, it would almost appear that the main incentive is "boodle," and, as the elections are now conducted, there is almost a certainty that a "bondle" candidate will secure his election even if opposed by a prominent citizen with a large interest in the community. Poll tax receipts are secured, and men voted on them; drinks and refreshments are supplied at open houses; dozens of cabs with well-fed drivers scour the city for voters; and the candidate with his friends is on hand to personally secure his votes. In fact, bribery and corruption are now so openly and successfully practised in civic elections that it would seem necessary, if the honor of the City Council is to be maintained, to pass an act unseating and disqualifying any alderman against whom corrupt practices should be proven.

## CHIT-CHAT AND CHUCKLES.

Our opportunities to do good are our talents.—*Dr. Mather.*

Strange that man should have been given two ears and but one tongue, when, as everybody knows, he would rather talk all day than listen five minutes.

"This boofsteak," said a traveller at a lunch counter on the Erie railroad, "must be three weeks old." "I couldn't say, exactly," replied the waitress; "I've only been here two weeks."

"Evil often triumphs, but never conquers." This may have been the fortunate experience of Joseph Roux, but we think we could recall exceptions to the pleasant-sounding rule.—*Ed. Critic.*

"I don't want my mother to marry again," said a little boy one day at breakfast. "Why not?" was asked with some surprise. "Because, said he, I've lost one father, and I don't want the trouble of getting acquainted with another."

"This is all nonsense about the Shakespeare-Bacon theory," remarked old Monoybags, looking up from the paper. "The idea of saying that Shakespeare never wrote anything! Why, I've read his plays myself!"—*Harper's Bazar.*

When the organs of a political party write long leading articles to impress upon their readers the deadness or dormancy of "public opinion," it looks a little as if "public opinion" was trending in a different direction to that party's opinions.

Dakota lady (to bride of a year)—"I understand, Mrs. Pullquick, that your husband has reformed somewhat since his marriage." Mrs. Pullquick—"Oh, my, yes; John drinks about as hard as ever, but he doesn't shoot as many people as he used to."

About the hardest thing in the world for a woman to preserve while engaged in the preserving business is her temper when she is obliged to set her preserving kettle off the stove to answer a ring at the door bell, and find a patent machine circular on the front step.

"Did you never try to give up drinking?" asked the colporteur. "Oh, yes," replied the inebriate; "I did once. About ten years ago, when I was on the road with a circus, I quit, and for six years I never tasted a drop." "And was you on the road all the time?" "Oh, no, I was in the penitentiary."

Mr. Trollope says that he considers Whately to have been the wittiest man he ever knew, and contemporary memoirs teem at least with proofs of his wit. A lady once went to Dublin Castle in such very full dress that more bust than *hurege* was visible. "Did you ever see anything so unblushing?" said some one to the Archbishop. "Never, since I was weaned," replied the wit.—*Temple Bar.*

The oft-asked question, "Where do sea-birds obtain fresh water to slack their thirst?" is probably correctly answered by an old skipper, who says he has frequently seen these birds far from any land that could furnish them water, hovering around and under a storm cloud, clattering like ducks on a hot day at a pond, and drinking in the drops of rain as they fall. They will smelt a rain squall a hundred miles or even farther off, and send for it with almost inconceivable swiftness. They can probably go a long time without water.

Ellen Terry once having received special courtesy from a newspaper man, offered to introduce him to Mr. Irving, but unfortunately when, shortly afterward, the opportunity of doing so presented itself, she had utterly forgotten his name, but felt that it would be an ill compliment to tell him so. Her ready wit did not desert her in this trying emergency, and she promptly said to him: "Do you know that I've made a wager with Mr. Irving, and you can decide it. He says you spell your name one way, I say another. Write it for me." All unaware of the trick which was being played upon him, the gentleman wrote his name and handed it to the actress. She glanced at it hastily, laughed and said gayly: "I've won the bet." It was such a realistic bit of acting that the newspaper man, although it was his business to criticize plays and players, never detected it.

Oftentimes I have seen a tall ship glide by against the tide as if drawn by some invisible bowline, with a hundred strong arms pulling it. Her sails unfilled, nor streamers drooping, she had neither side wheel nor stern wheel, still she moved on stately, in serene triumph as with her own life. But I know that on the other side of the ship, hidden beneath the great bulk that swam so majestically, there was a little toilsome steam-tug, with a heart of fire and arms of iron, that was tugging it bravely on; and I know that if the little steam-tug untwined her arm, and left the ship, it would wallow and roll about, and drift hither and thither, and go off with the reflux tide, no man knows whither. And so I have known more than one genius, high-decked, full-freighted, idly-sailed, gay-pannoned, but that for the bare, toiling arms, and brave, warm-beating heart of the faithful little wife, that nestles close to him, so that no wind or wave could part them, he would have gone down with the stream, and have been heard of no more.—*Oliver Wendell Holmes.*

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## NEWS OF THE WEEK.

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

Those who wish to secure pleasant and profitable reading matter for the winter evenings should note our exceptional offer which appeared recently. For \$3.00 in cash we undertake to send THE CRITIC to any subscriber for one year, supplying him in addition with seventy-nine of the most readable of readable books. Those who are renewing their subscriptions, as well as new subscribers, should take advantage of this offer.

Mr. Blake is said to be about to visit Southern Europe, Egypt and Palestine.

An elegant sleigh, built by Mr. H. Dimock, of Halifax, for the Duke of Wellington, goes by the *Danvers* to England.

An I. C. R. station agent named Rioux was found dead with several bullet holes in his breast on the beach at Trois Pistoles recently.

The Assist. Indian Commissioner reports that the condition and attitude of the Indians in the N. W. were never better than at present.

Two young men named Crawford and Gutro were crushed to death by the giving away of a mass of frozen clay last week at the Springhill Mines, N. S.

The *Hants Journal* has published a Christmas Supplement, exceedingly well got up, and containing seven very pretty and well executed engravings of Christmas subjects.

The detailed claims on account of British Columbia sealers seized in Behring's Sea, are said to amount to \$300,000. The document has been forwarded to Washington.

A reward of \$500 is offered by the Provincial Government for information of Joseph Preston, the missing barber of Halifax, if alive, and \$100 for particulars of his death.

A number of conductors, agents, &c., on several Canadian Railways have recently been dismissed for dishonest practices in the sale of tickets, and pocketing freight money.

The annual meeting of the Halifax School for the Blind was held on Saturday afternoon. Ample testimony was borne to the efficiency and good condition of this valuable institution.

The "Sorcerer" was presented by Mr. C. J. Ross' Amateur Opera Co. at the Academy last evening, and will be repeated this evening. An extended critique will appear in our columns next week.

Mr. Van Horne considers that 12,000,000 bushels would not be an excessive estimate of this year's Manitoba wheat crop. He further states that over 4,000,000 bushels has already been taken by the C. P. R.

The last English mail brought no word from the Archbishops of a Bishop for Nova Scotia. The *Windsor Tribune* suggests that they may be still consulting the map to find out in what part of America Nova Scotia is situated.

The affairs of the Central bank, Toronto, have been found in a deplorable condition. All the directors are heavily indebted to the bank for unsecured loans, and the liquidator threatens criminal proceedings against some of them.

Suggestions for Christmas presents are in order, and should be acceptable about this time. What could be a nicer one to put in papa's or grandpapa's stocking than a receipt for a year's subscription to THE CRITIC. We shall be happy to send the receipt to any one who will mail us the requisite \$1.50 in time.

The Australian Governments have been invited to co-operate with Canada, in surveying the route of the proposed Intercolonial Cable between the Dominion, New Zealand and Australia, and an answer will likely reach us in the course of a month.

A paragraph in an exchange says that there is to be no carnival at Montreal this year. It is doubtful whether these carnivals and the reports and illustrations of them which have gone across the ocean, have not done more harm than good to Canada.

Private Detective Fahey, City Detective Nagel, a son of the Deputy Chief of Police, and City Constable Bureau, of Montreal, were arrested last week on charges of complicity in a number of mysterious robberies in that city, and people are asking how many recent robberies have been committed by those paid to guard its interests.

Three tenders have been made for the Atlantic Mail Service. The Allan and Dominion jointly, the Orient, which revolutionized the Australian Service; and Anderson, Anderson & Co., of London. It is about time the slow Allan monopoly was put a stop to. Our mails ought to cross the Atlantic in 36 to 48 hours less than they do now.

The Chief Inspector of Licenses for the city of Halifax says that he has had more applications for licenses handed in this year than last, but that it is probable that about the same number will be recommended by him. It is an open secret that the working of the present Act is unfavorably looked upon by genuine temperance men, and by a large majority of the City Council, who, we must assume, are in accord with the sentiments of the community. Some persons have tried to get the City Council to dismiss the Chief Inspector, on general, and therefore vague, grounds, of inefficiently carrying out the License Act of 1886, and a special committee of the City Council was appointed to consider the matter, and to report thereon. That committee met on Monday last, and decided to meet again on Monday of next week, when they will require the petitioners to present specific charges, and to prove them against the Chief Inspector. Of course, if they fail to do so, it will be impossible for the committee or the council to proceed further in the matter.

It is rumored that the Dominion Parliament will meet for business on the 26th January.

Nearly 300 teams crossed over to Halifax from Dartmouth on Saturday forenoon, after considerable delay from fog.

Mr. John V. Ellis, M. P. for the city of St. John, has come out squarely in support of Annexation in a leader in the *St. John Globe*. This is at least honest.

The Postmaster-General of Canada has gone to Washington to make arrangements, it is said, for a parcel-post service between Canada and the United States.

The foundry of W. S. Symonds & Co., at Dartmouth, was destroyed by fire yesterday morning. It is understood that the establishment was partially insured, but it is feared the loss to Messrs. Symonds will be very heavy.

Serious freshets are reported from various parts of Nova Scotia. A huge boulder, loosened by the heavy rains of Sunday night and Monday, rushed down the Folly Mountain and nearly wrecked the Halifax express for St. John, smashing the cow-catcher.

Timothy Clifford was shot dead at Truro on Sunday morning by Robt. Welsh. Clifford had just been released from jail. He had been living for eight years with a widow Kent, who apparently wished to get rid of him. Clifford came and annoyed a Mrs. Welsh, with whom the woman Kent was boarding, and her son shot him. Apparently a bad lot all around.

Regarding the lack of light in this city at night, it appears that a first-class muddle exists. The Board of Works has made one of its elastic contracts with a company to do the work, and it is probable that that company, "when it gets nice and ready," may possibly fulfil its part of the contract. Meanwhile innocent citizens and taxpayers are expected to stay at home o' nights or to run their own risks of possible accidents. We would not be at all surprised to learn any day that some recalcitrant citizen or visitor, not appreciating the thissness of thus, has met with an accident in trying to grope his way through the streets of "our metropolis," and has the impudence to sue the city for compensation therefor.

The bucket-shops of Philadelphia have been extensively raided by the authorities of that city.

The Revd. Chas. Berry, of Wolverhampton, G. B., has declined the call to Plymouth Church, Brooklyn.

Reports from the Mexican frontier say the Yaqui Indians have become so bold that the troops have again been called out.

The Fisheries Commission has adjourned for a month, and Mr. Chamberlain is, it is said, to spend his Christmas in Ottawa.

The work on the Short Line in the State of Maine is described as extremely hard, some of the compressed gravel, &c., defying the pick.

A town in Arizona has been destroyed by an earthquake, and many persons killed. Great suffering was endured from the exhaustion of supplies.

A challenge for the America's cup is expected from John Jamieson, owner of the cutter *Irex*. Jamieson will build a yacht to beat the *Irex* if possible.

Another train has been stopped in Arkansas by train robbers, and \$40,000 taken from the express car. The passengers were not molested, and the robbers spared the mails.

The Committee of the American Philosophical Society on "Volapuk" do not think it suited to the needs of modern thought, but consider it "a retrogression in linguistic progress."

A dinner was given by Mr. Chamberlain on the 10th, as the first of a series to be given by the English Fishery negotiators, to return some of the splendid hospitality extended to them by the American Commissioners.

The recent trouble with the anarchists has suggested the preparation of a bill which will be introduced in the House by George E. Adams, of Chicago, providing for the expulsion of dangerous aliens from the United States.

Three negroes, Adam Charles, Andy Miller and William Smith, who had assaulted a ten year old girl at Obrion, Tenn., were caught by a mob of 100 whites and blacks on Wednesday, near Rivers, Tenn., and hung.

The celebrated violinist, Miskahouser, is dead.

Miss Florence Nightingale is reported to be seriously ill.

It is thought the Panama Canal bubble must shortly burst.

Many ladies in Dublin have been reduced to poverty by the loss of their rents.

Twenty-two persons were drowned in a recent hurricane off the Orkney Islands.

The most magnificent presents continue to pour in on the Pope as tributes to his Jubilee celebration.

The new French Cabinet, under the Premiership of M. Tirard, does not seem to be very firmly established.

Russian semi-official journals disclaim any offensive manifestation in the movements of troops on the Gallician frontier.

The charges against M. Wilson, the late President's son in law, have failed of proof before the tribunal which tried them.

The Queen-Regent of Spain is immensely popular, and is said to have captivated even the great and able Republican, Castelar.



Mr. Pyne, the hero of Liddinny Castle, has "stolen away," eluding the police sentries. The police are scouring the country for him.

King Humbert, of Italy, has contributed \$4,000, and the Pope \$600, to a fund for the relief of sufferers by the recent earthquake in Calabria.

Col. King-Harman, Under Secretary for Ireland, in response to an appeal from his tenants, has offered a 40 per. cent. reduction of rents.

It is reported a fight between Sullivan and Mitchell will take place in a large farm outhouse in Kent Co., England. Tickets are selling at \$2.75 each.

The disease of the Crown Prince of Germany has again taken an unfavorable turn, and Sir Morall MacKenzie had hurriedly left England for San Remo.

The death of Prince Ching, father of the Emperor of China is reported. He exercised great influence at court, but his death will cause no alteration of policy.

Gold has been found at Dolgelly, N. Wales, to the tune, if the report is correct, of 6 oz. to the ton, and 150,000 tons of gold-bearing material has been exposed.

An immense fuss is still being made in England over Sullivan, the prize fighter, in which the Prince of Wales has figured, he having had Sullivan introduced to him.

An emigration return for 11 months shows an increase to Canada of over 14,000 and to the States of over 57,000. The return shows a total increase of emigration of 64,940.

It is reported that Mr. Gladstone is going to the continent shortly. He is suffering more or less from a catarrhal affection, which gives him trouble in the head and throat.

The London correspondent of the Liverpool *Mercury* writes that he has it on the best authority that Mr. Parnell is suffering from internal cancer, and that an operation is possible.

The *Correspondence de L'Est* states that Russia has agreed to accept the Duke of Gothland, the second son of the King of Sweden, as a candidate for the throne of Bulgaria in place of Prince Ferdinand.

Colonel Eardley Maitland, C. B., Royal Artillery, who has some connections in this Province, has been granted the temporary rank of Major-General while employed as Director General of Ordnance Factories.

Prince Barclay-de-Tolly, son of the well-known General, has been struck off the Russian army list for having christened his child after the Lutheran rite. Such is the state of religious toleration in the dominions of the Czar.

A third cargo of Canadian cattle has arrived at Aberdeen. 265 animals sold at an average of £10 9s. The sale is expected to cover expenses. The second sale gave a profit of £40. This has not a very promising appearance.

Colonel (and Local Major-General) Sir Geo. Stewart White, K. C. B., V. C., commanding the Burmah Expeditionary Force, has been promoted to the substantive rank of Major-General for "Distinguished Service in the Field."

Lord Dalhousie's life was insured for about \$200,000. His four younger sons will be well provided for, as under the Scotch law of entail, the free, (i.e., the net,) rental of the settled estates during the next three years will be laid aside for them.

The latest reports from Europe seem to indicate that the anxieties and jealousies of Austria, Germany, and Russia are for the present modified, and it is probable the advance of the winter season will also tend to discourage belligerent tendencies.

At a convention of landlords at Dublin, the agent of Lord Lansdowne advocated State advances to the landlords to enable them to pay mortgages, accepting rentals as security. Mr. Everard favored the proposal, and said it was the landlords last chance.

M. Jules Ferry was shot at and wounded by a man named Aubertin or Berckin on Saturday. Mr. Ferry's wounds are not serious, and he has received any amount of congratulations on his escape. The would-be assassin is a lunatic revolutionist.

The Marquis of Clanricarde is showing a bad spirit as an Irish landlord, and from a correspondence published by Sir M. Hicks-Beech, it appears that the latter, when Chief Secretary for Ireland, made considerable efforts to modify the Marquis' harsh action.

It is reported that the Pope will refuse to see the Emperor of Brazil, if the latter visits King Humbert. It is probably a *canard*. Such a course would be quite out of keeping with the tact of His Holiness, and with the broad statesmanship he has always manifested.

The English Government has requested Mr. Morrison, leader of the Crofter movement, to go to British Columbia and report upon the suitability of the country for the Crofters. If the report is favorable the Government propose to assist the Crofters to emigrate.

Who is she? Of course "she" is at the bottom of it. More than one in the case of the forged letters foisted on the Czar. The Countess Walkenstein Trostburg, wife of the Austrian Ambassador at St. Peterburg, the Countess Pritwitz, wife of the Emperor William's Grand Chamberlain, and the Countess Perponcher were the conspirators.

Says the *British American Citizen*:—"The Lewis Crofters take their starvation very sweetly. They killed a good many deer before the sheriff arrived, but submitted the moment he put in an appearance. They fired their guns into the air at his orders, then sat down on the grass, respectfully took off their bonnets while he harangued them in Gaelic on the sinfulness of shooting Lady Matheson's deer."

A VALIANT FIGHT.

HOW ROCHESTER, N. Y., WRESTLED WITH THE TELEPHONE AND WON!

Rochester, N. Y., is the only city in the United States which does not generally use the Bell telephone.

On the 20th of November, 1886, about seven hundred subscribers hung up their 'phones, and they have been hung up since!

It is the most noteworthy fight with a corporation ever known.

The cause of it was the attempt of the local Bell company (whose officers all lived in another city) to exact a rate per message from the subscribers, instead of a "flat rate." The people resisted it, the courts sustained the position that the license was revokable at will, the Common Council revoked it. The company ignored this action, and, without permission, erected poles in the streets, and strung additional wires; but the courts held that this was unlawful.

According to the message rate, a house like H. H. Warner & Co., proprietors of Warner's safe cure, who were among the heaviest patrons, would have to pay something like \$1,000 a year for the same telephone service as before.

For a city of 125,000 people, Rochester has made a good many sensations. Sam Patch and his deadly leap, the Fox sisters' spiritual rappings, Seward's "Irrepressible conflict" speech, Susan B. Anthony's attempt to vote, the cometary discoveries of Dr. Swift, of Warner's observatory, have each made the city the "talk of the world"; she leads in the manufacture of proprietary medicine, and her immense nursery, shoe and clothing interests puts her in the front rank.

The origin of one of her greatest industries is interesting. About ten years ago one of her foremost citizens was stricken down in the very height of a successful business career, with what his doctors said was an incurable disease. They gave him up to die. He then used what is now known as Warner's safe cure, and since then has developed as the world's great champion of the people against the assumed monopoly of physicians over the treatment of disease.

His fight, too, has been a determined one, and as successful as determined. To-day, he is the head of the largest proprietary medicine business in the world, having branch houses and laboratories in London, England; Toronto, Canada; Melbourne, Victoria; Sydney, New South Wales; Frankfurt, Germany; Prague, Austria; Rangoon, Burmah.

Many foreign governments will not permit the manufacture and sale of proprietary medicines of any name or nature until their formulae, value and harmlessness are by them established, after the most searching scientific inquiries. In every case Warner's safe cure has passed examination with the highest satisfaction to the government chemists and analysts, and the sought for permission has been granted which no other American has before secured.

This confirms the magnificent reputation given it by leading physicians, ministers, senators, congressmen, lawyers and ladies of the world. "Its secret of success," says the leading physician at Clifton Springs, N. Y., sanitarium, "is the simplicity of its com-

pounds and the proportions in which they are compounded."

"How do the people get on?" The universal verdict is:—"We don't miss the 'phone, except to our profit!"

There has been practically no break in the united opposition begun last November.

The American is getting to be quite as tenacious of his personal rights as against conspiring monopolies as is the typical Englishman, and this Rochester telephone episode is a noteworthy illustration of the fact.



MAIL CONTRACT.

SEALED TENDERS, addressed to the Postmaster General, will be received at Ottawa, until Noon, on FRIDAY, 20th January, for the conveyance of Her Majesty's Mails, once per week each way, between

HALIFAX AND LOWER PROSPECT, under a proposed contract for three years and 11 months, from the 1st February next.

Printed notices containing further information as to conditions of proposed Contract may be seen, and blank forms of Tender may be obtained, at the Post Offices of Halifax and Lower Prospect, and at this office.

(HAS. J. MACDONALD, Post Office Inspector. Post Office Inspector, Halifax, 25th Nov., 1887.)

LYONS' HOTEL,

Opp. Railway Depot.

KENTVILLE, N. S.

DANIEL McLEOD, Prop'r.

**Christmas Cards.** A big pack of very beautiful and imported Christmas Cards, pretty new shapes, and no two alike, with illustrated catalogue of 1000 other styles, for only 15c. silver, and this slip. A. W. KINNEY, Yarmouth N. S.

Gold Miners--Attention!

THE OLDHAM GOLD DISTRICT

Is known as one of the most reliable Gold-producing Districts in the Province, and

The STIRLING MINE

As one of the best in the district.

The whole of this valuable property, consisting of ninety five and a-half acres, is now offered for sale, together with all the shaft houses and mining buildings erected thereon.

There are several noted leads now opened up on the property, all gold bearing, and investors now have an unequalled opportunity of purchasing a thoroughly reliable gold mine. For Terms and Particulars enquire at

THE CRITIC OFFICE,

161 HOLLIS STREET.

ISLAND HOME STOCK FARM.

Registered Percheron Horses and French Coach Horses. Garage & Farm. Importers and Breeders of Percheron and French Coach Horses, Island Home Stock Farm, Grand Isle, Wayne County, Mich. We offer a very large stock of horses to select from, we guarantee our stock, make prices reasonable and sell on easy terms. Visitors always welcome. Large catalogue free. Address Garage & Farm, Percheron, Mich.

[FOR THE CRITIC.]

## THE DOWN-EAST GIRL.—OLD STYLE.

She was a merry down-east maid,  
Her face was brown with tan;  
Her eyes were blue, her cheeks were red;  
She washed and baked and span;  
She was a thorough country-bred—  
Bouncing 'Liza Ann.

She was a city trill or cull;  
Her bean was her "young man";  
Her towns were all of home-made stuff,  
Her mirror, a milk can;  
It bowed and waltz in the ring,  
Rare 'Liza Ann.

She courted it a stranger passed  
And if he stopped, she ran;  
Her schooling was of useful cast  
She knew her tryin' pan;  
In her fashion was the last  
Simple 'Liza Ann.

She was a merry down-east maid,  
Her face was brown with tan,  
Her eyes were blue, her cheeks were red,  
She washed and baked and span;  
She was a thorough country-bred,  
Wag 'Liza Ann.

J. R. H.

## STRANGE REMEDIES.

In an article on "Strange Medicines," in the *Nineteenth Century*, Miss Cumming quotes a few of the healing spells which are to this day practised by the peasantry of various districts in Great Britain, and which are considered certain remedies. The Northumbrian cure for warts is to take a large snail, rub the wart well with it, and then impale the snail on a thorn hedge. As the creature wastes away, the warts will surely disappear. In the West of England, eel's blood serves the same purpose.

For gonitis or wen, the hand of a dead animal must be rubbed nine times across the lump, or, still better, the hand of a suicide may be substituted.

In the vicinity of Stamfordham, in Northumberland, whooping cough is cured by putting the head of a live trout into the patient's mouth, and letting the trout breathe into the latter. Or else a hairy caterpillar is put into a small bag and tied around the child's neck. The cough ceases as the insect dies. Another cure for whooping cough is offerings of hair. In Sunderland, the crown of the head is shaved and the hair hung upon a bush or tree, with the full faith that as the birds carry away the hair, so will the cough vanish.

In Lincolnshire a girl suffering from the ague cuts a lock of her hair and binds it around an aspen tree, praying the latter to shake in her stead.

In Ross-shire, where living cocks are still occasionally buried as a sacrificial remedy for epilepsy, some of the hair of the patient is generally added to the offering. At least one holy well in Ireland (that of Tubbor Quan) requires an offering of hair from all Christian pilgrims who come there on the last three Sundays in June to worship St. Quan.

As a charm against toothache, it is necessary to go thrice around a neighboring tree on the bare knees, and then cut off a lock of hair and tie it to a branch. The tree thus fringed with human hair of all colors is a curious sight and an object of deep veneration. The remedy for a toothache at Tavistock, in Devonshire, is to bite a tooth from a skull in the churchyard, and keep it always in the pocket.

Spiders are largely concerned in the cure of ague. In Ireland, the sufferer is advised to swallow a living spider. In Somerset and the neighboring counties, he is to shut a large black spider in a box and leave it to perish. Even in New England, a lingering faith in the superstition of the mother country leads to the manufacture of spider web pills for the cure of ague, and Longfellow tells of a popular cure for fever—

"By wearing a spider hung round one's neck in a nut-shell."

This was the approved remedy of our British ancestors for fever and ague; and in Sussex a live spider rolled up in batter is still considered good in cases of obstinate jaundice.

At Loch Carron, in Ross-shire, an occasional cure for erysipelas is to cut off half the ear of a cat, and let the blood drip on the inflamed surface.

In Cornwall, the treatment for the removal of warts or small pimples from the eyelids of children is to pass the tail of a black cat nine times over the part affected.

In Devonshire, the approved treatment for scrofula is to dry the hind leg of a toad and wear it round the neck in a silk bag, or else to cut off that part of the living reptile that answers to the part affected, and having wrapped the fragment in parchment, to tie it round the sufferer's neck.

In the same county, the "wise man's" remedy for rheumatism is to burn a toad to ashes and tie the dust in a bit of silk to be worn round the throat.

Toads are made to do service in divers manners in Cornwall and Northampton for the cure of nose-bleeding and quinsy; while "toad powder," or even a live toad or spider, shut up in a box, is still in some places accounted as useful a charm against contagion as it was in the days of Sir Kenelm Digby. The old small-pox and dropsy remedy, known as *pulvis ethiopicus*, was nothing more nor less than powdered toad. Frogs, too, are considered remedial. Thus, frog's spawn placed in a jar and buried for three months till it turns to water, has been considered efficacious in Donegal, when well rubbed into a rheumatic limb. In Aberdeenshire, a cure for sore eyes is to lick the eyes of a live frog. A man thus healed has thenceforth the power of curing all sore eyes by licking them: In like manner, in Ireland, it is believed that the tongue that has licked a lizard all over will be for ever endowed with the power of healing whatever sore or pain it touches.

Another Irish remedy is to apply a fox's tongue to draw a thorn from the foot. The tooth of a living fox, worn as an amulet, is deemed a cure for an inflamed leg.

For deep-seated thorns, the application of a cast-off snake skin is efficacious—not to attract the thorn, but to expel it from the opposite side of the hand or foot. In some of the Hebridean Isles, notably that of Lewis, the greatest faith prevails in the efficacy of perforated water-worn stones, called "snake stones." These are dipped into water, which is then given to cattle as a cure for swelling or for snake bite. If the stone is unattainable, the head of an adder dipped in the water gives an equally good result. In Devonshire, any person bitten by a viper is advised to kill the creature at once, and rub the wound with its fat. It is said that this practice has survived in some portions of the United States, where the flesh of the rattlesnake is accounted the best cure for its own bite. Black, in his "Folk Medicine," states that the belief in the power of snake skin as a cure for rheumatism still exists in New England. Such a belief is probably a direct heritage from Britain.

In Durham, an eel's skin, worn as a garter round the naked leg, is considered a preventive of cramp, while in Northumberland it is esteemed the best bandage for a sprained limb. So, too, in Sussex, the approved cure for a swollen neck is to draw a snake nine times across the throat of the sufferer, after which the snake is killed, and its skin is sewed in a piece of silk, and worn round the patient's neck. Sometimes the snake is put in a bottle, which is tightly corked and buried in the ground, and it is expected that, as the victim decays, the swelling will subside.

## A DAY'S BOAR-HUNTING IN BENGAL.

A writer in the *Field* describes the chief incidents of a boar-hunt in which he and a dozen others took part in Behar. The first animal the hunters drove out of the covert, in front of which the horsemen were posted, was a wolf. This afforded a chance of deciding a question they had just been arguing—whether a wolf could be run down by a horse—and accordingly the whole field went in pursuit. "At first the wolf, not quite seeing what was up, was inclined to take it leisurely till we neared upon him, when he put on full steam, widening for a while the breach between us; but as ground got clearer, and duros (field hedges), which greatly hampered the long strides of the horses, fewer, we found ourselves again nearing, Begg with the lead, along with four others who had singled themselves out of the crowd. We are collaring our chase plain enough. Great though wolf's speed, he is not proof against the well-trained horses on good ground. Now Begg's spear hangs over wolf, and each felt a pang as his chance of first spear seemed gone. But wolf, looking up just in time, espied the glittering point, and evaded his fate by dodging to the right, just enough to front Williams, who, riding next, pressed for spear. Anyone now might "back the winner," as, whenever a horse came too close, wolf just slipped aside a little. By 'love! a close shave that! Williams's spear was over wolf, just grazing his hide, when wolf dodged it by crossing under the horse, then, pulling up sharp, doubled round for the rear, after marvellously escaping a broken back among the horses' feet. Pulling up, I got round in time to see the fight finished.

How often it happens that the race is not to the swift, nor the battle to the strong! Macfadgen, coming quietly, dodging along hindmost, like a piece of well-steadied machinery, meets wolf after he had run the gauntlet of his other enemies, and, with spear held forward, pins him through and through, the steel striking the ground. The fight is over. The scourge of sleeping children, vainly struggling to keep his legs, is put beyond pain as the field gathers round. He was a spanking wolf, well worth our trouble."

After an interval of rest, there was an exciting encounter with a boar, which made such a desperate charge on his leading pursuers that, notwithstanding a spear-thrust, he "sent horse and rider spinning through the air as if they were executing an acrobatic feat, and finally landing on their backs after a complete double revolution." Then two boars broke away, and one of them made a desperate resistance, meeting charge after charge when brought to bay, and dying bristling with embedded spears. "He was a tall lanky fellow, with big tusks, of the kind that would give us a sharp run and prove an active fighter. That he could run was already obvious by the way he was taking across country: that, too, none of the smoothest, but well broken by ditches and holes of one kind and another, where the chances of a spill were about five to one.

A mile or two of stiff riding had now to be got through ere we overhauled him again, which, on perceiving, he made for a pool of stagnant water, the remnant of a dried-up lake. Here he lay down to wallow and roll while we surrounded him. Having become aware of this fact, his lowering eye and wrathful visage proclaimed no pleasure at the discovery, while leaving us little doubt of his intentions. He sounded a couple of snorts, nodded his head, and advanced at a walk in my direction, having seemingly singled me out for vengeance. The walk merged into a trot, trot into a gallop, and before I could well wheel my horse to meet him he was on me like a thunderbolt. Hitting my boot a sharp blow with his tusk in passing—a rapid movement having evaded his direct charge—he was not content to go on, but turned round to have a word with the horse. As he disappeared below its flanks, I dealt his rear, which protruded, such a stimulant as speedily sent him out and on to the next horse, that of Williams, who was advancing to meet him. Ere reaching Williams' horse, however, he met his spear, which slipped through and through him, only to be doubled up next instant against the horse, as pig swerved in his course for fresh charge. He was now intently plying his tusks on Westwood's horse (the latter so frightened that it seemed paralysed and unable to move,) and seemingly indifferent to Westwood's spear, now added to the number. After serving out Westwood, he made again for the puddle, lively enough, though a little

disheartened *en route* by another spear from Williams. Not yet beat, however, he stood at bay in the water, turning to face every attack, and meeting his assailant half-way like a true duelist. It was a turn of sharp practice now, as one after another rushed by him, manœuvring their horses so as to deliver the spear and yet avoid the charge; but it was a fight that could not last. Assailed on every side, he gradually sank under the repeated thrusts, till his last efforts showed only the will without the power.

Brietting all over with embedded spears, at length the poor brute lay down fighting to the last, with the dying satisfaction, however, of having left his marks on three horses. A fine 'tusker' he was, measuring 37 inches. On looking at our horses, I found both my saddle-girths cut, one right through, the other nearly, and a lung but not deep cut on the horse's near forearm. Williams and Westwood fared worse, Williams' horse having been cut in three places; but, though severely, neither dangerously.

#### CONCERNING SHETLANDERS.

The Shetland and Orkney Islands belonged to Norway until 1162, when, as history informs us, "They were impledged to James III, of Scotland, as a part of the dowry given with his queen," for about that time he was married to Princess Margaret of Denmark. It is added that "these islands were never redeemed." Shetlanders are a small, active and hardy people, very genial, too, and distinguished, whether rich or poor, for very industrious habits. No less are they noted for intense love of country.

Much of the farm work is carried on by the women of the household. Fields and gardens are their great delight. They are adept in dinary loom, and spin, weave and make up stores of household linen and flannels. No less successfully do they cut and make all family clothing, and as well pride themselves upon the number of bags of stockings, thick and warm, which they exhibit to neighbors and friends with intense satisfaction. Taste and thoughtfulness develop many bright touches of ornamentation. But the maidens own wit must devise the outlining, her own dainty touch accomplish the needlework. Shops full of beautiful patterns and gay hued materials are unknown joys in Shetland. The flowers of the field and the trees of the wood must furnish not only patterns, but the coloring needed for the wools and threads. Every maiden must be her own purveyor for every pigment needed.

The great luxury of the peasant women is tea-drinking. This article, brought from distant ports, would be beyond their means unless secured by exchange, and is said to be a universal means of payment for little services rendered. An errand involving hours of travel will be cheerfully accomplished for "one drawing" of the yearned-for refreshment, and this may be said of many household services. Skillful spinners will gladly "give many turns to the wheel" for a complement of the delicious beverage.

Sheep are largely a source of trade to farmers of these islands: the mutton is dark in color and of fine flavor, the fleece is soft and of such delicate texture that from it may be spun a thread as filmy as daintiest cambric; 1,000 yards are often spun from one ounce of wool, each thread being three fold, thus making 3,000 yards in all. Stockings knit from this can be drawn through a finger ring, and for such delicate hosiery two guineas per pair, and even more, are often paid. Within a few years more and more of this exquisite thread is used in making shawls, pure white or dark gray, which command very high prices; they are like cobwebs for delicacy and lightness.

What the camel is to an Arab, the sure footed, tough-fibered pony is to the Shetlander. One familiar with their customs has said that, though bred on the wild heath, the "sheltie," as the ponies are sometimes called, can be tamed in one night. The hunter, throwing his lasso with skill, secures a frisky colt, and for twenty-four hours keeps him a prisoner. The small creature hears no other voice than his master's; the hunter feeds and carresses him, and gradually the terrible restlessness subsides.

Hereafter he becomes a docile, affectionate burden bearer and companion. He needs no stable, and has a happy faculty of enjoying whatever he finds to eat. A dun-colored "sheltie" of exquisite symmetry, seen by a tourist, could stand under a dining-table, and a little lady could seat herself upon its back without lifting her feet from the ground. They are favorites for the saddle, and many are sent to other countries for the pleasure of ladies and children.—*Harper's Bazaar.*

#### INDIA AS A WHEAT PRODUCER.

The report of U. S. Consul-General Bonham, at Calcutta, British India, treats at length of the wheat interests of that country. The area devoted to wheat in 1886 was about 27,500,000 acres, and the total yield 289,000,000 bushels. As compared with the wheat of the Pacific coast, the Indian wheat is inferior, but when exported to Europe it is mixed and ground with wheat of a superior quality, by which process a fair marketable grade of flour is obtained. The method of cultivating the soil is in the main the same as it was centuries ago, and there seems to be great difficulty in inducing the farmer to invest in modern agricultural implements, and yet with all the simple and primitive methods the Indian farmers can, in the opinion of the Consul-General, successfully compete with those of the United States in the production of wheat. This is due to the fact that the Indian farmer's outfit represents a capital of not more than \$40 or \$50, and his hired help works, feeds, and clothes himself on about \$2.50 a month. A table is annexed, showing that the export of wheat from British India has increased from 300,000 cwt. in 1868 to 21,000,000 cwt. in 1886, and that the increase of 1886 over 1885 amounts to about 5,000,000 cwt.

The Consul-General says that some of his predecessors have claimed that the United States has nothing to fear from India as a competitor in the production of wheat. In this view he does not concur, and believes that to-

day India is second only to the United States in wheat-growing. Furthermore, wheat-growing in India is yet in its infancy, and further development depends principally upon the means of transportation to the seaboard. He fears that with the cheap native labor of India, and the constantly growing facilities for transportation the United States will find her a formidable competitor as a producer of wheat.

#### INDUSTRIAL NOTES.

The classes in industrial drawing at the Art School are being well patronized, and the benefits that are sure to accrue are incalculable. Heretofore the artisan has had no means at his command whereby he could improve his condition, or be taught how to make use of the artistic talents latent in his disposition. The Art School has opened to him the door by which he may attain to the highest results, and he has not been slow to take advantage of it. In all cases there is hardly likely to be found talent sufficient to raise above mediocrity, but every artisan will be improved in artistic skill who has the wisdom to take advantage of a course at the Art School.

The present has been an unusually busy season in the building line in Halifax. Dalhousie College and the new City Hall have been the largest buildings under construction. Many new and handsome private residences have been erected, and old premises have been rebuilt and enlarged.

Brick-layers, masons, stone cutters, plasterers and carpenters have been in demand, and have had steady work at good wages.

This is a healthy sign, as when mechanics and artisans find steady employment a large amount of cash is put in circulation, and retailers of all descriptions are generally benefited.

One notable improvement in the city is the general awakening to the fact that paint adds much to the external appearance of the place, and if the next season witnesses as many improvements in this respect as the past, the term "dingy city" will no longer apply to Halifax.

That Amherst is fully abreast of the times is made evident by the fact that its enterprising townsmen, in addition to putting in the electric light, are also erecting a central heating station. The Amherst light and heat company, composed entirely of Amherst men, has just been formed, and it is the intention of the company to light the town with the electric light, and heat stores, churches, hotels, &c., from a central station which Rhodes, Curry & Co. are now building. Robb & Sons are putting in engine and boiler, and S. G. Chambers, of Truro, has the contract for dynamo and wires. It is expected to have the light in operation in a few weeks. The idea of a central heating station from which buildings may be heated is an excellent one, and its application to Halifax would prove most beneficial. As the metropolitan city of the province Halifax should take the lead in introducing all improvements, but Amherst has evidently got the start in this instance.

During the last twelve years, a great change has taken place in England in the application of steam power for factories, especially in those devoted to the spinning and weaving of cotton. Formerly, a heavy and slow running pair of beam engines, transmitting their power through the factory by cumbersome gearing, was considered the acme of perfection. About thirty years ago, horizontal engines came more into use, partly on account of their first cost being less, and partly because it was imagined there would be greater immunity from expensive breakdowns. Opinion was much divided about the relative merits of beam and horizontal engines. It was observed, however, when money was no object, that the old beam engine carried the day. Now, the quick running engine has come to the front again, rendered indispensable by the substitution of rope driving for the old heavy gearing. It is only fair to say that the idea sprang from the mode of driving by belts, so much used by the Americans. The English took another step in front of the Americans by using ropes instead of belts. The advantages of rope driving were soon apparent in the vastly better turning of the machinery. This is especially felt in mills spinning fine numbers. The indicated horsepower to turn the same number of spindles is slightly greater with ropes than with gearing. This may be accounted for in more friction from the higher piston speed of the engines, and in the friction of the ropes as they leave the grooves. Cotton ropes from 1½ inches to 2½ inches answer the best.

A first-class job of engines to turn 1,200 indicated horse-power would be comprised in the following particulars: Boiler pressure, 100 lbs. per sq. inch. Triple expansion vertical engines with automatic cut-off motion applied to high-pressure valve. Ports and pipes large enough to enable not less than 99 lbs. of steam to be on the piston at the initial point of the stroke. The three cylinders, 25, 36 and 50 inches respectively, to be steam jacketed. Stroke, 4 feet. 75 revolutions, giving a piston speed of 600 feet per minute. Drum, 25 feet in diameter, to carry 25 2½ in. cotton ropes, running nearly 6,000 feet per minute. Crank shaft and pins to be hollow, made of Whitworth's fluid compressed steel. Particular attention to balancing the engines, which must be accurately tested. The steam would be supplied by 5 double-flued Lancashire boilers, containing 5 conical Galloway tubes in each flue. Each boiler fed by Proctor's mechanical stoker. Length of boilers 30 feet, and 8 feet in diameter, constructed of the best mild steel. Attached to these, would be a Green's Economizer, containing 460 pipes.

Long experience has taught users of steam power in England that no form of boiler comes half the good qualities possessed by a simple double-flued Lancashire boiler, supplemented by a good draught and a good economizer.



## RUSSIA IN CENTRAL ASIA.

The Russians have fairly established themselves on one of the plateaus of the Pamir, that greatest protuberance of the world, which the Chinese said a thousand years ago was midway between heaven and earth, and which the natives call "the roof of the world." Twenty years ago, says a writer in the *N. Y. Sun*, about all we know of the Pamir was contained in a single chapter of Marco Polo's travels. Polo said that the herdsmen on the Pamir made fences of the enormous horns of wild mountain sheep to enclose their cattle at night. The Russians have found these horns nearly five feet in length, and a man could not lift a pair of them. Polo asserted that on these lofty table lands he could not make his fire burn brightly or give out much heat, and the same phenomenon, due to the rarefaction in the air, has been observed by all recent Pamir travellers. He said these plains afforded the finest pasture in the world, and that a lean beast would fatten there in ten days. A recent writer says: "The grass of the Pamir is so rich that a sorry horse is here brought into good condition in less than twenty days." These plains are diversified by low ridges and here and there a lofty mountain with snow capped tops, rivalling the great summits of the Himalayas. But from the plain where the traveller sees them they do not appear to be higher than our Mount Washington, for they rest upon plateaus that are from 10,000 to 16,000 feet high, and whose mean elevation above the sea is more than twice that of the top of Mount Washington. This is the reason that the mountains of the Pamir and of its eastern extension that walls in Tibet on the north are not particularly impressive in appearance, though they are among the loftiest of the world. It is just below the loftiest of these Pamir plateaus, near Lake Sarakul, that the Russians are building cantonments for their troops and feeding their horses on the succulent grasses that Polo described. Why they have invaded these forbidden heights, where no crops can ripen, and no vegetation except grass flourishes, is a mystery that time will doubtless make clear. We only know that they are within 150 miles of the Indian frontier, and that almost at their feet is the Afghan state of Badakshan, which is more nearly allied in sympathy and interest to the Russian dependency of Bokhara than to England's protegee, the Ameer.

## MUSICAL ECHOES.

**POWELL.**—Miss Maud Powell, the young violinist who gave the first performance in this country of Gade's violin concerto at the Boston Music Hall October 26th, is a native of Illinois. She began the study of the violin at a very early age, and was afterward a pupil of Schradieck of Leipsic. She has made successful appearances at the Gewandhaus concerts and in London, as well as in the United States. Her success in the New York and Brooklyn Philharmonic concerts was decided.

**DEATH OF SIR GEORGE MACFARREN.**—London, November 1st.—The death of Sir George Alexander Macfarren, Professor of Music at Cambridge University and Principal of the Royal Academy of Music, was quite sudden and unexpected. He had been suffering from pneumonia, but was out as usual on Sunday. There was no cause for alarm, as everybody thought, until yesterday afternoon, when a sudden collapse ended in his demise.

It is not unlikely that Dr. Villers Stanford will be elected to fill the vacancy caused by the death of Macfarren as Professor of Music at Cambridge.

**NEW AND SUCCESSFUL OPERAS AND OPERETTAS.**—Philip Scharwonka, the well-known German composer, has finished a four-act opera entitled "Roland." The libretto has been adapted from the old "Roland Legend."

The unfinished opera of "The Three Pintos," left by Carl Maria von Weber, has been completed by Director Mahler, of Leipsic. Experts speak highly of the work, which will be produced at an early date by Conductor Haegemann, of Leipsic.

The use of the noun *concert*, as meaning a public musical entertainment, is, according to Webster's Unabridged, only a tertiary one. The word is purely Latin, consisting of *con*, together, and *certare*, to strive; meaning, therefore, simply a *striving together*. Alas! how appropriately this original signification might be applied nowadays to many and many an entertainment dignified with the title of *concert*. Verily, too often it is but a desperate striving together on the part of the alleged artists, resulting in the accomplishment of absolutely nothing that is good and ennobling, and provoking adverse criticism and perhaps open ridicule from the martyred audience! It is not of such occasions, however, that we shall make mention in this column; for the less said about them in print the better for the participants and for the community at large. The word *concert* is what philologists call a "pretty" or "neat" word, on account of its distinct derivation and the gradual development of its different meanings. Primarily it is defined as agreement, union, accordance, harmony—that is, in design or plan, or by mutual communication of opinions and views. From this it is apparent that the word originally had nothing to do with music. Then, secondarily, it comes to mean musical accordance or harmony; and finally, it is applied to a musical entertainment.

**BROOKLYN.**—It may be interesting to remark that in this city children of six years of age are being instructed in music by a kindergarten method which has the advantage of not being mechanical, and is, moreover, interesting to the child. The musical education of children is begun at an earlier age in Europe than here, and this system, which is the invention of Ruhoff, has been extensively taken up. The Grosehol Conservatory has adopted it, and, from all accounts, have been successful in its application.—*Brooklyn paper.*

## COMMERCIAL.

No important interruption to the general course of business has occurred since our last writing, though, as might be expected, the approach of the closing days of the year marks a diminution of the volume of trade transacted. It is agreeable, however, to note that, on the whole, the movement has been well sustained and that the markets may be reported as fairly satisfactory for the season. Prices have in general remained undisturbed. Collections have been fair, despite the fact that in some instances serious complaints are made. Our impression is that when accounts are made up the net results of the year's business will fully bear out earlier prognostications.

Several recent heavy failures that have occurred in the Western Provinces have created a feeling of uneasiness in a portion of the centres of trade in Canada, but their effect is minimized when it reaches this Province. Still, we cannot entirely escape the results, and although no important local trouble appears to be expected, failures, even at a distance, must have a certain influence on trade. The *Winnipeg Commercial* of December 5th says: "During the week there has been very little improvement in the tone of the city wholesale trade, and the report on the whole is no better. Intense cold weather created a demand for some winter wares, and caused a little flutter in some season goods lines, but from the same cause grain receipts have fallen off, or, at least, have not increased any, and the circulation of money throughout the country has been more limited than was anticipated; this has had a checking effect upon business generally, and even in the most staple branches wholesalers are not too well satisfied. In such the only improvement noted is, that buyers are getting more hurried in their demands, and want orders more promptly filled than for some time back. In lines dependent upon building and outdoor operations everything is about settled down to the quietness which reigns during the deal of winter, and only the work of collecting up for the season prevents the quiet roaching monotony. In some quarters there is a belief that December will bring quite a sorting trade in season lines, while in others stock-taking has already commenced, and the season is looked upon as over. A number of travellers have returned from first journeys with spring samples, and some have started out again. Buying for spring delivery has been freer than during any week since the season opened, and some travellers talk of doing nearly as much business in a two weeks flying trip now as they did during the whole month of November. Taking collections for the week, they have not been so liberal as they should be, and this is doubtless the keynote of any dissatisfaction that is expressed. If cash was moving more freely, both wholesalers and retail dealers would be more inclined to do business, and until the movement of grain to market increases very materially, there will be more or less of a check on business all round."

The following are the assignments and business changes in this Province during the past week:—Hunter & Boggs, grocers, Truro, dissolved, each partner continues individually; C. D. McDonald, *Nets*, Pictou, sold out to Pingo & Stewart; R. H. Edwards, hotel, Truro, succeeded by Casson & Learmont; C. Gates, Son & Co., manufacturers patent medicines, Middleton, dissolved.

**DRY GOODS.**—The general condition of the dry goods trade has undergone no real change. Stock-taking still occupies the attention of most merchants in this line, and, except in holiday goods and filling sorting-up orders, little is doing. As far as can be ascertained, stocks in hand here are not too large for probable requirements, though it is reported that a large number of Montreal and Toronto houses are carrying larger quantities of goods than the trade at their command warrants, and that they are endeavoring to force these goods through the Maritime Provinces at "cutting" prices. Drummers now out report only a moderate buying for future delivery.

**IRON, HARDWARE AND METALS.**—The iron and hardware market has continued to be fairly active for the season, with prices steady and firm. In Glasgow, warrants have ruled strong, and exhibit an advance of about 1s 1d., to 41s 11d. In Middlesborough, No. 3 foundry is reported at 31s 6d. Pig and finished iron here have been steady, and practically without change. The European metal markets continue to be under the speculative control of the French syndicate, which has been the determining factor in these markets for some time. The price of copper in London has been forced up £4 7s 6d., Chili bars being cabled at £70 2s 6d., and best selected at 268 10s. Tin showed some signs of weakness, and broke to £156, but soon recovered and rose to £165, which is the highest figure yet quoted. Heavy trading in copper is reported from New York on the general basis of 16c. to 16½c spot. To show our readers how the French syndicate is now manipulating the metal markets, we quote the following from the *New York Journal of Commerce*:—"The French syndicate's New York representative continues to buy copper freely. He is constantly upon the floor of the Exchange, and his every movement is eagerly watched by the other members. He is a very small man with quite a prominent cast of features, which are invariably seen through a cloud of tobacco smoke. He is an inveterate smoker, and can be found at any hour of the day surrounded by a crowd of metal brokers, nervously puffing upon a cigar and following in a small memorandum book the exchange quotations. Since the excitement on the metal market this man has got to be quite a prominent character down town. Some years ago, as a European speculator in metal, he acquired a fortune upon the London Exchange, but by an unfortunate movement he got on the wrong side of the market, and lost every penny of his savings. He came to this country without a dollar. He has always been looked upon as a shrewd, careful buyer, but engaged in no extensive operation—possibly for lack of funds—until he became quite recently the representative of the powerful French syndicate. Now there seems to be no limit to his purchases, and with thousands of dollars at his back and a



## SADDLE AND SABRE.

(Continued.)

XVI.

DEAREST FRIENDS "MAY" DIFFER.

It was not till the very last week of her London visit that Lettie received Slade's letter containing the news of Charlie's nomination, and it was only when she wrote to Kate Kynaston, proposing to call and say "Good-bye," that lady learnt the fact that in the event of success young Devereux was to be gazetted to Gilbert's regiment. If she had not been satisfied with Mr. Slade's interference in the matter before, her anger about it now was tolerably pronounced. She was not going to be out-manœuvred by a child of a country-girl like that, if she knew it; and she persistently regarded Gilbert as having fallen captive, metaphorically speaking, to her own spear. She was not likely to submit to having the spoils of the chase wrested from her in this fashion. Charlie in the same regiment, and naturally, at his sister's bidding, perpetually bringing Mr. Slade with him to North Leach! Had Mrs. Kynaston been on the Board of Examiners I would not have given much for Mr. Devereux's chance of passing, nor had she been Colonel of the regiment do I think much leave would have been accorded to him just at present. On one point that lady was more resolute than ever—that though he might escape from her thrall, Gilbert should never be husband to Lettie Devereux.

But outwardly her brow was as smooth as of yore, and her congratulations to Lettie on paper apparently warm and sincere. Women, when the quarrel is a *outrance*, know better than to betray themselves; they bide their time, but when that comes don't think they will spare their hand, or fail to send the steel home to the bitterest length. She turned over in her mind how this union might be prevented; there was plenty of time—it was a thing that might never come about, and even should she learn that the pair were engaged it was very possible, thought Mrs. Kynaston, to arrange a slip 'twixt that cup and lip. Marriages may be made in heaven, perhaps, but that they are frequently ruptured on earth, both in the egg and when full-grown, we have much demonstrations of, and how often woman's jealousy or man's frailty contributes to such sad ending, what philosopher shall determine? But I fancy the former has shattered as much matrimonial happiness as can be attributed to any enemy of Hymen.

Suddenly it flashed vaguely before Mrs. Kynaston's mind that this new *protégé* of her husband—Mr. Furzedon—might be a useful card in her hand in the game she contemplated playing. She had read that gentleman's character pretty correctly, considering the little she had seen of him. She knew that he was selfish, had a strong suspicion that he was niggardly, but she further knew for certain that his great ambition was to attain some social status in the great London world. He admired Miss Devereux—that was a fact patent to any one gifted with the power of perception—but Mr. Furzedon was not a man likely to marry, except deliberately, and in furtherance of the line he had chalked out for himself.

"It would not be such a hard thing," mused Mrs. Kynaston, "to make Furzedon anxious to marry Lettie Devereux. Her brother getting into a crack Dragoon regiment is one step towards it! Let Mr. Furzedon only be persuaded that Miss Devereux is an acknowledged beauty, whose face is a passport to fashion's portals, and he will be keen enough to woo her. He would prefer a wife with money, perhaps—with a handle to her name, undoubtedly—but he is far too shrewd a judge not to know that a man with no antecedents and only a moderate command of money cannot expect the pick of the matrimonial market. Yes," continued Mrs. Kynaston, still following up the same train of thought, "it is quite possible that Mr. Furzedon may be a very useful card to me in future. I don't like the man myself, nor do I suppose that Dick does either, for, to do him justice, although necessity compels him to know every electro-plated gentleman at times, poor old Dick thoroughly understands good form when he meets it. I usually obey my lord and master, and for once his wishes and mine conform. He has his reasons for wishing me to be civil to Mr. Furzedon; I do so have mine. That slightly underbred young man promises to be rather a tame cat about our establishment;" and then Mrs. Kynaston, glancing at the clock, muttered softly to herself, "Lettie, my dear, it is time you made your appearance. How pleased I shall be to see you! How sad I shall be that we are about to part! And how sad, my love, I am at the thought that I cannot bite you!"

She had not to wait long. A few minutes more and Miss Devereux was announced, and Mrs. Kynaston rose and received her with the greatest effusion.

"I'm rather late, I know," said Lettie, as she sank into an easy chair, "but there is always so much to do the last few days; people whom one has almost forgot have to be called on, and people whom you had hoped had forgot all about you suddenly turn up and pay visits of unwarrantable length and never-to-be-forgotten dreariness. I don't know how it is, but these latter people always circumvent the servants: your dearest friends may be turned away from the door, but, whatever the instructions, these people invariably at least gain the drawing room, and you are very lucky if they don't catch you in it."

"Yes," replied Mrs. Kynaston, gaily, "few people possess such a treasure as Staples. He was with the Major before I married. He is a little brusque in his manner, I grant, but he has almost an unerring instinct of whom to let in and whom to keep out. He has a capital memory, and the slightest hint suffices him. Dick always says, in joke, that there are times when Staples will say 'Not at home' to *him*, and that nothing but his latchkey makes admission to his own house a certainty. Undoubtedly

Staples is a very superior watchdog. As for the importunate creditor—don't look shocked, Lettie, half the West End of London are troubled in this wise—Staples recognises them, I verily believe, by their knock, let them play such salvo as they will upon our door; while the vagueness of his knowledge as to whether Major Kynaston is in town, or ever will be in town again, is simply unsurpassable."

"An invaluable man, Staples," rejoined Lettie. "I must consider myself fortunate to be in his good graces."

"Oh, yes; he knows you, and that you are one of the privileged, but I haven't congratulated you. I am so pleased about Charlie, and how very nice it is that he should have got into Mr. Slade's regiment. It will be especially nice for you, my dear!" continued Mrs. Kynaston, archly.

"Why so?" asked Lettie.

"Oh, I don't know," said Mrs. Kynaston, carelessly. "Still, it's always convenient to have one's brothers and admirers in the same bundle. When you want a few young men for a ball you will always be able to write to Charlie to come, and bring two or three brother officers with him. And if you haven't, after the first twelve months, taught him *whom* to bring, then you deserve to die an old maid."

"How can you say such things?" cried Lettie, hotly. "My brothers have always been accustomed to bring such friends as they like to North Leach, and it is not likely that Charlie, when he becomes a Dragoon, will renounce that privilege—why should he? and why should not one of those friends be Mr. Slade? He, at all events, has a strong claim on our hospitality, if only for the service he has just rendered us."

"Quite so, my dear," assented her companion. "Men have done more than that for the love of *les beaux yeux*, and received far less guerdon than, I prophesy, will be Mr. Slade's lot. Now don't get angry, Lettie, but, bear in mind, these soldiers are arrant flirts—they woo, and they ride away. Don't let your heart out of your keeping till the engagement ring is on your finger."

"What nonsense you are talking," rejoined Lettie, petulantly. "Mr. Slade has undeniably been very kind in this business to Charlie. I presume I may feel grateful to him without having the slightest ulterior thought?"

"Of course you may," rejoined Mrs. Kynaston, with a sarcastic little smile; "but you wouldn't be a woman if you hadn't one. What do you suppose made Mr. Slade take such interest in Charlie. Pooh! Lettie, don't juggle with facts; nor attempt to hoodwink a woman of the world like me. If it was not from admiration of yourself, I would simply know why did he trouble his head about Charlie?"

Lettie flushed, and felt very uncomfortable under the merciless raillery of her hostess. She most devoutly wished herself well out of Chester Street, and that she had never come to bid Mrs. Kynaston good-bye. She was quite conscious that there was a good deal of truth in what her hostess had said. She was not yet quite in love with Gilbert Slade; but she did not disguise from herself that she was in a very fair way to become so. And all these semi-jeering remarks of Mrs. Kynaston's stung like so many pi-pricks; but, sharp as the stab may be, no Indian brave ever stands torture with more assumed indifference than a woman in society endures the gibes of her sisters.

"I can hardly answer that question," Miss Devereux replied at length. "My experience, of course, does not go so far as yours by some years, but I have known people do kindly actions without seeking much gain for themselves. You know best; but don't you think it would be rather a dreary world if we never did our neighbor a good turn without calculation? Surely, Kate, you don't look to be paid in kind for every small assistance you may render your fellow-creatures in this world?"

"I usually am," replied that lady, with asperity. "'As we sow, so shall we reap,' so say the Scriptures—a truth that knowledge of the world tells me may be read in very different lights. The kindnesses you have sown generally produce but a crop of ingratitude. Be a good friend to a man, and he drops you for the first face that catches his fancy; be a good friend to a woman, and she devotes every art she possesses to steal from you your lover or your husband. Don't look so 'mazed,' Lettie! You were kind enough to remind me of my many years' additional experience, and that is the outcome of them."

If Miss Devereux was young, she was no fool; she was vaguely conscious that some jealousy concerning Gilbert Slade was at the bottom of Mrs. Kynaston's bitterness; but she had never grasped, nor was it likely she ever would, that that lady had considered the Hussar her own peculiar property, and, as has been said before, this was a conclusion on Mrs. Kynaston's part that circumstances by no means warranted.

There is no helping these things, men go on telling stories till they arrive at the belief that they were *bona fide* the heroes of them. Men regard property that may come to them very often as property that must come to them, and eventually as property that actually belongs to them. When the holder dies, and his will announces that the late proprietor has taken a different view of things, such men are simply crushed with a sense of injustice, and that they have been the victims of heartless robbery.

"I don't know what makes you speak so bitterly to-day, but I suppose you are in low spirits, something has gone wrong, perhaps, and then, we all know, life looks none so rosy. I can't plead guilty to knowing much about that sort of thing; but even a schoolgirl has occasional fits of depression; her music gets the best of her, or she's balked in some expected pleasure. I thought you would be so glad to hear of Charlie's good fortune."

"So I am, of course; haven't I told you so? And how nice you will find it having him in a crack Hussar regiment."

Miss Devereux did not reply immediately—there is more than one way of offering congratulations, and Lettie was quite conscious that there was a flavor of hyssop about those of Mrs. Kynaston. "Well, good-bye," she





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**Furs, Furs, Furs.**

**COLEMAN & CO.**

Have completed their importation of

English and Canadian Furs.

Ladies' Alaska Seal Jackets,  
(London Dye.)

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Jackets.

Capes, Collars and Muffs in  
fashionable furs

Long Boas, in Bear, Blue Fox,  
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Fur Trimmings, Gloves, Mitts  
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Silk and Cashmere Dolmans,  
Fur Lined.

Children's Plush Jackets, Fur  
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Children's Furs of every de-  
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—ALSO—

Gentlemen's Fur Capes, Gloves,  
Collars and Coats, Robes, &c.

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AT

143 Granville Street.



OFFICE OF COMMISSIONER OF PUBLIC  
WORKS AND MINES.

**CHARITIES DEPARTMENT.**

**Tenders for Groceries and  
Meat.**

TENDERS will be received at this office  
until noon on WEDNESDAY, 21st INST.,  
for the supply of GROCERIES for Hospital  
for Insane and Victoria General Hospital for  
one year from 1st January, 1888.

Tenders will also be received same day and  
hour, for supply of MEAT for same institu-  
tions for ensuing 12 months.

Tenders to be in duplicate, sealed, marked  
on outside Tender for Groceries (or Meat),  
and addressed Hon. Commissioner of Public  
Works and Mines.

Forms of Tender and any further informa-  
tion required may be obtained on application  
at this office.

The lowest or any Tender will not neces-  
sarily be accepted.

By order,  
R. T. MURRAY,  
Secretary.

**FELIX GOURDEAU,**

QUEBEC,

**TANNER & CURRIER,**

Hides, Leather & Findings.

Always open to Buy any quantity of Hides  
and Slaughter Sole Leather. Correspondence  
solicited.

**WM. J. HAMES,**

Corner Argyle and Sackville Sts.

HALIFAX.

DEALER IN

**Pork, Butter, &c.**

N. B.—Hams, Bacon and  
Sausages a Specialty.

Orders from the Country promptly filled.

**MINING.**

In accordance with a resolution passed at the last meeting of the Nova Scotia Gold-Miners' Association the constitution and by-laws have been engrossed and now lies in THE CRITIC office where parties qualified for membership will please call and enroll their names.

The first annual meeting will be held on February 3rd, 1888, when the election of regular officers for the year will take place, and when the dues of members become due and payable.

The next monthly meeting of the Association will be held at the Halifax Hotel on January 3rd next, 1888.

L. L. WADSWORTH,  
J. M. REID,  
JOHN ANDERSON,  
T. N. BAKER,  
JOHN MCGUIRE,  
Committee on membership.

NOVA SCOTIA GOLD MINES.—Gold-mining in Nova Scotia is now being conducted on the most economical basis, and the result is that very few failures have to be recorded.

In all cases where failures have occurred the cause may be traced either to carelessness in purchasing in the first instance, or to bad management. In some cases both causes were combined, and any kind of business would have been ruined if purchased and managed in the same manner. Cheap labor, abundant fuel, good water-power, accessibility of mining camps, and numerous other reasons, combined with the great value of our gold districts, make gold-mining one of the most important industries of the Province. Outside capitalists have in many instances invested heavily in our gold mines, and their success has been so great that they are even now preparing to invest on a still more extensive scale, and the coming year will almost certainly witness a large increase in the capital to develop our gold fields.

The majority of the capitalists interested in our gold mines are perfectly contented with the titles now given by the Government, but there is general dissatisfaction with the present Forfeiture Act, which is virtually inoperative. The owner of areas which have not been worked, upon receiving notice of forfeiture, has simply to surrender his old leases and immediately take out new ones, when the forfeiture proceedings are annulled.

Placing the responsibility of forfeiting areas on outside parties, instead of giving the Government the power to forfeit all areas on which the yearly returns for labor have not been made, is decidedly an error. The Province is in reality the heaviest loser, as thousands of areas are now held by speculators and yield no royalty, which in the hands of bona fide miners would undoubtedly return a large revenue.

A number of remedies have been proposed, but the one which seems to receive the sanction of practical mining men, and which should largely increase the Provincial revenues, is simple and most practicable. It is to do away with royalties altogether, and instead to charge a yearly rental on all areas held under lease. Non-payment of the yearly rental would at once forfeit the areas, and speculators would soon grow tired of paying rental on unworked areas, which would thus fall into the hands of active miners. Companies, by paying thirty or forty years rental in advance, could secure their properties for that length of time, and if from any cause they should be obliged to discontinue working for a time they would not be harassed by the uncertainties of the present Act.

Active mining should be encouraged, but under the Act, as it is at present, the reverse is the case. The men who invest their capital in opening up and working mines, have, the moment their properties become gold producers, to pay over a share of their profits to the Province in the shape of royalties. Speculators owning adjoining areas which they will not work, may have the value of their properties so enhanced by the active work of their neighbors, that they may be able to sell out and clear a fortune. Beyond the price of their leases, they pay nothing into the Government. This is most unfair to the active miner, and the injustice would be entirely avoided by the introduction of the rental system.

Before recommending such a radical change to the Government, it would be well to have the measure discussed in all its bearings, and the Nova Scotia Gold-Miners' Association might find in this question abundant material for debate.

Bright as are the prospects in gold-mining, it must be remembered that it takes very little to shake confidence in gold mines, and it therefore behooves all miners who have the true interests of the Province at heart, to discountenance by all means in their power attempts to palm off worthless mines on too confiding capitalists.

Capital is necessary in the development of our gold mines, and it has to be diverted in this direction against the strong opposition of the numerous gold-producing countries which are now found in all parts of the world. All these have active agents in the great centres of capital, and any reports detrimental to our gold mines are seized upon by them, and circulated to the discredit of Nova Scotian gold mines. Danger does not lie alone with speculative sharks and dishonest spiddie-men, but also from those honest, but misguided individuals, who imagine themselves "Heaven-born miners," and in their ignorance believe that a few rich specimens indicate a valuable gold mine. Their enthusiasm is contagious, and they often succeed in obtaining capital, which is generally squandered in the most foolish manner possible.

We have now a large number of thoroughly posted mining engineers and managers of gold mines in the Province, and capitalists would do well to consult them before purchasing gold-mining areas.

**MINING.—Continued.**

**CARLETON.**—Mining is being vigorously pushed in this district, and we hope, in our next issue, to have a full report from our most reliable correspondent, who in the past has kept us so well posted.

**GOLD RIVER DISTRICT.**—Prospecting is being successfully carried out in this district, and we hear frequent reports of valuable new leads being opened up. Messrs. Gammon, Fulton & Foster, and the Bridgewater Company, are the principal parties at present pushing operations.

**NEW DISTRICT.**—Mr. O'Brien has opened up a number of promising leads in a new district near Noel, Hauts Co. We have seen some specimens which were well filled with galena, &c., and we trust that he has opened up a new and valuable gold-mining district.

**MOOSELAND.**—Both Mr. H. G. Stomshorn and J. H. Townsend are prospecting in this district. Mr. Stomshorn has in Mr. Murphy one of the ablest prospectors in Nova Scotia. With a perseverance worthy of all commendation, they have kept at work in spite of the great depth of the surface, and have already cut some good leads. What they are after is only known to themselves, and we suppose will remain a secret until they have found a veritable bonanza. We have seen some very handsome specimens from the leads already cut.

The following are the complete official returns received at the Mines Office for the month of November:—

District.	Mill.	Tons Crushed.	Oz. Gold.
Gold River.....	Gold River G. M. Co.'s.....	299	38½
East Rawdon .....	Rawdon United Co.'s.....	390	179
" .....	John Nicholls.....	60	59
Cariboo.....	Moose River G. M. Co.'s.....	214½	78
Stormont.....	Tributers.....	35	7½
Uniacke.....	John Nicholls.....	50	11½
Sherbrooke.....	Goldenville.....	205	48
" .....	Miners.....	200	71
" .....	Pactolus.....	156	23½
Lake Catcha.....	Oxford.....	61½	191½
Whiteburn.....	Cushing G. M. Co.'s.....	27	27½
Salmon River.....	Dufferin.....	825	321

**KEMPTVILLE GOLD DISTRICT.**—The Cowan Mining Company have secured the services of William Skerry as amalgamator, and we may now expect that this fine mine is once more to take its place amongst the gold-producers of the Province.

**ISAACS HARBOR.**—Mr. H. K. Fisher is now manager of the Gallagher mine, and is pushing operations with most encouraging results.

**WINE HARBOR.**—A short time back it was reported that the Hon. Mr. Justice Henry had again opened up his gold mine in this district. In the past, the mine yielded largely, and we trust that the new work will open up other pay streaks.

The past season does not seem to have proved prolific in new finds, but mining has been vigorously pushed in all the old districts, and some temporarily abandoned workings have been opened up with very fair prospects.

George F. Kunz, of New York, writes to *Science* of the finding of a real diamond of considerable value, on a farm near Dysartville, McDowell county, N. C., in the summer of 1886, by a twelve-year old son of Grayson Christie. He picked it up and carried it home, where it lay on the shelf two weeks before he gave it another thought. It was then taken to the village grocer's, John Laughridge, where various opinions were passed upon it, until at last the conclusion that it was a diamond was reached. It was then sent to Messrs. Tiffany & Co for valuation. It is quite perfect, but not quite pure white, having a faint grayish yellow tint. This stone being more than an average find, Mr. Kunz thought it would be of interest to visit the locality, and while there in June, 1887, he fully authenticated all the facts of the finding. Dysartville is sixteen and one-half miles from Morgantown, twelve from Marion, eight miles from Bridgewater, and four from Capt. J. C. Mill's gold-mine. A number of supposed diamonds, which proved to be zircon or smoky quartz, have been found here before. No trace of garnet, peridot, or any of the associations of the diamond were found near the spot. This diamond must therefore have been transported in decomposing soil from some higher ground in the vicinity, during a heavy freshet. Its value as a gem, not counting any value its American origin may attach to it, would be from about one hundred to one hundred and fifty dollars.

**A NEW METAL INDUSTRY.**—Kuhlou's say that in Germany gold, platinum, and silver strips are welded, after the mosaic style, upon a metal ground, prepared by the incandescent process, then compressed by means of powerful presses, and finally elongated by rolling into long sheets or strips. These sheets, which are now of all colors—yellow, red, green, white, gray, and black—are made into scarfs and neckties, which, being indestructible, are considered of some practical worth. This novelty, it appears, has found great acceptance abroad, numerous orders for export having been received by the manufacturers, who are chiefly in the Pforzheim and Baden districts.

**Iron Property For Sale,**

SITUATED IN

**MARGARETSVILLE, ANNAPOLIS CO., N. S.**

Consisting of Fourteen Leases, covering over Two Thousand Acres, through which the Iron Deposits have been traced.

The iron belongs to the owners of the soil, from whom leases have been obtained, extending over a period of sixty-five years. The deposit is of high grade magnetic or specular iron ore, which is present in unlimited quantities. From a shaft sunk 30 feet in depth on the range, 40 tons of ore were raised, which proved of the most superior quality.

Abundance of good timber and wood are at hand, and the celebrated Spring Hill and Styles coal mining properties are only a short distance away. There is a gradual descent from the farthest extent of the property down to a commodious shipping wharf, from which the ore may be shipped the year round.

Purchasers will be furnished with full particulars on application at

**The Critic Office, 161 Hollis St., Halifax.**

**Montreal Show Case Co.**

MANUFACTURERS OF

Nickel, Silver, Walnut, Cherry, Ebony and Mahogany Show Cases, Jewellers', Druggist's, Bar, Store and Office Fittings.

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**JAMES A. DOUGLAS, Gen. Agent,**

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**Halifax Hotel,**

HALIFAX, N. S.

**THE LARGEST & MOST COMPLETE HOTEL IN THE LOWER PROVINCES.**

Has been lately fitted with all modern improvements, making it one of the Leading Hotels in Canada.

**H. HESSLEIN & SONS, PROPS.**

**JOHN S. JONES,**

Manufacturers' Agent, Importer & Dealer in English and American Square and Upright Pianofortes, Church & Parlor Organs, Piano Stools, Sheet Music, Music Books, Band Instruments, Fittings, &c., General Musical Merchandize  
57 GRANVILLE ST., CORNER SACKVILLE ST., HALIFAX, NOVA SCOTIA.

MONTREAL, 172 D'ALOUPE ST. TORONTO, 253 TO 251 KING ST. BALTIMORE, WINDNIPEG, 220 SOUTH HOWARD ST. 11 McWILLIAM ST. E.

**Maritime Lead & Saw Works.**

**JAMES ROBERTSON,**

Iron, Steel and General Metal Merchant and Manufacturer.

Robertson's New Building, Cor. Mill and Union Streets, Works and Iron Yard—Cor. Sheffield and Charlotte Streets,

ST. JOHN, N. B.



**POST OFFICE,**

HALIFAX, N. S., 26th November, 1887.

**NOTICE.**

On and after MONDAY next, 28th instant, mails will close at this office daily as follows: For the Northern and Eastern counties of Nova Scotia, Cape Breton, New Brunswick, and the United States, at 6.45 o'clock a.m. For the Upper Provinces: and second mails for the United States, New Brunswick and principal offices on the line of the Intercolonial railway at 1.25 o'clock p.m. Second mails for Bedford, Shubenacadie and Truro at 4.20 o'clock p.m.

The mail for the UNITED KINGDOM, per Canadian packet, at this port, will close every SATURDAY at 12 o'clock, noon.  
H. W. BLACKADAR, Postmaster.

**HEADQUARTERS**

—FOR—

**GOLD MINING SUPPLIES.**

**H. H. FULLER & CO.**

45 to 49 Upper Water Street, HALIFAX, N. S.

**METALS, MILL, MINING,**

—AND—

**FISHING SUPPLIES**

—AND—

**GENERAL HARDWARE.**

## HOME AND FARM.

This department of THE CRITIC is devoted exclusively to the interests of the Farmers in the Maritime Provinces. Contributions upon Agricultural topics, or that in any way relate to Farm life, are cordially invited. Newsy notes of Farmers' gatherings or Grange meetings will be promptly inserted. Farmers' wives and daughters should make this department in THE CRITIC a medium for the exchange of ideas on such matters as more directly affect them.

We are much obliged to Mr. Naylor, Secretary to the Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals, for his prompt and courteous information that the dehorning of cattle—to which we have given some attention in answer to queries, as a somewhat speculative idea, chiefly raised in the United States—would in this Province render the operator liable to a fine of \$50, or 3 months, at the option of the magistrate. We have not space to further notice the matter in this issue, but will comply with Mr. Naylor's request next week, and in the meantime would refer Mr. Naylor back to our issue of the 2nd instant.

A word of, we venture to think, timely caution about potatoes this year. It will, very likely, be quite worth while to sort all sound potatoes, however small, pretty closely before feeding them to the pigs or cattle. Whether large or small seed is the better, may be an open question, but it is certain that small potatoes are better, even to plant, than none, and, with the great sales going on, large ones will be scarce enough next spring.

The *New England Farmer* says:—"The ant is thought to be an enemy of many injurious insects, particularly plant lice, which are so often destructive to the foliage of apple trees."

*Editor Critic.*—Will you please state in your "Home and Farm" column what varieties of raspberries, gooseberries and currants would be most suitable for planting in King's County; where the bushes can be obtained, and the price?  
SUBSCRIBER.

In order to afford you fuller information than we possessed at the moment, we communicated with W. McNeil, Esq., President of the "Small Fruit Growers' Association of the Annapolis Valley," to whom we are indebted for the following particulars.

Mr. McNeil speaks of three varieties of red raspberries. 1.—The "Turner"—a very hardy plant which will grow in any exposure, is very productive, and the fruit of an excellent strawberry-like flavor, but unless it receives good and careful culture is small. It is also soft and not fitted for long transport. It throws out suckers rapidly, and requires attention to keep it from overrunning the ground. It immediately succeeds strawberries.

2. The "Franconia," said not to be very hardy, but Mr. McNeil considers it a most profitable market variety, and has not found it winter-kill beyond a few inches of the tips, which should be nipped off in the spring, when the laterals will fill up the rows. Its habit of growth is slender. If for hill culture, two or more plants should be set together; if in hedge fashion, the plants should be 15 or 18 inches apart, and it does not "sucker" more than enough to nourish the original plants.

The fruit is very large and firm, and it is a good shipper. A crate sent to Boston last summer arrived in fair condition. The flavor is not high, but it is very productive, and continues bearing a long time. It follows the "Turner," and begins when that variety is past.

3. The "Cuthbert," or "Queen of the market," a new variety which seems to possess all the excellencies claimed for it, viz., a vigorous growth, abundant product, and large, firm, fruit of good flavor. It makes as much plant in one year as the Franconia will in two. Its habit of growth is like that of the "Turner."

The stalks of the "Turner" are dark red, and thornless. The "Cuthbert" is lighter in color, with numerous fine spines.

Gooseberries are not a success in every locality. Mr. McNeil's opinion agrees with our own, that they grow best near the sea. We remember that, many years ago, magnificent gooseberries used to grow in the gardens in Halifax Dockyard, and in the old country Scotch gooseberries used to be famous. At all events cool, moist situations are desirable, in others the fruit is liable to mildew in hot weather. The "Downing" is a vigorous grower, and has not as yet shown mildew when it has been tried. Smith's improved "Rupert," and Brown's "Seedings," have never been known to mildew. The latter is very large and productive. It originated in P. E. Island.

The "Gregg" does well generally. It has a large, firm, and somewhat late fruit. It has not hitherto sold particularly well in the market, but is yet highly spoken of for domestic use.

As regards currants, "Fay's Prolific" is very favorably mentioned. It is very productive, and of fine flavor, and Mr. McNeil considers them the best he has tried. In his article on "The Small Fruit Industry" in our "Exhibition Number," Mr. McN. goes so far as to say that it is "fully five times as prolific as any other kind we raise."

"White Grape" is very productive, and of good flavor. Mr. McNeil adds, "if the color is not an objection." The white currant being distinctly the most delicate flavored, as well the most graceful and beautiful in appearance of the currant tribe, it seems singular to us that such an objection should occur to any one. It is, of course, not a fruit for preserving, but for eating it is most grateful, and we have tasted in England a most delicate and delicious wine made from it—a beverage which would hardly shock the sensibilities of the most rabid prohibitionist.

In black currants, Lee's "Balafre," and the "Black Champion," are mentioned both with commendation, but the latter is quoted as the "best

variety yet introduced," and it should be noted that though the black currant is very productive, the demand has never been supplied. As a jam or jolly, it is, for some purposes, unique in value—for affections of the throat and coughs, for instance.

Rochester, N. Y., is a headquarters for all sorts of plants, fruits and flowers, and Mr. McNeil gives the name of Mr. J. P. Rupert, of that city, as a nursery-man, in dealing with whom he has received every satisfaction, and with whom he would recommend communication.

The following prices are quoted:—

## RASPBERRIES.

Turner,	per 100.....	\$ 3 00
"	" 1000.....	15 00
Cuthbert,	" 100.....	5 00
"	" 1000.....	30 00
Franconia,	" 100.....	5 00

## CURRANTS.

Fay's (1 yr. plants) per doz.....	\$ 2 50
" " 100.....	15 00
Lee's, " doz.....	1 50
Black Currants, " ".....	2 50

We should recommend you to communicate with Mr. McNeil in the first place. His address is, Melvern Square, Annapolis Co.

It is quite worth while in the connection of "Small Fruits," to draw attention to the following paragraph, which appeared in Mr. McNeil's contribution to our "Exhibition Number," before referred to:—

CRANBERRIES.—Our facilities for the production of cranberries are unsurpassed. Thousands of acres of suitable land in all parts of the Province are lying unimproved, which would yield rich returns to those engaged in the cultivation of this excellent fruit. Our crop the past season has been at the rate of one to two hundred bushels per acre, worth from two to three dollars (\$s. to 12s.) per bushel, being one of the most profitable fruits grown.

## OUR COSY CORNER.

Kate Upton Clark, in the *Congregationalist*, so forcibly reminds householders of the necessity of *marking*, that we cannot do better than to quote her words:

"Too much can hardly be said of its helpfulness towards keeping a house and its contents in order. First, do not on any account omit to mark plainly all the sheets, pillow-cases, towels, napkins, table-cloths and white counterpanes in your establishment. In the country this may not seem so essential as in the city, but it will be found a saving in the end anywhere. Somehow things do disappear faster when they are not marked than when they are. There is no need of accusing people of dishonesty in order to account for this. There are many ways in which articles may be 'mistaken' for one's own which are not one's own.

Second, mark all of your own personal wardrobe which has to be washed. If this were invariably done, a great deal of property would be saved to owners, and a great deal of trouble would be spared those who 'sort out' the clean pieces. For the sake of saving trouble to others, if for no other reason, all of one's handkerchiefs, collars and underclothing should be plainly and permanently marked. A bottle of indelible ink is very cheap, a clean pen still cheaper, and a bright, sunny day, or a hot flat-iron, will easily complete the business. Always keep on hand a stick of linen tape, or a part of one, written over its whole length with your name, or the names of your family, ready to be cut off and sewed on to stockings and such other articles as do not afford a good surface on which to mark directly."

A strong, good sized table is almost a necessity in the cellar. Jars that are too heavy to be lifted on and off shelves may be set on the table. Many cellars are sometimes infested with ants and other bugs. One way to keep them from crawling over the jars is to take the tin-cans in which peaches or tomatoes came, set the legs of the table in the cans, and fill them half full of water.

To remove grease from silk, take a lump of magnesia and rub it well over the spot; let it dry, then brush the powder off, and the spot will disappear; or take a visiting-card and separate it, and rub the spot with the internal part, and it will disappear without taking the gloss off the silk.

Flannel turned yellow may be whitened by soaking for a time in lather made of a quarter of a pound of soft soap, two tablespoonfuls of borax and two of ammonia; dissolve in five or six gallons of hot water, rinse well.

To extinguish the flames from kerosene, use flour profusely upon them.

To clean a spice-mill, grind a handful of raw rice through it.

SOME OF THE NOVELTIES.—A book-cover of dull brocade, with straps of gold braid, imparting a mediæval air to the volume inclosed in it.

A *mauchair* of pale-green plush nearly a yard long to be placed on the chifonier and form a safe repository for veils, gloves and other little otocleras.

A deep fringe of gold coins to fall over the arm from the shoulder when sleeves are omitted.

A gold belt made of sequins or braid to be worn with a white gown.

## RELIGIOUS.

## CHURCH OF ENGLAND.

The resignation of Rev. F. H. Murray, Rector of St. Luke's, has taken the community by surprise, as it was not generally known that his health was failing. It will be remembered that Mr. Murray sustained a serious injury at the burning of the poor house some five years ago, by inhaling heated air and smoke, from which he has never thoroughly recovered. It is to be sincerely hoped that the change to a warmer climate may effectually restore him to his former activity. The loss of his energy and enthusiasm will be much felt in the Diocese.

The Revs. T. C. Mellor and F. Woolcott will present themselves for admission to the Holy Order of Priests, and Messrs. A. T. Tucker, A. Slipper and F. Mellor to the Diaconate, at the Advent ordination to be held in St. Luke's Cathedral on Sunday morning next by his Lordship the Conductor Bishop of Fredericton.

The Sacramental Rite of confirmation will be administered by the same Bishop in St. George's church on Sunday evening.

The Church in Scotland is increasing at a faster rate than the population. Since 1801 the population has increased two and a-half times; the Church six-fold. Since 1881 her clergy have increased by sixty-seven.

The question of the extension of the Episcopate in England is receiving much attention at the present time, the Bishop of Gloucester and Bristol having devoted a portion of his late charge to its discussion.

## PRESBYTERIAN.

At the communion lately held in Erskine church, Montreal, forty-two names were added to the membership roll. Rev. Mr. Jordan was inducted into the charge of the congregation less than three years ago, and since that time about 250 have been received into the church.

Mr. Donald McLean, a licentiate of the presbytery of Glengarry, Ont., was ordained and inducted into the pastorate of the Presbyterian church at Earlton.

The presbytery of Halifax will meet on the 27th inst. in St. Andrew's church, to induct the Rev. D. M. Gordon.

In the Presbyterian Church in Ireland there are 620 ordained ministers, 555 congregations, 30 assistant ministers, and 56 licentiates. The General Assembly represents a Presbyterian population of 420,000.

Dr. Francis L. Patton, the new President of Princeton College, is a worthy successor to the Rev. Dr. McCosh. He is in the forty-fourth year, and a native of Bermuda. After attending a course at University College, Toronto, he attended at Princeton Seminary, and graduated in 1865. His first pastorate was in New York, and was afterwards pastor of prominent churches in Brooklyn and Chicago. In 1873 he became editor of the *Interior*, and held that position till 1876. During that time and up to 1881 he was a professor in McCormick Seminary. He became Moderator of the General Assembly in 1878, and accepted a professorship in Princeton Seminary in 1881.

## METHODIST.

The centenary of the organization of the African Methodist Episcopal Church has just been celebrated in all the churches of that denomination in the United States. It has now 2,500 travelling preachers, 6,300 local preachers, 3,000 church edifices, and a membership of 500,000. Connected with it is a publication department, and a quarterly magazine.

Rev. F. H. W. Picklee, of Kaye St. church, will in all likelihood remove to Portland, N. B., at the termination of his pastorate here, he having accepted an invitation from the church at that place, subject to the consent of the transfer committee.

Rev. R. S. Ackman, of Point de Bute, N. B., will become pastor of Kaye St. church after next Conference.

Two ladies—Miss Leake, of Parrsboro', and Miss Morgan, of Brantford, Ont.—have been sent out as missionaries by the Woman's Missionary Society, the former going to Victoria, B. C., to take charge of a Home for Chinese girls, and the latter to teach a girls' school in Tokio, Japan.

Bishop Taylor, the great Methodist missionary, has reached the goal in the depths of Africa toward which he has long been struggling. Before his pioneer band of missionaries started the Bishop declared his intention to plant stations among the tribes along the Upper Kassa and its tributaries, and he has lately succeeded.

## BAPTIST.

Rev. R. M. Hunt, of St. Stephen, N. B., has accepted the call extended to him some weeks ago by a Baptist church at Jamaica Plains, Mass. It is to be regretted that so many of the able young ministers of the denomination are leaving the provinces.

The Baptist church at Carleton, N. B., have secured the Rev. George Howard as pastor.

On Tuesday last the ladies of the First Baptist church held a sale of fancy articles and refreshments at Spring Garden Hall, which was elaborately decorated for the occasion. During the afternoon and evening a large number attended, and purchased articles suitable for the approaching season.

Ex Congressman Thos. B. Peattie, a member of the First Baptist church at Newark, N. J., has made a gift of \$75,000 to build a new edifice, and has also contributed \$40,000, the value of the lot on which the church is to be built.

Mr. Spurgeon has stated that at the close of the present year he shall have preached two thousand sermons.



J. R. FOSTER,

MONCTON, N. B.

Importer and Breeder of

Thoroughbred Holstein-Friesian &amp; Jersey Cattle.

REGISTERED BERKSHIRE SWINE.

Proprietor of Moncton Steam Flouring Mill

Manufacturing Flour, Corn Meal, Horse, Cow and Stock Feed, &amp;c.

RHODES, CURRY &amp; CO.

Amherst, Nova Scotia,

MANUFACTURERS &amp; BUILDERS

1,000,000 Feet Lumber kept in stock.

Doors, Sashes, Blinds, Wood Mantels,  
MOULDINGS, ETC.Walnut, Cherry, Ash, Birch, HOUSE FINISH.  
Beech, Pine and Whitewood

"Cabinet Trim Finish" for Dwellings, Drug Stores, Offices, etc.

SCHOOL, OFFICE, CHURCH AND HOUSE FURNITURE, etc.

BRICKS, LIME, CEMENT, CALCINED PLASTER, etc.,

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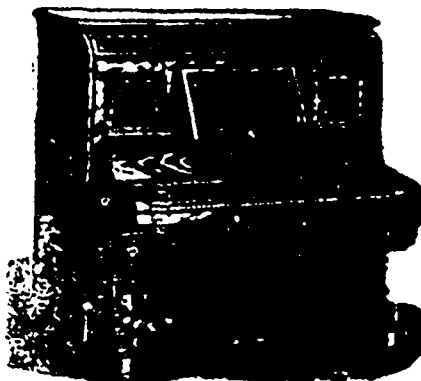
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