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THE CRITIC.

The Welfare of the People is the Highest Law.

50 PER ANNUM.
(SINGLE COPY 3 CTS.)

HALIFAX, N. S., FEBRUARY 12, 1886.

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EDITORIAL NOTES.

The crown jewels of France are to be sold, and the proceeds used as a fund to assist aged laborers. Their value is said to be \$40,000,000. Rubies, pearls and diamonds, are not counted as legitimate State assets under a Republican form of Government.

Uncle Sam pays out \$5,500,000 annually to clothe and feed his Indian wards. Some years ago he paid a larger sum to shoot them down. The dead Indian may be the only good Indian, but the peace policy pays in the long run.

What would the United States be to day, were it not for its railway system? Without railways, the immense western prairies would still be the home of the Indian and the buffalo. A country that adds 3,112 miles of rail to its system in 1885, and has an aggregate mileage of 128,500, is keeping well abreast of the times.

Civilization advances but slowly in the sunny isles of Oceania. The predilection of their inhabitants for roast missionary is well known, but just at the time when we were led to believe that cannibalism had been stamped out, there comes to us a report from Borneo, that at a great native festival monkeys were served up whole. Such aping cannibals should not be tolerated.

The illiterate voting population of the United States has assumed such enormous proportions since the adoption of manhood suffrage, that politicians are trying to devise special measures to reduce the amount of illiteracy in the country. There are 1,869,245 illiterate voters in the States, of whom over a million are colored. In some parts of Britain, too, the amount of illiteracy among the voting population is alarming. In Donegal, Ireland, at the late elections, five-sixth of the voters could not read the ballots, and were at the mercy of the returning officers. Yet the streamlet of their political influence trickles into the legislation of Britain, and may have its share in deciding the destinies of the greatest nation on earth.

In this age, speculators are allowed to ride rough-shod over the people. The ready command of large capital being not unfrequently used to increase the cost of the necessaries of life. The capitalists of New York and Chicago have combined for the purpose of purchasing all the wheat now to be obtained in the West. Thus they will hold until the price has advanced sufficiently to recoup them handsomely for their outlay. Fortunately for the bread-eaters of the United States, the supply of wheat from Canada, India, and Australia, is steadily increasing, and it is probable that the days of corners in wheat are numbered. The aggregate wealth of the people is never increased by the speculative enterprises of individuals.

A tourist who wrote from Cape Breton last summer to the *Chicago Inter-Ocean*, thus referred to the "country people" of the Island—"I find them remarkably free from dishonesty, fraud and hypocrisy, and from other such devices of civilization." Yes, they are without other devices of civilization; the men in whose hands is the government of the Island have hitherto carefully protected it from asylums, railways, and such other devices of civilization.

We have been told that in some of the Halifax Churches single sittings may be purchased for the modest sum of twelve dollars per annum—the cost of an entire pew for the same time being fifty-two dollars. It may be necessary to raise money to pay the minister his stipend, and to defray other expenses in connection with a church, but we fail to see why this could not be done were the plan of free sittings adopted. The selling and letting of seats in the house of God is as unscriptural as it is unchristian, and should be condemned by both pastor and people.

A bill to extend the Franchise in Parliamentary elections to women has been introduced into the Legislature of Ontario. At the late municipal elections in that Province, a large number of women voted, without, as far as can be ascertained, entailing any of the domestic and social evils at one time believed to be inseparable from the exercise of the Franchise by women. True, party feeling is not so strong in municipal as in parliamentary contests, and to the latter the objections commonly urged mainly apply. In some parts of the world, at least, time will decide.

St. Valentine's Day, with all its sentimental and romantic associations, is again approaching. It is said the observance of this day is due to the fact, that on or about the 14th day of February, the birds in southern climes choose their mates for the ensuing year. The custom of exchanging gifts at this season has degenerated of late years, and the privileges of St. Valentine's now only serve to license ill-bred people to annoy and wound the feelings of their neighbors. The modern pictorial valentines, such as displayed in many shop-windows, are a disgrace to our civilization, and a reproach to our christianity.

The author of "Underground Russia," and "Russia under the Czars," has been interviewed at his residence, i. e. London, by an enterprising representative of a New York Journal. "The Russian people," said Mr. Stepmark, "are bound hand and foot. The better classes desire to secure responsible government. The outgrowth of this desire is Nihilism, and Nihilism will, sooner or later, make itself felt. Every lover of liberty must sympathise with the efforts now being made to relieve the Russian people from their triple yoke of bondage."

Halifaxians displayed no enthusiasm over the proposed winter carnival; but among the more enterprising citizens, there is a strong conviction that if the proposition had been cordially received and carried out with vim, Halifax might have been filled with visitors during a season of the year when the city is more than usually dull. A summer carnival is now proposed, but as this is everybody's business, nobody will be found willing to devote sufficient time and trouble to insure its attainment. Some of these fine days Halifax will wake up, and then St. John will close her shutters.

It is said by those unfavorable to the further extension of the franchise, that if manhood were taken as a basis for suffrage, the political destiny of the country would be under the control of persons having no stake in the welfare of the Dominion. If the ownership of land entitled a man to citizenship, we could understand the objection; but when a two-dollar monthly rental places the privileges of the franchise within the reach of room tenants we cannot see how its extension would be injurious to the country.

The eyes of the civilized world are now fixed upon Japan. During the past decade most important governmental reforms have been carried out without disturbances. The Executive Council, which now includes the Prime Minister and the Ministers of the Right and Left, will, in April next, be superseded by a Cabinet responsible to the people's representatives, in which there are to be nine Departmental Ministers. In the more civilized West such a radical constitutional reform could only have been accomplished after years of agitation, perhaps civil war.

One of the most important questions before Congress this session is the Blair Bill, which proposes to give \$77,000,000 of the national funds to be used in diminishing the evil of illiteracy. This sum, in cash, is to be divided on the basis of illiteracy, giving "to each State or Territory in that proportion which the whole number of persons in each, who, being of the age of ten years or over, cannot write," bears to the whole population. The objection raised is that the Bill is *ultra vires*, on the ground that with each state rests the duty of providing for the education of its own people, and that, therefore, the Federal Government cannot assume this burden or vote any of the general funds towards it.

THE GRECIAN GRIEVANCE.

The return of Gladstone to power has, for the time being, given a quietus to the Grecian movement on Albania. When the Balkan difficulties were settled by the Berlin Treaty, it was stipulated that Eastern Roumelia should remain an integral portion of the Turkish Empire, while the district surrounding Janina, in the Southern portion of Albania, was to be placed under the control of the Greek Government. The latter portion of the contract has never been carried out by the Porte; and Greece has been restrained from taking forcible possession of the territory, only by the unwillingness of the Great Powers to create fresh disturbances. Her right to the rich pasture lands in which Janina or Epirus is located is frankly acknowledged by both Bismarck and Gladstone, but those statesmen fear that an armed assertion of this right would result in a general European war, the outcome of which might be disastrous to the interests of Germany, Austria, and Britain, and favorable to those of Russia. While Greece has thus for years been peacefully biding the time when she should annex Janina, Prince Alexander of Bulgaria quietly annexes Eastern Roumelia which, according to the treaty, was to remain directly under the control of the Porte. This exasperated the Greeks beyond measure, and had it not been that Servia first took the field against the Bulgarians, the Greeks would undoubtedly have endeavored to prevent the union of Roumelia with Bulgaria. Now that the Porte has acquiesced in the territorial extension of Bulgaria, Greece rises up as one man to claim the recognition of her sovereignty in Southern Albania; but the powers hold her in check, fearing the consequences of a Turko-Grecian conflict. Eastern Roumelia to remain a portion of the Turkish Empire; Southern Albania to be placed under the control of Greece so reads the treaty. After the lapse of a few years Eastern Roumelia is annexed by Bulgaria, while Southern Albania remains an integral portion of the Turkish Empire. Nations may unite in framing treaties; but, after all, their enforcement largely depends upon the force of circumstances.

THE GREAT IRISH QUESTION.

The great question which the Gladstone Ministry is called upon to solve is that of Irish Land Reform. Compared with this, Irish Home Rule sinks into comparative insignificance. It may now be taken as a foregone conclusion that Gladstone will grant to Ireland such a measure of Home Rule as will fully meet her requirements and will at the same time not in any way endanger the integrity of the Empire. But the great question, as we before said, with which Gladstone has to deal, is that which underlies Home Rule—the question of reform in the Land Laws. That this is the case is shown from the fact that the Salisbury Ministry was defeated upon Jesse Colling's amendment to the address, in which regret was expressed that the government had not declared its intention of introducing a measure dealing with the security of tenure and the equitable allotment of land. Ireland's curse has been absentee landlordism; this has kept the country in a state of poverty and reduced her people to a condition little short of serfdom. Under the existing laws the Irish peasantry have no opportunity to earn more than a bare subsistence. Industry on their part might add to the wealth of the landlord, but would not in any way increase the comfort of the peasants. Their utter inability to acquire land, and the knowledge that the products of their labor were unduly taxed, have fostered a feeling of discontent which has gradually increased to such a pitch of indignation as to make it impossible for the landlords to secure even a fair return in the form of rentals. The question thus assumes a double phase. Landlords cry out for assistance in enabling them to collect rents, and the peasantry demand the abolition of a system which has kept them in such a state of abject poverty. The union of Great Britain and Ireland must be preserved at all hazards. An Irish Republic can only exist in the mind of an enthusiast, but the surest and most effective way in which to avoid a civil war and prevent the possibility of disruption is to grant to the Irish people the proprietorship of the soil which they cultivate, thus enabling them to enjoy to the full the products of their honest labor.

"AB UNO DISCE OMNES."

When the pious Æneas advised Queen Dido to judge of the Greeks in this most superficial manner, he was probably not aware that he was giving advice which would be unconsciously followed by the great majority of mankind. "The climate of — is abominable; I was there for a week, and it rained all the time," says Brown. "They don't raise Fall Wheat in Canada; the frost kills it," a citizen of Kansas remarked recently to a Canadian, whom he did not know to be such, and who had seen 45 bushels of it grown on an acre. "People from — are dishonest; I had two servants from there, and my spoons suffered for it," Mrs. Smith authoritatively states. "They don't make good boots in this country," remarks a stranger who has had experience in one pair of them!

The real character of the Chinese as a laborer might possibly be arrived at by carefully collecting the opinions of those who have employed them, and by forming our estimate from the average. John bears rather an unenviable reputation for cleanliness; his terrier-like proclivities are proverbial; his honesty is by many said to be still undiscovered; he is accredited with a disagreeable habit of sending away from his adopted country all the money he can spare, to buy rats and rice for his family in the land of the Celestials. Yet we occasionally hear the very opposite opinion expressed by men who have employed Chinese labor. A writer in the *Oceania Monthly*, who has had twenty years' experience in Chinese domestics, expresses himself as highly pleased with them, and makes special mention of their *cleanliness*, their *honesty*, and their *liberality*.

Much diversity of opinion is, of course, to be expected from men whose political leanings are diverse; but on this vexed question of the value of the Chinese as an immigrant, even conscientious and disinterested men differ widely. This difference must arise from the too prevalent habit of judging all by a few. Applying so misleading a test, one could make out the people of any nation to be the best or the worst in the world. The only rat-eater we ever saw was an Englishman; the filthiest family we ever saw were from the Channel Islands. Were we to generalize from such data, we might find ourselves in the position of the gentleman who, having once seen a French baby christened on board a ship, retained for life the impression that all French babies have long noses. Not many will confess to such reasoning; yet we see undoubted evidence of it at every turn. As a matter of fact, men, even in a semi-civilized state, are so diverse that it is only after the most extended experience and the most careful comparisons that any given quality can be safely predicated of a nation in general. It is therefore impossible to judge the many by the few, and it is manifestly unsafe to accept as incontrovertible the statements of those who follow out the maxim with which this article is headed, "from one learn all."

REGISTER YOUR NAME.

It is important that every man entitled to a vote under the Dominion Franchise Act should see to it that his name is properly registered upon the official voting lists; hundreds of those who enjoy the Franchise under this act will be called upon at the next Dominion election to exercise their right of citizenship, and it is probable that this new and untried element will have weight in deciding what the result of that election is to be. Those who believe that under Sir John A. MacDonald Canada has made rapid strides in the path of progress, and that her people have learned to appreciate the political institutions under which she is governed, should be prepared to give the Premier the support to which they deem he is entitled. Those who believe that a change of administration would be advantageous to the country, and feel confident that under the leadership of the Hon. Edward Blake a new era of prosperity would dawn upon the land, should not neglect to qualify themselves to give practical expression to their views through the ballot. The country is safe so long as its government remains in the hands of its people, and it is therefore incumbent upon each man who desires to uphold good government that he should at least evince his interest by assuring himself that his name has been properly placed upon the authorized list of voters. Remember that unless a man entitled to a vote is properly registered, his right to the Franchise counts for nothing.

A NEEDED REFORM.

From an article in a recent number of the *Indiana School Journal*, it appears that one long school-term, wherever tried in the United States, has been demonstrated as superior to two short ones. Public opinion in Nova Scotia is, we verily believe, quite strong enough in favor of one long term to warrant the abolition of the present system of dividing the school year. When we asked for an expression of opinion as to the advisability of adopting one long school-term in this Province, the articles that followed, written by educationists in various parts of the Province, were almost without exception in favor of the suggested change. And it seems to us that the preponderance of argument in favor of it was quite as remarkable as the paucity of the objections against it. The proper authorities will, we hope, remember these facts and act in accordance with the desire and requirements of the Province.

Several persons have written in *THE CRITIC*, and several in other Halifax papers, in advocacy of one long school-term. One, and no more than one, as far as we know, attempted a defence of the terms as now existing. While the latter won our respect by reason of his gallant championing of a dying cause, he failed to show conclusively that the change we advocated should not be made. Some of his reasoning, however, suggested the possible necessity of making special terminal arrangements for one class of school sections if one long term should be adopted. Several of our Inspectors of schools have repeatedly pronounced the habit of too frequently changing teachers to be the retarder of educational progress in many sections. One long school-term would certainly diminish this custom and its concomitant evils.

The evil results of Gladstone's vacillating Soudan policy are still felt, both by the British and the Egyptians. If the Mahdi's movement had been vigorously met and effectively crushed in the outset, Britain would not now be obliged to keep 14,000 men guarding the southern frontier of Egypt; and the Egyptian Government would be relieved of the expense of paying them. If the new Mahdi continue his operations, the British troops will be more than decimated by disease, the Egyptian exchequer will become unable to bear the strain, and definite action will have to be taken. It is a striking illustration of the motto, "A stitch in time," etc.

We are wont to regard toll-gates and toll-bridges as a relic of the dark ages. In Nova Scotia, there remains but one toll-bridge, and the people are calling upon the Provincial Government to purchase it, as it has those in other parts of the Province. In Quebec and Ontario, toll-gates and toll-bridges are everywhere to be found. The City of Ottawa is not approached by one public highway without its toll-gate. The people of these Provinces, however, are beginning to chafe under the unfair restrictions to trade, which the taxes levied at these toll-gates impose upon them. Their abolition in Wales was accomplished only in time to prevent a popular outbreak.

[FOR THE CRITIC.]
DOUBLE ACROSTIC.

My Initials downward read declare
The *non de plume* of a writer rare
Who is known in Halifax very well.
My final downward road betray
His place of worship—many a day
Have I seen him there with rapture swell.
His bright lit features alone would toll
He loved the place tho' it was not gay.

My words have all a number even
Of letters, and my words are seven.
My first the farmer greatly prizes;
My second in the law arises;
My third rules Africa's desert plain;
My fourth denotes his sweet refrain;
My fifth depicts the ashly heart,
Where love, volcanic, hath played a part;
My sixth is a vessel so wise rare;
My seventh some on their faces wear. Mac.

THE CRITIC will be sent free for one year to the person giving the only correct answer to above puzzle. When two correct answers are sent in, THE CRITIC will be sent free for six months to each of those answering correctly. Answers should arrive at CRITIC office before Tuesday, P. M., marked answer to puzzle.

Answer to Double Acrostic, published last week, on next page.

TIT-BITS.

FROM A NEW DICTIONARY.—Anger—The reaction of others' faults upon ourselves.

- Army—A body of men kept one thousand days to be used on one.
- Bachelor—A wild goose that tame geese envy.
- Benevolence—A service that the receiver should remember, and the bestower forget.
- Child—The future in the present.
- Coquette—A mirror that receives all images, but preserves none.
- Consistency—A church without a mortgage on it.
- Conversation—The idle man's business, and the business man's recreation.
- Crying—A woman's weakness and a child's strength.
- Death—The dealer that sweeps in the bone chips.
- Debt—The example set by a government to its people.
- Family—Matrimony doing penance.
- Fashion—A decree that enhances beauty, but makes homeliness the more conspicuous.
- Heart—The abyss of reason.
- Heiress—A capital wife!
- Hope—The bridge between our longings and fruition, beneath which flow the waters of disappointment.
- Inconsistency—A woman's prerogative; for which we never blame her unless we are its victims.
- Ink—The black sea upon which thought rides at anchor.
- Jealousy—The homage paid by inferiority to merit.
- Justice—Truth in action.
- Law—A trap baited with promise of profit or revenge.
- Lawyers—The heirs of intestates.
- Love—A frozen deep; before you venture, see if it will bear.
- Lovers—The miss-guided.
- Luxury—The labor of the wealthy.
- Mankind—Pieces in a game of chess, played by destiny.
- Marriage—The only lottery not put down.
- Mirror—A shrine, before which the function of worshipper, priest and divinity are all enacted by the same party.
- Miser—One who makes bricks that his heirs may build houses.
- Money—To the wise a convenience, to the fool a necessity.
- Old Maid—A woman who has missed the opportunity of making a man happy.
- Pawnbroker—The man who holds your coat while you fight.
- Poet—One who may bestow immortality upon others, yet finds it difficult himself even to live.
- Poetry—Thought in blossom.
- Prison—An oven into which society puts newly-made crime to harden.
- Revenge—The only debt which it is wrong to pay.
- River—A moving road, at once the highway and the conveyance.
- Space—The statue of divinity.
- Spoon—A hand without fingers.
- Stars—Jeweled heads in the rosaries of heaven.
- Success—A veneering that can hide all baseness.
- Taxes—Periodical bleeding as prescribed by government.
- Temptation—The test of soul.
- Tenderness—Passion in repose.
- Theater—Nature in the "house of correction."
- Time—To the aged an atom; to the young a world.
- Tongue—The boneless that can break bones.
- Ugliness—The privilege in man, the unpardonable in woman.

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NEWS OF THE WEEK.

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

Answer to Double Acrostic, published last week.

G A G
L E V E L
E R E
N O N
E V E
L A V A L
G I G

Correct answers were received from Miss H. Crisp, 72 South Park St.; S. Salter, 185 Pleasant St.; Wm. W. Cronan, Custom House, and D. O. C. Madden, Arichat.

The members of the Arctic Club of Windsor are regretting the unseasonable weather of the present winter with no sleighing, no snow shoeing, and no tobogganing. The programme of winter sports is greatly curtailed. Professor Stone Wiggins says he predicted in August last that the present winter would be unusually severe, and he knew this would be so because the moon would be directly between the sun and our earth. The same reason will probably account quite as well for the spring-like days we have been enjoying during the past week.

The new and handsome Sunday School building recently erected in connection with the parish church, Windsor, was formally opened last week. We congratulate Dr. Maynard and his congregation upon the enterprising spirit displayed.

Says a Yarmouth subscriber: "I beg leave to congratulate you on the high tone of THE CRITIC and the independent position it occupies in regard to the politics of Canada. It is refreshing to read such broad articles, as for instance, those on Ex-Judge Thompson and Hon. Edward Blake. They make one hopeful for the future of our country."

The Mounted Police and the citizens of Battleford have good reason to remember the occurrences of the late North-West campaign. They intend showing their appreciation of the brave fellows who were killed while discharging their duties, by erecting to their memory a handsome monument to cost not less than \$2,000. Concerts by the boys and other entertainments are now helping to while away the long winter evenings. The proceeds of the first monument concert netted \$200; there will be a stampede to Battleford of Eastern concert givers, if any more reports of such receipts are circulated.

The people of St. John may well feel proud of their superior hotels. Among the best in the city might be mentioned the Clifton House as being furnished with all modern improvements. An excellent room and a good table, with the home-like charm imparted by the personal attentions of the proprietor, Mr. Peters, seem very cheap at \$1.50 per day.

The householders of Bridgetown are not by any means pleased with the increased rate of charges now made for fire insurance. The *Monitor* says that an outlay of \$12,000 will give the town a good water supply, and that the consequent reduction in rates would go far to pay the interest upon the money if borrowed.

The C. P. Railway shows a net profit on the receipts of the year just closed of \$3,250,000. Not bad for a railway which according to some persons would never be built, and of others that if built would never be used.

Southern Dakota is to be admitted to the Union as a State under the name of Dakota. The northern half of the territory has been given the name of Lincoln in honor of the President, who did not hesitate to exercise his absolute power on behalf of his fellow-men, and who had the moral courage to proclaim the abolition of the slaves even when he knew by so doing he took his life in his hand.

Probably no Viceroy of Ireland has for many years been more acceptable to the people of that country than was Lord Carnarvon. His successor under the Gladstone ministry is Lord Aberdeen, who is likewise popular in Ireland.

The King of Bavaria has been building palaces, art galleries, and conservatories, at a somewhat extravagant rate. He is now in debt to the extent of \$4,000,000, but it is thought that his Majesty may be relieved from pecuniary embarrassment by the sale of seven or eight of his estates.

The dogs in London are now muzzled, owing to the prevalence of hydrophobia. One dog owner evaded the law by allowing his dog to carry the muzzle in his mouth, on being interviewed by a London "bobby," the owner pointed out that the dog could not bite anyone so long as he held the muzzle in his teeth. The *London Figaro* endorses the gentleman's assertion, but would like some guarantee that the dog would not suddenly change its mind by deciding to hold something else between its teeth.

Cape Breton and the west coast of Newfoundland are to be connected by a steamship line during the coming summer. Mr. James A. Farquhar, who is well known in Cape Breton as a reliable and enterprising man, has taken up the matter with his usual vim, and intends making the new service a success.

A fine dairy farm has recently been established at Hong Kong, and has been stocked with the two best breeds of Australian cows. Now that Hong Kong has put itself abreast of the times, it might be well for us to make a move in the same direction.

Some men never seem to understand what failure means. The claimant to the Tichborne estates failed to prove his identity, was prosecuted for perjury and underwent a term of penal servitude. Trusting in the general gullibility of the public he now comes out in the role of a lecturer, and failing to impress his audience with a full sense of his oratorical powers, he was hissed and hooted from the stage of a public hall in Dublin. Roger had better take up his cleaver and go to work as of yore.

A true philanthropist is our fellow Canadian, Erastus Wiman, of New York. Holding a large area in Statton Island, he has laid it off in lots, built upon each a comfortable house, and sold the same upon easy payments and moderate terms to young married men who are as yet earning but limited salaries. At the same time taking out an insurance policy on the life of the purchaser in favor of himself so that in case of the purchaser's death his widow and children are not left homeless.

Prof. Sumichrast delivered a capital lecture on "Mark Twain" on Tuesday last. The lecturer was evidently an admirer of America's great humorist, and before the close of his address he gave many convincing reasons why Mark Twain, with all his drawbacks, was entitled to respect.

Bismarck is a determined autocrat, but it is probable that his idea to expel the Poles and Germanize that portion of the Empire which they now inhabit, will prove more difficult than he imagines. His proposal has created a very bitter feeling in Austria.

The appointment of Sir Ambrose Shea as Governor of Newfoundland has been annulled, and Sir E. DesVoeux is to take the position in his stead. It would appear that places of honor and distinction in Newfoundland are not open to native aspirants, no matter how good may be their character and how fit they may be to fill such offices. In Canada it is quite otherwise, if a public office worth \$400 a year be given to an Englishman the hue and cry is raised from one end of the country to the other. This is loyalty to the British flag with a vengeance.

The elevation of Mr. Broadhurst to the under Secretaryship for Ireland in the Gladstone administration is a triumph for brains. Mr. Broadhurst directly represents the working classes, and as an intelligent exponent of their views will no doubt do much to disabuse the mind of the aristocrat that land acreage, rent rolls, and brain power, are the exclusive heritage of the privileged classes.

A huge mob estimated to have contained upwards of 100,000 people gathered in and about Trafalgar Square, London, on Monday last, and having been excited by the inflammatory speeches of several Socialists, among whom a man named Burns played a conspicuous part, they shattered the windows of many clubs and private residences, plundered the establishment of several clothiers, jewelers, bakers, and wine merchants along the route of their march to Hyde Park. The police were unable to quell the rioters. As far as known no lives were lost.

The old Halifax Steamboat Company have thrown up one of their office windows, and displayed to view an "abstract" of a portion of the Annual Report, which "abstract" is published, in order to injure the prospects of a new and enterprising ferry company. By this Report, it appears that the traffic between Halifax and Dartmouth is such as to warrant the placing upon the route of first class modern boats. Why this was not done by the old company, will long continue to puzzle business men. A public meeting in the interests of the new ferry company is to be held at the Town Hall, Dartmouth, on Monday evening next.

Every one is liable to accident, and therefore every one who can afford to pay the small premium charged for taking out an Accident Policy in a reliable Insurance Company should not put off doing so, until an arm or a leg is broken. The Travellers' Insurance Company has a good record. Its surplus is upwards of \$2,000,000, and its agent in Halifax, Mr. George Esson, is always ready to give the fullest information to those desiring to insure.

We beg to call the attention of our hardware and mining patrons to the advertisement of the very popular hard houseware of W. B. Reynolds & Co. of this city, who do a large business in the lines of goods indicated in another column, and we know they give their customers the very best value at the lowest possible prices.

The annual meeting of the Maritime Provincial Grange, in Halifax, has awakened a new interest in the principles upheld by the parents of Husbandry. The address of the President, Mr. W. F. George, was well received. It contained a pithy resume of the history of the Order, and encouraged the members to persevere in the noble work in which they were engaged. Arrangements have been made with THE CRITIC to publish the official communications of the Grange.

Nova Scotia has put up during the past season 7,000,000 cans of lobsters. A large proportion of these will be sold in the European markets.

Lieutenant Greeley believes that there is an ocean 1,500 miles in diameter, round about the Pole that never freezes; and conjectures that the Pole itself is the centre of an ice-capped land covered with ice from 1,000 to 4,000 feet thick. These conclusions are rejected by prominent Arctic authorities in England.

RELIGIOUS.

CHURCH OF ENGLAND.

The Church people of Windsor are to be congratulated upon the opening of their handsome Sunday School house. It stands close to the Church, and is arranged in such a way that services may be held in it if required. Its acoustic properties are said to be excellent.

The Rev. J. L. Downing is in the city. He has been elected to the Parish of Eastern Passage.

The Bishopric of Manchester has at last been filled by the appointment of the Right Rev. James Moorhouse, D. D., Bishop of Melbourne. Dr. Moorhouse has been working in Melbourne since 1879, and has proved himself a good, popular Bishop, and a wise and vigorous administrator. He will, no doubt, do good work at Manchester. His church views are much the same as those of the late Bishop Fraser, while he has a similar practical turn of mind. It seems rather a slight on the clergy in England that a Colonial Bishop should be chosen over the heads of them all to fill so important a See.

The Deanery of Worcester has been filled by the appointment of Dr. Gott, Vicar of Leeds, and that of Chester by Canon Fleming.

BAPTIST.

At the Nineteenth Anniversary of the East London Baptist Tabernacle, the pastor P. A. Brown, stated that since the Church was established he had given the right hand of fellowship to over 3,500 persons. The blessing had followed the plain preaching of the truth. If preaching Christ in the Saxon tongue failed to draw the people they must stay away.

Four hundred baptisms and 1,500 conversions are reported in Russia as the work of two missionaries under the Baptist Missionary Society during the past two years.

The Rev. A. T. Dykeman, who has for some years been pastor of the Baptist Church at Dorchester, has accepted a call from Main Street Baptist Church, Woodstock.

The Rev. D. G. McDonald has received a unanimous call to the pastorate of the Baptist Church at Summerside, P. E. I.

The Rev. H. Bool, of Pugwash, intends severing his connection with the Baptist Church at that place at the end of the present month. He contemplates spending a while on a lecturing tour before settling again.

PRESBYTERIAN.

At the last meeting of the Halifax Presbytery, Messrs. Morrison, Dickie, and Simpson, were appointed a committee to visit Upper Musquodoboit and assist in the settlement of a difficulty regarding the site of the proposed new church. We trust that the trouble, which is discreditable to the congregation, will be amicably arranged.

Dr. Cuyler's church, in Brooklyn, has entered upon its twenty seventh year. Its membership is now 2,069. The Sabbath-school numbers 1,134, with an average attendance of 679. The contributions during the year in aid of missions and other charitable objects were \$19,591.89.

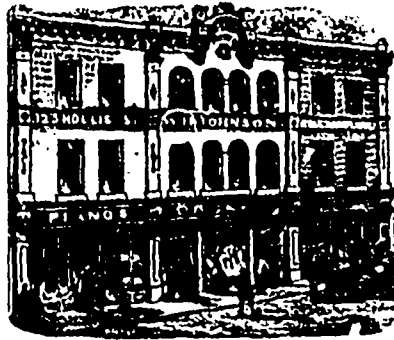
The Presbyterian Church in Canada has sustained a severe loss in the death of the Rev. P. G. MacGregor, D. D., which occurred on Friday last. His death was not a surprise to his friends, as he was ill for about a year. Last spring he spent some weeks in the Southern States for the benefit of his health, but he returned without any material improvement. He then tried a visit to Scotland, but returned last fall unimproved. He was the youngest son of the late Rev. James MacGregor, D. D., of Pictou, the apostle of Presbyterianism in Nova Scotia. He was born at East River and educated at Pictou Academy. He labored at Guysborough for a short time when he was called to the pastorate of Popular Grove Church of Halifax. He remained pastor for 25 years when he was compelled through illness to resign. He was then appointed agent of the schemes of the Presbyterian Church, and continued to hold that office until his death, nearly 18 years. His name is a household word in all Presbyterian houses in the Maritime Provinces, as he was an undefatigable worker in all matters pertaining to the denomination with which he was connected. We tender our sympathies to his afflicted family.

The Presbyterian Church at Windsor are about to purchase the residence of the Rev. Dr. McMurray for a manse.

For the past two Sunday evenings the Rev. Dr. Burns has lectured to large congregations on future punishment.

CATHOLIC.

GENEROUS CALIFORNIANS.—At Christmastide James C. Flood donated \$1,000 to the Catholic Orphan Asylum of San Francisco, and \$1,000 to the Catholic Orphan Asylum of San Rafael, Cal., and \$500 to the Magdalen Asylum, San Francisco. James Mervin Donahoe donated \$100 apiece to the Catholic Orphan Asylum, Presentation Convent, and Youth's Directory, all of San Francisco. Mrs. Maria Coleman gave \$1,000 to the San Francisco Catholic Orphan Asylum. A magnificent altar, composed of Carrara marble and onyx, costing \$5,000, has just been completed in St. Joseph's Church, St. Jose, Cal. It is the gift of Mrs. Catherine Dunne. Father O'Connor, of Bedfordshire, England, acknowledges the receipt of \$1,750 from Californian Catholics to build his church under the patronage of "Our Lady, Help of Christians."



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30 bbls. Sweet Jamaica ORANGES.
25 cases Fine Palermo LEMONS.
5 " ELEME FIGS—small boxes.
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AN OLD VALENTINE.

If, my love thy pity meeting,
Thy dost sigh, the happy sign
Of a bosom that is beating
Too ambitious hope!—with mine;

May the wandering breezes leaving,
Sully, slowly leaving thee,
Wait the sigh that thou art leaving
Through the lightning gloom to me.

Then I'll stray to dewy bowers
In aesthetic habit dressed,
And I'll curl the blushing flowers
That my lady's feet have pressed;

And, my pulses beating firmer
At the news the Zephyr brings,
I will hasten, sweet, to murmur
Other idiotic things.

F. B. G. 1864

[FOR THE CRITIC.]

RAMBLING NOTES ON BURMAH.

(CONTINUED).

It is a noble form of religion, is the Buddhists, Christian-like in its moral teachings, and in its ceremonial, closely resembling Catholicism. It has made of the Burman, and his alter ego the Japanese, the most hospitable, pleasant mannered people in the Eastern world. So much does it approach to Christianity that it is hard to convert the Burmese. "Our religion same like yours, what for changee," they tell me, said the Roman Catholic Bishop of Mandalay. He was a Frenchman, but had spent years amongst them, and presided over a small congregation in that city, mostly descendants of Christian Hindoos, who, years ago, had been brought as captives into Burmah. "We can make no headway amongst them, and just for that reason." Nor do I believe that other missionaries have been more successful. And now a word as to missionaries in the East.

Suppose we are travelling in the Mofussil, up country, in India. We reach a station where a few Europeans are located, lost amidst the seething native population; a judge, say; an assistant collector; an inspector of police; a revenue survey officer, a few members of the D. P. W.; and a doctor. "Whose house is that? we ask, that fine one rising from the trees," as we enter the station. "Missionary Sahib," is invariably the answer. Partaking of all the comforts an Eastern life affords, mixing freely in the society of the place, in the company of a wife, consigned to him, perhaps, from Europe, like a bale of goods, by his soul-saving society, drawing good pay, and using the liberal funds at his disposal to attract with four-anna bait the starving Catechumen, disguising the bitter pill of Christianity in the gilded coating of gratuitous education—rather a shabby simile—the Missionary leads a not unpleasant life, varied by an occasional visit to Europe, where the much suffering (?) man is petted and feasted, and becomes the chief hero of many a tea-fight.

That there are brands saved from the burning, as he would probably term it, I have no doubt; neither do I doubt that there are many zealous, good men amongst them. But, after all, is not a whole Hindoo better than a half Christian? If in India, yourselves, you would not tolerate a Christian servant in your house, and for this reason, that Ramaswamy or Hindoo Khan will not touch liquor for one thing, his religion forbids it, but our regenerated domestics will, and like it. Besides your Hindoo or Mussulman servant has a caste or a position to forfeit, your Christian, by the mere fact of his conversion, becomes an outcast and a pariah, if he were any better before it.

Amongst caste men, it is rare to find a Christian, and no wonder. Thrust forth from the family circle, put under a ban, deserted by wife and children often, deprived of all social standing, the converted Hindoo gets in exchange for the gaudy ceremonial of Siva or Vishnu the cold, ill-comprehended dogmas of the foreigner's doctrine. Is it strange that he clings to or returns to the faith of his fathers which is bound up with every phase of his public and domestic existence? This, certainly, applies more to India than to Burmah, where caste, luckily, is unknown. And here, let me add, that the attractive worship of the Catholic Church, appealing, as it does, to the senses of the Oriental, draws more converts than other forms of Christianity, and this is aided considerably by the different manner in which her missions are conducted.

The Roman Catholic Church, on her Foreign Missions, has not at her disposal the vast sums contributed by Exeter Hall and the various Protestant Societies, towards Christianizing the Eastern nations. And a pity it is to me so much money should go abroad, for have we not the heathen and savage in our midst, who need the missionary as much as the mild Hindoo or our friend the vivacious Burman.

At the Artillery station, where I passed four pleasant years, near Madras, there lived a venerable Irish priest, named Forde, who had spent forty years of his life in India, without once visiting his native country. As chaplain to the troops, he drew a salary of some 300 rupees a month, about the equivalent of a subaltern's pay, and just sufficient for a European to live decently upon with economy. Out of his 300 rupees, Father Forde was allowed 70 by his Bishop, the balance going to support other missionaries in the diocese. Missionaries living, some of them out in the jungle, clothed, fed, and housed like the natives, sharing with them all the privations and miseries of their existence. Is it to be wondered at that such men make converts?

Another instance. At the Jesuit School of Vanguard, in Paris, lately closed by order of Gambetta and his so-called liberal crew, we had as teacher, when I was a student, a young priest, named P——d, who had been a

soldier. A fine, handsome, and large-hearted fellow he was, whose brains would have commanded a high position in the world, whose eloquence would have adorned the pulpits of Notre Dame or St. Roque, fit compère of Peron Felix and Ravignan, a prodigy in fact, in our boyish eyes. We all looked forward to a brilliant career for him in the church. A few years ago, passing through Shanghai, on my way home from India, I visited the Jesuit College and Observatory in those parts. The Jesuits have been many years established in China as astronomers. To my surprise and delight, I found that my old friend and teacher, P——d, was in the neighborhood. You will expect to hear, perhaps, that he was a professor in the college, a 'shining light' in the observatory, at least a teacher in the native school. Not at all. With shaven-head and plaited pig-tail, clad in the thick cotton hose and silk jacket of the Chinaman, he was laboring some hundred miles away, in the jungle, living as a native amongst the natives, far from all intercourse with Europeans, his life in his hand, and not knowing the moment he would have to lay forfeit with it, for his zeal and his audacity in the cause of his master. Now, that is what I call a missionary. Not that the Catholic Church has a monopoly of such heroes. On the return voyage from Burmah to India, we picked up at Masulipatam, a Protestant Missionary, with a wife and children. He was in the last stage of disease, hectic and hollow-checked, used up by fever and dysentery, and hard work in the Burmese swamps, for you can call them nothing better. I became acquainted with him, and tried to serve him professionally, though he too, knew something of medicine, most of these men do, and it contributes to their success, such as it is, with the natives. I found he had come from Nova Scotia, sent out by the Society. He told me of all the hard work and privations he had gone through, the outcome of which would soon be an obscure grave in India. But he was patient and uncomplaining; and the only thing I heard him long for, was the taste of a good Annapolis apple. He thought it would do him good. Poor fellow, I believe he died shortly after.

(To be continued.)

[FOR THE CRITIC.]

THE NORTH-WEST INDIANS.

I.

The Indian problem in the North-West appears to be now presenting itself in an aspect somewhat different from that of the past. The influx of population, and the spanning of the great stretch of wild domain, from the Lakes to the Rockies, by the C.P.R., and its projected feeders has thrown us into the very midst of a race who have always considered themselves (and rightfully too) the owners of the soil, and free to roam hundreds and thousands of miles without molestation, with no restraining hand to check their going and coming, but the over-powering forces of nature.

The Hudson Bay Co. were hailed by the Indians at first with suspicion, but afterwards with feelings of delight, when they saw what great advantages of trading these pioneers held out to them, more especially when the new comers conformed somewhat to their mode of living and intermarried with them. It is only since the land has been taken out of the Company's hands, and civilization has made its stride westwardly, that we hear of any trouble of importance springing up; and it is rather curious to think what would have been the future of these people if the Company held possession through all time, as in the days of old. Extinction of some kind would have been the outcome, either a gradual dying out through disease and a diminution in the birth-rate, or absorption, probably a combination of both. It is astonishing to note the progress that this absorption process has already made in the land; and we note as many varieties of mixed blood here as in the West Indies. Even some of the best families throughout the country have a tinge of savage blood coursing through their veins, much to their credit, or rather gain, for when removed to the side of the white, it seems to give a quickening and executive force to the intellectual faculties. When not so far removed, the most marked traits of each seem to come prominently forward.

The Metis or half-breed always stood between the two races in time of necessity, and always will; and it is through their influence alone in the future, that we will have to depend on our continued friendliness with the Indians. It is difficult to state how many more cases of bloodshed we would have chronicled, if they had stood silently by in the last rebellion. Messrs. Towanlock and Delaney, with others, no doubt, owe their lives to this sympathy of blood.

The Hudson Bay Company's officials are seldom molested or injured in any way when trouble occurs, for the simple reason that the Indians have received so many favors from the Company, are trusted with goods on credit, to be returned in the shape of furs, etc.; and from a long intercourse, thoroughly understood each other, and their freedom is not interfered with. In fact, to a great extent, they have been treated as children, which has spoiled them for the more rigid and exacting treatment they are now receiving. Though most of these officials are Scotch, and naturally stern, it would be difficult to find any amongst them who are in anyway harsh or exacting.

The buffalo and the red man seem curiously related in their past and present history. Both have had their ordained period of existence, and the curtain is now falling sadly over this dissolving scene of the immutable law of the survival of the fittest. One of the prominent actors has already almost disappeared. Last year, a small herd of buffalo were roaming in the valley of Missouri. They have been exterminated; and the only remnant left, are a few individuals in the vicinity of the Penitentiary, at Stony Mountain, about 28 miles from Winnipeg, closely watched and protected; whilst within the walls of the same building, a common prisoner, is one of the finest specimens of the type of a North American Indian, Chief Pound-maker. Both dependent upon the free will of a new comer for their existence. Curious fated change of circumstance, indeed.

Let us picture to ourselves the Indian, as he was in the past, and the gradual change from thence to the present. The buffalo, deer, moose, elk, or other large game, they covered the land, and were always near at hand. His life was a continued hunt from year to year, the chase being his only work, as well as amusement. In this wild state, he was singularly free from disease; and the fact of his having to engage in violent exercise, gave the required action to all the bodily functions so necessary to one in a life dependent on animal food.

Furs were plentiful, and his tepee, or wigwam, was covered with buffalo skins, whilst his only clothing was the skins of smaller animals, sown together with sinew; rudely constructed moccasins covered his feet; whilst his thickly matted hair, hanging in long plaited tresses over his shoulders, well protected his head.

Always away on the hunt, on his bare-backed pony, he left the inferior work of housekeeping to his squaw, who, besides, had the care of the papoose, closely strapped into the moss-lined basket, with its legs close together, and the toes turned inwards, requiring little attention, however, save an occasional glance, for it is hanging up under the shade of a tree near by, dreaming its little dreams in the arms of Morpheus, or leaning against the trunk of a tree, its little black, wild, expressionless eyes, watching the mother preparing a repast for her absent lord and master. On his return, he greedily devours the food prepared, caring little where the next meal comes from. If he has been unsuccessful in his hunt, he can speedily replenish his larder from Nature's storeroom. After gorging himself, he lays upon his back and sleeps, or smokes his stone pipe filled with Indian tobacco; and as the smoke curls up in rings, skywards, he pictures to himself imaginary conflicts with different animals of the chase, the pipe falls from his mouth, and he sleeps and dreams. His couch, mother earth, with, perhaps, a few skins spread out; his habitation, his tepee, all the year round, over when the temperature in winter averages 30 degrees for a month at a time, or falls to below 60 degrees. To bed at sunset, and up with the first spread of dawn. No artificial light is he the happy possessor of, save what he obtains by his flints for cooking or other less peaceful purposes.

In war time, he prepares his weapons, the stone hatchet or tomahawk, war club, and bow and arrow, removes his clothing of skins, and paints himself from head to foot with all possible shades of colours, obtained from the earth and plants. This is done in the most hideous manner imaginable, half-moons and circles around the eyes, with bars radiating over the forehead and face; one side of the face, perhaps, yellow, the other red, and even carried up through the parting of the hair; the rest of the body covered with devices of every conceivable shape and form,—and all this to strike terror into the hearts of his enemy.

This body-painting was also resorted to on the occasion of their religious and other ceremonies.

SCIRON.

(To be continued.)

OUR WINNIPEG LETTER.

WINNIPEG, MANITOBA, Jan. 23rd, 1886.

Dear Critic,—I promised in my last to comment on the Indian question in the North-West. Without entering into details, which would more than fill the space allotted to other news, it may be profitable to look at the subject from a broad point of view, and consider the Indian as he is at present in contrast with the past. To this end, I would refer your readers to the sketch elsewhere, headed "The North-West Indians." It is not necessary for one to be judged an alarmist who looks upon the present condition of the Indian as anything but acceptable, and even fraught with the greatest dangers to our scattered population in the Territories. Contrary rumors reach us daily, whilst the papers, Government and Opposition, are full of information relative to some future move on the part of the red man against the white. To what an extent, or in what direction, they are all unable positively to state, and it is next to impossible to extract anything of importance from the naturally cautious or secretive Indian or Half-breed, other than that he is discontented. Many of the rumors are, no doubt, tainted with the personality of the men who report them, and some for a purpose. There are plenty of people between here and the Rockies, and also in Winnipeg, who would like to see the country involved in another rebellion, or failing that, a vast camp of armed men ever ready for a fray, and all to fill their own mercenary pockets. I have before me two letters from members of the N. W. Mounted Police, who do not predict any premeditated outbreak, but nevertheless, affirm that the greatest caution and foresight will be necessary on their part and that of the settlers; and one of them states that there always will be more or less trouble with the Indians, as long as they live in their present restless condition, and show an unwillingness to settle down to agriculture, or kindred pursuits. I may also say I received a letter from one of these same policemen, nearly a year before the late rebellion, foretelling there would be trouble in the Saskatchewan Valley before a year closed, growing out of the discontent amongst the Metis, and the probability of the Indians joining them,—we know with what results. The general impression in the city is much the same as the reports, just as people like to take them. But I think, if men were less partizan, and considered their country as pre-eminent to party principle, we could look with more certainty on what we hear, as there is no doubt a tinge of personal spleen in many of the reports.

The shortness of the season throughout Manitoba and the North-West, before the early frosts visit us, has brought the question of adopting an earlier kind of wheat, than that at present grown, prominently forward amongst the wheat-growers and millers.

According to many, the seasons appear to have become much shorter

since the settlement of the country. We generally hear the same statement pretty much all over the world. Nature seems to become inspired, as soon as the white man puts his foot upon virgin soil, to deal harshly with him, and true to Scripture, makes it necessary for him, through her immutable and now exacting laws, to till the ground, not only with the sweat of his brow, but with a cunning hand, pointing us out in contrast with the red man as the true children of Adam.

The variety at present widely grown is what is known as Red Fyfe, with a very hard silicious coating, but it is claimed by some that a softer kind would mature earlier. Whether it does, or not, it has not been decided to depart from the present one, moreover as the millers of England and elsewhere are calling for it.

What is wanted, is selected seed of this variety, properly grown with a view to obtain in the future a hardy and earlier maturing growth; and to do this, it would have to be cultivated in a scientific manner, probably requiring the establishment of Government farms for the purpose. It received its name in a pleasing manner. A farmer named, Fyfe, living at Otonabee, Ontario, asked a friend from Scotland, who was visiting him, to send him out a "bonnet-ful" (Tam O'Shanter) of some new kind of wheat for seed. On his return to Scotland, this friend, seeing a ship starting from Glasgow with grain for the east, took a bonnet-ful and sent it to Fyfe in Canada. From that "bonnet-ful" has sprung the famous Fyfe wheat of Canada. It is supposed that the ship-load mentioned came from the Baltic. The Red Fyfe is the wheat for the country, and is in fact the only variety that can be grown to advantage on the Northern prairies. It brings a better price, and 90lbs. of flour made from it are equal to 120lbs. of any other.

Prof. Turner, of the Institute of Agriculture, S. Kensington, seems to have taken the subject up, and interests himself generally in this country, issuing pamphlets from time to time on its resources, etc.

The farmers in future will take more to mixed farming, rather than run the risk of losing all in a wheat crop; and already, 33 per cent more land is prepared than last year for spring crops.

In general, the more northern the wheat is grown, the more gluten it contains, consequently, the more valuable; whilst the more southern, the more starchy it becomes. The sample that obtained the prize at Philadelphia Central Exhibition was grown on the Church of England Mission, 900 miles north of Calgary. The Farmers' Union, here, instead of being a benefit to the country, has been doing great harm with its dabbling in politics and anti-immigration schemes. It is made up of lawyers, doctors, ministers, editors, and politicians (farmers?). When the Secretary (who has since resigned) could not obtain a reduced rate of 5 cents per bushel less than other shippers from the C. P. R. he, with others, resorted to threats, and telegraphed to England that farmers could not make a living in the country, being unable to dispose of their frozen wheat. The real farmers have been duped, whilst unprincipled individuals have been filling their pockets at their expense. The scheme as exposed, shows that the farmers have been getting less for their wheat, through the union, than they could have got elsewhere. It is quite easy to surmise where the difference has gone to.

The rebellion has left a great quantity of money in the country. Many farmers, through its aid, have been able to pay off mortgages, and business in general appears to be opening up for a spring trade. Many places along the line of the C. P. R. have profited in consequence. In Calgary alone, \$300,000 was the gain.

There has been quite a tirade at this latter place over a libel case in which Fitz Cochran, of Halifax, prominently figures as one of the defendant's counsel. The Stipendiary Magistrate there has sentenced Cayley, editor of the *Herald*, for "contempt," to pay a heavy fine. Cayley refuses to pay, and has been committed to jail, to stay there for life, unless certain parties (accomplices) pay the fine. The affair has not been settled yet. The action of the Magistrate has been upheld by the majority of the citizens, whilst others are requesting his removal.

The intense cold still continues. It is now about 45 degrees below zero in the morning, to 35 degrees at noon. It does not do to dawdle about the streets in such a temperature as this; 5 miles per hour is then the regular pace. Many old people, for this reason, remain in doors, from December to March. They could venture out on milder days, but are afraid. Others complain about the cold air "taking their breath away." There would be no trouble in this respect, if they only kept their mouths shut, and breathe naturally through their nose. A good wrinkle worth knowing, (especially to the ladies), is, that breathing through the nostrils during sleep will greatly delay the appearance of the noted crow's foot marks at the corners of the eyes.

Yours, etc.,

SCIRON.

[FOR THE CRITIC.]

A SPIRITUAL SYMPHONY.

"Is there such a thing as a perfect union of souls in this world, I wonder? Is there such a thing do you think as perfect love?" That question broke forth with a mournful appeal in every tone. "Union of souls and perfect love are very different things," was the answer given thoughtfully and sadly. "I think you can have a love perfect and beautiful in its kind, such as the love of a mother and son, without any union of soul between that mother and son. Ah yes, believe me, it takes something more than mere love to perfect that strong comelting of heart to heart, and soul to soul—which constitutes the true marriage of spirits.

Am I not right? Do we not often see two human beings, it may be husband and wife, or mother and daughter, loving each other devotedly, and yet spiritually as far asunder as the poles!

I hold that it takes a full and pure sympathy to complete that true

concord of spirit with spirit, and what is sympathy? Can we define it better than by saying, it is feeling with a fine sensitiveness, another's feeling. There is a 'heart harmony,' whose song is Love. There is a 'mind melody,' whose refrain is Reverence. And there is a 'soul symphony' whose holy chant is Sympathy.

A heart harmony is the striking forth of the heart's cords from one heart unto another heart whose harmony is Love. A beautiful strain it always is; and often breaking forth into a strain of wondrous sweet unselfishness. Such as the love of a daughter for some worthless father, and that father may give of the best of his love to that daughter. But how can anything like Reverence or Sympathy ever enter in and draw together with a sacred nearness, the lofty and pure, with the low and impure. Yea hard, and often bitter, is that tie which indissolubly unites body with body, though soul is far from soul. That tie may be the marriage tie, of which God has said: 'What therefore God hath joined together, let not man put asunder.' It may be God's tie of blood relationship. Both sacred. Both inviolable. But how often nevertheless borne with a bitterness of which God alone knows. And that very love which is given on both sides only serves to intensify that bitterness.

Yes, there is such a thing as Love—true Love without any communion of spirits.

A 'mind melody' is the flowing forth of the mind's holiest faculty, whose melody is Reverence. Is reverence not essentially one of the mind's highest attributes—if not the highest? The heart gives love often impulsively, without questioning the wisdom of that love. But the mind never gives reverence in that way. So that heart and mind often are in conflict. The mind with calm deliberation gives its feeling of reverence; it may be for the holy which it sees in another. Or it may be a purely intellectual reverence; such as we cannot help possessing for some great genius. There is a flow of thought and fancy which, meeting with responsive echoes in another mind, produces a spiritual melody which few understand. To a mind full of rich productive thought this mind melody of response from a kindred mind is fraught with a deep delight, undreamed of by the little mind. But may not even the little mind find some small responsive echoes in another little mind, thus making *their* tiny mind melody too? I believe that it may be so.

But I believe that there may exist, and does exist, that mind melody between two higher intellects, without one strain of heart harmony. And I go further and say, I do believe that there may exist between two characters, both beautiful in themselves, that love and reverence, and yet—yet still those souls may be very far apart.

It takes something finer, more sensitive even than love and reverence to make soul feel soul.

A 'soul symphony' is just that something which we call 'sympathy,' I think. Just that delicate sensitiveness which has the power of hearing what that other soul is hearing, and of feeling what that other soul is feeling.

That 'soul symphony' is the highest and sweetest spiritual music which the soul can hear; and which draws soul near to soul. Ah! *that* soft, sweet song of the soul has in it something more subtle, more thrilling even, than the songs of heart and mind.

But in it harmony and melody are combined. For I think it is not possible for a great true sympathy to exist without Love and Reverence following.

Call it sympathy! Call it affinity! Call it what you will; but it is just soul touching soul, and thrilling into a full perfect concord.

All three attributes, of heart, mind, and soul, must be most essential to that real wedding of souls. But the highest, the most essential, is that 'spiritual symphony' sympathy.

"But does anyone ever hear that 'spiritual symphony' come sadly, despairingly."

"Yes, some few whose spiritual ears are so delicately sensitive that they catch the sweet sounds of that soul song. A song that common mortal ears never hear. *Then* soul knows soul."

"Oh, but is that really possible? Does that ever happen here upon this earth?"

Softly the reply was whispered, "not often, but it is a rapture that some have tasted."

"Have you ever tasted that rapture?" Still more softly, with intense fervor; not spoken to the human ears listening, but whispered up, high up into spiritual realms.

"O, my God! Thou knowest I have not tasted of that cup of rapture, but have drunk of it long and deep, and I thank Thee Father." . . . There was a low, weary sigh . . .

F. W. M.

The new Chinese consul at New York has given his countrymen a dinner, the bill of fare being as follows: 1. Dragon fish, boiled celery. 2. Sharks, fins stewed, birds' nest soup. 3. Sea worm, ginger and ground nuts. 4. Fruit, eggs and preserves. 5. Devil fish, roast chickens and duck. 6. Sucking pig, bamboo shoots and rice. 7. Perfumed pork, mushrooms and sea beans. 8. Spiced sausage, stuffed eggs, and millet. 9. Tenderloin with raisins and chestnuts. 10. Mooncake and confectionery. The drinks were tea, almond tea, arrack and Chinese liquor. The almond tea was a novelty, and consisted apparently of a sweet decoction of almonds reinforced with alcohol and rock candy.

"You should have a thermometer to ascertain the proper temperature of the water," said a mother to the coloured nurse who was giving the baby a bath. "Whaffor?" "To tell when the water is too hot or too cold." "Don't need no sich dockermant. Ef de chile turns blue, de water am too cold, and ef he turns red, den hit am too hot." And now the coloured lady is looking for a place.

[FOR THE CRITIC.]

THE CANADIAN MILITIA.

No. III.

To supplement previous remarks, the Militia Blue Book further shows the honesty of the D. A. G.'s and other supervising officers, who never shrink from laying bare the weak points of the service. In connection with the subject of native or simple Militia officers being debarred from the higher commands, I may further mention Lt.-Col. R. B. Denison, who is D. A. G. of No. 2 District; Lt.-Col. Jackson, of No. 1 District; Lt.-Col. Lamontagne, of No. 4; Lt.-Col. de Lotbiniere Harwood, of No. 6; and Lt.-Col. Holmes, of No. 11;—at least no previous army rank appears against any of those names in the Militia List. There are also a number of Brigade Majors, whom I will not occupy space by enumerating. Now, the Deputy Adjutant-Generalship of a District is a very important command, and in my opinion D. A. G.'s should hold the rank of Brigadier-General, of which more hereafter.

With regard to General Middleton, I believe his experience of "bush" fighting was infinitely greater than that of any officer or man under his command.

A word as to errata. I suppose any one may perceive, that "ad excludendum," should read "ad captandum," and that very old battalion was not so portentously huge a body as to comprize "eighty" companies, but contents itself now with the more modest complement of "eight." To an erratum, or to a slip of the pen, I attribute C. P. M.'s expression "physically pusillanimous," which would otherwise be singularly inappropriate in the connection in which it is used (No. 3 CRITIC, 4th Dec.)—"Exhaustible," in my last, should, I think, read "exhaustive," "absolutely done," should have read "done absolutely." The transposition makes a slight but distinct difference of meaning. I know it was due to my alterations and interlineations.

To revert to article No. 3. If any one will look over the Militia Blue Book, he will, I think, find that the statement that it is "misleading from cover to cover," is an unconsidered statement, and a gross exaggeration. I write with entire freedom from bias, looking for no Government favor, and, except that I believe the Conservative ideas to be broader than the Grit—the Conservatives to be Statesmen, the Grits mere Politicians—caring not much more for one than for the other.

It is supposed, and probably, in the main, correctly, that "in the field, volunteers are apt to be of an unstable character." Canadian achievements, however, go rather against the tradition.

Opposed to regular masses of choice troops, it would be dangerous to predict the result. But in such warfare as we have seen, no blot, so far as I am aware, has stained the Canadian escutcheon. Even at Ridgway, the "Queen's Own" skirmished with exemplary behaviour, 'till their ammunition gave out, and inflicted considerable loss on the enemy. Other operations on the eastern frontier, in 1866, might be styled brilliant, and two Colonels, McEachren and Chamberlain, got the C. M. G. for them. Neither can we forget the American Revolutionary War, in which raw volunteers inflicted discomfiture and heavy loss on the English Regulars. The panic of Bull Run, to which C. P. M. alludes, was, I am inclined to think, phenomenal. Whether or no, it was more disgraceful than the flight of Cleopatra's Galleys at Actium. "That a like exhibition" might "be witnessed in Canada" is of course "possible," but I have a saving faith that, under good officers, it would be improbable. The prospect of good officers I will touch upon by and by.

I have little to say in contravention of the remainder of article III, regarding the commission of 1862, and the abortive Bill framed on its report. It is a correct summary, but the events took place nearly a quarter of a century ago, and their results may be thus epitomized. The excitement which influenced the period from the "Trent affair" to the Fall of 1866, stimulated the patriotism of the country into a military organization in excess of its normal condition and temper, and in excess of the legitimate and natural proportion to be expected of its then population. The reaction was very apparent in 1867 and 1868, and the excitement at no time carried the country off its head, as the very rejection of the measure of 1863, in the midst of it, demonstrated. And although, with increasing population, the organization set on foot in those years has been maintained, it is still so much too heavy for the national conditions and temperament that General Middleton, with the strong sense that characterizes him, recommends, in his last year's report, a reduction of the Force, on the solid ground that the existing corps can only at present be allowed alternate year's drill.

That the votes are insufficient to accomplish more, is partly due to those very measures which are in course of meeting the apparent desires of C. P. M., viz.: the gradual establishment of a moderate Regular Force in the shape of the Royal Canadian Artillery, the Schools of Inspection for the Cavalry and Infantry, and the Royal Military College, all which institutions also serve the invaluable purpose of furnishing the National Forces with a supply of officers and N. C. O.'s of superior military culture. We of the old Militia Schools of 1864 and subsequent years are now, a good many of us at least, passing out of date, and with some exceptions of zeal and ability, a few years will see the Militia permeated by a superior set of men.

In fact the growth of the Military Power of Canada must be gradual, spontaneous, and subject to the growth of the country. When I look back twenty-eight years to the date of my first commission in Canada, when the whole force of the country consisted of a few independent troops and companies, the progress of to-day affords no unsatisfactory spectacle. The chief fault is that the organization is even now somewhat excessive. I shall presently endeavor to suggest a scheme by which it may, I venture to think,

be curtailed to a footing on which there might be no difference between "establishment" and effective strength.

To No. 4, of December 11, which is an exposition written in a style with which I cannot pretend to compete, I have but two or three exceptions to make. I can scarcely subscribe to the idea that the defeat of Montgomery was a mere fluke. Perhaps Wolfe's escalade of the Plains of Abraham was a fluke. The surrender of Burgoyne, the defeat of MacKay at Killiecrankie, Agincourt, Flodden, the defeat of Hadrubal at the Metaurus, nay, Marathon itself, all exhibit characteristics which might by possibility be so designated. I am not quite so sure about the "immutable laws of nature" as C. P. M. and Mr. Goldwin Smith, tho' I do not deny a probability, and I do not think "the Confederation is doomed to a partial dissolution before the annexation movement is complete." In this case the wish seems to be father to the thought; but how is it that the Maritime Provinces, in which we hear so much of this dissatisfaction, continue to return Conservative members to the Dominion Parliament? I think Annexationists should boldly proclaim themselves to be Annexationists. There is, doubtless, ground for the opinion that "a peaceful sliding into the American Union" might be an "eventful and promising lot" for Canada, but there are features in the American polity which are in the highest degree repugnant to many who have still some ideas apart from commercial greed. Again I am forcibly impressed that C. P. M. is far less concerned with the state of the Militia of Canada than with the desirability of annexation.

In No. 5, of December 18, C. P. M. ventures on very definite prophecy. "Nous verrons." But I have occupied, I suppose, enough space for the present.

FRANC-TIREUR.

COMMERCIAL.

FISH.—Since our last issue we know of no fish arrivals at this market except frozen herring and frozen codfish. There have been quite a number of the latter which we learn are being packed away frozen for sale later on. All kinds of pickled fish are still exceedingly dull. There is little or no enquiry for poor or No. 3 Large, and No. 3 mackerel, or herring of any description, except Round shore. Some of these would find buyers while all other varieties are hardly enquired for. We still think that later on there will be some demand at an advance for good large fat mackerel. If these are not to be had it is hard to say whether plain 2's will take the place of a larger and fatter fish or not. The markets in the West Indies show but little improvement, if any. We do not think that dry hard shore fish are held in any quantity in this market, there being very little held now outside of regular West India shippers.

There seems to be a little more demand the past few days in the Boston fish markets, but we do not know of any real advance in prices. We noticed quite a parcel of mackerel going forward to the Boston markets by the steamers *British Queen* and *Linn O'Dev*, holders being very anxious to take hold of any opportunity there may be of selling, as there seems to be little prospects of making sales in this market.

Advices from Boston fish market up to February 5, are as follows:— There has been a fair trade during the past week, but receipts have been light. Mackerel remain about the same, a few sales of 3's at \$5.50. No change can be noted in codfish; pickled bank are moving freely at \$2.50, very fine dry fish are being sold. Frozen herring are in very liberal receipt and have been selling during the week at 75 cents per hundred.

Below will be found a comparative statement of arrivals of mackerel for the past four years for week ending Feb. 5:—

1886	1885	1884	1883
2261 Bbls.	2501 Bbls.	6026 Bbls.	5959 Bbls.

Advices from Gloucester fish market to February 5, are as follows:— "During the past week the weather has been unfavorable for fishing, yet the few arrivals bring in good fares, the total receipts being quite up to the average. The market for salt fish improves very slowly, prices are unchanged. A prohibitory law against the early catching of mackerel is generally looked on with favor. If passed, all old stock will no doubt be well cleared out this spring. Mackerel are quoted as follows: 3's, \$5.50; 2's, \$7.00 to \$7.50; extra 2's, \$9.00 to \$10.00; 1's, \$20.00; extra 1's, \$25.00; codfish, bank, \$2.50 to \$2.75; medium, \$2.50; Georges', \$3.25 to \$3.75; medium, \$2.75; shore, \$3.50; hake and haddock, \$2.00; pollock, \$1.75 to \$2.00; shore herring \$2.50; fresh halibut, 5 to 8 cents; fresh cod, \$3.00 per 100; frozen herring 85 cents per 100. The schooner *Carrie D. Allen* sailed from Provincetown for Lisbon, having been sold to parties there. She cleared with 2000 qtls. bonded codfish from the Provinces, and 950 qtls. of the Provincetown catch. Stock of codfish at Provincetown is much reduced. There arrived at Gloucester the past week 17 fares with 207,000 pounds codfish, 116,000 pounds halibut, 1,620,000 pounds frozen herring. The total arrivals at the port of Gloucester for the month of January were as follows: 64 fares with 510,000 pounds codfish; 517,800 pounds halibut; 15,000 pounds haddock; 4,361,000 frozen herring; 220 bbls. pickled herring. The receipts for January, 1885, were only 293,000 pounds codfish, 171,200 pounds Halibut, 1,560,000 pounds frozen herring.

The following article was published in the *Boston Evening Transcript*:— WASHINGTON, Feb. 4, 1886.—"The committee adopted the report and the bill proposed by the sub committee on mackerel fishing, of which Representative Reed is a member. It prohibits the importation or catching of mackerel during the spawning season, commencing on the first day of March and ending on the first day of June. The bill being reported to the House to-day by the Ways and Means committee—was at once considered and duly passed."

MARKET QUOTATIONS.

WHOLESALE RATES.

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

GROCERIES.

SUGAR.	
Cut Leaf.....	8 to 8 1/2
Granulated.....	7 to 7 1/2
Circle A.....	6 1/2 to 6 3/4
Extra C.....	5 1/2 to 6
Yellow C.....	5 1/2
Yellow.....	5 1/2
TEA.	
Congon. Common.....	17 to 19
" Fair.....	20 to 23
" Good.....	23 to 25
" Choice.....	31 to 33
" Extra Choice.....	35 to 36
Oolong—Choice.....	37 to 39
MOLASSES.	
Barbadoes.....	30 to 32
Demerara.....	30 to 35
Diamond N.....	43
SOAPS.	
Ivory bar, 1 lb., 2 lb and 3 lb.....	6 1/2
Erasive.....	6
Dominion.....	6 1/2
Surprise.....	5 1/2
Tiger.....	5 1/2
Extra Pale, 1 or 5 lb.....	5
"Linen Towel" for 30 rs, and 30 towels.....	6.00
Canada.....	4
Imperial.....	4
No 1 Family.....	4
Hermine.....	3 1/2
Brant.....	3
Brown.....	2
Tollet 15 to 60c. per doz.....	
CANDLES, 6s and 8s.....	11 1/2
Do., Paraffine.....	19 to 20c
BISCUITS.	
Pilot Bread.....	2.60 to 2.90
Horton and Thin Family.....	6 1/2 to 7 1/2
Soda.....	6 to 7
do. in lb. boxes, 50 to case.....	7
Fancy.....	8 to 15
CONFECTIONERY.	
Assorted in 30 lb Pails.....	12
Royal Mixture.....	11 to 20
Lozenges.....	12 to 15
1 cent goods, 144 in a box.....	95 to 1 10
Toys per hundred.....	65 to 75
Clear Candy Toys.....	18
BROOMS.	
Starch, Blue and White.....	1.00 to 1.25
" Lilly White.....	9
Prepared Corn.....	9
BUTTER.	
Canadian.....	16 to 20
N. S.....	15 to 20
CHEESE.	
Eggs.....	9 to 10
19 to 20	
Tobacco—Black.....	39 to 46
" Bright.....	42 to 58
Blacking, per gross.....	3.00 to 4.00
Blacklead, ".....	2.00 to 10.00
Pearl Blue.....	2.50 to 3.00

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

FISH FROM VESSELS.

Prices nominal. No arrivals. No sales.	
MACKEREL.	
Extra.....	10 50 to 11.00
No. 1.....	9 00 to 9.50
No. 2 large.....	8.75 to 9.00
No. 2.....	3.25
No. 3 large.....	3.00 to 3.25
No. 3.....	3.00
Small.....	1.00
HERRING.	
No. 1 Shore, July, No sales.....	2.75 to 3.00
August and Sept.....	2.25 to 2.50
No. 1 Round Shore, Scarce.....	3 00
No. 1, Labrador.....	none
ALBACORE.	
Hard Shore to lquial.....	2.25 to 2.50
Blank.....	2.00 to 2.25
Bay.....	none
SALMON, No. 1.....	none
No. 2.....	none
No. 3.....	none
HADDOCK.....	1.90 to 2 00
HAKE.....	1 75
CUSK.....	none
POLLOCK.....	none
FISH OILS.	
Cod A.....	.35 to .36
Dog A.....	.25 to .29
Pale Seal.....	none
HAKE SOUNDS.....	45 to 50c. per lb.

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

HOME AND FOREIGN FRUITS.

Apples, No. 1, per bbl.....	2.00 to 2.75
Oranges, per bbl, Jamaica (new).....	.00 to 6.50
case, Valencia.....	.50 to 6.00
Lemons, per box.....	3.50 to 5.50
Cocoanuts, per 100.....	4.50 to 5.50
Onions (barrels) per lb.....	2 1/2 to 3 1/2
Grapes, Almeria, kegs.....	6.50 to 7.00
Foxberries, per bbl.....	3 00 to 3.85
Cranberries.....	6.00 to 6.50
Figs, 1 lb boxes.....	16 to 18c
Dates, layer.....	7 to 8c

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

BREADSTUFFS.

PROVISIONS AND PRODUCE.

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

FLOUR.	
Graham.....	6.25 to 6.50
Patent high grades.....	6.25 to 6.50
" mediums.....	4.75 to 5.00
Superior Extra.....	4.50 to 4.75
Lower grades.....	3.25 to 4.00
Oatmeal.....	4.00 to 5.00
Corn Meal—Halifax ground.....	3.00 to 3.25
"—Imported.....	2.90 to 3.00
Bran per ton—Wheat.....	20.00 to 22.00
"—Corn.....	15.00 to 20.00
Shorts.....	22.00 to 24.00
Middlings.....	35.00 to 36.00
Cracked Corn.....	29.00 to 30.00
" Oats.....	35.00 to 36.00
" Barley.....	24.00
Pea Meal per bbl.....	3.75
Feed Flour.....	3.25 to 3.50
Oats per bushel of 34 lb.....	42 to 44
Barley " of 48 ".....	75 to 80
Peas " of 60 ".....	1.10
Corn " of 54 ".....	80 to 85
Hay per ton.....	14.00 to 16.00
Straw ".....	9.00 to 10.00

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

PROVISIONS.

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

These quotations are prepared by a reliable wholesale house.

WOOL, WOOL SKINS & HIDES.

Wool—clean washed, per pound.....	20
" unwashed.....	15
Green Hides—Ox, inspected, No 1.....	7 1/2
" Cow.....	7
Salted Hides—Ox in Lots, No 1.....	7 1/2
" Cow.....	7 1/2
Calf Skin.....	8 to 10
" Deacons, each.....	30 to 35
Woolskins.....	25 to 30

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

LUMBER.

Pine, clear, No. 1, per m.....	25.00 to 28.00
" Merchantable, do do.....	14.00 to 17.00
" No 2 do.....	10.00 to 13.00
" Small, per m.....	8.00 to 14.00
Spruce, dimension good, per m.....	9.50 to 10.00
" Merchantable, do do.....	8.00 to 9.00
" Small, do do.....	6.50 to 7.05
Hemlock, merchantable.....	7 00
Shingles, No 1, sawed, pine.....	3.00 to 3.50
" No 2, do do.....	1 00 to 1.25
" spruce, No 1.....	1.10 to 1.30
Laths, per m.....	1.20
Hard wood, per cord.....	4.00 to 4.25
Soft wood.....	2.25 to 2.50

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

POULTRY.

Fowls, per pair.....	40 to 50
Turkeys, per pound.....	11 to 12
Geese, each.....	65 to 70
Ducks, per pair.....	55 to 70

The above are corrected by a reliable victualer.

LIVE STOCK.

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

These quotations are prepared by a reliable victualer.

THE SEA WITCH.

(Continued.)

It was quite evident that all those who saw and heard her set her down as the future Mrs. Rivers; and, in point of fact, she went as near to saying so as was possible. After dinner I made a feeble effort to convey to her my fixed determination to live and die a bachelor, but she only laughed, and affected to misunderstand me. Had I not, most mercifully, had steam-power at my command, I believe I should have been driven to throw myself upon her compassion and implore her to leave me alone. She did not go away until quite late, the moment that she had vanished into the darkness I gave orders to my captain to get under way with the first streak of dawn. "There is no one to tell her where I have gone, and she can't scour the high seas in pursuit of me," I thought.

I am afraid my companions were not best pleased when, on waking up in the morning and finding themselves already out at sea, they were informed that our destination was Kirkwall; but I couldn't help that. A man must be allowed to command on board his own yacht; and though we had a rough passage across and some of us were seasick, there was no use in grumbling about it. When we were safe on the other side I explained that one couldn't count upon the weather at that season of the year, and that it would have been very disagreeable to be bottled up at Bergen or Trondhjem for three weeks together. We finished our cruise among the Hebrides and the other islands of the west coast of Scotland, and I reflected gleefully within myself that Mrs. Wynne could not possibly know what had become of me this time.

Towards the end of September my friends left me. It was growing cold, and I had had quite enough of yachting; yet I felt that there could be no real safety for me except in a seafaring life. I had made several engagements to stay with different people then and during the following month; but I was not going to run the risk of meeting Mrs. Wynne in a country-house, so I wrote off excuses to everybody, and made up my mind to go round to Portsmouth in the yacht.

After we had been detained for some days at Oban by bad weather, the wind shifted to the northeast, and we got a cold, bright morning, which looked suitable for making a start. Seated on deck, I was watching the men getting up the anchor, and was ruminating a little sadly upon the infirmities which make themselves felt with advancing years and the many worries which appear to be inseparable from existence. Nothing is so disastrous to my liver as a touch of east wind. I knew that I ought to be sitting before a good fire instead of upon that draughty deck, and it seemed a little hard that I must be exposed to all the inclemencies of the season because a brazen old woman had taken it into her head that she would like to have the spending of my money. While I was musing thus I thought I heard somebody hail us; but I did not move, knowing that I had no acquaintances in the place who were likely to be coming on board. Presently I saw Jackson, my skipper, walk aft; then he took off his cap to somebody; and then—oh, horror!—the head and shoulders of Mrs. Wynne appeared over the side. The rest of her person followed quickly, and behind her loomed up—could I believe my eyes?—a huge portmanteau. Then came another portmanteau, and then a travelling-bag, a bundle of shawls, and a dressing-case. What, in Heaven's name, could it all mean?

I was not left long in doubt. Mrs. Wynne came tipping across the deck on the tips of her toes, her hands outstretched, and her painted countenance all smiles. "My dear general," she began—"my dear friend, what will you think of me?"

"I don't know," I groaned; "I don't know what to think. Perhaps you will explain."

"I was afraid you would be rather astonished at first," she said; "but then I thought I might surely venture upon taking a little liberty with you, and I was certain that you would be too kind to refuse me such a trifling favour as taking me round to the Clyde with you. I know you are going south, and it's all on your way."

"Gracious mercy!" I ejaculated, but she held up her hand entreatingly. "Now do allow me to finish. I was just going to tell you how it has happened that I am stranded here all by myself. Those people with whom I was yachting in Norway were to have picked me up here and taken me to Glasgow, where I positively must be by to-morrow night in time to catch the mail, and only this morning I had a telegram from them to say that they were weather-bound somewhere up north, and could not possibly be here for several days. Wasn't it too tiresome? I am always so nervous about travelling alone, and I haven't even got my maid with me. I was quite in despair till I caught sight of your yacht, and heard that you were on the point of starting for the South. It was as if you had been sent specially by Providence to save me."

I could not think that Providence would have served me such a dirty turn as that; but it was idle to dispute the assertion. What was evident was that nothing but the greatest firmness and presence of mind could save me.

"Mrs. Wynne," I said, gravely, "what you ask me to do is out of the question—utterly out of the question, believe me. You have not, I suppose, realized that I am alone on board?"

"Oh, are you?" she returned, not a whit abashed. "I am very glad of it. We shall have the more time for a quiet chat; and I want to consult you about a heap of things."

"But, my dear good lady," I exclaimed earnestly, "we can't put to sea for a day and a night all by ourselves. It wouldn't do. It wouldn't be proper you know."

"As if it signified!" she cried. "Such old friends as you and I!"

"Oh, we are old enough for anything," I agreed; "I quite admit that. We are old enough to know better. You must be aware that ago is no protection from slander and that people are sure to say—"

"I don't care a straw what people say," she interrupted, audaciously. "Possibly not; but the difference between us is that I do," I remarked. After which there was a pause.

During this colloquy Jackson had been hovering near us with a face expressive of the most profound astonishment, and I thought it would be better to go below before embarking upon the altercation which was now inevitable. "Would you mind coming into the main cabin with me?" I asked Mrs. Wynne. Then I told Jackson that I should not want to get under way just yet, and followed my persecutor's blue sergo skirt down the companion.

She began flirting about at once and examining everything. "What a pretty cabin! You are quite a Sybarite. Who arranges your flowers for you? And which is to be my berth?"

Now or never, I felt, was the time for me to show of what stuff I was made.

"Mrs. Wynne," I answered, gently but decisively, "you will not occupy any berth on board this vessel, I am sorry to say. It is painful to me to be obliged to be so inhospitable; but I am persuaded that, when you think things over quietly, you will see that I have no choice in the matter. I have a duty to perform, and I shall not shrink from performing it."

"What are you going to do?" she asked; and I was glad to notice a shade of apprehension in her voice.

"I am going," I replied, "to put you on shore immediately. I am going to escort you to the steamboat office or the railway station, whichever you prefer, and I am going to take your ticket for Glasgow and see you safely off."

"How unkind you are!" she cried; "and how ridiculously prudish! What if we are doing something that Mrs. Grundy wouldn't approve of? People will never hear of it. Who is to tell them?"

I knew very well who would tell them; but I did not say this. I only replied, mildly, that I was sorry, but that there was no help for it. Go she must.

"I won't go!" she exclaimed abruptly: "I won't be turned into a laughing-stock because of your absurd scruples. If I had had any idea that you would be so very disagreeable I should never have come on board; but now that I am here I shall stay. And I do think you might have some little consideration for me. I am not accustomed to travelling about alone, and there are all sorts of horrid tourists and people in these towns and streams. One might have one's pocket picked, or be insulted, or—or fifty things."

"I am protecting you against yourself," answered I, sententiously; "I value your reputation more even than your comfort."

"Bother my reputation!" called out Mrs. Wynne, with alarming recklessness. "Why, if the worst came to the worst, what could people say?"

"Well," replied I, "I am afraid they could, and would say that—we were going to be married."

"And would that be such a terrible calamity?"

My blood curdled in my veins when Mrs. Wynne put this question in her most insinuating manner, accompanying it with an upward glance which spoke volumes. I knew that she was not a woman to stick at a trifle; but I really had not expected that she would propose to me in so many words. I confess that I lost my head for the moment, and hardly knew what I was saying.

"It would indeed!" I cried eagerly. "Any woman who married me would be going in for a truly clamorous thing. In fact, her whole life afterwards would be one long calamity, so to speak. My temper is awful—you might not suppose it, but it is. I have several organic complaints which are bound to make an end of me in a year or two, and when I die all my landed property will go to my cousin. As for my personality, I have invested largely of late in Turkish and South American securities, and the result is what no one can foretell. And, besides all this I am absolutely and irrevocably determined not to marry anybody. I never have married, and—and at my time of life it is not likely that I should begin."

Mrs. Wynne stared at me as if she thought I had taken leave of my senses; and indeed she might have been excused for believing what was so nearly the truth. Then she laughed a little. "Really, my dear general," she said, "one would suppose that I had asked you to marry me, instead of only begging you to take me as far as the mouth of the Clyde."

"It's the same thing," answered I, despondently, feeling a little ashamed of my vehemence. But no sooner had the words passed my lips than I saw by the gleam in her eyes, what a dangerous admission I had made, and I hastened to correct it.

"At least, I added, hurriedly, "it would be the same thing in the eyes of the world. I should not, of course, marry you; but everybody would say that you had tried to make me do so."

She started to her feet and paced up and down the cabin once or twice with an agitated step. Then, all of a sudden, she exclaimed, "How can you say such cruel things?" and, dropping into an arm-chair, burst into tears.

In a general way I am as wax in the hands of those who weep at me; but I suppose there must be an under-current of brutality in my nature which rises to the surface when I am driven to desperation. I astonished myself by the callous insensibility with which I said, "I wouldn't cry if I were you. You may leave unbecoming traces upon your cheeks, you know, and we are far from all the resources of civilization in these parts."

I thought that would rouse her. It did.

"You wretch!" she shrieked, "I don't paint my cheeks. Spiteful women say I do—they say that of everybody who has a decent complexion—but it's a falsehood. I can convince you of it if you choose. Would you like to see me wash my face?"

"No," I answered, unfeelingly, "I should not. The question doesn't

interest or concern me in any way. I don't care if you never wash your face again."

"You insult me!" she exclaimed.

"I am aware of it," returned I. "I have insulted you grossly, and if you have a spark of self-respect you can't possibly remain on board. I shall go up on deck for five minutes to give you time to compose yourself a little, and then we will go ashore."

I will confess that, when I had left Mrs. Wynne, my conduct struck me as having been atrocious, but then the provocation had been great, and my remorse was assuaged in some measure by the pride of conquest. The only question was, had I conquered after all? Supposing that she obstinately refused to retreat, what was I to do? I couldn't put her on shore by main force. Possibly it might have been wiser to have recourse to some stratagem than to defy one who had neither pity nor principle. While I thus communed with myself I was absently gazing at a large yacht which had come in while I had been below, and was bringing up within a short distance of us. I seemed to know the look of her, but it was only when Jackson joined me, and said, "Skyrocket just in from Portree, sir," that I recognized Conington's yacht, the *Sirocco*, and there, sure enough, was Conington himself on deck, waving friendly signals to me.

It is a kindly provision on the part of Nature that our most brilliant inspirations generally come to us in moments of the greatest emergency. I don't know what it was that suddenly made me think of the man who, while elbowing his way through a crowd, had a baby placed in his arms, and who, with the utmost presence of mind, popped into a passing carriage and ran away. Why, I asked myself—my heart beginning to beat wildly—why should not this precedent be applied to me and my old woman of the sea? It was a stirring thought. With a rapidity of which I should not have believed myself capable I conceived and grasped every detail of a bold design, and, without hesitating for a moment, I ran down the companion to put it into execution.

Mrs. Wynne was sitting where I had left her, but she had dried her eyes. She wore—if I may be allowed to use so ungallant a comparison—very much the air of a donkey who has planted his forefeet firmly on the ground, laid back his ears, and tucked his tail between his legs. "No surrender" was written on every line of her countenance. It must have been a surprise to her to see me walk in delicately, like King Agag, and to hear me address her in gentle, conciliatory accents.

"Mrs. Wynne," said I, "I have come to make my apologies. I feel that I spoke hastily and rudely just now. Shall we agree to forget that painful scene, and sail for the Clyde as if nothing had happened. When all is said and done, why should an old man care for the world and its harsh judgments?"

She jumped up with a little cry of pleasure, and for an instant I thought she was going to embrace me. However, I executed a backward bound and pushed a chair between us, so as to preclude any surprise of that nature, after which I went on with my scheme of heartless deception. I remember to have felt a sort of dull wonder at my own duplicity, but for the time being I was really dead to all sense of shame. I said, "Let us go up into the fresh air," and she cheerfully acceded to this proposal.

As soon as we were on deck I affected much surprise at becoming aware of the *Sirocco*. "Dear me!" I cried, "there is Conington's yacht; and surely that is Conington himself beckoning to us. Suppose we go on board for five minutes and see him."

My manner was composed, but I was trembling all over with suppressed anxiety. Would she yield? would she fall into the trap? To my boundless relief, she did. From the alacrity with which she consented, and from the expression of triumph which she vainly strove to conceal, I saw that she not only suspected nothing, but was overjoyed at this opportunity of parading her supposed captive in the presence of witnesses. That crushed any lingering feeling of compunction that I may have had. I had been resolute before, I was adamant now. I ordered the gig alongside, and in a few minutes we were standing on the deck of the *Sirocco*, Conington greeting us with sardonic smiles by which my withers were unwrung. I met the derisive and compassionate gesture with which he favored me behind Mrs. Wynne's back in a spirit of bland self-security. "Wait a bit, my boy!" thought I to myself. "Rira bien qui rira le dernier!"

"Pray, have you two been cruising about together for long?" Conington inquired, taking no pains to hide his insulting chuckles.

Mrs. Wynne did her best to look bashful, "Really, Lord Conington!" she exclaimed, with a conscious laugh. And then, "I'm sure you won't be so ill-natured as to tell anybody about your having seen us. It was the first chance—I missed the friends who were to have met me here, and General Rivers took pity on me and offered to see me to my destination. Perhaps I ought not to have consented; but I have such a dread of crowded chambers and excursion trains!" "Oh, that's it, is it?" said Conington, chuckling more than ever. "Well, you may rely upon my discretion; I never spill tales out of school. Perhaps, now that you are on board, you would like to have a look at my accommodation below. I have made one or two improvements this year which I flatter myself are a success."

This was just what I wanted. Conington has a mania for taking blurred photographs of which he is inordinately proud, and I knew that if I could get him to exhibit the thousand and one (more or less) specimens of his collection which he always has on board with him, no victim, however impatient, could escape from his clutches under three quarters of an hour at least. After we had duly admired his new bathroom and smoking-cabin, I said, "Suppose you've had the camera out this summer?"

"Oh, yes," he answered, "and I've done some rather good things, I think, only of course they are not printed yet. I wonder whether Mrs. Wynne would care to see a few records of former cruises and journeys."

(To be Continued.)

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PROSPECTUS.

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

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

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

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

The great need of improved ferry accommodation.

The saving of time in crossing.

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

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

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

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

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

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

MINING.

TO THE PRESS—THAT TEST HOLE.—We have, so far, been alone in urging upon the Government the idea of sinking a test shaft in one of our recognized gold-bearing leads, in order to prove whether or not the gold mines of Nova Scotia contain a second pay-streak. This streak is usually found at the depth of 800 to 1200 feet from the surface. We have pointed out the immense advantages that the country would derive from the discovery that deep mining would pay in Nova Scotia, and have hinted that the Government had a material interest in ascertaining this fact. The question is surely one of sufficient importance to warrant the public press, in both the city and country, devoting some attention to it; and we should like to hear from every journal in Nova Scotia a candid expression of opinion, as to whether or not they think the Government should take this matter up, or whether it is to be left for the rulers of the people two generations hence to settle.

A MINERS' CAMP MEETING.—Since our last issue, several experienced miners have expressed their approval of the suggestion made in THE CRITIC that our mine-owners should hold a convention in Halifax. One correspondent urges that it should take place during the Session of the Legislature, say on or before the 15th of March. Another suggests that the term convention is too pretentious, and might have the effect of inducing many to stay at home; and recommends, as being more appropriate, "A Miners' Camp Meeting"—business, informal; object, mutual advantage. There can be no doubt, that the idea of holding a meeting of our mine-owners is well received, but it will require some one to take the initiative, in order to have the idea take practical shape.

OLDHAM.—In the Oldham district there are 40 gold-bearing leads, and the output, up to the present time, has been about 2,500 oz. For many years, gold-mining in Oldham was carried on in a primitive style, trenches being made to the depth of 20 feet, which, after the quartz was taken out, were allowed to fill with water. Mr. J. E. Hardman, who is one of the most practical miners in the Province, is now working the celebrated Dunbrack lode. The quartz being taken out, carries a large amount of gold, the yield from three cart loads having been \$1,000.

PLEASANT RIVER.—The Pleasant River gold mine, owned by W. J. Nelson and others, was sold during the past week to Messrs. Eaton and McGuire, of Duluth, for \$19,000. The property, which has been fairly developed, promises well. The main shaft has been sunk to the depth of 35 feet, and the quartz now being taken out, carries 2 oz. to the ton. The vein is said to run parallel to the now celebrated McGuire lead at Whitburn, Queens Co.

CALEDONIA.—Arrangements are being made to put up a mill, with machinery, on the McGuire claim; and it is understood that the owners of adjoining areas have made arrangements to assist in the purchase of a heavier stamp mill than was at first proposed. Co-operation in this respect enables owners of small claims to have their crushing done at moderate rates.

NICTAUX.—The gold fever has seized the people of Nictaux, gold-mining being the principal topic of discussion among all classes. The lead discovered near Nictaux, some months since, has led to the discovery of several others, all of which show good sights of gold in the quartz. An Annapolis gentleman has had the ore tested, and is so well satisfied with the result, that he proposes stocking a company for working in the spring.

TRURO.—*Mr. Editor,*—I observe that you are advocating in THE CRITIC the holding of a convention of gold mine-owners, in Halifax. I believe that such a convention would be of immense benefit to the mining interests of this Province, even were there no formal business transacted. Such a convention would give us an opportunity of conversing with those engaged in mining; and there can be no doubt that we would all be benefitted by an interchange of ideas on the subject. Yours, etc.,

G. M.

THE COPPER PRODUCTION OF 1885.—The *Engineering and Mining Journal*, of New York, in its issue of January 30th, 1886, gives a very elaborate and detailed statement of the copper situation, both in the United States and in England and France; the amount produced and consumed, and the prospects for the present year. We publish a few figures and extracts from the same, as follows:—

UNITED STATES PRODUCTION.	
Lake Superior Mines.....	31,763 tons (Refined Copper.)
Montana.....	26,560 " "
Arizona.....	10,268 " "
Other States.....	1,518 " "
	<hr/> 70,109 " "
Copper contained in imported ores, mostly Canadian Pyrites.....	2,366 tons.
	<hr/> 72,475 " "
Stock on hand Jan. '85.....	8,482 " "
Total available supply.....	80,957 " "

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Mackerel Twine,
Caplin Twines,
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IMPORTERS OF
ENGLISH ALE AND BROWN STOUT
LOWER WATER STREET, HALIFAX.

MINING—Continued.

United States Consumption.....	42,165 tons.
Exported to Europe.....	34,375 "
Stock on hand, Dec. 31, '85.....	4,417 "
	80,957 tons.

COMPARATIVE STATEMENT.

	1883.	1884.	1885.
Production	52,300	61,894	72,475
Stocks, January 1st.....	10,268	10,268	8,482
Stocks, December 31st.....	10,268	8,482	4,417
Total available supply.....	62,568	75,162	80,957
Consumed in United States.....	34,443	36,259	42,165
Exported to Europe.....	17,857	30,357	34,375
Average Price of Lake Copper.	18½ cts.	13½ cts.	11½ cts.

After furnishing latest information from the various large copper mines throughout the world, the *Engineering and Mining Journal* comes to the following conclusion:—

"Under all these circumstances, we are warranted in thinking that at present prices the limit of production has been reached, and that even the present demand will not be much longer supplied at present prices. But there is every reason to suppose that the growing consumption has not reached its maturity. Year by year, new uses are found for copper. Thousands of miles of telegraph wire and bars were made last year. The general diffusion of money and of taste is creating an unprecedented demand for domestic articles of artistic shape in brass and bronze, and the replacement of hand labor by machinery in every branch of industry is still going on, and is having the same effect. The demand for copper is certain to increase, even if it be not maintained in the same ratio of increase as of late years, and to our mind it is equally certain that, unless prices improve, the supply will decline."

EUROPEAN COPPER MARKET.

The Report of James Lewis & Sons, for 1885, is largely drawn upon for statistics. We select the following, as showing the main features, as compared with the last five years:—

	1881.	1882.	1883.	1884.	1885.
Imports into England, tons.	84,190	93,279	101,531	112,390	123,547
Imports into France...	16,436	13,573	20,894	18,683	16,587
Eng. home consump. "	31,607	42,877	40,469	51,263	51,323
French total consump. "	27,270	21,528	26,435	23,421	22,302
Exports from England "	61,692	55,684	59,351	64,692	62,050
Large stocks in Europe "	58,870	51,087	50,227	46,362	55,266
Imports from U. S. "		1,817	13,923	24,514	33,272

The conclusion drawn from these and other figures is partly as follows:

"We have been threatened with a *Deluge of Copper*; but it is becoming gradually evident that the point has at last been reached at which many mines cannot work to a profit, though many have struggled on in the hope that a reaction would soon take place. Unless we have an important advance in the value of this metal ore long, the effect of which would be to stimulate production and encourage the owners who have already closed their mines, or are at present hesitating whether to close them or not, it could appear that the maximum of production has been obtained."

By comparing the figures of the United States with those of Europe, it will readily be seen that all the increase of stocks received in Europe the last five years, has come from the United States. That in 1885, the consumption of copper in the United States was on the increase, and the stocks on hand on the decrease; and that unless the output is again increased in 1886, which is not likely to be the case, the United States will not have a surplus to spare for Europe, which would result in lower stocks there, and, consequently, a slight advance in prices.

The uses of copper are constantly on the increase all over the world, and comes simply to this, that those mines so situated that they are favored by the minimum cost of fuel, labor, and transportation, will furnish the world's supply at a profit, and those not so favorably located will either struggle along on a small margin, on a loss, or close down altogether.

We notice that the price of copper stocks of the dividend paying mines of Lake Superior, and in Spain, have recently advanced largely in market value, which is a pretty good indication that copper men believe the bottom has been reached. We also believe, that in connection with the cheap fuels of this Province, copper can be produced at a handsome profit at present prices. Lake Superior and Spain only supply about 75,000 tons of copper, of over 200,000 tons actually consumed in 1885; and there must be many other producers located favorably for cheap production, as the Northern Development Company have so correctly demonstrated is the case in the Coxheath copper mine.

Messrs. W. Lockhart & Co., of Lombard Chambers, Bixtoll street, Liverpool, G. B., write concerning the Manganese ores of Nova Scotia. They state that the English market is largely supplied from mines in the Caucasian mountains. This ore is freer from phosphorus, sulphur, and silica, than the dish or any other imported ore. Blacksea ore brings one shilling per ton, and averages 53 to 55 per cent. of metallic manganese. They say the ores given for our high grade ores is nearly double that given for best manganese ore in England. They are anxious to purchase good manganese ore, and would be glad of correspondence from those interested. Large manganese ore deposits are considered very extensive and valuable, and subject is worthy the attention of our miners.

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The subscribers keep constantly on hand—

Nobel's No. 1 Red Dynamite,
Treble Charged Detonators,
Warming Pans FOR THAWING DYNAMITE,
Safety Fuse, etc.

Nobel's Dynamite is acknowledged to be the most RELIABLE, POWERFUL AND ECONOMICAL Explosive in the market

F. D. CORBETT & CO
Sole Agents for Maritime Provinces,
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MINING.

Surveys and Plans of Mining Properties.
Underground Surveys and Plans.
Levelling Surveys for Mill Power, Drainage,
Trainways, Flumes, &c.
Mining Properties Examined and Prospectus
Reports written
Address by letter or telegram—
F. W. CHRISTIE,
Bedford Station, Halifax Co., N. S.

130 Puncheons New Crop



MOLASSES.

The New Crop is of exceptionally fine flavor and bright color, and superior to any in the market.

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CHINA,
GLASS,
EARTHENWARE,

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ELECTRO-PLATE, &c.

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SHIRT MAKERS,

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Shirts of every description made to order from measurement, and a perfect fit guaranteed.

Blanks for Self-measurement, and Samples, sent to any address on application.

JOHN H. BARNSTEAD,
LEATHER & SHOE

FINDINGS!

HALIFAX, N. S.

Twenty-Second Annual Statement

The Travelers
INSURANCE COMPANY,
OF HARTFORD, CONN.

Cash Capital, \$600,000.

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

Life Department.

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

Accident Department.

No Policies written to date, 1,186,315
No. written in 1885, 108,248
No. Claims paid to date, 137,331
No. paid in 1885, 17,583
Total Claims paid, \$8,145,128.44
Amount paid in 1885, \$885,012.34

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

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

OUR NEW LIFE POLICY,

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

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

JOHN CODY,
LIVERY STABLE,
AMHERST.

Horses and Carriages are in first-class condition and at lowest possible rates. Polite and careful attention given to travelers

T. RANKINE & SONS.

Established 1826.

MANUFACTURERS OF

Fancy Biscuits,
PHILADELPHIA SODA
AND
FAMILY PILOT.

Ask your Grocer for them.

JOHN W. HICKMAN,
AMHERST, N. S.

Barrister-at-Law
AND
NOTARY.

AGRICULTURE.

[FOR THE CRITIC.]

RUFUS RUSTIC—NOTES BY THE WAY.

It's a fact, a living reality, that woman's perception of things is, in a general way, keener than man's. They will take the bearings of another woman on a thoroughfare, in a crowd or at a picnic, and note her rig from royals to lower studentals with geometrical precision. I remarked to Aunt Sarah that I had sighted Miss Chartres, and suggested a signal of our whereabouts. She was at the time diligently inspecting some Dutch cattle, and merely remarked: "it's not necessary, we have exchanged signals, at present she is engaged with the Finch girls, and will be here presently." "I have," she continued, "some curiosity about these animals. Some years ago the captain brought out to New York in his ship from Hamburg quite a number of this spotted breed. These animals answer the description given of them, Holsteins, low marsh cattle, they are said to be a very ancient race."

Miss Chartres had approached unobserved by her aunt, and hearing the last remark, said, "Yes aunt, very ancient, patriarchal, a distant historical race traced back to the land of Havan, linial decendants from Jacob's herds, the last improvement he effected in Laban's stock, the *Spotted Cattle*."

"Why, Fanny," said Aunt Sally Jones, "where have you been hiding? I have been looking for you. I found Rufus carressing some young animals, and have enlisted him as my escort. You appear, dear, to have been hard at work?"

"A toil of pleasure, aunt; tramping round admiring the flowers and inspecting, by request, some specimens of domestic art."

"Had it not been for the many nice specimens of domestic art, Fanny, I think the decoration of the Hall would have been rather out. My admiration of the flowers culminated in a surprise at the small exhibit considering the reputation of the locality for floral displays. Your toil of pleasure must have been a botanical inspection commencing with the leaf?"

"My dear aunt, how you sit upon one. If you had withheld your criticism I should have explained. I have been standing some time in yonder 'caboose,' as Uncle Jones styles a 'cook house,' giving directions about a lunch, and to obviate another meridianal surprise you will join us of course."

"Now, Fanny, what actions. I am curious to know what class of the species *homo* you are about to entertain at a special lunch—botanist or biologist. If your hat is a criterion I should say both flowers and birds are natural decorations, and such a pretty hat with a red bird nestling in the foliage, a fellow to my Will's warbler. Is it a late purchase?"

"You know aunt, at present, birds are all the rage. Womens' delight and a terror to farmers; they peck the blossoms from his trees showering them down like flakes of snow, throughout the season they steal his fruit, destroy his grain, especially his choicest ears of corn, and fly off with any amount of imprecation."

"The hat you admire is the old one renovated and decked with a cockade of feathers and flowers, the birds of the air and the lilies of the field class with natures choicest gift from the fragrant primrose in the dismembered teapot to the golden iris on the lawn, simple, sweet and lovely."

"You remember that imperative injunction which says, 'Let your women adorn themselves in modest apparel,' which means a calico frock and white apron. Paddy Rian says in Ireland, 'it is the life of an old hat to cock it, that it will soon be cock of the walk.'"

"In the long ago some fatalist said that, 'history repeated itself.' It is a culminative coincidence that all the historical great men of modern date stand out in high relief by the side of an axe. George Washington blocked out the great American Union for the bird of Love to roast upon. The lamented Abraham with his cleaver at one fell swing pruned it of the fungoid excrescence that had grown out of it, and our homeric William with his glittering blade is chipping into the English oaks; just now he is on a stump wiping his moistened brow with several folds of Irish linen."

"Lawsakes, Ann Jane Chartres, do tell - you most take my breath away with your peculiar utterances so different from others."

"Most persons, aunt, have some potentiality of taste. Cousin Will and I have a fondness for birds and butterflies; little Cereno for tree-frogs and mummy chogs; and you, since the announcement of Pasteur's dog theory, have discarded the pug and got a monkey."

"There now, do let my poor little Jaso be, you and the captain are always teasing him."

"Well, aunt, one can't help being amused with such an exaggeration of human phylogeny, so weird, so furtive, and with such acute senses of sight and hearing, always on the look-out for squalls."

"Oh, Fanny, mentioning-squalls reminds me of a ludicrous affair that happened not long since at the breakfast table, but I must first explain how Plato came to be dismissed."

"I wish Rufus you would convey us to some wind break or haven where we can be accommodated with seats, there is a narrative in connection with the dog that will be more enjoyable resting the human sole than phylandering round this treeless enclosure."

There is less excuse for farmers keeping inferior breeds of pigs than there is in keeping any other poor farm stock. A pair or trio of well-bred pigs can be cheaply obtained, and if thoroughbred, the use of the male will soon pay all the cost and leave the improvement of the farmer's own stock as clear profit.

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Hall Decorations, Graining, Paper-Hanging,
Whitewashing and Colouring.

CHARGES MODERATE.

TO FARMERS.

LOBSTER GUANO.

This concentrated, powerful and valuable fertilizer is now shipped, unscreened, at \$25, and fine screened, \$30 per ton of 2000 lbs., ex barrels or bags f. o. b. from wharf at Cape Causo. Orders for next season are booked from this date at Halifax, No. 67 Hollis Street. One ton of this Guano spread broadcast on a field with a sowing drill or otherwise, is equal in effect to fifty tons of common lobster waste as now used, but has no pernicious emanation nor unpleasant odor. It being a fine, dry and soluble powder, its action and assimilation are immediate.

For further particulars apply to above address or P.O. Box 33.

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MERCHANTS,

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683 Half Chests.

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1,195 Half Chests.

AT LOWEST RATES.

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ACADIA POWDER CO.,

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Blasting & Sporting Powders

Of the Best Quality.

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Red and Black Dynamite,

Quality unequalled.

Sold by all Dealers.

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GRANVILLE ST., HALIFAX, N. S.,
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Rate per Day, \$1.50.

PERMANENT BOARDERS ACCOMMODATED.

First-Class Sample Room in connection.

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Book and Job Printer.

Cards, Circulars, Tickets, Dance Programmes, Bill Headings, Bills of Exchange, Bank Checks, Blanks, Insurance Forms, &c., and every description of Printing at lowest rates, and latest style and finish.

Largest stock of material in the province to choose from.



MAIL CONTRACT

SEALED TENDERS, addressed to the Postmaster-General, will be received at the Post Office until Noon, on FRIDAY, 12th March, for the conveyance of Her Majesty's Mail three times per week each way, between Upper Musquodoboit and West River, Sheet Harbor,

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

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

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

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

Christmas, 1885.

LONDON HOUSE

WE ARE SHOWING THIS SEASON A
Splendid Variety of Useful Goods
COMPRISING IN PART—

Ladies' and Gents' Lined Kid Mitts and Gloves,
Scotch Knit Gloves,
Silk Umbrellas,
Cardigan Jackets,
Silk Handkerchiefs, Ties, &c.
Gents' White and Colored Cashmere Mufflers,
Ladies' English and American Gossamers,
Fur Tippets (a large assortment)
Real Dogskin Jackets,
Fur Lined Circulars,
A large assortment of Wool Squares, B. S. Promenade Scarfs, Hoods, Toquelets, Hats, &c.
Shawls, Mantles, Mantle Cloths, Dress Goods, Silks, Satins, Velvets, Velvetines and Plush.
Also—A nice variety of FANCY GOODS

Before purchasing your Presents please call.

WM. MOODY & CO.
168 and 170 Granville St., Halifax.

CAPE BRETON HOUSE
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HALIFAX, N. S.

Constantly on hand, a selected Stock, comprising
Family FLOUR, Fine, Superfine and Extra
Meal, Oatmeal, Pork, Beef, Beans, Peas, Barley, Soap, Tobacco, Teas, Molasses, &c., for Family and Ships' Use.
Also—A choice stock of

ALES, WINES, and LIQUORS
Orders Promptly filled. City Goods delivered Free of Charge.

JOHN LAHEY, Proprietor.

Always in Season

At all times and upon every occasion there is nothing more suitable for a Present than a nice piece of

FURNITURE!

Nowhere in the Maritime Provinces can you find such an assortment to select from, nor

PRICES SO LOW!

as at the old and reliable establishment of

A. Stephen & Son.

We have on hand at the present time a very large assortment of

New and Elegant Designs

— IN —

ASH & WALNUT

Chamber Suits,

which we are disposing of at outrageously low prices, also a line of

GROUP PARLOR SUITS

that cannot be equalled in the Dominion for the price.

ONE CARLOAD

Rattan Furniture

Just received. New Designs in Easy and Rocking Chairs, Children's Chairs, Tables, Work Baskets, Wall Pockets, Brackets, etc.

We are the sole agents for the only manufacturers of these goods in the Dominion, and are selling at Manufacturers' Prices, which are 25 per cent below all others.

British Plate Mirrors,

IRON BEDSTEADS.

We are large importers of these goods, direct from the manufacturers in England, they were never so low in price as at present.

CHILDREN'S CHAIRS

of every description.

Boy's, Girl's and Baby

SLEIGHS.

Window Blinds, Poles, Curtains, Fancy Tables, Easy Chairs,

in fact everything imaginable in the Furniture line, and at prices which defy competition.

CALL AND SEE FOR YOURSELVES

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CORNER OF PRINCE STREET.

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T. & C. FISCHER, New York.

Also, fine GERMAN PIANOS, which are fully guaranteed. Also, some CHICKERING PIANOS on hand, which will be sold at

Prices to Suit the Times.

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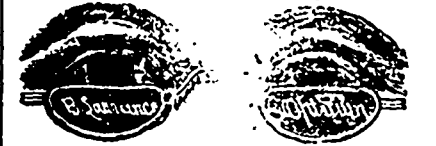
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- 135 Bbls. Cornmeal.
 - 550 Sacks Cracked Corn.
 - 132 Tons Bran and Shorts.
 - 10 Tons Middlings.
 - 125 Bbls. P. E. I. Pork.
 - 200 Hams, just smoked.
 - 25 Puns Good Molasses.
 - 20 Bbls. Halifax Sugar.
- W. WHEATLTY, 269 Barrington Street.

ACADIA STEAM Biscuit and Confectionery Works,
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Plain and Fancy Biscuits
80 Varieties to Select from.

CONFECTIONERY,
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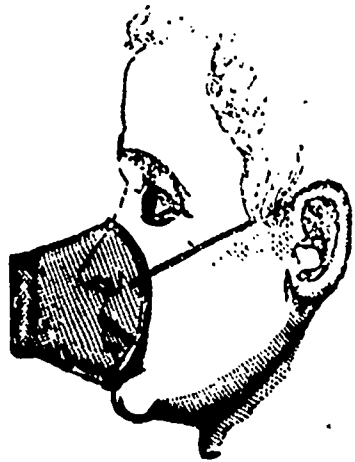
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- Shirts, 10 Cents.
- Shirts, with Collars, 12 Cents.
- Cuffs, 4 Cents.
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The Eminent Throat and Lung Surgeon, of Toronto, is now permanently located. Halifax Office, 136 Morris Street

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DISEASES TREATED.—Catarrh of the Head and Throat, Catarrhal Deafness, Chronic Bronchitis, Asthma and Consumption. Also, Loss of Voice, Sore Throat, Enlarged Tonsils, Polypus of the Nose removed.

COME EARLY. CONSULTATION FREE.

Read the circulars, and hand them to your neighbors.

LOSS OF VOICE AND CONSUMPTION CURED.

Fredericton, June 19, 1884.

DR. WASHINGTON—

Dear Sir,—I write you under feelings of intense gratitude for your Spirometer and other instruments and medicines, which have entirely restored me to blooming health. I was given up to die of consumption, and, in fact, had no hope of ever recovering myself. Lost my voice for fifteen months. All the symptoms of consumption present—so much so, indeed, that our family physician and others gave me up to die. The change of treatment came in time to save my life, and it is for the benefit of others who are afflicted as I was that my name is allowed to appear in public print. I can heartily recommend the treatment to all who wish to be saved from the grave.

Yours truly,
MISS JEANETTE BEVERLEY.

CATARRH CURED.

TWENTY-FIVE YEARS STANDING.

Wesley Bullen, Esq., Wholesale Liquor Merchant, Fivus Street, Belleville, Ont., says—"I have been affected with Catarrh for 25 years, and after trying every available remedy without effect, took the Spirometer, which, with the medicines used, entirely cured me.

WESLEY BULLEN.

CONSUMPTION ARRESTED.

H. G. WILSON, 125 Granville Street.

HALIFAX, N. S., June 24th, 1885.

To DR. WASHINGTON, Throat and Lung Surgeon, Parlor 73, International Hotel:

Dear Sir.—Having been troubled with weak lungs and hemorrhage for some time with every indication of speedy consumption concluded to try your "INSALATION TREATMENT," with the most flattering results. In fact to-day I am attending to my general business without noticing my former weakness, or that my lungs were ever affected. Your treatment cannot be too highly recommended.

H. G. WILSON.

ANOTHER REMARKABLE TESTIMONY.
CONSUMPTION CURED IN THE LAST STAGE.

CAPTAIN WILLIAM SALTER.

No. 27 Granville Street, Halifax N. S.

N. WASHINGTON M. D., Throat and Lung Specialist, Toronto.

Dear Sir—When you visited me in the latter part of January, I had been given up to die of consumption by a consultation of physicians, who considered that my recovery was simply impossible. I had no hope myself, nor had my family. When you expressed a hope of my recovery, it was received with a good deal of doubt. Confined to my bed, with low, weak, wasted, night sweats very bad troublesome cough, raising large quantities of matter, in fact every appearance of a speedy death. After using your Respirator and Spirometer, and medicines, I began to recover very fast, so much so that during three hard winter months I have gained from 30 to 25 lbs., and was able to walk out on Easter Sunday. My strength is daily increasing, and I shall be able soon to be at work. To you I owe a deep sense of gratitude, and am anxious for others who are suffering as I was, to consult you. You can make what use of this letter you see fit, and thanking you for what I consider a most wonderful treatment. I remain yours truly,

CAPT. WM. SALTER.

Head Office—135 Morris St.

PHENIX INSURANCE COMP'Y,

OF BROOKLYN, N. Y.

FIRE. MARINE.
OFFICE, No. 195 BROADWAY, NEW YORK.

Statement Showing the Condition of the Company, on the 1st day of January, 1886.

CAPITAL.....	\$1,000,000 00
GROSS SURPLUS.....	3,910,483 36
	4,910,483 36
ASSETS.	
UNITED STATES BONDS.....	\$1,099,500 00
OTHER STOCKS AND BONDS.....	1,493,096 10
LOANS ON BOND AND MORTGAGE (value of property, \$672,300).....	44,750 00
LOANS ON CALL (market value, \$76,015).....	59,150 00
CASH IN BANK AND OFFICE.....	453,816 05
REAL ESTATE, UNENCUMBERED.....	739,512 58
PREMIUMS IN COURSE OF COLLECTION.....	648,132 48
INTEREST ACCRUED.....	13,320 71
BILLS RECEIVABLE FOR MARINE PREMIUMS.....	62,230 87
RENTS DUE AND ACCRUED.....	3 158 87
TOTAL.....	\$4,910,483 36
LIABILITIES.	
RESERVE FOR UNEARNED PREMIUMS.....	\$2,845,018 84
RESERVE FOR ALL UNPAID LOSSES.....	344,473 63
ALL OTHER LIABILITIES.....	6,793 47
CAPITAL STOCK.....	1,000,000 00
NET SURPLUS.....	714,167 42
TOTAL ASSETS.....	\$4,910,483 36

STEPHEN CROWELL, President.
W. R. CROWELL, Vice-Pres. PHILANDER SHAW, Sec.
F. P. BURKE, Sec. Local Dept WM. CHARTERS, Aest. Sec.

TWINING & TWINING,

General Agents for Nova Scotia, Prince Edward's Island and Newfoundland.

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BRASS FOUNDERS,
STEAM & HOT WATER ENGINEERS,
—MANUFACTURERS OF—
STEAM ENGINES AND BOILERS.
MINING MACHINERY PROMPTLY PROVIDED.

RHODES, CURRY & CO.

AMHERST, NOVA SCOTIA,

Manufacturers and Builders,



PROPRIETORS AMHERST WOOD-WORKING FACTORY,

Where we keep in stock and made to order, Doors, Sashes, Blinds, Window and Door Frames, Stair Rails, Posts and Balusters; Brackets and Mouldings of all descriptions; Kiln dried Walnut, Ash, Birch, Pine and Spruce Lumber. Also, Flooring and Sheating, Shingles, Laths and Pickets.

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