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THE CRITIC:

A Maritime Provincial Journal.

DEVOTED TO

Commerce, Manufacturing, Mining and Agriculture.

50 PER ANNUM.
(SINGLE COPY 5 CTS.)

HALIFAX, N. S., FEBRUARY 3, 1888.

VOL. 5.
No. 5.

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Our Ottawa correspondent has some jocular remarks on a recent lecturer who has discovered the temperature of the "Inferno" to be the opposite of that popularly ascribed to it. Southey, in his "All for love, or a sinner well saved," a poem which mixes some fun with very striking and powerful ideas and descriptions, places the throne of the Prince of Darkness in hyperborean regions, and there is considerable grandeur in that and some other passages. Southey is in these days consigned to an oblivion much more absolute than he deserves to have incurred.

The Prince of Wales now figures in a new character—as senior "Admiral of the Fleet" This naval rank corresponds with that of Field-Marshal in the army. The word "Honorary" is marked against the Prince's name, and the status, of course, means no more than does the name of the Queen at the head of the Army List. It is a mere revival of a tradition of Royalty. There are three substantive officers of the rank on the active list; Sir Provo Wallis, Sir Charles Elliot, and Sir Alfred Ryder, and the former is, *de facto*, only an honorary retention, the veteran second Lieutenant of the *Shannon*, being, we believe, in his 97th year. The next to succeed will be Admiral Sir Geoffrey Phipps-Hornby.

The fact is not generally recognized that Liverpool, Eng., is almost as near the centres of production in Canada as are the centres of consumption in the United States. The last few years have also witnessed a complete revolution in the matter of ocean carriage. As Sir Lyon Playfair recently showed in an address to the electors of Leeds, whereas an ocean steamer of 3,000 tons, formerly required 2,200 tons of coal to carry 800 tons of freight, now on the same ocean voyage with improved furnaces and engines only 800 tons of coal are consumed in the carriage of 2,200 tons of freight. Halifax is now as near to the centres of population in England as it is to the centres of population in the neighboring republic.

If the particulars of the demonstration to receive Lord Ripon and Mr. Morley in Ireland are given with even approximate correctness, it would seem to embody an array of influence, lay and cleric, Catholic and Protestant, professional, commercial and majestic, exceeding that which recently welcomed Lord Hartington and Mr. Goschen. It is impossible to rely on Irish news published by the general Canadian press, and distrust of its truth always lingers until it can be checked by the comparison of English papers of different shades of opinion, but we are inclined to think the details given cannot be much overestimated, and unless so an evidence of the success of coercion, unknown at present, turns up when Parliament meets, we should not be inclined to offer very heavy odds on the policy.

The Democratic Party has braced itself together to frame and endeavor to push through a tariff reduction bill calculated to give effect to the recommendations of the President's message. Some important articles are proposed to be put on the free-import list—notably lumber, wood, coal, salt, fish, some agricultural products, and wool, but every one of these will be opposed by some section of the States whose special industry would be touched, and it would be sanguine to hope for a broader result than a compromise. These facts are ingeniously dovetailed by a portion of the press, into an assumption of knowledge of what hopes were raised in Sir Charles Tupper's breast by the proposed measure of offsetting his assumed inability to obtain a recognition of Canadian claims, and of what he said on the subject, &c., &c., of all which it is extremely unlikely that the said press knows anything whatever.

The *American Magazine* for February is a pleasant number, and most of the illustrations are charming. Mr. J. Macdonald Oxley has in it a very interesting article on "The Inland Ocean of the North Hudson's Bay." Edgar Fawcett's very clever novel, "Olivia Delaplaine," advances to a crisis, and "In the Heart of the Sierra Madre" is breezy and agreeable; but perhaps the most suggestive article occurs in "Timely Topics." It discusses and advocates the establishment in the United States of a School of Diplomacy. The main argument used by the writer seems a thoroughly comprehensive one. "Would not," he says, "trained diplomats be better qualified than untrained ones to undertake duties requiring tact and special knowledge?" There is such a school in Paris, and its Professors are among the first statesmen of France. It certainly does occur to us that the United States, less than any country in the world—partly from their natural advantages, partly from the uncompromising astuteness of their public men—stand in need of special training, but easy-going and blundering old England might take up the hint with advantage, and might so escape future Ashburtons.

THE CRITIC,

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

BY

CRITIC PUBLISHING COMPANY.

Edited by C. F. FRASER.

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

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

EDITORIAL NOTES.

The Imperial Federation League held a meeting in the Halifax Hotel on the evening of the 26th ult. The attendance was small, partly, perhaps, on account of the stormy weather. Nothing very definite was arrived at. We suppose, indeed, there is no question fraught with greater difficulties. We noticed some very sensible remarks by Mr. Kenealy, of Louisburg, on the subject, in the *Chronicle* of the 28th.

The *Toronto Mail* seems to have followed the lead of the *Globe* in abandoning the unpatriotic and pessimistic line of policy. It has discovered that the 60,000,000 of American customers asserted by Commercial Union advocates to be so essential to the recuperation of poor paralyzed Canada, are themselves exporters, and much more competitors than consumers, and that a very large proportion of American farmers are groaning under an intolerable weight of mortgage.

At the 34th annual meeting of the Y. M. C. A., held in their building on Saturday last, a letter was read from Mr. J. S. Maclean, who has for 17 years most acceptably filled the Presidential chair of that valuable institution, declining re-nomination. A resolution giving full expression to the regret of the members at the loss of Mr. Maclean's services in that capacity was passed, bearing ample testimony to the great value of his able control and hearty co-operation for so many years, and expressing their gratification that he will continue his assistance and his connection with the Executive Committee.

Lord Carnarvon, probably the best Colonial Minister we ever had, presided at the Sydney banquet with which the Australian centenary was inaugurated on the 26th January. The Governors and Prime Ministers of all the Australian Colonies were present. The following was the chief part:—"Australia—her trials and triumphs; her future union and progress." Her peaceful and progressive triumphs have certainly been many; her trials—except the inaction of England about New Guinea—so few and so inconsiderable, that "Brer Rabbit" is perhaps the most vexatious of them.

THE CROWN PRINCE AND THE WAR PARTY.

The London *Morning Post* of the 4th January, an exceedingly well-informed paper, being in fact the recognized court organ, devotes a considerable space to two articles which appeared in the *Pesther Lloyd*, and the *Neus Freie Presse* of Vienna. This latter important organ occupies an entire page with the intrigues and machinations of the Junker and military clique against the Crown Prince and Princess and Sir Morell MacKenzie, and censures them in language alike severe and dignified. The former publishes a letter in the same strain, but in still stronger terms, from its Berlin correspondent.

The charges made place the whole matter in a startling light. These influential journals consider it at least doubtful whether the Crown Prince's disease is of a cancerous nature, and that, consequently, there was good reason for the recent cessation of the persistent attacks on the English savant, of the clique mentioned.

Had German science prevailed in May or June, and the Prince been subjected to an operation, there is little doubt, it is said, that he would before this have been a dead man, and it is more than hinted that the cancer idea may even have been an invention of the "national-medico-German-Junker and press" clique, which desires to hit the Crown Princess by attacking Sir Morell Mackenzie. There cannot, it is asserted, be the slightest doubt about this, as only just that class of paper fell upon the English physician, which notoriously would have felt the least aggrieved by the Crown Prince's death.

These are the organs of the "military party," which professes a chauvinism of bitter hostility to the Crown Prince's supposed peaceful tendencies, and regards the Princess as the greatest enemy of the present German home-policy. The Princess has consequently been exposed for a long time to the most infamous insinuations, and because Sir Morell MacKenzie—undoubtedly the first man in Europe in his specialty—was supposed to have been specially called in by her, "the whole pack threw themselves against the English doctor." The animosity against the Princess is not a little envenomed by a religious animus, as she is also regarded as the great adversary of an ultra orthodox court party, of which Dr. Stoeker, the Court Chaplain, is the guiding spirit.

The unexpected favorable change in the Prince's illness, and the possibility that, after all, he may become Emperor, seem to have caused the clique to adapt its tactics a little more to the actual circumstances of the case, as they have ceased openly to attack the Princess and insult Sir Morell MacKenzie.

There is, further, evidence that the "military party" deliberately schemed to impress upon the Prince an exaggerated idea of the immediate gravity of his case in order to induce him to abdicate.

The conspiracy has now broken down, and Sir Morell is left in peace, but so base an intrigue on the one hand, and, on the other, the unpromising villainy of the episode of the forged letters, do not leave a very exalted opinion of the morality of German court-circles and politicians.

THE HOLY LAND.

Dr. Cunningham Geikie, a Scottish divine of considerable note, has recently published a work on the Holy Land, which, in its connection with biblical accounts, is of great interest. Dr. Geikie has traversed the length and breadth of Palestine, and has brought the most minute observation to bear upon the comparisons which naturally arise between its present state, and that with which we are to some extent acquainted from our study of the Bible, and of one or two classical writers. And we may here remark, that the activity and breadth of view of the biblical research of the last few years, not a little prompted by the influence of what is, not always fairly, called scepticism, has led to a much more intelligent appreciation of the Bible as history, than formerly prevailed. We are not, perhaps, assuming too much in saying that the perusal of the great Book in the spirit of mere supernaturalism and superstitious awe, is not calculated to give us all the benefit of its value, and that when the mind is enlarged to discern the action throughout a great portion of it of natural and national causes, and to measure it to some extent by the analogies impressed upon us by other history, our interest in it, and our estimate of its importance, are enormously enhanced. Entirely apart from its spiritual claims, the Bible, studied as we study secular history, is the most intensely interesting of records. It is a check, and a means of verification of other histories, and even throws light on discoveries of an antiquity prior to the range of its own more authentic relations.

The limited extent and barren desolation of a great part of Palestine in modern times have often led to a belief of the exaggeration of biblical enumerations of population, and the apparently improbable number of "fenced cities" so frequently impressed upon us. But there is abundant evidence that, if not strictly accurate, the statements fairly illustrate the truth. We are startled at the enormous force here and there ascribed to the Jewish and Israelitish armies, but we have to remember that a Hebrew army represented almost the entire population capable of bearing arms. That that population was extremely dense, we may easily allow from a consideration of the undoubted change which has taken place in climatic conditions, and, by consequence, in the fertility of the soil. There is no doubt that in the days of the Kings, and earlier, the Holy Land abounded in streams and brooks, and had a far greater rainfall than at present, and that this condition was due to the existence of forests and trees, which, having been destroyed by the ravages of war, and the recklessness of uncultivated races, the country has shared the fate of all others to which this misfortune has befallen.

That an enormous population may be prosperously supported on a limited area is proved by the condition of China to-day, while the accounts of the small Moorish kingdom of Granada seem, although tolerably well authenticated, to be almost fabulous. The simple habits of a race more or less primitive and essentially pastoral and agricultural, also constitute a factor in the possibilities. These considerations are of the greatest weight, and if we accord them their full value, we shall find no reason to doubt the correctness of the general impression of extreme populousness made upon us by the biblical narratives.

Fertility and population assumed, there need be no difficulty in crediting the number of cities, even in the absence of direct proof. But the direct proof is not wanting. Dr. Geikie only corroborates two or three other careful explorers, who have discovered the traces of fortified cities so thickly strewn over the country that their number and proximity seem almost incredible to the eye-witness himself. No doubt these cities were not large, but the ruins of their foundations are cyclopean in solidity, and plainly indicate that they must have been fortresses of great strength. Of the villages, which no doubt stood thickly interspersed between the walled cities, there is of course now no trace; indeed, it is difficult to fix with anything like certainty the sites of several mentioned in Scripture, and of some which are distinctly referred to as the scenes of important episodes.

Space fails us to point out some of the very interesting features of Dr. Geikie's book, but it is one which is eminently calculated to impart a fresh zest to a further study of the Sacred Volume.

LITTLE PARLIAMENTS.

We have more than once noticed in the press remarks to the effect that no one seemed to care much when the Provincial Legislature met. We are not at all surprised. It would indeed be a very hard job to pump up an interest in these one-horse talking ships.

The opening and closing of miniature Parliaments, which are little better than County Councils, with the Lilliputian pageantry attending those impressive ceremonies, does indeed so nearly approach to a solemn and very dull farce, that we are sometimes unable to refrain from a mild degree of wonder how the actors in them manage to retain their gravity,—there is so little for dignity to rest upon. And sometimes we think of the Roman augurs, who in the latter degenerate days, could not meet in the streets without laughing at each other in their sleeves.

On reflection, however, we remember that there are still many little fat pickings in the gift of the Local Governments, and patriots in plenty to uphold the "old flag and an appropriation." In our own, the members of the lower house wax eloquent over the reduced income of the Province. They point with too much truth to the detestable state of the roads, and to the fact that the road grants are entirely insufficient. They call loudly on the Dominion Government for assistance, but they blink with a lively instinct the facts that we are altogether "too much governed"—that thousands of dollars are annually expended in keeping up Provincial Cabinets, with the various petty portfolios, their little Premiers, their little Attorney-Generals, ("all Honorable men")—and all with snug little salaries that might fairly be remodeled at a great saving of expense—and that all the Legislative Councils should be abolished, and the Lower Houses reduced to half their present numbers, or merged into a joint Parliament of the three Maritime Provinces. They have been known to go so far as to recommend the disestablishment of Upper Chambers, but were politicians ever known to seek the abolition of their own offices, or to advocate the reduction of unnecessary billets so supremely useful for allotment to their friends? We think not, and, as we are reported to be largely over-running our Provincial income, it seems time for the electors to investigate the matter, and by prompt action and vigorous agitation, impress upon our local rulers the necessity of immediate reforms. The boon of local self government granted to the counties, through the establishment of municipal councils, has paved the way to reduce the number of members from each county to one. The county authorities now relieve the local M.'s-P.'s from what used to be their most arduous duties, and one member should now be able to fully attend to the parliamentary duties of his county. A Maritime Union with a central seat of government, a parliament with a single chamber and one cabinet, would govern with ease a territory which now groans under the expense of three Parliaments, three Cabinets, and a host of red tape officials. Maritime Union would save thousands of dollars that could be applied to putting our roads in good repair, would bind together with stronger ties the three Provinces, whose interests are almost identical, and whose union would go far to secure at Ottawa a more equitable balance of power.

For the benefit of such of our readers as have never spent a winter in Labrador, Alaska or other countries of the far North, we will relate some interesting facts illustrative of their manner of keeping Christmas. The winter residences of the Esquimaux are made of blocks of solid snow with thin sheets of ice for windows. Thus the glazier in that country carries his material for patching up windows in an ice wagon. Esquimaux children hang up their sealskin socks Christmas Eve. They, like our own little folks, appreciate a pair of skates or a sled, but in place of candy they long for blubber. When a young Esquimaux wakes up in the morning and finds his stocking full of blubber he is happy. If he doesn't—well, he blubbers all the same. Their Christmas dinner is a rare feast for them. It consists of a chunk of raw whale with a sauce of rose-colored hair-oil, washed down with a flagon of seal's blood. Tallow candles with dip are served as dessert. *Texas Siftings.*

CHIT-CHAT AND CHUCKLES.

Not to enjoy life, but to employ life, ought to be our aim and inspiration.—*Macduff.*

Keep the home near heaven. Let it face towards the Father's house.—*John Hamilton.*

The best way for a man to get out of a lowly position is to be conspicuously effective in it.

Did you ever meet a red-headed person who knew exactly where auburn left off and scarlet began?

Getting up in the morning is like getting up in the world. You cannot do either without more or less self-denial.

Cutting off a hen's head will make her a chicken. There is no other way to account for the fact that broiled hens are never found on restaurant bill of fare.

It takes sixteen days for a Laplander to marry the girl of his choice, but after he has got her the mother-in-law can approach his house only at the peril of her life.

An Illinois clergyman meets heart-broken girl on train, tells her there is a better land, supports her fainting form, helps her off at a small station, and finds his watch and \$200 gone.

"No, darling," said a Burlington mother to a sick child; the doctor says I mustn't read to you " "Then, mamma," begged the little one, won't you please read to yourself out loud?"

Why do ducks go below the water? for divers reasons. Why do they come up? for sun-dry reasons. Why do they go down? to liquidate their little bills. Why do they bob up serenely? to make a run upon the banks.

"Etiquette" writes to us to inquire if in our opinion it would be proper for him to support a young lady if she was taken with a faint—even if he hadn't been introduced. Proper, young man, certainly—prop her, by all means.

W. B. Richmond, the English artist, who is now in Berlin painting a portrait of Prince Bismarck, describes the Iron Chancellor as one of the best sitters in the world. Men and nations who have been sat upon by Bismarck will coincide with this opinion.

A minister overtook a Quaker lady, and politely assisted her in opening a gate. As she was a comparative stranger in town, he said: "You don't know, perhaps, that I am Mr.—. Haven't you heard me preach?" "I have heard thee try," was the quick rejoinder.

In Germany and Switzerland, it is stated, the principals of all schools are required to dismiss their pupils at noon every day on which the thermometer at 10 a. m. registers 77 degrees. If that plan were introduced here and the thermometer placed within reach of the ingenious boy of the period, there would be frequent holidays.

An Irish glazier was putting a pane of glass into a window, when a groom who was standing by began to joke him, telling him to mind and put in plenty of putty. The Irishman bore the banter for some time, but at last silenced his tormentor with: Arrah, now, be off wid yo, or else I'll put a pain in yor head widout any putty.

Three Frenchmen who were studying a volume of Shakespeare in their native language, endeavored to translate into English the well known opening to Hamlet's soliloquy, "To be, or not to be." The following was the result:

First Frenchman: "To was, or not to am."
Second ditto: "To were, or is to not." Third ditto: "To should or not to will."

It was Shelly who said, more than half a century ago that fraud was taking the place of force in oppressing humanity. The transition appears to have reached its completion in this age. Money that was wrung from the people of old by governmental tyranny is now taken from them by trickery and corruption. We fancy we have indicated the principle of no taxation without representation, and yet irresponsible schemers control the governing power, and turn the stream of looted tribute into their own pockets. The people are taxed by the modern oppressors and stultified besides. The old ones did not deceive, at least.

Miss Maria Mitchell, who has held the position of Professor of Astronomy at Vassar ever since its establishment in 1865, has resigned that position in order to secure rest for a time. Miss Mitchell has reached the good age of seventy years, and for forty years or more has held a foremost place in astronomy. Her resignation has not been accepted by the Vassar Board, but has been laid on the table till the annual meeting in June. Meanwhile Miss Mitchell has been granted indefinite leave of absence, her salary continuing until June. It is believed that when the matter is brought before Board she will be made professor emeritus. Miss Mitchell is a woman of whom America may well be proud and Vassar will do well to honor her and continue her connection with the college.

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NEWS OF THE WEEK.

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

Those who wish to secure pleasant and profitable reading matter for the winter evenings should note our exceptional offer which appears on page fifteen. For \$2.60 in cash we undertake to send THE CRITIC to any subscriber for one year, supplying him in addition with seventy-five of the most readable of readable books. Those who are renewing their subscriptions, as well as new subscribers, should take advantage of this offer.

23 fishing schooners are in course of construction in Lunenburg Co.

Vessels are everywhere reported ice bound, both in Canadian and American waters.

The petition against the return of Dr. Montague (Conservative) for Haldimand, has been dismissed with costs.

Mr G. L. Dickinson, (Conservative), has been elected to the Dominion Parliament for Carleton by about 400 majority.

It is authoritatively denied that the government have accepted any proposals made by Kamper, on behalf of his syndicate.

Reports indicate that the rolling stock of the Intercolonial Railway is taxed to its fullest capacity in moving ocean freight from Halifax.

Wm. Gobbet started ploughing on the 30th Jan. at Medicine Hat, N.W.T. The snow is all gone. The thermometer is 60 above zero.

The house of Israel Evans, license inspector at Chatham, Ont., was shattered by dynamite last week. These outrages are most disgraceful to non-prohibitionists.

Sir William Hugh Hoyles, ex Chief Justice of Newfoundland, died on Wednesday night at the residence of his son-in-law, Col. Norton Taylor, in this city, aged 73 years.

Fishing at Saddle Lake, N. W. T., was a failure last season, owing to water insects eating the nets to pieces every night. There were plenty of fish, but they could not be caught.

J. C. Mackintosh, Esq., ex Mayor of Halifax, who has been a member of the Y. M. C. A. for 25 years, succeeds Mr. Maclean as President, a choice which meets general approval.

The lecture on "Italy," delivered on Tuesday evening by the Hon. A. G. Jones, was very comprehensive, and of the greatest interest. The prolonged applause it elicited was well merited.

The trouble between the Allan Steamship Company, and the Grand Trunk railway has been the means of diverting a large proportion of ocean freights from Portland to Halifax, the Canadian winter port.

Another brutal murder is reported from Amherst. A man named Peter Carroll had his skull split with an axe in the house, or den, as it is described, of one Richard Brundage. Both, it would seem, were drunk.

No Upper Province mails had arrived in Halifax last Monday, since the Thursday before, owing to obstructions caused by the continuous heavy snowstorms of last week. Three days' mails, which the *Sarmatian* waited for, came down, however, on that day.

The December bank statement shows that no less than five chartered banks are bankrupt. The Maritime Bank, of New Brunswick, and the Central Bank of Canada are reported in liquidation. The Pictou Bank is winding up its business, and the Bank of London has suspended payment, and is realizing on its assets.

Very heavy weather is reported last week along the coast. Ten days of gales and snowstorms in Cape Breton culminated yesterday week in a blizzard, which injured several houses and blew down one, unoccupied, at Petit le Gras. There was much suffering from insufficient fuel in the intense cold, and one destitute family burnt their bedstead, chairs, &c., to maintain some slight warmth.

We paid a visit to Mr. Blauvelt's studio the other day, and congratulate him on his very successful portraiture in oil and crayon. We were especially interested in the one then on the easel, the portrait of a lady. The natural flesh tints, with the skilful execution of hair drapery and background, leaving nothing to be desired as an effective work of art.

"Among the official notifications of the movements of British regiments issued by the quarter-master general's department, Horse Guards, is one that the 2nd Northamptonshire are to be transferred from Hong Kong to Halifax." If this is correct, it may be inferred that, whenever the movement is made, it will be from Hong Kong to Vancouver, and thence by C. P. R. to Halifax.

The meeting on Wednesday of the Synod of Nova Scotia resulted in the unanimous choice—on the motion of Judge Townsend, seconded by the Rev. F. R. Murray—of the Rev. Dr. Courtney, Rector of St. Paul's, Boston. The Bishop elect is highly spoken of as an able and eloquent preacher and church worker. Dr. Courtney has had large parochial experience in England, previous to his sojourn in the States, and is in every way fitted for the important position to which he has been chosen. Dr. Courtney has telegraphed his acceptance in satisfactory terms.

The C. P. R. trains have been very free from detentions this winter, thus beating their American rivals, and numerous false reports have prevailed, set a-going by enemies of the Canadian line. The following pointed denial by the C. P. R. appears in the New York papers: "The reports published in the New York papers about the abandonment of trains on the Canadian Pacific railway on account of the recent storm, are utterly false. Our own reports indicate that the Canadian Pacific was the only line in the North-West that kept its trains moving. Two trains lost a few hours' time, but all the rest were practically on time."

The Liberal press is diligent in keeping up rumors that the Canadian case is abandoned by the British Commissioners. It is needless to say that nothing is really known.

The total cash expenditure by the Government upon the C. P. R., up to 30th June last, is given in a Liberal contemporary as \$61,760,685. It is money well spent in building up a nation.

The *Daily Echo*, the new evening paper, made its appearance on Wednesday. Its columns were filled with news and other interesting matter. If the standard of excellence exhibited in its first issue can be continued, we predict for it a large circulation.

We are in receipt of the second issue of the *Rockingham Sentinel*. It is as well got up as the first, only it strikes us that it is rather "a long time between" issues! We must credit the *Sentinel* with a novelty (so far as we know) in announcement of increase to the population. It reads as follows—"New music—At Rockingham, on such a date, the wife of so-and-so, of a daughter."

The telephone wires in Buffalo are being put under ground.

The death at Cambridge, Mass., is announced of Prof. Asa Gray, a noted botanist and author, aged 77.

Mrs. Garfield, the mother of the late President Garfield, died at Mentor Ohio, on Sunday, the 22nd Jan.

The cold in New England last Saturday and Sunday was intense—from 4 to 30 degrees below zero in different localities.

Nebraska farmers have been sacking the coal-cars of the Union Pacific, during or after the recent blizzards in that genial country.

At a recent ball in New York there were 10,000 newly cut roses, besides a profusion of other flowers. Extravagance is increasing.

Two brutes, rejoicing in the appropriate names of "Swipes, the News-boy," and Billy Dempsey, fought recently in N. Y. State for \$60, and the latter was killed.

Miss Mary A. Brown, a maiden lady of considerable property, has been swindled out of \$30,000 by a Philadelphia woman, who made investments for women.

The American Copyright League, which includes the authors of America, calls on all who desire the development of literature, to aid in securing international copyright.

Mme. de Murska receives \$10,000 salary as professor of the New York Musical Academy. The professors at the Paris Conservatory are paid from \$240 to \$300 a year for their services.

A flock of blackbirds, nearly two miles in length, was seen by the passengers on a Pennsylvania railroad recently. The birds were so numerous that they darkened the sky for a few minutes.

Mrs. Mary E. G. H. Dow, has been elected president of the Dover, N. H., Street railway. She is wealthy, a woman's rights advocate, and is the first woman ever chosen to fill such a position.

An enterprising gentleman of Cleveland: Mr. John Wilkins, is before the American courts for what can scarcely be correctly styled bigamy; as eight wives have turned up, it might possibly be called octogamy.

An ice-gorge, formed on the Mississippi, at St. Louis, began to move under the influence of a thaw, at midnight, on the 30th January, and ground to pieces \$1,500,000 worth of property—steamers, barges, etc.

A disastrous fire occurred on Broadway, N. Y., on Monday morning four business premises (clothing, trimmings, lace, fancy goods, etc.) were entirely destroyed, and others damaged. The loss is roughly estimated at \$25,000,000.

It is asserted by American engineers that there is 16 inches less water in the great lakes this year than last, and that they think the change permanent. This is very doubtful, as they have often before been abnormally low for a time.

Henry Irving and Ellen Terry have delighted the Bostonians with their presentation of Faust, and with the London Lyceum way of producing great scenes. The Walpurgis Night Scene on the Brockan is said to have been perfect in its weird grandeur.

"No Surrender," is the name of a new publication, dated Washington, D. C., and devoted to the American fishing interests and "imperilled interests of the United States which have once again become objects of prey to the British and Canadian Governments."

A Lilliputian horse, brought from Singapore in the Annapolis barque *Transit*, is said to be on exhibition at New York. He is 4 years old, weighs only 70 lbs, is 35 inches long, and 34 1/2 high. The little animal is reported to be well formed, and with bright eyes.

That exceedingly lively legislator, Senator Frye, of Maine, has moved for a portentous array of statistics about Canada. In view of commercial possibilities of importance, it is perhaps as well that Congress should be in possession of full information regarding the Dominion.

We find on our table a very well got up monthly publication, of 8 pages, called the *Working Boy*, edited and published by the Rev. Father Roche. The first page is occupied by an excellent engraving called "The Founding." It is published at the Working Boys' Home, 38 Bennet St., Boston, and contains the notice: "All subscribers are members of the Sacred Heart Union." Its contents are certainly good for any boys, though mean, of course, for Roman Catholics.

Cashier Charles O'Brien, of the first National Bank of Auburn, N. Y., and the book-keeper, E. E. Morse, are missing. O'Brien took \$20,000 of securities with him. He has gone to Canada. The total amount of the defalcation is placed at \$20,000. When shall we be able to extradite this species of scoundrel?

N. Thompson & Co., 51 and 53 Maiden Lane, New York, send us notice that the *Canadian Club Book* (illustrated, price \$1 00) is ready for delivery. It contains papers by Dr. Goldwin Smith, Dr. Grant, Prof. Roberts, Dr. Geo. Stewart, J. W. Bengough, Hon. B. Butterworth, and other writers-of-note. The edition is limited.

An unfortunate man named Porter, of Fredericton, walking on the track at Bangor, was run down by a train and killed. He had been wounded in the head by the derailing of a car in the morning. His head was therefore bandaged and his ears filled with wool, so that he probably did not hear the train. He leaves a wife and four children.

There is a rumor of a gigantic Anglo-American commercial scheme, including Jay Gould, the Rothschilds, and the Dukes of Devonshire and Westminster, for the erection of granaries, warehouses, pork-curing establishments, and cheese and butter factories, on sites commanding railway facilities to terminate at New York, with slaughtering facilities at Barrow, G. B., and retail stores throughout the United Kingdom.

The Irish volunteers held a meeting last week, at which O'Donovan Rossa and Frank Byrne were the speakers. Both advised Irishmen to imitate the men who killed Cavendish and Burk, and urged that Lord Lieutenants, Chief Secretary and Judges, in Ireland, should be assassinated. The use of dynamite was advocated, and the Irish were advised to trust their leaders and supply them with money to wage war against England.

Almost all the London theatres and concerts now begin at half-past 8.

To-day is the Marquis of Salisbury's birthday, he has completed his 58th year.

Hon. Edward Blake at latest advices was in Italy, and was considerably improved in health.

The Maharajah of Jodhpore has offered £20,000 annually for five years for frontier defence.

Rear-Admiral Hotham succeeds Capt. Lord Chas. Beresford as Naval Junior Lord of the Admiralty.

There has been a heavy snow storm in Wales. The roads are blocked and heavy loss of stock is feared.

The Orient steamer *Ormuz* has made the magnificent passage from Gravesend to Melbourne of 27 days, 6 hours.

Patrick Doyle, of Gapdunloe, was murdered in his house on Sunday evening. He had recently prosecuted some sheep stealers.

Sir M. Mackenzie examined the Crown Prince's throat on Monday last. The inflammation was reduced, and no signs of cancer discovered.

The Porte has been notified by the Krupp gun firm, that unless money is forthcoming immediately, the contracts for repeating rifles for the Turkish army will be broken.

The continued massing of Russian troops on the Austrian and Roumanian frontiers, and the uneasiness of Austria under the menace, point to the increasing probability of war.

Lord Dufferin has replied to an application to reduce his rents, that he leaves the matter in the hands of his agent. A trip to India will probably be Mr. W. O'Brien's next effort.

The weather has been exceedingly tempestuous in Europe as well as in America. A heavy gale prevailed throughout Great Britain, and a great storm was raging at Vienna on Saturday.

Arrests of prominent Irish Nationalists continue with unabated vigor, though what results, except enmity and exasperation, are expected from imprisoning a number of prominent men for a month or two, it is difficult to see.

Captain Noel S. F. Digby, lately Flag Captain to Sir J. E. Commerell, now commands the *Dreadnought* in the Mediterranean, and has under him as Commander Prince Louis of Battenburg, and, as one of his lieutenants, Prince George of Wales.

The Pope has cordially thanked the Czar for his jubilee congratulations. The Czar, in reply, expresses his desire to assure the interests of his Catholic subjects and to harmonize the needs of the Catholic Church with Imperial principles. His Holiness responds in a favorable manner.

Mr. Norman, of the *Fall Mall Gazette*, held a three hours' conversation last week from Vancouver with his chief, Mr. Stead, in London—7000 miles apart. Four minutes only elapsed between questions and answers. The incident is very noteworthy, and was much-talked of in the London Clubs.

The Compagnie Generale Transatlantique is dismissing its foreign workmen, and has ordered that none shall hereafter be employed. It is reported that other companies will adopt a similar course. The order is directed mainly against Italians and Germans, and is due to fear of the presence of spies.

The Board of Trade returns of British trade with Canada show a moderate expansion during the year 1887. Exports to Canada increased £51,439 or one per cent over 1886, but imports from Canada increased £340,329 or 4.47 per cent. The export items are generally stationary, except for an increase in horses. In imports sheep and sawn wood decreased largely, sheep falling sixty per cent; though wheat and cheese have much increased.

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[FOR THE CRITIC.]
 A FANTASY.

A golden eye—
 And I lay all my length upon the sand,
 Drinking the opal hues of sea and sky—
 Breathing the strange, sweet hush of solitude—
 And thinking, half unconsciously,
 Some of the pure, good thoughts
 Which men do think at times;
 But which, be it for shame,
 Or some strange shyness of our nature
 So few of us confess.

Musing, I lay contentedly awhile.
 Then erst—
 I stretched my arms with yearning longing
 'To the sea,
 That mighty creature of the Master's hand!
 Superb; well nigh omnipotent—
 Yet docile to His will.
 O sea! I crave thy placid heart;
 I envy thee, thy beautiful peace and rest:
 Thy perfect harmony with air and sky
 And heaven!
 How infinitely grand and great, and calm, thou art!
 Majestic—in thy smiling consciousness
 Of power!
 Yet still—and silent—but for rippling kies
 Of wavelets, chasing one another.
 But for softly undulating boom, bared
 To catch and hold awhile so lovingly—
 The tender whispers of the golden clouds—
 The opal glances of the parting day.
 Ah! me—Ah! me!
 How greater far than human is thy might,
 How full and wondrous is thy wrath
 When thy broad breast is torn and lashed to fury
 By the wind—
 Yet, over dust thou cry—be it in rolling thunder—in moan or piteous wail—
 In a-bbing cadence echoing down the strand,
 Or laughing, breezy chatter—
 "Thy Will be done!"
 Thy Will be done! 'Tis called away, away,
 In thy deep solitudes afar—
 Where thou art measureless and strange—
 And lone!
 'Tis shouted by thy breakers on the sunlit shore,
 Where idlers wander and sweet children play;
 Or whispered, wave to wave, 'neath shining stars,
 In ceaseless, throbbing, murmuring tones of
 Satisfied "Amen."

Yet, thou art but mute, great sea!
 And I—with heart and brain, and voice,
 And God's great gift of intellect, with power
 To come and go the length and breadth
 Of his broad earth—
 I—created lord of all His creatures'
 Unbound, unfettered, free
 Trusted—beloved—entreated—aye!
 Taught to call him "FATHER,"
 Can do no more, than try to echo thee'
 Can only plead and cry imploringly
 For what I passionately crave, with fierce unrest.
 Can only try to still the hot rebellious pain
 That fills my breast!
 Can try—but that is all. Ah, sea!
 To rest—to be content—to sing but one unceasing song like thee
 To say, with all my soul unquestioning,
 "Thy will be done."

Indeed were blest! FLORENCE MARY ROGERS.

[FOR THE CRITIC.]
 LETTER FROM THE CAPITAL.

Ottawa is just now preparing to enter upon her gayest season of the year, and restaurateurs, hotel proprietors, and cabmen, are rubbing their hands in gleeful anticipation of the advent of parliamentarians and pleasure-seekers with the "filthy lucre" which is ever attendant upon their comings-in, if not upon their goings-out, of the capital city of Canada.

The waves of hyperborean cold which are playing such havoc with human life and comfort in the North-Western States have become so tempered by the time they reach us here that they are shorn of their terrors, and only yield us a bracing and exhilarating winter temperature. Ottawa yields the palm to no city in Canada in the enjoyment of winter sports. Sleighing, skating, and snow-shoeing are pursued with the zeal born of a desire to render Nature even in her roughest mood the handmaid of pleasure, while tobogganing—that prime and thoroughly Canadian sport—should be experienced here in order to be appreciated. Besides a number of private slides, there are the Tache Hill and the Osh-kosh slides controlled by clubs, and here on sunny afternoons and moonlight evenings may be seen the fair daughters of Ottawa in coquettish tobogganing blankets and bright-hued tuques—and, mark you, Ottawa girls, though fat, are fair—careering down the icy incline with the swiftness of the wind, their faces aglow with pleasure, and evincing implicit confidence in the skill of their male companions who guide the flying toboggans. In passing, I might mention that the Osh-kosh slide was formally opened last week by Sir John Macdonald, who, in the course of his remarks, expressed the opinion that the suggestion that he was a suitable person to open the slide must have come from his political opponents, inasmuch as they have always regarded him as a "slippery fellow."

The other great topic of interest in the city just now is the water-supply. The alarming prevalence of typhoid fever during the fall and early part of the winter has impelled the city fathers to investigate its cause, and to take steps to improve matters. Our water-supply is obtained from Ottawa river, and, circumstances indicating a pollution of its waters by the introduction of refuse matter at various places in the suburbs, the City Council ordered a chemical analysis to be made of the water drawn from a number of given places in the urban service. The analysis was made by Prof. F. T. Shut,

of the Central Experimental Farm, and his exhaustive report clearly indicates that impure water was one of the main causes of the recent epidemic. In the course of it, Prof. Shutt says:—"Applying the standards of purity proposed by Drs. Muter and Wigner, the celebrated English analysts, the Ottawa water would rank as undrinkable. Mr. Wigner's scale is as follows.

Extremely pure water.....	15
First-class water.....	40
Second-class water.....	65
Third-class water beyond.....	65

The Ottawa water, according to this, stands at 134.

It is hardly necessary to say that this condemnation of the river water for potable purposes is heartily endorsed by the Ottawa disciples of Bacchus, and it is interesting to mark the renewed vigor and persistency of their recourse to the flowing bowl, in order to counteract the poisonous effects of any water which may by mistake have penetrated their "interior economy." I would advise Maritime members who sit for Scott Act counties to bring their own water-supply with them, unless their firm adherence to total abstinence principles teaches them to scoff at microbes, bacteria, and other aquatic denizens. If they should happen to come without it, they may be interested to know that the standard parliamentary beverage at present is five cents a glass.

There is always more or less divergence of sentiment between Ottawa and her border sister, Toronto, but seldom has this been more strikingly exemplified than during the week just past. In various churches of the capital three eloquent Evangelists have been magnifying the power of the evil one, and exhorting our people to buckle on their Christian armor and battle with all their might against his rapidly-increasing ranks, while in the "Queen" city, a gentleman by the name of Johnson, who professes intimate acquaintance with realms Plutonian, has proclaimed on the public platform that the devil was a human being, but is now dead, and that the bottomless pit is frozen over! This Mr. Johnson, of Toronto, is not the first to tell us that the prince of darkness is incarnate, for Shakespeare says in King Lear, Act III, S. 4:—

'The Prince of Darkness is a gentleman.'

And Heinrich Heine—

'He is not ugly, and is not lame,
But really a handsome and charming man;
A man in the prime of life is the devil.'

However, I imagine that Mr. Johnson announces a startling bit of news when he proclaims His Satanic Majesty's obituary; and he certainly made a notable discovery when he found that the temperature of the nether regions had fallen below freezing point. But if Mr. Johnson's announcement be correct, the wicked man and the transgressor will probably find little solacement in it, because if the regions referred to are half as cold as Dakota and Minnesota have been during the past ten days, the old time torridity of Sheol would doubtless prove more agreeable to settlers.

Ottawa.

DIXIE.

[FOR THE CRITIC.]

A NEW VIEW OF THE ANNEXATION QUESTION.

The stirring and patriotic appeal which concludes an article in your issue of the 20th, entitled "The Past Year," has, I doubt not, awakened an echo in many a true Canadian breast, and has given birth in my mind to some thoughts anent the annexation question and the counter question of loyalty, which I have not seen hitherto expressed, and to which I would fain give utterance.

Ever since the day when, under the leadership of Mr. Blake and his Quebec confreres, the opposition party in Dominion politics, unhappily for the party and still more unhappily for the country, took up the Riel cry and gave their tacit and ill concealed assent to treason, the dividing line between the two great political parties of Canada has been day by day more distinctly marked, and the issue between them more clearly drawn, as that of loyalty to Canada and the empire on the one side, and disloyalty or at best a half-hearted fealty on the other. That the climax has at last been reached, that the gage of battle has been thrown down, and that the issue now clearly defined between the two parties has been accepted by the country, goes without saying, when we call to mind that a member of the opposition representing in parliament an important commercial constituency, and the editor of an influential opposition journal has, in the columns of his paper, boldly declared for annexation, without one word of reprobation or disclaimer from any public man on his side of politics or any organ of the party save only the *St. John Telegraph*.

That this is a state of affairs very much to be regretted in the interests of Canada seems at first sight to be self evident.

What is most to be desired in any country where government by party is the accepted system, is that there should be a laudable emulation and rivalry between the parties for public confidence on the ground of their devotion to the country and to its constitution.

However, in this case, it is possible that good may come out of evil. It is well that a question of so great moment to this Canada of ours and to the empire we adorn, should be decided for weal or woe before the interests involved became so tremendous as to precipitate a struggle such as convulsed our neighbors to the south.

As the annexation question may now be said to be fairly launched before the people of Canada, and will continue to be before them as a vital question until it is publicly and distinctly repudiated by the party to whom Mr. Ellis alludes, I propose, as I said before, to present a view of the subject, which is

certainly novel, which may be considered by those who are devoid of sentiment as fanciful, but which to me seems to be a legitimate and logical conclusion based on sound premises.

My postulate is this:—That we, the people of to-day, are in many things the stewards of the past, and hold many of the rights and privileges we enjoy in trust for posterity, as they have been held in trust for us by those who have lived in the ages that are gone.

That this is essentially true in the domain of knowledge, needs but an illustration to prove. It will be readily admitted that the vast and varied store of information which is open to be drawn upon by the searcher of truth, in this age of the world's history, is but the accretion of each atom of information which has from age to age been added to the general store since first the intellect of man emerged from its state of primal barbarism. If the school boy of to-day is better versed in many a branch of knowledge than the sage or scientist of a hundred years ago, is it because of his greater ability? Is it not rather that the results of their labors and of those who followed them have been faithfully preserved and faithfully transmitted for his use.

Now for the illustration. Suppose it possible that those in authority in this province should propose a hiatus in the domain of knowledge, an absolute break between the past and the future, that all schools and institutions of learning be closed and that the children of this generation grow up, bereft, in so far as we could deprive them, of that inheritance of knowledge which has been ours from our birth. What would be the verdict of the whole civilized world upon such a proposal?

Would it not unquestionably be that this sum total of knowledge which we have inherited is ours only in trust, that we have, as it were, a life interest in it only, and that as it was preserved for us and transmitted to us by those who have gone before, it is our manifest duty to preserve it intact for those who come after, and transmit it to them with the added increment of the age. The claims of the offspring upon those who are responsible for their presence in the world are being recognized with greater force as the world progresses. If a man provide not for his own house let him be as a heathen, says the law of God, and the law of man now enforces the anathema. In the domain of knowledge this principle of responsibility is fast taking the form of compulsory education. Is there, then, naught of value of which we can deprive our offspring, save sustenance, which is essential to existence, and knowledge, which is essential to a right use of that existence? To those whose high privilege it has been to be born into the world under theegis of the mighty flag of Britain there certainly is. From the day when the minstrels and maidens of Britain chanted in rude lays the imperishable glories of Harold and Hardicanute, from the day when Britain's warrior queen bade bold defiance to her mighty foe, there has been added from age to age and from generation to generation of true and faithful Britons, increment to increment of that magnificent inheritance of glory, of fame, and power, which has been preserved intact and transmitted in its integrity to be the invaluable birthright, inalienable save by his own act, of every one whose good fortune it has been to be born a citizen of the great empire of Britain. Now I claim that in regard to this, our grand inheritance of citizenship, as in the domain of knowledge, we are but stewards of the past and trustees for the future. The principle of responsibility to offspring in the matter of sustenance has been so thoroughly recognized that in some countries a man who will not provide for those dependent upon him is incarcerated and the product of his labor applied to their support. The same principle is asserting itself with equal force in regard to education. Shall we say, then, that there is no responsibility in respect to those rights and privileges of citizenship, which to many are dearer than knowledge, —dearer than life itself.

If this line of argument has the force and cogency I claim for it, then in this question of annexation or of fealty to the empire no British-born citizen is entirely a free agent, but the claims of posterity are strong upon him as his claims were strong upon those who went before, and inasmuch as this wondrous inheritance of glorious citizenship, the pride of every true-hearted Briton the world over, has been transmitted to us as trustees of the future, our manifest duty is to hand it down not only unimpaired but with added strength and grandeur.

This duty, it seems to me, admits of no denial and no exception save that grand one which is pleaded as the justification of the thirteen colonies, the denial of the right of citizenship by the central authority, and even in that hour of dire extremity were not wanting thousands of noble hearted men and women with whom this paramount duty overshadowed every selfish consideration. If my premises are correct and my deductions logical they will have their weight irrespective of their source, and will add somewhat to the power of that high conviction which should prevail in the public mind of Canada, that there are considerations of more value than dollars and cents to be taken into account when the question of loyalty to the throne and empire of Britain is under discussion.

The spirit of the U. E. loyalists is not yet dead in this Canada of ours, and I have a firm faith that there are many in our own Nova Scotia who have not so bowed the knee to the Baal of Mammon as to obliterate from their souls every high and noble aspiration, and who, like myself, infinitely prefer a modest allowance of the good things of this life with British citizenship added, to unbounded affluence under an alien flag.

Tangier.

J. H. TOWNSEND.

INDUSTRIAL NOTES.

When capital and labor go hand-in-hand, prosperity is sure to follow. A pleasing instance of good feeling between employers and employes was the distribution on Christmas Day, by the well known firm of Rhodes, Curry & Co., of Amherst, of 150 geese and turkeys, and 50 silk haudkerchiefs, amongst their employes, and the subsequent presentation to the firm

by the employes of a calendar clock, (specially imported by Charles McLeod for the purpose) and an office chair. The presentation was accompanied by an address, which elicited a feeling reply from the firm. Both were so admirable in their tone that we publish them in full:—

ADDRESS.—We, your men, have gathered around you again for the purpose of extending to you our best wishes, and a feeling of gratitude welling up within us, for the very liberal and honest way in which you have dealt with us all through these years we have been associated with you. We feel it a pleasure at this time to gather here and present to you these small gifts, feeling as we do, that perfect harmony exists between you and your employes, and would ask you to accept these as tokens of gratitude from us for the very fair and honest way in which you have dealt with us. We now present you with an office chair and clock, carrying with them, as we feel sure they do, the best wishes of us all.

REPLY.—Accept our heartfelt thanks for these beautiful presents. They prove to us that we have the good-will and good-feeling of our employes, without which it is impossible to successfully conduct any business. We assure you that we have your welfare at heart, and are highly pleased to see so many of you making homes for yourselves which you own and have built out of your earnings. We believe that the proportion of mechanics who own property is greater in Amherst than any place in the Dominion. It is not necessary for us to tell you that we work hard ourselves, and keep ourselves informed of all that is going on in our line of business, and have the reputation of being a live firm; and we assure you it is necessary to be so, in order to furnish employment for so many. We also have the reputation of doing good work. But we are not satisfied yet. We want this reputation so well established that the public can and will send us their orders without enquiry as to price or quality, feeling and knowing that they will get a good article at a reasonable price. To gain this end we especially need the co-operation of our employes, and we assure you that if you further help us in this matter, you shall share in the prosperity it will bring. The past year has been a prosperous one, and the present looks promising. In conclusion, we thank you again for these beautiful presents and the interest you take in the business, and wish you all a happy and prosperous New Year.

A Robb & Sons, Amherst, N. S., sent out from their siding a few days ago, a car loaded with one of their celebrated Monarch steam boilers for Cariboo Mines. Messrs. Robb, although they have been in the boiler business but a short time, are establishing a reputation for their goods which is quite in keeping with their past record.

COMMERCIAL.

The recent heavy snow falls have interrupted traffic, and blocked the country roads, so that the markets have been quiet in tone, and no activity has been developed in any line of business. Consequently, in most departments trade has been on the slow side, and practically featureless. The temper as to the future is not despondent, nor is it buoyant,—in fact, the general opinion inclines towards a cautious view of the situation. As a rule, payments are made so far with promptness, but some anxiety is expressed as to the obligations that will mature in this and the two following months, especially in the Western portion of the Dominion. The *Winnipeg Commercial* says:—"The work of collecting wholesale trade reports has been a very unpleasant one. The replies to enquiries about the state of trade, if condensed into one reply, would be a loud and not very pleasant growl. Nobody is satisfied with the state of affairs, and the dissatisfaction is all the deeper on account of the cause, for it being an artificial and not a natural one. Trade is thoroughly demoralized, and must remain more or less so until the country can by some means get its grain crop to market, and only those who have business connections over the Province can realize to what an extent this demoralization exists, and how paralyzing are its effects. Since our last report appeared, some merchants have awakened a little from the business stupor the first shock of the grain car famine brought on, and are realizing that supplies of actual necessities must be kept up. This has in a small way improved matters in these lines, but the state is still a small one indeed. In season lines there is an utter absence of the straggling calls for odds and ends for immediate wants, which were common in January of former years, and even in ordering from spring goods samples retailers are slow and irresolute under the present circumstances, and show by the caution they exercise, that the hopeful feelings they had in the opening of winter have given place for those of supreme disgust over a season's business spoiled. The collection returns from both city and country are also very discouraging, and retailers who have heretofore shown every promptitude in payments are being compelled to ask favors from their wholesalers. The only encouraging symptoms are that disgust and disappointment are in no way mixed with despair, for it is plain to any person, who will make the most casual investigation, that a speedy marketing of the crop would quickly remove every pressure now felt."

A city daily contemporary has recently published a series of articles, giving statistics of our fishery catch. They show that our fishermen in 1887 caught fish of various kinds to the value of over \$8,000,000. This is about the average catch that has been made during the past ten or twelve years. The catch of lobsters was larger than that for 1886, but less than that for the preceding year. Still, it is worthy of note that it takes more of these crustaceans to fill a can than it did a few years since. Our lobsteries are being rapidly fished out. No large lobsters now exist on our coast and soon—despite their remarkable fecundity—the probability is, that if the most stringent measures are not promptly taken for their protection, the lobster will become as extinct a species as the auk now is. It is useless for the Government to decree that lobsters, under a certain size, shall not be taken,

or that in certain weeks—which, by the way, does not cover their breeding season—it shall be illegal to capture them. It is impossible to have an intelligent Government official at every one of the 250 lobster-canning establishments that exist in Nova Scotia alone; and the idea of depending on the natives living in the vicinity of these places who live by the catch that they get for what they catch is manifestly absurd. The only effectual remedy is to absolutely prohibit the taking of lobsters for the purpose of canning, for, say, five or seven years. After that, canning lobsters may be permitted for one or two years, with intermitting periods of prohibition. Thus, and thus only, our lobster fisheries may be placed on a permanent footing.

The following are the Assignments and Business Changes in this Province during the past week:—A. E. Sulis, organ manufacturer, Bridgetown, admitted E. P. Raymond as partner, under the name of Acadia Organ Manfg. Co.; Wesley O. Kaizer, grocer, Halifax, assigned to James Watson; Theakston, Angwin & Co., W. & R. hardware, Halifax, dissolved, Robt. Theakston retired, business continued by remaining partners under old name.

Dry Goods.—As the stormy weather has interfered both with receipts and deliveries, the dry goods has made but little progress since our last report, and the market has maintained a quiet tone throughout. Spring orders have not assumed large proportions, and country merchants do not show any undue haste to stock up. In general, the situation may be summed up as unchanged, but many merchants seem to think it advisable to go slow for the present.

IRON, HARDWARE AND METALS.—This trade, while not active, has a firm tone in every quarter, and the prospect promises at least a fair trade. Prices are firmly sustained. In Glasgow warrants have lost 3d., and now stand at 41s. 1d. Pig-iron has been quiet, but business has been confined to small lots. There has been a fair demand for finished iron and for tin plates and Canada plates. Tin has been unchanged, but Chili bars are rather weaker. Late London cables are:—Spot tin £166 10s., three months futures £144, market quiet; G. O. B. Chili bars £75 15s.; soft Spanish lead, £14 10s.; do English do, £14 15s.; best selected copper, £80. The *Glasgow Herald* has the following:—"With reference to the remark of a London contemporary as to the action of the syndicate, and as to its bearing on the interests of the consumers, it is explained that a leading member of this syndicate, M. Secretan, is a very large consumer, taking, it is said, over 2,400 tons of copper annually, and it may be concluded that he will not do anything very antagonistic for long to the interests of his own class. The Tharsis company are not likely to enter into any such combination as has been hinted at; but there is no doubt that the other Spanish companies are favorable to the proposal, and for some time it has been suspected here that those having charge of the operation, finding that the Tharsis directors will not meet their views, are adopting other methods for securing the control of the company. That seems to be the only explanation of the large quantity of Tharsis stock that is being taken from the Glasgow market for France."

BREADSTUFFS.—The local flour market has remained dull. Owing to the difficulty of guaranteeing deliveries it is almost impossible to effect sales. Beerbohm's cable says:—"Cargoes off coast, wheat, slow; corn, nothing offering. Cargoes on passage and for shipment, wheat, slow; corn, firm. California wheat, promptly to be shipped, 34s.; do nearly due, 33s. 6d. French country markets firm. Liverpool wheat and corn, spot, slow. Wheat and flour in Paris rather easier." The *Mark Lane Express*, in its weekly review of the grain trade, says:—"English wheat is in restricted demand. Flour is depressed under increased receipts of foreign production. The importations of foreign wheat have decreased, but prices continue lower in consequence of the enormous supplies of American flour. The increasing output of the American mills now form the dominant factor in the world's breadstuffs markets. Corn is in limited supply, but prices have not varied. American new crop, which is being offered at 24s. 6d. ex-ship, is found to be of excellent quality and sound." In Chicago the wheat market has ruled weak and firm by spurts. On the break some parties bought believing in a rally on general principles, but we fail to see much room to expect an advance with such discouraging advices from over the sea. Nerve may work for a while, but a decline is bound to come before long, and holders appear more likely to stand in for a loss than a gain.

PROVISIONS.—In the local markets provisions have been quiet, the demand being only for small lots, but prices have ruled firm. Some business has been done in lard at steady prices. The hog market has been quiet, the demand being slow. The Liverpool provision market was quiet and steady, except tallow, which declined 3d. to 24s. 9d. Pork closed there at 67s. 6d., lard at 38s. 6d., and bacon at 39s. to 41s. In Chicago the pork market has improved decidedly and has steadily advanced. Late quotations are \$14.35 March, and \$14.50 May. Lard there has been firm and moved up 2½c. to 5c. being at last quotations \$7 42½ for March, and \$7 52½ for May. Green and sweet pickled hams were unchanged.

BUTTER.—The butter market has continued to be very quiet, actual business accomplished being confined to the local trade. There has been a good enquiry in the West for jobbing lots of choice creamery and dairy butter, mainly, it is understood, on English account. The stock in first hands throughout Canada is believed to be relatively very light, and prices will doubtless be held firmly to the end of the season.

CHEESE.—The local market is quiet and no business of importance has been transacted in this line. Reports from Liverpool, G. B., show the market there to have been unchanged at 60s. 6d., and private advices thence confirm the steadiness of prices. In the United States the prospects for an advance are not encouraging, and holders will do well if they pull through without loss. No improvement can be reasonably expected before the beginning of March, and then we will be upon the threshold of a new season. A serious probability exists that parties who bought cheese at top figures in August and later will stand in to loss heavily by their speculations.

APPLES.—The sale of apples on the local market is slow, with prices ranging from \$2.50 to \$3.50, and some single barrels of selected fruit have been disposed of at \$4. Late Liverpool cables show the market there weaker, prices ranging from 14s. to 17s. per barrel. The Montreal Trade Bulletin makes the following remarks, which may be worthy of note by those who feel an interest in pushing the shipping of this port:—"The first shipments of apples from Montreal to England since the close of navigation were made last week via Halifax, about five car loads going forward at 3s. 9d. per bbl. to Liverpool. Recent mail advices from England report very satisfactory sales of American fruit, Baldwin's selling at 16s. to 19s. 6d. A lot of 500 bbls. shipped from Boston to the English market by a Montreal firm was sold at 16s. per bbl., and as the fruit only graded No. 2, the sale was considered a good one, and netted a good profit to the shipper. Great inconvenience is experienced by our shippers through taking off the steamers from the Portland route, as it is feared that the long journey to Halifax will heat the fruit too much, but it is to be hoped that the Intercolonial Railway will obviate this by taking extra precautions to have the goods pushed forward with the utmost despatch. It appears that Boston is already bidding for this trade, as we have seen a letter from a dealer in that city to a firm here, stating that the freight from Boston to Liverpool is only 1s. 9d. per bbl., and advising shipments via that route. The Intercolonial, however, ought to be able to compete with the Boston route. Several lots of apples have lately gone forward to the English market from Western Canada via New York, and it is understood that they have turned out fairly well for the shippers. There is a considerable quantity of apples in this city which will undoubtedly have to find a foreign outlet, and it is important that our shippers should know the safest route to ship by."

SUGAR AND MOLASSES.—The market has been quiet, and the few transactions that have transpired have been at steady figures. Holders of sugar appear to be confident of the future, and exhibit no anxiety to part with their stocks. It is too early as yet to speculate on what the crop for 1883 may be, but the amount of saccharine matter now held is very small.

FISH.—The fish markets here have remained without change during the past week, owing to the absence of material of the kinds enquired for. It will be remembered that about three weeks ago three vessels cloared and sailed hence for Porto Rico together, the figures in that market being cabled satisfactory. All made a quick run of about eleven days, and arrived together. As three cargoes were more than that market could swallow at once they had to go into store, and will be sold as opportunity offers. Rivalry is one thing but business is evidently quite another. Demerara reports show the tone of the fish markets there to be a shade better, but not sufficiently so to justify any extensive shipments to that colony. Our outside advices are as follows: Montreal, January 30:—"The fish market has continued fairly active, there being a good demand, owing to the fact that a number of dealers are beginning to lay in their Lenten supply, and an active business has been done. The recent advance in green cod has been well maintained, and the prospects are that prices will go higher, as the stock is light and mostly held by one firm. A number of small lots have been changing hands at firm prices. There has been a fair enquiry for B. C. salmon at quotations. No. 1 red sea trout have been moving at \$10 and \$11. Labrador harrings have ruled quiet and steady. There is a good enquiry for haddock, which are scarce and firm at 4 1/2c. Fresh cod are in fair supply and lower at 3 1/2c. Smelts have met with an active demand at 6c. and 6c., and stocks in first hands are very light compared with previous years. Fresh herrings are again weak and lower at \$1 per 100. Tommy-cods are firmly held at \$1.50 and \$1.60 per barrel." Another correspondent writing under the same date says:—"The sale of a car-load of fresh haddock is reported at 3 3/4c. and fresh cod brings 2 3/4c. Fresh harrings are quoted at \$1.10 to \$1.25 per 100. Tommy cods are very scarce and sales have been made at \$1.75 per bbl. A good demand has been experienced for green cod, which has sold for \$4.50 to \$4.75 for No. 1 in bbls. and at \$5.25 for No. 1 large. For drums \$5.37 1/2 has been refused, and we quote \$5.37 1/2 to \$5.50. Large draft is quoted at \$5.75 to \$6. Stocks are said to be very low, being reduced to about 400 bbls. Several car loads, however, are said to be on the way. Dry fish is quiet and steady at \$4.25 to \$4.50 per quintal. Labrador herring remains steady at \$4.25 to \$4.50 per bbl. The stock of salmon in this city is reduced and getting light. No. 1 Newfoundland is quoted at \$19 per tierce, some holders refusing to accept \$21. In barrels prices are quoted at \$14 to \$15."

Gloucester, Mass., January 31.—The sales of large fresh codfish at Boston yesterday averaged 3 1/2 cts. per lb.; haddock, 2 1/2; fresh halibut sold at 10 cts. per lb. We quote frozen herring at \$1.50 per hundred. Mackerel in light stock. We quote bloater at \$25; 1's. at \$18.50, 2's. at \$15.50, and 3's. at \$13.25 to \$13.50. Bull's Eyes, \$15; Nova Scotia 2's., \$14.50; 1's., \$15.50 to 16; extras, \$17 to 18. Primo Georges codfish are selling at \$1 per qtl. for large, and \$3.75 for small; Trawl Bank, \$4 for large, and \$3.62 1/2 for small; Hand line Western Bank, \$4 62 1/2 and 3.75; Shores, \$4.50; Large Dry Bank, \$4.75; medium, \$3.75. Large Nova Scotia haddock cured, \$4.75. Cusk, \$3.25; pollock, \$2; slack-salted do., \$3; haddock, \$2.50, and hake, \$2.25. Boneless and prepared fish, 3 1/2 to 5 cts. per lb. for hake, haddock and cusk, and 5 to 6 1/2 cts. for codfish, as to style and quality. Smoked halibut, 6 to 9 cts. per lb.; smoked salmon, 15 cts. per lb.; haddock, 6 cts. per lb. Medium herring, 16 cts. per box; tucks, 12 cts; lengthwise, 15 cts.; No. 1's, 12 cts. Bloaters, 75 cts. Smoked mackerel, 15 cts. per lb. Canned do., fresh, \$1.50 per doz; canned trout, \$1.50; fresh halibut, \$1.25; salmon, \$1.75; lobsters, \$1.75; clams, \$1.75. Labrador herring, \$5 to 5.25 per bbl; medium split, \$4.50; Newfoundland do., \$5; Nova Scotia do., \$5 to 6; Eastport, \$3.50, pickled codfish, \$5, haddock, \$5, halibut heads, \$3.25; tongues, \$6; sounds, \$12; tongues and sounds, \$15; alewives, \$3.25; trout, \$14.50; California salmon, \$14.50, Halifax salmon, \$10; Newfoundland do., \$18. Clambait, \$7 to 7.50; slivers, \$7."

MARKET QUOTATIONS.

WHOLESALE RATES.

Our Price Lists are corrected for us each week by reliable merchants, and can therefore be depended upon as accurate up to the time of going to press.

GROCERIES.

Table of grocery prices including SUGAR (Cut Loaf, Granulated, Circle A, etc.), TRE (Congou, Fair, Good, etc.), MOLASSES (Barbadoes, Demerara, etc.), and RICE (Pilot Bread, Boston and Third Family, etc.).

BREADSTUFFS.

PROVISIONS AND PRODUCE. Quotations below are our to day's wholesale prices for car lots not cash. Jobbers' and Retailers' prices about 5 to 10 cents per bbl. higher than our lots. Markets quiet and steady. Breadstuffs are sold fine. Cornmeal easier.

Table of flour and breadstuff prices including FLOUR (Graham, Patent high grades, etc.) and various types of CORN MEAL and CRACKED CORN.

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

PROVISIONS.

Table of meat and provision prices including BEEF (Am. Ex. Mess, duty paid, etc.), PORK (Mess, American, etc.), and LARD (Tubs and Pails, etc.).

These quotations are prepared by a reliable wholesale house.

FISH FROM VESSELS.

Table of fish prices from vessels including MACKEREL (Extra, No. 1, etc.), HERRING (No. 1 Shore, July, etc.), SALMON (No. 1), HADDOCK, HAKE, CUSK, and POLLOCK.

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

LOBSTERS.

Table of lobster prices including Nova Scotia (Atlantic Coast Pack), Tall Cans, Flat, and Newfoundland Flat Cans.

The above quotations are corrected by a reliable dealer.

LUMBER.

Table of lumber prices including Pine (clear, No. 1, etc.), Spruce, Hemlock, Shingles, Laths, Hard wood, and Soft wood.

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

BUTTER AND CHEESE.

Table of butter and cheese prices including Nova Scotia Choice Fresh Prints, Good, in large tubs, Store Packed & oversalted new, Canadian Creamery, new, Township, and Western.

The above quotations are corrected by a reliable dealer in Butter and Cheese.

WOOL, WOOL SKINS & HIDES.

Table of wool and hide prices including Wool—clean washed, per pound, Ox Hides, Cow Hides, and Calf Skins.

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

HOME AND FOREIGN FRUITS.

Table of fruit prices including Apples (No. 1 Varieties, new, per bbl.), Oranges, Lemons, Cocoanuts, Onions American, Dates, Raisins, Figs, Prunes, and Grapes.

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

POULTRY.

Table of poultry prices including Turkeys, Geese, Ducks, and Chickens.

The above are corrected by a reliable victualer.

LIVE STOCK—at Richmond Depot.

Table of live stock prices including Steers best quality, Oxen, Fat Steers, Heifers, Weathers, and Lambs.

These quotations are prepared by a reliable victualer.

SADDLE AND SABRE.

(Continued.)

"Certainly, sir," replied Prance, as he picked up his hat; "if I can make out anything more you shall know it at once. For the present good-bye, Major."

As Prance walked away from the Kynastons' house, an angry flush came over his face at the sight of Mr. Furzedon leisurely lounging along on the other side of the street. Furzedon was apparently quite unconscious of his presence, and, after he had got past him some little distance, Prance turned round mechanically to glare once more at his enemy. He was not a little surprised to see Furzedon cross the street and knock at the Kynastons' door.

"I didn't know," he muttered, "that he was thick with the Major, and, if they are not pretty intimate, how the deuce comes it that he is dropping in at this time of the morning?"

Mr. Prance was not much versed in social etiquette, but he did know that a morning call signified either business or considerable intimacy, and to ascertain what were the relations between Kynaston and Furzedon became now a problem which it behoved him to study.

XXIII.

CHARLIE'S SUMMONED TO TOWN.

The hunting is long a thing of the past, the sap runs riotously through the trees, which are breaking forth in all the glorious verdure of the month of May. Birds are singing, buds are bursting, and grass is springing in every direction. The song of the thrush from the topmost bough reaches to chanticleer's shrill defiance, as the sun breaks forth in the early morning to kiss the white and pink fragrant blossoms characteristic of the merry month. Few girls ever enjoyed the spring time more than Lettie Devereux; but somehow this year the salt seemed to have lost its savor. It struck her that North Leach was a little dull. The Kynastons had left The Firs; Charlie was away soldiering; as for John, he seemed more absorbed in the farms than usual. Lettie did not understand it; she no longer took the interest in the young horses that she used to do; how the game-fowls were doing became a matter of indifference to her; and the garden had ceased to be an attraction. She was restless and discontented; she had as yet received no invitation from Mrs. Connop, and Lettie had reckoned more upon it this year than she had ever done hitherto. Charlie, too, was so stupid; he wrote so seldom, and when he did, his letters were so dreadfully egotistical, he never said anything about the people he mixed with, nor told her anything about his brother officers. Of course his letters would be so much more interesting if they contained some information regarding his associates. As for coming to North Leach, he only alluded to that as a possibility of next winter; and in the meantime Lettie recognised that there was a monotony and solitude about North Leach hard to bear.

She took her solitary rides, she strove honestly to busy herself with her accustomed avocations; but, in spite of all that, there were times when she felt that the stagnation of life at North Leach was well nigh insupportable. As for Gilbert Slade, she would trouble her mind no more about him. Mrs. Kynaston was right—if he had cared ever so little about her he would have made an effort to see her before this. But Gilbert Slade had made never a sign, and might as well have been shooting big game in India as quartered at York for all she heard of him. Mr. Furzedon, on the contrary, had twice, under some rather flimsy pretext, visited them for two or three days. Plausible though his account had been of how he had happened to be in their neighborhood, there was a ring of untruth about it which gave Miss Devereux the idea that Mrs. Kynaston was right, and that she herself was the attraction that drew him into North Lincolnshire. Lettie, moreover, could not but see that, without venturing to proclaim himself an admirer, he paid her considerable attention, and with no undue vanity felt that he only wanted a little encouragement on her part to become a recognised pretender to her hand.

Still, Lettie had by no means got over her prejudice against him. She was courteous, pleasant to him, and did her best to make his brief visits to North Leach agreeable; but, for all that, she did not care about him herself. To say that she disliked him would be too strong a phrase, but she was certainly indifferent to him, and, bravely though she tried to master it, was conscious of an ungrounded prejudice against him. It was probably the ingrained cynicism of Furzedon's character that jarred upon Miss Devereux. He strove very hard to subdue it; he was aware that that vein is rarely popular with women, but nature combined with habit is not easily smothered, and, in spite of all his care, his bitter views of men and things would occasionally escape his lips. Still Ralph Furzedon thought that he was making fair progress; and had he not clever Mrs. Kynaston to aid him? and did he not hold that tremendous card of Charlie's difficulties to launch whenever he saw fittest? Ralph Furzedon little thought as he left North Leach, in the very first days of May, how speedily Mrs. Kynaston would counsel an application of the screw.

But, if Charlie Devereux could find no time to go to North Leach, he could manage to get a week's leave for the purpose of running up to London. And hither he had betaken himself in obedience to the express wish of Mrs. Kynaston. She and Charlie corresponded pretty frequently—a correspondence which they did not think it necessary to mention to other people. Even at The Firs Kate could often have given Lettie Devereux later news of her brother than she herself possessed; but Mrs. Kynaston never thought fit to mention it. She was a lady much given to philandering correspondence, and usually had two or three what she denominated "special friends" of the male sex, with whom she kept up much sentimental

letter-writing. No very great harm, perhaps, in the epistles; and yet they always contained a certain amount of love-making, such as were hardly befitting a married woman to receive. A prompt, energetic woman, as well as a capricious one, was Mrs. Kynaston, accustomed to subdue men easily. Her first feeling on discovering Gilbert Slade's insensibility to her fascinations had been astonishment, then came pique, and finally she had fanned herself into a mad passion for this dragoon, who declined to put his neck beneath her foot.

But Mrs. Kynaston was not easily beaten when she had set her mind upon a thing. She had determined that the first thing it behoved her to put an end to was Slade's growing admiration for Lettie Devereux. Secondly, to marry that young lady to Furzedon as soon as she could compass it. Most women would have deemed these two things beyond their power to bring about, but Mrs. Kynaston had implicit reliance on her own abilities, and was wonderfully adroit in making the most of such weapons as came to her hand. Already she had put into Furzedon's head the idea that Lettie would make him an excellent wife. Already she had implanted in Miss Devereux's breast mistrust of Bertie Slade's intentions, that it was the sort of conventional flirtation these soldiers always thought proper to indulge in with any pretty girl they came across. But she wanted to do more than that, she wanted to effectually sever Lettie from her lover. It was in furtherance of these purposes that she had urged Charlie to run up to town.

"She had so many things to say to him," she wrote. "She wanted to see him now he had a few months' military training, whether he was improved or the reverse; she hoped they hadn't spoiled his seat in the riding-school. In short, Charlie," she concluded, "I must see you; I am sure you can get a few days' leave now, so remember, I shall take no excuse."

However indifferently Charlie might have regarded Mrs. Kynaston's charms upon first making her acquaintance, he could no longer be accused of that indifference now. He was no doubt very much in love with a thoroughgoing a flirt as there was in all London, and he lost no time in obeying her behest. He was in all the flush of his Two Thousand winnings, and sanguine, as young gentlemen of his age are wont to be, about being equally fortunate over the Derby. That he should present Mrs. Kynaston with a very pretty bangle as a memento of Belisarius, and tell her the whole story of how he came to back that horse, and of all that he hoped from his success at Epsom, one need scarcely say.

Mrs. Kynaston was interested in his story; she led him on till at last she drew from him the whole story of his difficulties; how that he had come to terrible grief in plunging at the Houghton Meeting at Newmarket the year before last; how that Furzedon in the first instance had lent him the money; how he felt the obligation of being indebted to a friend so oppressive that he had taken counsel with Major Kynaston on the subject, and how that the Major had borrowed the money for him elsewhere.

"And at usurious interest, no doubt," interposed the lady. "Dick, I know from sad experience, is an adept at such things; but," she continued with a grave shake of her head, "my poor Charlie, you will have to pay for it. How is it all to end?"

And then he told her how he looked forward to his winnings on the Derby to discharge all his liabilities; and how that, when he had wiped the slate clean, he would take very good care not to make such a fool of himself again.

Mrs. Kynaston made no further comment upon his story, but lightly changed the conversation.

"And so you have seen nothing of any of your people since you left North Leach the very end of last year?"

Charlie shook his head.

"No; foolish of me, of course. I know from your letters you have no news. What I mean is, have you no news to tell me from North Leach?"

"No," replied young Devereux, "it is too early to know much about the game—too early to know much about the crops. Lettie says she finds it very dull, and is looking anxiously forward to an invitation from her aunt; but so far, I believe, it hasn't arrived."

"Ah! that is not exactly what I call news. Lettie did not tell you for instance, she was going to be married—did she?"

"Lettie married! No. Who to?"

"My dear Charlie, brothers are always notoriously blind to their sister's love affairs; but still, I should have thought you might have seen how very attentive your friend Mr. Furzedon was to Lettie last season."

"You forget," he replied, "that I was only altogether a very few days in town last year; and, to tell you the truth, I had an idea that there might be something of that sort between her and Gilbert Slade."

"Ah! You think, because at Lettie's request he assisted you to get your nomination for a commission, he was in love with your sister—a natural mistake; but I should doubt Mr. Slade being in a position to marry, even if I thought him a marrying man."

"Well, he came all the way down to Lincoln to see Polestar win last autumn, and I thought, perhaps, that the seeing of Lettie—"

"Oh, yes; I know," interrupted Mrs. Kynaston, with some little acerbity, "he sat in her pocket all day, and had hardly a word to bestow upon any one else; but that's only the way of your precious profession. Still, I don't wonder that you were a little puzzled."

"You give me credit for noticing a great deal more than I did upon that occasion. Remember, that was the day I won my first steeplechase. I had the race and Polestar on my mind the whole afternoon; and, beyond that, Gilbert shook hands with me and congratulated me on my victory. I know no more. How he and Lettie passed their time I've no idea."

"Then you don't know that Mr. Furzedon has been at North Leach twice this spring?"

"Well, I'm not sure," rejoined Charlie; "that Lettie did not say so—"

thing about it in one of her letters; but it made so little impression that I had forgotten it."

"Well, I can't say positively," rejoined Mrs. Kynaston; "the two principals have neither of them thought fit to make confession to me, but that Mr. Furzedon adores your sister I know from his own lips (a little exaggeration this); and as for Lottie, well, she knows it, and if she disapproved it, how came Mr. Furzedon to go down to North Leach twice?"

"I'm sure I don't know," replied Charlie, "I never dreamt of his caring about Lettice in that way. He's not a bad fellow, Furzedon, but I don't think I quite care about him as a brother-in-law."

Charlie Devereux's vision had been a little enlarged since he had joined the —th Hussars; he probably drew a more correct estimate of his fellows than when he was an undergraduate, and was conscious now that his comrades would pronounce Furzedon not quite "the right thing."

"Don't be foolish, Charlie," replied Mrs. Kynaston, "your sister is doing very well for herself. Ralph Furzedon is a very rising young man, much richer, I have some reason to know, than he is usually supposed. A shrewd man, too, not a genius—they, poor things, rarely get on in this life—but a clear-headed, practical man. Ralph Furzedon will push his way in this world, he will get into Parliament, and has, no doubt about it, a future before him. Lettice, like any prudent girl, knows which side her bread is buttered, and is not likely to throw on one side a good *parti* for poetical visions of love, or, perchance, strawberry-leaves."

"You know best," said young Devereux, "and I suppose Lettice is doing a good thing for herself. Furzedon has always been a pal of mine, but for all that, let him be as rich as he may, I wish he were not going to marry my sister."

"You foolish boy," rejoined Mrs. Kynaston, "you are confusing love and settling in life; it is given to few of us to marry the man we really care for. Oh dear! how little giving in marriage there would be if that was an essential part of it." And then Kate Kynaston plunged into one of those charming little dissertations in which she was such a proficient, in which she demonstrated that it was the duty of three-fourths of womankind to sacrifice themselves for the sake of their families, and that if it was their misfortune to come across those they could have loved later on in life, they were less to be blamed than wept over. What the sacrifice had been in her own case was left misty and undefined; but Mrs. Kynaston always contrived to send her admirers away with the idea that she was a woman wrestling with a heavy burden, that her hearer was the one man who had ever touched her heart, and that, had they met earlier, life would have been so very different.

As for Charlie, he went back to York uncomfortable about Lettice's engagement, and with a hazy idea that he had added to poor Mrs. Kynaston's troubles by his own fatal fascinations, and yet a less conceited man than Charlie Devereux probably never trod shoe-leather.

"Well, young 'un," exclaimed Gilbert Slade, as Charlie burst into his quarters a few minutes before the trumpet sounded for dress, "had a good time? Whom did you see, and what have you been doing? You didn't forget to cail upon my uncle Bob, did you?"

"No," rejoined Charlie, "I called twice on him, but I didn't see him. I was most anxious to thank him for all he had done for me; but the porter said he had not been at the Thermopolium for three or four days, and he thought that he must be out of town."

"Pick up any news?" inquired Bertie, lazily.

"I did," rejoined Charlie. "I saw Mrs. Kynaston, and heard a very strange bit of news from her; rather a queer thing," continued Charlie, "to hear of your own sister going to be married from any one but herself, but I did. She told me that Lettice was engaged to be married."

"What!" exclaimed Gilbert Slade, springing to his feet. "Miss Devereux going to be married? Nonsense, Charlie. Who to?"

"To Ralph Furzedon, of all people in the world," replied young Devereux.

"What, that cad!" exclaimed Bertie. "Well, I'm d—d. No, I beg your pardon, Charlie; of course I don't mean that. I mean I congratulate you, old fellow. I trust Miss Devereux will be happy. Pray forgive me that slip of the tongue, and consider I've said all the proper things usual under the circumstances."

Charlie said no more, but, as he walked away to his own quarters to dress, felt less reconciled than ever to this engagement of his sister. Bertie's involuntary exclamation had strengthened his own conviction. Stripped of his "fine feathers Furzedon was a cad. Could Mrs. Kynaston be right, and was Lettice really engaged to this man?"

"Ah!" he muttered, "women are so much clearer-sighted than ourselves in these matters. It is little likely that a clever woman like Kate"—and his face slightly flushed as he murmured her christian name—"would make a mistake in such a matter."

XXIV.

SAM PRANCE AT HOME.

Major Kynaston had been not a little puzzled at Sam Prance's reference to young Devereux last year; he had wondered then whether Prance had the slightest idea that there were business relations between himself and Furzedon. They had now several Turf transactions in common, and, moreover, Furzedon, as the young man about town, when he had the chance, invariably brought young gentlemen in difficulties to the Major for advice. He would observe, with a geniality which sat ill upon him, on becoming the confidant of such troubles, "Let me introduce you to Dick Kynaston, he'll pull you through. He knows all these sort of fellows, and he always tell you what to do, and who to go to."

(To be continued.)

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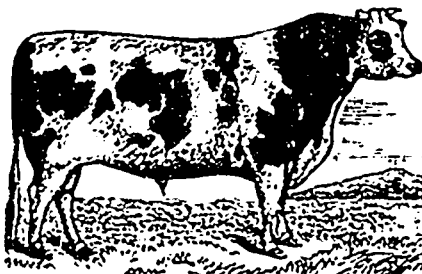
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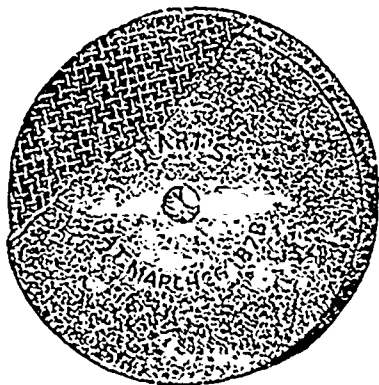
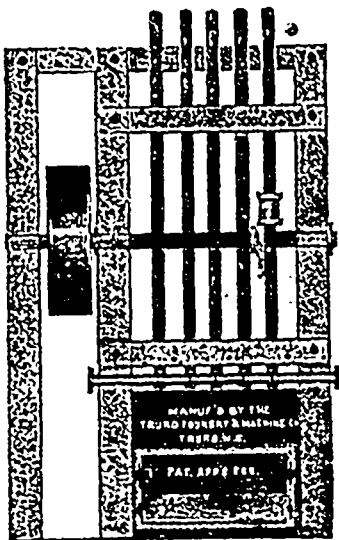
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MINING.

The Nova Scotia Gold-Miners' Association hold their first annual meeting to-day. Officers are to be elected, and the Association placed in complete running order. We trust that there will be a large attendance of miners, and that thoroughly representative men will be elected to fill the different offices. With an energetic president and a strong executive committee, the Association is bound to succeed, and before the end of the year so much good will have been accomplished that miners throughout the Province will wonder why they had not sooner combined and strengthened their position.

We have on our table a very fine specimen of manganese from a manganese mine in Albert County, New Brunswick. The mine is reported as having produced a large quantity of valuable ore of superior quality, but for want of capital has not been worked of late. It is situated three miles from shipment, either by rail or water. For further information enquire at THE CRITIC Office.

Continuing our summary of Mr. E. Coste's admirable statistical report on the mineral production of the Dominion of Canada during 1886, we find under the heading of Graphite that the total production of 1886 was 500 tons, valued at \$4,000. Of this New Brunswick is credited with 8,142 cwt, valued at \$3,586. Valuable deposits of graphite are known to exist near Ottawa. In this Province in several localities there are large deposits of plumbaginous shale at present of no known value.

GYPSUM.

The total production of crude gypsum has not been obtained. Taking the exports from Nova Scotia, as representing very nearly the production, and estimating the quantity mined in Ontario to have been 6000 tons, the total crude gypsum produced in Canada during 1886 may then be estimated at about 162,000 tons, valued in the aggregate, at the point of production, at \$178,742; of this, about 7,000 tons were calcined and manufactured in New Brunswick, into about 51,000 barrels of plaster of Paris, valued on the spot at about \$1 a barrel; about half of this plaster of Paris was sold in Canada, and the other half exported to the United States. Unknown quantities were ground in Ontario for land plaster, or calcined for plaster of Paris. Compared with 1885, it is estimated that the increase of 1886 in the production of crude gypsum was about 45,000 or 50,000 tons; the Nova Scotia exports alone having increased 36,109 tons.

The exports from Nova Scotia were 123,753 tons, valued at \$118,112. In New Brunswick the production of gypsum in 1886 has been about 32,421 tons, valued on the spot at \$48,632, at an average price of \$1.50 per ton. It was nearly all produced in Albert County, 1,500 tons only having been estimated as the production from the Victoria County quarries. Besides a large export of crude gypsum to the United States, the Albert Manufacturing Co. also exported a considerable quantity of calcined gypsum, or plaster of Paris, and supplies, moreover, pretty nearly all the Canadian market with this last article. About 4000 tons of the crude gypsum exported to the United States was white gypsum, suitable for terra alba, and sold in the vicinity of New York city.

Mr. Joseph T Tomkins, general agent of the Albert Manufacturing Co. Hillsborough, N. B., reports as follows:—"After persistent effort and much loss of money in competition with the American tariff, all hope of a successful business in manufacturing plaster of Paris here for the American market was abandoned, and a large factory was added to our works at Newark, N. J., the year previous to the advent of the National Policy, which policy alone gave new life to manufacturing plaster, and our Canadian business has increased largely since 1877, the price of our plaster remaining about the same, \$1 per barrel." Nova Scotia is away in the lead in the production of gypsum, and the supply is apparently inexhaustible. The day is coming when it will be ground in the Province, thus giving employment to great numbers of our young men.

IRON.

The total production of iron ore in 1886, taking the Ontario exports representing the production from that Province, has been 69,708 tons, valued at the mines at \$126,982. The production in 1886 by provinces has been as follows:—

	Tons.	Value at mines.
Nova Scotia.....	49,735	\$87,036
Ontario (export returns).....	16,032	32,064
British Columbia..	3,941	7,882
Total.....	69,708	\$126,982

The Nova Scotia production is all from the Acadia Iron Mines of the Steel Co. of Canada (Limited).

Under the stimulus of the tariff passed last year there should be a "boom" in iron mining in this Province this year. In Pictou County, in Cape Breton, in Colchester County, in Guysboro, and at Margaretsville in Annapolis, there are large deposits of the best quality of iron ore. With coal at hand for smelting, there is no reason why the iron industry of the Province should not attain to immense proportions. The great wisdom displayed by Sir Charles Tupper in forcing the iron tariff through Parliament in the face of the bitterest opposition, will soon be demonstrated.

LITHOGRAPHIC STONE.

Beds of excellent lithographic stone have long been known to exist in Ontario, principally in the Counties of Hastings, Peterboro and Bruce.

MINING.—Continued.

towards the base of the Bird's Eye and Block River formation. The different quarries, so far as ascertained, have only produced specimens in 1886. The imports in 1885 were valued at \$1,988, in 1886, \$5,762.

TIN ORES.—Geologically considered, these ores appear in the Archæan groups of Appalachian and Rocky Mountain ranges, the United States, and also in Mexico. As far back as 1840, Dr. Jackson reported the discovery of tin ore in veins at Jackson, New Hampshire—later in 1869, he called attention to the discovery of tin ore at Winslow, Maine. These ores occur more sparingly in the same state at Paris, Greenwood, Hebron, and also at Goshen, Mass., and Haddam, Ct.

In the mica schist at Winslow, the ore occurs in small but regular veins traversing a very hard and compact siliceous and micaceous schist close to a bed of quartzite. The veins are reported to be from one-half to three inches in width traversing the mica schist within a breadth of thirty feet. Dr. Jackson reports 46.62 per cent. of pure metallic tin

A mass of cassiterite weighing about five pounds, was obtained in 1854, at Mt. Mica, Paris, Maine, from the albite rock. This ore is of a dark brown or black color, and yields about 78 per cent of metallic tin

In Virginia, the ore has been known for a long time, occurring in the auriferous gravel beds of the gold-bearing rock belt. In Rockbridge county, the ore is found in the crystalline rocks of the Blue Ridge on Irish creek; here the rocks have an almost vertical dip and consist of quartz, feldspar, horn blende and mica schist. The tin-bearing veins cut across the white quartz for thirty-six feet and then follow the bedding. A seven-inch vein has been reported in the vicinities. The samples assayed give 31.60 per cent. of metallic tin. In Nelson county, on the Painter Mountain branch of Irish creek, about one and a quarter miles from the Nelson Col line, tin ore appears in a vein several inches in thickness and traversing a rock composed of quartz, feldspar with some mica. The ore yields about 65 per cent. of metallic tin.

Other tin localities are reported on the Cash tract, Grant tract at Mount Maria, the Big Hill, the Clark tract and the Roberston tract.

The Martha Cash tin mine, twenty-two miles east of Lexington, occurs in a granite rock, chiefly consisting of coarse-grained feldspar, horn blende and quartz. The main lode extends in the general direction of the mountains and dips to the southeast. The tin ore is in the form of cassiterite or black tin in sheets, strings and nodular masses in the gangue of veins.

In North Carolina, tin ore appears in Cleveland county, near Kings mountain, in more or less irregular and broken veins, traversing a decomposed mica slate, one vein was found nearly three feet wide

In Alabama, Texas, Missouri and elsewhere, tin veins have been found and report ore, but so far not in paying quantities.

The following ores of tin are reported by Prof. F. A. Genth, (Contributions to Mineralogy and Philosophical Society, March, 1887) from the Sierra de Catalan, State of Durango.

Nos. 1 and 2, from Mina del Diablo.

No. 3, from Mina de San Antonio.

Nos. 4, 5 and 6, various ores from M. W. Schlerm.

Mina Varosa and Superior de Placer.

The ores outcrop as small veins of tin in a quartz porphyry forming the central body of the Sierra de Catalan.

Nos. 1 and 2, from Mina del Diablo has been traced for about one mile, and has a thickness from 18 to 24 inches. The vein has an almost perpendicular outcrop, and is separated from the porphyry by argillaceous selvages. It consists of a decomposed white clayey material, containing druses of quartz, with tin ores.

In a pocket was found a white clay in which crystals and crystalline aggregations (No. 1, and also fine ore No. 2) were intermixed. This yielded 54 per cent. of clean ore; the crystals and crystalline aggregations were picked out from a large quantity of clay and weighed about 650 grammes, yielding nearly 50 grammes in well defined shape.

No. 3, the San Antonio mine, has furnished in a seam, five inches in thickness, a length of ten feet and a height of eight feet, an ore in the form of pulverulent or very friable earthy yellowish mass, with darker somewhat more ferruginous streaks.

There were only a very few small particles of the red variety of cassiterite present.

The ores from both mines being melted with other tin ores yield a metal, which after some purification furnishes a tin very well adapted for soldering, notwithstanding the considerable quantities of lead and arsenic which they contain.

No. 4, consists of a red variety of cassiterite without lead ore being present.

No. 4 from Mina Varosa, are exclusively of the yellow variety.

No. 6. The placer ores are both of the red and yellow varieties.

In general, the tin ores of Mexico consist of the red and yellow varieties, the most abundant being the red variety.

The subject of the tin ores of the Rocky Mountain region will be treated in our next contribution.—*The Financial and Mining Record.*

Morton, Rose & Co., Bankers of London, it is stated by the London Mining Journal, have taken all the vendors' shares of the Alturas Mining Company (of Idaho) at "a firm price"—possibly, we may add, at not less than \$6 87½ per share, the par being \$5, as that was the lowest price on Dec. 23rd. "The world do move," as the Reverend Mr. Jasper has always claimed.

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Trains are run on Eastern Standard Time Connections at Digby daily (with Steamer "Evangeline" to and from Annapolis,) Halifax, and Stations on the W. & A. Railway, with Steamer "Secret" to and from St. John every Monday Wednesday and Saturday

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We must have, because if not protected from the chilly winds of January, the system is liable to a constitutional change, and the lungs become weakened and diseased, then wear a

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HOME AND FARM.

Messrs. D. M. Ferry & Co., of Detroit, Mich., publish a *Seed Annual* which is worth the attention of cultivators, both of flowers and vegetables. Messrs. F. & Co. make the growing and sale of onion seed a leading specialty, and give so much information on onion culture as to make their *Annual* of very probable value even to Nova Scotia onion growers and gardeners. Their address is D. M. Ferry & Co., Detroit, Mich.

The *Weekly Monitor*, of Bridgetown, strongly, and, as we think rightly, advocates the establishment of butter factories on a large scale in the County of Annapolis. "Really good butter," says the *Monitor*, "is somewhat of a rarity even in this favored district." If this is true of Annapolis, the remark would probably be still more so of the country surrounding Halifax. Every householder knows how inferior is the quality of the larger portion of the butter that comes into the city, and that it is quite a matter of painstaking negotiation, and foresight, to secure this article of necessity of tolerable quality. The fault must lie in carelessness of make, and when we see the slovenly and hard to mouth farming in some districts, we are not much surprised. It seems evident that it would be better, as the *Monitor* again suggests, both for the farmer and the consumer, if the former would combine to establish factories. For no article is there a more sure demand than for really good butter, and none is more certain of always commanding its price. We heard a lady, who controls one of the first boarding establishments in the city, say the other day: "If it costs a dollar a pound I don't care, but I must have it good;" and we happened last week to hear the proprietor of a grocery in Lockman Street reject some butter which a farmer proposed to sell to him on account of its quality. It was not very bad, but the grocer said he could not take it, as he made a point of never buying any but the best. This is not, it is true, always the case; sometimes "storekeepers do not like to refuse poor butter from a good customer, for fear of offending, and thus losing custom, and the public must buy because it is often the case that there is no other to be had," but if factories were established, and, as they doubtless would be, were properly managed, their products would inevitably command leading prices, and almost certainly pay their shareholders good dividends.

We unite with the *Monitor* in considering this so important a matter to the Nova Scotia farmer, and so certainly calculated to put money in his pocket, that we reproduce a letter published by the *Monitor* from the Hon. W. T. Haines, of Waterville, Maine, on the subject, which gives details and points calculated, as we think, to stir the energy of our farmers into co-operating for the benefit, as well of themselves, as of the public at large:—

"This," said Mr. Haines, "is a matter that I wish to see followed up. I have both a private and public interest in it. Personally it means to me the facilities of restoring my farm to a good state of cultivation, and a cash income from cows while doing it. Publicly I believe it to be the thing most needful in our farming community to restore old farms to prosperity, and lead to the cultivation and best use of the good soil of this Kennebec Valley, that is being fast run out by the present policy of selling hay. If you will ask any old cross-roads storekeeper who has been in business forty years, what class of farmers he has noticed to be the best customers and pay their bills with the most promptness, he will tell you those who have kept cows and made butter. This you may call a natural indication of what the most profitable farming should be in Maine.

"But the day of making butter in the kitchen is fast passing away. Massachusetts, New Hampshire and Vermont have long ago relieved the faithful housewife of this form of drudgery, and these states are now well dotted with butter factories, and from the beginning the business has been as a class a successful one—not like the cheese factories and other farm booms we have seen in Maine, to promise well in the start and then burst like a bubble. On the contrary, they have all assumed a conservative and stable position in the business world from the beginning. There are already a number of factories in Maine, and so far as I can learn, they have been remarkably successful for new enterprises. But our farmers are far behind Massachusetts and Vermont in dairying, especially in the quality of their stock, and in its care and feeding, and in actual results obtained; when in reality I believe we have naturally the best opportunity for this business of any of the New England states. Our pasturage is far superior, and our hay crop could be made more than equal in quantity, our climate being particularly adapted to very nutritious herbage. Two things are yet to be learned by our common farmers, and these are the value of a root crop, such as beets, turnips, mangles, etc., and the silo. A large part that is paid for western grain had better be spent in labor in producing these two important articles at home.

"But it was of butter factories that I wish to speak; and I wish to say that Waterville should and could have one if it will. A stock company can be formed of \$1000 capital; the shares can be sold among those who wish to be patrons at \$10 each; a building rented near the depot, the machinery and equipments all made and put in running order for business, for less than the \$1000. Now this is a very small stock company, but it is all the capital that is needed, and the stock should be held by those who get the benefit of the enterprise directly, and then if it pays, they are the ones that should make the profit, and if not they could stand the loss. All that is then needed is the right man. I mean a man of quiet dealing, and one that will make all patrons of the factory come up to the same rule, some one in whom the people at large have confidence. He should be a prompt and accurate business man. Such a man must know how, or else be willing to spend a little time or money to visit well run factories and get a full knowledge of the business, which is simple and can be readily obtained. With a location near our depot we could gather cream from a large area of

country by rail, in addition to what would be gathered by teams. Five hundred cows will start a profitable business, but there is no reason why Waterville cannot have a creamery of four times this capacity. Good butter will always command the highest market price; as far as I can learn averaging in those factories now in operation in Maine from 20 to 22 cts. per pound, and no labor beyond the setting of milk in the creamery. I am ready and willing to help this matter forward in any way that I can; and with the efforts of a few live farmers and business men, it can be put in operation the coming season."

Trout fishing during the winter months is now prohibited under a heavy penalty. Every trout fisherman ought to rejoice at the action of the Dominion Government in the matter, and it is to be hoped means will be found to render the prohibition effectual. In the first place trout taken in winter are not only thin and poor, but abound with parasites, including tape-worms. In the second place there is no sport in fishing in a hole in the ice. The fish are hungry, and crowd to take any bait with greediness. In the third place the practice is exterminatory, and there is no excuse for the avarice and recklessness which will not scruple to denude a country of its valuable natural products. It is said that it is a common practice to catch ten or twelve dozen, pick out a dozen of the largest, and throw the rest away. This, like the reckless destruction of the forests and the buffalo, is ruinous. It is killing the goose that lays the golden eggs with a vengeance. It is satisfactory to learn from a correspondent of one of our contemporaries, that many persons living in the vicinity of the lakes are in favor of the change in the law, wisely recognizing that their own interests lie far more in the preservation of the fishing, with consequent dollars from anglers, than in ruining the lakes by winter fishing. Here again we hope that our farming friends will continue to see their own interests clearly.

Cognate with the advantages to the farmer of the manufacture of butter by co-operative action are those of the production of cheese by similar means. That the Dominion exports more cheese than any other agricultural product is a fact not sufficiently known. From the Trade and Navigation returns for 1886, which is the last year for which they are complete, we find the value of agricultural products was as follows:—

Cheese.....	\$7,291,685	Peas.....	\$2,207,120
Cattle.....	5,916,551	Flour.....	1,875,979
Barley.....	5,724,693	Eggs.....	1,728,082
Wheat.....	5,190,424	Swine.....	1,184,196
Horses.....	2,232,623	Apples.....	477,414
		Potatoes.....	492,802

An exchange has the following on this subject:—

The above figures (the same we have quoted,) hardly do justice to the cheese exports, as the year 1886 was a very poor one for that industry. The value of our cheese exports in 1885 amounted to over eight millions and it is expected that when the returns for 1887 are complete, they will show a value of about nine millions. This industry is not one that can be easily overdone. Great as our exports are at present, there is no reason why in a few years they should not increase to twenty millions. Our country possesses great climatic and geographical advantages, and the production should increase year by year. The efforts put forth at the Colonial and Indian exhibition are beginning to bear fruit in the extension of our market and now the Canadian article is sold beside the English Cheddar, which it fully equals.

The production of cheese does not tend to impoverish the soil as do other branches of agriculture, and thus has an additional attraction for the farmer.

OUR COSY CORNER.

HOUSEHOLD HINTS.—Decayed vegetables should not be left in the cellar, and cellars should be whitewashed to be kept sweet and clean.

Half a teaspoonful of common salt dissolved in a little cold water and drunk will instantly relieve heartburn.

No matter whatever fancy soap may be on the washstand, a piece of old brown Windsor or white Castile should find a place on it also.

A good substitute for buttermilk is a thin batter made of flour and tepid water, and allowed to remain long enough to sour.

Many very fine cooks will not use baking powder, soda, or cream of tartar in cake making, while others think it impossible to do without it.

When laid away for any length of time, linen should be washed, rough dried without bluing, and laid in loose folds without much weight on it.

Buttonholes in children's garments are apt to tear out, especially in waists and drawer bands. If you will stitch a strong cord immediately in front of the buttonhole you will have no more trouble of this kind.

For a burn or scald, make a paste of common baking soda and water, apply at once and cover with a linen cloth. When the skin is broken apply the white of an egg with a feather; this gives instant relief, as it keeps the air from the flesh.

Since so many women have to spend so much of their lives in the kitchen it should be made a place of comfort. Be sure and have a lounge or easy chair there.

Women who do their own work regard their rough hands with great distress. To make and keep them soft wear old gloves at night, just rubbing in an ointment made by heating the white of an egg to a froth and stirring it into a cup of lard, to which is added one teaspoonful of glycerine. Keep the mixture in a covered jar, excluding the light. Perfume may be added.

For a good tooth powder mix together one ounce of powdered orn root, one dram of gum camphor, two drams of powdered myrrh, half an ounce of prepared chalk.

RELIGIOUS.

CHURCH OF ENGLAND.

By the time this meets the reader's eye the Synod will have met, and, it is to be hoped, have elected a Bishop.

St. George's new schools were opened on Friday evening last. A large number of the parishioners were present. A dedication service was conducted by the rector, who was supported on the platform by Revs. Dr. Holo, F. H. Almon and T. Poole, of St. Paul's; H. G. Lancaster, of St. Stephen's; J. S. Edwards, Chaplain to the Forces, and other gentlemen. Speeches were made by several of the clergy, and the hope was expressed that the building might prove a blessing to the parish. The children occupied it for the first time on Sunday.

"Froo Against Powed Churches," was the subject discussed by the Southern Convocation of the Episcopal Church of Massachusetts in Boston lately. Dr. Phillips Brooks and others spoke in favor of renting pews, while several speakers advocated making all pews free.

PRESBYTERIAN.

Rev. P. McF. McLeod, pastor of one of the leading Presbyterian churches in Toronto, has accepted a call to a church in Victoria, B. C. This step he has taken in the interests of Presbyterianism in that province, an able minister being sadly needed there.

The friends of Principal Grant will be pleased to learn that his health has so far improved as to enable him to perform his duties at Queen's College. He will, doubtless, be the next Moderator, as many of the Presbyteries have nominated him for the position.

Rev. Dr. John Hall has been pastor of the Fifth Avenue church, New York, for about twenty years. Last year his congregation raised for missions and benevolent purposes \$131,758, and for church purposes \$32,266.

Rev. Dr. Talmage has accepted the position of chaplain of the 13th regiment of Brooklyn, for a long time held by the Rev. Henry Ward Beecher.

As a result of the revival services held at Saltsprings, Pictou, under the leadership of Messrs. Vans and McKay, two hundred names were added to the membership roll of the Presbyterian churches of the district.

The Third Presbyterian Church of Chicago on January 8th observed the first anniversary of the pastorate of the Rev. Dr. Withrow, formerly of Boston. The church debt of \$30,000 has been paid or pledged through his efforts, as he has made it his personal work to clear the debt on one of the largest and most fashionable places of worship in this city. He has secured within the last few weeks more than \$35,000, thus wiping out the debt and leaving a surplus. During the year 225 members have been added to the list of the church.

BAPTIST.

Mr. Spurgeon has been interviewed by a deputation of the Baptist Union with reference to his withdrawal. It was hoped that he would reconsider his resignation, but he strongly maintains the position taken by him. He recommended that the Union adopt a simple basis of Bible truths such as are accepted evangelical doctrines. He also expressed his opinion that the Union did not possess sufficient powers to enable it to deal with members who disclosed heretical tendencies. He said that he would continue to support the departments of the Union in which he was specially interested.

Rev. Dr. Rand, the venerable Mic-mac missionary, for some time seriously ill, is reported to be out of danger.

The Board of Missions connected with the Baptist church in the Upper Provinces will shortly determine as to whether the new university shall be located at Toronto or Woodstock.

METHODIST.

The new hall built by the Methodists of Truro was dedicated last Sunday week. Revs. J. S. Coffin, F. H. W. Pickles, and others, took part in the services.

Reports from many of the circuits throughout the province state that special services are being held with good results. A special effort is being made by the Conference Evangelistic Committee to organize mission bands for the better carrying on of the work.

A sacred concert, under the leadership of Mr. Powell, was given in Grafton St. church on Tuesday evening, in aid of the Jost Mission. The large audience present heartily enjoyed the service.

Connected with the different branches of Methodism in the United States there are 41,271 churches.

In Minneapolis there are 129 churches and mission edifices, of which the Methodists have the largest number.

During the past two weeks special religious services have been carried on at the Methodist church at Lockport. The Methodists are being assisted by an evangelist of great power and gifted with a fine voice for singing. The services will probably be continued for some time, as much interest is being manifested by the people, and good has already been done.

A meeting of the members of the Methodist Episcopal Church of Lowell, Mass., was called on January 23rd for the purpose of discussing the advisability of petitioning the General Conference of the Methodist Episcopal church, that holds its session in New York next May, so to modify the ritual that water should be substituted for wine at the Sacrament of the Lord's Supper, on the ground of such action being for the best interests of the church and humanity.

REVISED LIST OF BOOKS FOR THE MILLION.

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Read the following list and send us the numbers of the books you desire:

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2. Winter Evening Recitations, a large collection of Acting Charades, Tableaux, Games, Puzzles, etc., for social gatherings, private theatricals, and evening at home.
3. Back to the Old Home. A Novel. By Mary Cecil Hay, author of "Hidden Perils."
4. Dialogues, Recitations and Readings, a large and choice collection for school exhibitions and public and private entertainments.
5. The Standard Letter Writer for Ladies and Gentlemen, a complete guide to correspondence.
6. The Frozen Deep. A Thrilling Novel. By Wilkie Collins, author of "The Woman in White."
7. Red Court Farm. An interesting Novel. By Mrs. Henry Wood, author of "East Lynne," etc.
8. The Lady of the Lake. By Sir Walter Scott. "The Lady of the Lake" is a romance in verse.
9. In Cupid's Net. A Novel. By the author of "Dora Thorne."
10. Amos Barton. A Novel. By George Eliot, author of "Adam Bede," "The Mill on the Floss," etc.
11. Lady Gwendoline's Dream. A Novel. By the author of "Dora Thorne."
12. The Mystery of the Holly Tree. A Novel. By the author of "Dora Thorne."
13. The Budget of Wit, Humor and Fun, a large collection of the funny stories, sketches, anecdotes, poems and jokes.
14. John Bowerbank's Wife. A Novel. By Miss Mulock, author of "John Halifax, Gentleman."
15. The Gray Woman. A Novel. By Mrs. Gaskell, author of "Mary Barton," etc.
16. Sixteen Complete Stories by Popular Authors, embracing love, humorous and detective stories, stories of society life, of adventure, of railway life, etc., all very interesting.
17. Jasper Dane's Secret. A Novel. By Miss M. E. Braddon, author of "Aurora Floyd," etc.
18. Fancy Work for Home Adornment, an entirely new work upon this subject, containing easy and practical instructions for fancy baskets, wall pockets, brackets, needle work embroidery, etc., etc. profusely and elegantly illustrated.
19. Grimm's Fairy Stories for the Young. The finest collection of fairy stories published.
20. Manual of Etiquette for Ladies and Gentlemen, a guide to politeness and good breeding, giving the rules of modern etiquette for all occasions.
21. Useful Knowledge for the Million, a handy book of useful information for all, upon many and various subjects.
22. The Home Cook Book and Family Physician, containing hundreds of excellent cooking recipes, hints to housekeepers, telling how to cure all common ailments by simple remedies.
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27. Mildred Trevelyan. A Novel. By "The Duchess," author of "Molly Bawn," etc.
28. Dark Days. A Novel. By the author of "Called Back."
29. Shadows on the Snow. A Novel. By B. L. Farjeon, author of "Bread-and-Cheese-and-Kisses," etc.
30. Leoline. By Mary Cecil Hay, author of "Brenda Yorke."
31. Gabriel's Marriage. A Novel. By Wilkie Collins, author of "No Name," etc.
32. Reaping the Whirlwind. A Novel. By Mary Cecil Hay, author of "Old Middleton's Money," etc.
33. Dudley Carleon. A Novel. By Miss M. E. Braddon, author of "Lady Audley's Secret," etc.
34. A Golden Dawn. A Novel. By the author of "Dora Thorne," etc.
35. Valerie's Fate. A Novel. By Mrs. Alexander, author of "The Wooing O't," etc.
36. Sister Rose. A Novel. By Wilkie Collins, author of "The Woman in White," etc.
37. Anne. A Novel. By Mrs. Henry Wood, author of "East Lynne."
38. The Laurel Bush. A Novel. By Miss Mulock, author of "John Halifax, Gentleman," etc.
39. Robinson Crusoe. A thrilling narrative by Daniel De Foe.
40. How to Make Poultry Pay. A practical and instructive series of articles by Mr. P. H. Jacobs, Poultry Editor of "The Farm and Garden."
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48. Cardinal Richieu. By Sir E. Bulwer Lytton. This is a masterpiece of dramatic composition.
49. Paul and Virginia. By Bernardin de St. Pierre. This elegant household classic renews its freshness and beauty with every reading. Part I.
50. Part II of above.
51. Miss Lousey's Mission, and Laddie. Two of those rarely conceived and charmingly told stories of home and duty which refresh and inspire.
52. Peg Woffington. By Charles Reade. This masterpiece by the great novelist is one of those exquisite mosaics with which great minds ornament their work. Part I.
53. Part II of above.
54. Money. By Sir E. Bulwer Lytton. Who ever read Shakespeare's "Merchant of Venice" should read Bulwer's "Money."
55. Rastelas. Prince of Abyssinia. By Dr. Samuel Johnson. It is a story of the human heart in its happiest moods, earnest longings, and noblest aspirations. Part I.
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57. William Shakespeare: How, When, Why and What he wrote. By H. A. Taine. There never has been compressed into such brief space so much about the immortal "Bard of Avon" as in this work of the brilliant French author.
58. Doom! An Atlantic Episode. By Justin H. McCarthy. A powerful and thrilling story of life on an American liner.
59. Julia and Her Romeo. By David Christie Murray. This author is always ingenious and racy.
60. The Lady of Lyons. By Sir E. Bulwer Lytton.
61. The Cricket on the Hearth. By Charles Dickens. One of the sweetest and tenderest things ever written by Dickens.
62. Stabbed in the Dark. By E. Lynn Lytton. A strong, stirring story of the old Neapolitan days. Part I.
63. Part II of above.
64. Calderon the Courier. By Sir E. Bulwer Lytton. Full of graphic situations, quick action, and rare information.
65. She, or, Adventures in the Caves of Kor. By H. Rider Haggard. This unique and popular story is a new departure in the field of fiction. Its production has carried the author into fame as a writer and artist. Part I.
66. Part II.
67. Part III.
68. Part IV of above.
69. Buildup and Butterfly. By David Christie Murray. A spicy told story of human character, yet not a bit overdrawn.
70. The Coming Race, or New Utopia. By Sir E. Bulwer Lytton. A thrilling history of life among an ideal people found in the centre of the earth, where the beauties are Arcadian, the form perfect, the thought pure and motive free. Part I.
71. Part II of above.
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CHESS.

The proprietors of THE CRITIC offer two prizes—to consist of books on Chess to those subscribers who shall send in the greatest number of correct solutions during the current year. No entrance fee required. All communications for this department should be addressed—CHESS EDITOR, Windsor, N. S.

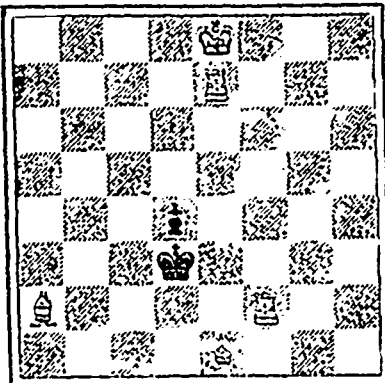
TO CORRESPONDENTS

L. Johnstone, J. P. D., & H. Stairs—Your solutions of No. 2 are spoiled by Black playing B to K 3. J. P. D. (Dartmouth).—Yes; you may castle if your K does not pass over a square commanded by the enemy. Re-examine Nos. 1 and 2. Toronto Week received. M. J. M.—Quebec Chronicle received with thanks.

Solution of Problem No. 3

R to Q 4, etc. (Correct solutions received from Edgie, Victor G. Gray, L. M. Wilkins, and Lewis Johnstone.)

PROBLEM No. 5. (Selected.) BLACK.



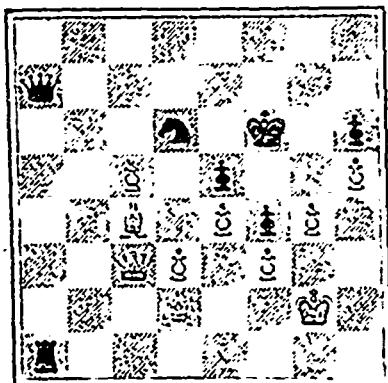
WHITE

White to play and mate in 2 moves.

An international correspondence match has just been concluded between Scotland and Ireland. There were sixty-five pairs of players, the result being a win for Scotland by nine games. (Score,—Scotland, 37; Ireland, 28.)

The following interesting position occurred in one of the games played at the recent Chess Tournament in London:—

Black, (Gunsberg,) last move 43 Kt. (from B2) to Q3.



White, (Bird,) to move.

Gunsberg had apparently studied the position very carefully before making his move, that is, judging from the time he took to consider it. Hardly, however, had he placed the Kt on the square, when Bird at once played B takes P, completely throwing away the game, as was at once evident after Gunsberg's reply of Kt takes B. It was afterwards pointed out that Bird, instead of making the fatal move, might actually have mated his opponent in two moves, by playing

Q takes P (ch), followed by B to B3, mate!

An interesting game between the Rev. A. B. Skipworth and an amateur. (Evans Refused.)

WHITE. "Y" Rev. A. B. Skipworth. 1 P to K4, 2 Kt to KB3, 3 B to QB1, 4 P to QKt4, 5 P to QR4, 6 B to Kt2, 7 P to Q3, 8 P to B3, 9 QKt to Q2, 10 B to Kt3, 11 P takes P, 12 Castles, 13 Q to B2, 14 P to R5, 15 B to R4, 16 B takes Kt, 17 B to R3, 18 Kt to B4, 19 P takes B, 20 Q to K2, 21 B to QBsq, 22 P to B4, 23 RP takes Kt.

And Black mates in two moves.

Blank forms, (suitable for both Chess and Checkers) for copying down problems, positions, endings, etc. Fifty for 25c, post free. Small sheets, numbered, and with appropriate headings, for recording games. Twenty-five for 15c. For sale at Critic Office, Halifax.

DRAUGHTS-CHECKERS

The proprietors of THE CRITIC offer two prizes—to consist of books on Checkers—to those subscribers who shall send in the greatest number of correct solutions during the current year. No entrance fee required. All matter intended for our checker column should be addressed to the Checker Editor, Critic Office, Halifax, N. S.

We have pleasure to-day in presenting our readers with the following tabular statement of the recent Barker-Martins International match, which shows the different openings adopted, the number of games played daily, and their result. We take it from the Glasgow Herald:—

Table with columns for date, game number, opening, and result. Includes entries for Dec 26, Dec 27, Dec 28, Dec 29, Dec 30, Dec 31.

Table with columns for date, game number, opening, and result. Includes entries for Jan 2, Jan 3, Jan 4, Jan 5, Jan 6, Jan 7.

Table with columns for date, game number, opening, and result. Includes entries for Jan 9, Jan 10.

In these 49 games the players have confined themselves to nine out of at least 20 classified openings. Martins has played the "Fife" 14 times, "Glasgow" thrice, the "Alma" and "Will o' the Wisp" twice, and the "Whilter," "Old 14th," "Land and Lady," and "Double Corner" each once. Barker has opened with the "Old Fourteenth" on 14 occasions, the "Whilter" five times, the "Glasgow" thrice, and "Defiance" and "Alma" each once.

The Herald remarks that the match was not so interesting as was expected, because the players were unrestricted and kept themselves within "book" lines, thus having no opportunity for original play. Before Barker sails to return home he is almost certain to play Smith of Spynnmoor, the Champion of England, a match of 62 games, with restricted openings, for a stake of £100 to £500 a side. Several friendly matches are also being arranged for him.

Solution of Problem 2.—The position in this problem was:—BLACK—Men on 1 and 13, king on 17.

WHITE—Men on 11, 25, and 28. Black to play and win. The side figure indicates a variation, and the side letter a note.

Table of chess variations with numbers and side letters. Includes entries like 17-21, 25-22, 21-17, etc.

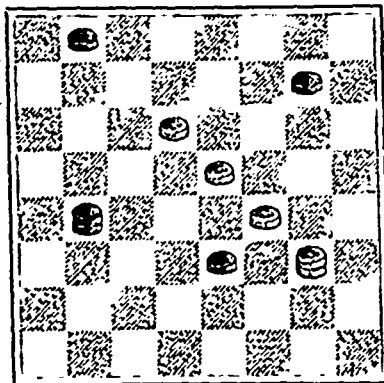
Table of chess variations with numbers and side letters. Includes entries like 1-18, 22-18, 14-9, etc.

To win the game in actual play, Black requires to see the ending from this point, because had he played 22-25, instead of 22-26, he could only have drawn the game.

The following have sent in correct solutions to the above problem:—James McEwan, Halifax. Mrs. H. Mossley, Dartmouth.

Our Checker Editor desires to thank our Chess Editor for thoughtfully sending him checker clippings, and would be greatly obliged if other readers will do the same.

PROBLEM 4. (Selected.) BLACK.



WHITE.

The position by numbers is as follows:—BLACK—men on 1, 8, 23, and king on 17. WHITE—men on 10, 15, 19, and king on 24. White to move and win.

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