

THE CRITIC:

A Maritime Provincial Journal.

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THE CRITIC,

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

EDITORIAL NOTES.

We are glad to learn that one of the Postal reforms we have advocated is to be instituted. The Government has decided to allow an increase in the weight of letters that may be sent for one rate, from half an ounce to an ounce.

We commend to the serious consideration of the Hon. Mr. Haggart, the propriety—not to say the necessity—of issuing stamps of larger denominations or values than those that have hitherto been in use. The highest value of single stamps in use in Canada is only fifteen (15 cts.) cents. Under existing postal regulations the sender of a package is absolutely unable to comply with the law, which prescribes that the stamps required to prepay postage must be placed on the address side of a letter or package. The writer has had on several occasions to pay over a dollar in postage on a package, besides a registration stamp. The address to many foreign countries occupies from five to eight or ten lines. The address thus covers nearly the whole of that side of the wrapper, and there is not room to place the stamps required to prepay postage. With her increasing foreign trade and consequent correspondence, Canada should have, in addition to those now afforded, stamps of the values of 25 cents, 50 cents and \$1.

The choicest morsel we have yet come across is in a report of the debate in Congress on the Nicaragua Canal Bill. It is altogether too rich to be allowed to go unnoticed. Said Mr. Chipman, of Michigan: "We have put ourselves where, though we may not be pecuniarily liable, we shall be morally responsible for the safety and protection of a great American enterprise which will help to spread our country over the world. I, for one, hope this step is only the prelude to the day when the nation will follow, and we will plant our feet on these regions, and when our flag shall wave over the State of Nicaragua as a State of the United States." [Applause.] Dingley of Maine favored the report. O'Neill of Missouri said that "the trouble with the American people was a lack of self-assertion." The astuteness of the distinction drawn between pecuniary liability and the "moral responsibility" which is made to do duty as the basis of spread-eagleism is delicious; but, when Mr. O'Neill so naively explains to us the extreme modesty of the American people, a doubt arises whether the lack of self-assertion is not induced by utter exhaustion of the power, prodigious as it is, of screaming.

It appears from the reports of recent explorations that the resources of Australia have been underestimated. The greater portion of the interior has been set down as a desert. Travellers who have had the courage to penetrate the region during the past two years have found one great lake 200 miles long and numerous others, with large rivers and well-watered plains. The interior is not a desert. A railway is soon to be run across the continent, for it is nothing less, and its development will proceed more rapidly than ever.

Some fragmentary papers have been published at Washington which throw some, though not a very definite, light on the Behring Sea question. It appears that instructions have been sent to the U. S. Ministers to the northern powers of Europe and to Japan to invite arrangements for a close season for seals, to obviate their undue destruction. It is therefore evident that the untenable claim to the control of a great open sea is relinquished, and an acknowledgment of the piratical nature of the seizures of Canadian vessels.

Whether the presence of lobbyists or the paid publication of the speeches in the daily papers is most answerable for it, it is astonishing what a lot of time it does take our "locals" to do so little business. Before Confederation, when our Provincial Parliament had many more important subjects to legislate upon, we believe the average length of the sessions was no greater than it is at present. Thirty-two State Legislatures in the American Union hold biennial sessions; only six meet annually. We should not be above taking a useful hint from our neighbors.

The result of the completion by the G. T. R. of its connection via Mas-sena Springs with certain American Lines south of the St. Lawrence, is equivalent, it appears, to a removal of duty on bituminous coal—at least as regards Montreal. The distance between Montreal and Ohio is about half that to Nova Scotia, and the American Lines can handle coal freight much more economically than the Intercolonial. American soft coal can now, therefore, undersell Nova Scotia coal at Montreal in spite of the duty. Coal is in consequence cheap and abundant there this winter, which is all very well for Montreal, but, like every other result of action of the G. T. R., inimical to the Maritime Provinces.

DeLesseps has thrown up the sponge, and it is impossible not to feel a touch of sadness at the ultimate failure of splendid ability and energy. The tone of the letter in which the grand old Frenchman admits that the Company must pass into the hands of liquidators is touching in the despair he can no longer fight off. Meantime the American Nicaragua project, the requirements of which have been persistently and exhaustively surveyed throughout and estimated, is coming to a head, and will doubtless secure a firm hold on the American mind. The total length of this canal from ocean to ocean is 169 miles, of which 56½ is by lake, 84½ by river, and 28 only by actual canal. The lake is deep, but the San Juan river requires deepening, though the labor would not, it is said, be excessive. The summit level is, however, 110 feet above the sea, and six locks are necessary. Extensive harbor works are also requisite at Greytown on the Atlantic, and at Brito on the Pacific. These do not, however, seem to daunt the projectors, who assume, after very careful calculations, that the whole cost would not amount to more than \$65,000,000, while the Panama Company's liabilities to-day amount to \$422,000,000. The country is also said to be much healthier than on M. DeLessep's line.

We are glad to see that the idea of a summer carnival for Halifax is being taken up by the Press all over the Province. There can be no doubt of the benefit, not to Halifax alone, but to the whole Province, which would accrue from it. The various attractions which it may be made to combine would be far in excess of those which Montreal can display under the limitations of winter. The presence of a garrison and a fleet are in themselves no small adjuncts. These would doubtless be allowed to contribute to the general display, perhaps again in the form of a sham fight. A regatta, athletic sports, horse races, polo, a firemen's demonstration, cricket, baseball, picnics, excursions, and various other amusements and spectacles would furnish a profuse programme. The influx of visitors who would leave with a favorable impression of the Province would be enormous, and we would suggest in this connection that large numbers of sight-seers from the old country would probably be secured by timely consultation with those universal providers of tourists, the Messrs. Cook. The management should by no means be allowed to fall exclusively into the hands of the city council, but it would be a good initiative if His Worship the Mayor were to call a public meeting at an early date to start preliminaries.

Prof. Saunders, Director of the Central Experimental Farm, has, it appears, tested the first 50 samples of frozen grain sent by farmers in Manitoba and the North-West. His analyses show that nearly one-third of the farmers in the districts which suffered from frost were unprovided with reliable seed. It is apparently implied, though not distinctly stated, in the source from which we take the information, that had the seed been sound its product would have been less vulnerable to the action of frost. If this be so the tests are of great value, and vindicate, in an important direction, the usefulness of the Experimental Farm.

We laugh at astrologers in these days, and pity the blindness of the Middle Ages, but the astrologer is still powerful enough in one of the greatest empires in the world to set back an important step in civilization. A disastrous fire broke out recently in Peking, which also destroyed some of the Royal Palace buildings. The young Emperor is about to be married, and the mischance was regarded as a bad omen. The astrologers decided that it was a manifestation of displeasure from on high, and that the recent construction of a railway, against which they have always fulminated, is the root of the trouble. It is therefore probable that this encouragement of western civilization will have to be abandoned till a more propitious season.

It would appear from an insidious article in the *Toronto Globe* that Ontario is more or less exercised about the Jesuit appropriation of Quebec. We cannot see what the people of any other Province have to do with it. The Quebec Government grants \$400,000 to Catholic educational institutions, together with \$60,000 to the Protestants of the Province for similar purposes. The amounts do not seem to be out of keeping with the relative proportions of the population. Without going into figures we should imagine the sum awarded to the Protestants to be liberal. At all events the Quebec Protestants have not, so far as we are aware, raised any protest, while it would seem that Quebec, under its own representative Government, has an indefeasible right to enact such legislation as it sees fit for its own strictly internal affairs. Quebec is essentially a Catholic Province, and we fail to see that it is any business of the people of Ontario or any other Province.

A merchant of Indian extraction, well known to the *Times* correspondent at Suakim, has arrived at that place with intelligence from the interior, and the *Times* correspondent vouches for his trustworthiness. He has traded in the Soudan for seven years, but his property has been confiscated by the Mahdi. He left Khartoum at the end of November. In October a steamer arrived there, bringing three officers, supposed to be Egyptians, from an outpost of Emin's territory, with 100 blacks and slaves, who had surrendered to the Mahdi's forces. The trader positively declares that Emin was not captured, and he saw no European prisoners. He reports defeats of the dervishes by El Sonoussi, that their rule is everywhere detested, and that the tribes long for a better Government, and for a return to the "true religion." He believes the Mahdi will never conquer the Equatorial Provinces and cannot long hold Khartoum, which is in ruins and misery. The Emirs can with difficulty collect a force to attack Dongola, the tribesmen constantly deserting. He holds that 5,000 troops could easily re-conquer the Soudan.

Wine, regarded as to either quantity or quality, is not a matter of vital importance to most people, as the great majority cannot afford to drink it, but the decline of the splendid and interesting industries its production involves in so many countries must be a subject of regret. Since the introduction of the Phylloxera in France the yield of wine has decreased from 1,820,000,000 gallons to 677,298,000, and a great part of the latter is a vile decoction from raisins, currants, and other substitutes for the grape. In the departments of Charente and Charente Inferieure the yield has fallen from 320,000,000 gallons to 14,000,000. In the Champagne and Burgundy districts the yield fell off one-half last year, but that will make not the slightest difference to the quantity consumed. In Hungary, some of whose wines are very choice, though less generally known than those of France, the disease has also spread with equal rapidity. Very few persons know now whether they are sipping a genuine wine or a clever chemical compound, but if the yield of the great European wine districts continues to decrease, they will at least soon enjoy the satisfaction of certainty.

The *Electrical Review* thus records a trip of its representative on an Electrical Omnibus through some of the busiest streets of London:—"Starting from the depot at the Haymarket, the omnibus was taken by Charing Cross along the Embankment, through Queen Victoria Street, Cheapside, Newgate Street, Holborn Viaduct, Hatton Garden, Leather Lane, Theobald's Road, across Oxford Street, and by Shaftesbury Avenue back to the depot. The trial was thoroughly successful, and the steering gear was put to a severe test at several points, for instance, in Leather Lane, where the 'bus had to be kept clear of the stock-in-trade of the costermongers, who were taking up their positions along each side of this narrow thoroughfare, leaving very little free passage. The substitution of this system of traction for horses could scarcely fail to be both an improvement and an economy, in the case not only of omnibuses, but still more of delivery and collecting vans, which are for a considerable part of their time stationary, and the question is one well worth the careful consideration of the railway and carrying companies." The application of electric motive power to heavy vehicles not running on rails may be taken as an additional argument in favor of its adoption on city tramways, and we may entertain a sanguine hope that horse-flesh will be soon delivered from the wearing street-car work in all cities and large towns.

The exceedingly lively Colony of Queensland has not furnished much history since the accelerated departure of her bumptious Premier. She has not, however, entirely ceased to afford material for amusement. The mutiny of a company of her national force has been settled by dismissals, reductions to the ranks, and fines; but the luckless *Gayundah* figures once more in an unfortunate contretemps. At a monthly parade of the Naval Brigade, which was to have embarked on that now celebrated gun-boat for heavy gun drill, three seamen only turned up, and the Commandant was the only commissioned officer who put in an appearance. The three men and their commandant, however, embarked, though of course they could not man the guns, and the redoubtable *Gayundah*, having steamed out and "taken a look at the weather outside," returned to her anchorage without having fired a shot. "Can anybody," says an English exchange, "doubt Queensland's competence to defend herself against the new six millions' worth of German cruisers, or be surprised that with a navy as adequate and efficient as this, they have judged it superfluous to spend an additional £10,000 a year on the maintenance of the Imperial Australasian squadron?"

In an article headed "Halifax Notes," and signed "A Countryman," which appeared in the *Eastern Chronicle*, we find the following:—"THE CRITIC has succeeded in getting a hold on the reading public, which is equalled by no other paper in the Province. Part of its reputation is no doubt due to the contributions of Mr. F. Blake Crofton, whose unsigned (but none the less recognizable) articles possess a literary finish, that the ordinary writer must sigh for in vain. I would be doing an injustice to your excellent contemporary, were I to assert that its editorial staff are not aware that political and social questions present some very intricate problems, but I am not unjust when I say, that the said staff sometimes hasten to give dogmatic decisions, upon subjects which it is only too apparent they are not in a position to discuss in all their bearings." "A Countryman" has our sincere thanks for this kindly reference to THE CRITIC, and our staff feel in no small degree elated at the fact that the style of our writing has led "A Countryman" to the mistaken conclusion that to Mr. F. Blake Crofton is due the credit. We fully recognize Mr. Crofton's literary ability, but as his contributions are generally over his own signature or a *nom de plume*, it is scarcely fair to the staff to credit its productions to a correspondent. The general assertion as to our dogmatic decisions needs no special comment, since "A Countryman" leaves us quite in the dark as to which particular social or political question "we are not in a position to discuss in all their bearings."

Another Postal reform urgently required is the abolition of the Departmental Franking system. The privilege of Franking, previously accorded to Peers and Members of Parliament of Great Britain, was abrogated in 1837. In Australia—at least in Victoria, and we think in the other Colonies of the Island Continent—it never existed, and the Government Departments in Melbourne regularly procured their necessarily large supplies of stamps from the Post Office. This system involved the employment of a Despatch Clerk in each Department, but it entirely obviated that abuse of a privilege which is sure to obtain wherever it is allowed. It was also done away with in the United States during General Grant's first administration. Its retention at Ottawa is open to the most extensive abuse, and must entail a very considerable loss to the Post Office Department. It is, no doubt, very pleasant to the Government Officials to be able to post their letters, and very likely a good many of their friends', free; but, as is justly remarked by the *St. John Evening Gazette*, "The Civil servants at Ottawa are fully paid for their services, and have no right to use the stationery of the Government and the Frank of the Department they belong to for their private affairs." On the other hand, there is really no reason whatever that persons all over the country, having occasion to address Government Departments, generally on their own business, should not also pay postage, as they have to do when writing elsewhere. We strongly recommend this reform to the Government and the Postmaster General.

Alta California, a journal belonging to a country whose Secretary of the Navy explains how easily Canada is to be conquered, and whose Senators and Congressmen have made themselves a spectacle of ridicule and disgust to the world, by their truculent vamping, attains a sublimity of brazen impudence in the following effusion:—"Sir John Macdonald, the Canadian Premier, is reported to have addressed some very belligerent remarks to Canadian volunteers in a drill-hall. He looked and talked fight, and drew a cheer by referring to the ridiculous Butterworth and his boshy annexation resolutions. Sir John need not trouble himself to fight any battles before war is declared, nor to violate the requirements of courtesy by wash-buckling. The incident shows how much better our Government observes the requirements of courtesy toward other nations. It would be taken as an affront to our own people if the President or Secretary of State should visit an armory of the National Guard and harangue the militia upon their brave achievements to be in a war with Canada or any other power with which we are on terms of amity. Sir John is simply guilty of very bad manners, but his truculent tricklings alarm no one on this side of the line. We are respectful of the rights of our neighbors, but if Canada should provoke war, the militia of the State of New York alone could whip her into the Gulf of St. Lawrence and send her blubbering for help to the Home Government." So far as we remember, there was little in Sir John's remarks beyond a deserved tribute to the Canada Militia, and certainly any reference to the impertinence of Mr. Butterworth, or others who have insulted Canada and Great Britain in unmeasured terms, was perfectly justifiable. But when Sir John is gravely declared guilty of bad manners—and by an American—it is too rich for anything! But we forget—the American Government "observes the requirements of courtesy towards other nations" so perfectly. Oh, yes!

CHIT-CHAT AND CHUCKLES.

UNFAIR.

When I was a babe and sucked a ring
And held no views on anything,
Except, of course, the lacteal spring
Which kept me occupied.
It seemed to be the girls' delight
To kiss me morning, noon and night;
My nose they made a perfect fright,
And how I howled and cried!

Now I have grown to man's estate,
Behold the irony of fate!
No maiden tries to discolate
That Roman nose again;
And strangely shy is every miss,
Though I do appreciate the kiss
And value every hearty kiss
They wasted on me then!

Confession of inability could not go further than in the prayer of a good brother more used to dry goods than leading camp meetings—"O Lord, we are as weak—as weak as No. 60 basting thread."

Mistress—"Where have you been? I've scoured the whole house for you."

Bridget—"Is that so, mum? An'th' tinware in th' kitchen too mum?"

If you can only restrain a child from wrong conduct by hurting it, I fear you have little to hope for in its future. At first it should be good from love for you. It should obey because you have proved yourself wise and loving in its eyes. After, because you have taught it to be honorable.

"John," said Mrs. Billus, affectionately, "I wish I could do something to relieve your toothache, or, at least, help you to forget it. Shall I sing for you?" And she seated herself at the piano.

"I—I guess I can stand it, Maria," moaned Mr. Billus, bracing himself in his chair; "go ahead."

A Mortar-mixer was observed to be heating his kettle of coffee yesterday in a way which was no novelty to him but seemed strange to a reporter. He dug a hole in a pile of sand, placed a lump of lime in it, sprinkled some water on the lime, placed his kettle on it, and banked sand up around it. When 12 o'clock struck he shouted, "Come to tay; your coffee's a bilin."

Druggist's Clerk—"Here's a prescription so illegibly written I can't make it out."

Druggist (in the back room)—"Who brings it?"

Clerk—"Mr. Rambo."

Druggist (testily)—"Why didn't you say so? Whisky four parts; water one part."

Escort (To Miss Penelope Waldo of Boston, on the lawn)—"Don't be frightened, Miss Penelope, but there's a big green worm on your skirt!"

Miss Penelope—"Oh, don't disturb it, Mr. Wabash. I should like to take it home with me. It belongs to the species known as the capillus capillary capil, and is very rare in these parts. Dear little fellow, I shall prize it so highly. Would you mind, Mr. Wabash, putting it in your hat?"

The extraordinary force exerted by growing fungi has been shown in a New Hampshire village. It was noticed that a cone about seven inches in diameter was rising in the middle of an asphalt walk. Beneath it a mushroom was discovered, which had cracked and raised a solid stretch of asphalt two inches in thickness. Those who relish mushrooms must reflect upon the power they introduce into themselves. Keely's motor is scarcely a rival.

A Scotch country lad went up to a man who was ploughing in a field near the highway, and said, "I say, mon, I've coupit ma cairt." "Coupit your cairt! that's a pity; where is it and what was on it?" "It's down on the road yonner, an' it was a cart o' hay. Div ye think ye can come and help me to lift it?" "Oh, I'll come as soon as I can, but I canna leave my horses here in the middle o' the field; as soon as I can get to the head rig, I'll come and help you." "Div ye no think ye can come the noo?" he said, scratching his head. "No, I'm sorry, but I'll come as soon as I can." "Aweel," he said, in a tone of resignation, "I maun just wait then, but I wad hae likit that ye could hae come the noo, for the hanged thing is that ma father's below't!"

An Irishman once got a job from an undertaker to make a coffin, the job to include painting the inscription on the lid. This he was too ignorant to do, but did not like to confess it. By dint of following the written copy given him, he managed to get as far as "Michael O'Kasferty, aged —," but, try as he would, he could not imitate the "28." At last he remembered that he could write "7," and that four 7's made 28. So he finished the inscription, "aged 7777." When they came to bury Michael, the coffin stood at the grave side, and the priest spoke somewhat as follows: "Ah, he was a fine lad, and he's lying there so still, taken away in the very prime of loife. Young, too, he was only, —" and here the priest looked down at the coffin plate to see how old Michael was. "He was only," said his reverence again, and putting his glasses on he went nearer to see how old he really was. "He was only —" he continued, "he was seven thousand seven hundred and seventy seven. Tare and ages! how did he escape the flood?"

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SHIRTS, HO!

When Lazarus lay at the gate quite alone,
Bewailing his sores, rags and dirt;
Fine linen was dear, and white muslin unknown,
And no one could spare him a shirt.

But things in our day are better by far,
And we live in more genial times;
For we, notwithstanding the rumors of war,
Are giving fine shirts for THE DIMMS!

Of choicest material, and value most rare,
With fine work from wristband to collar,
And the best in the land such a garment might wear,
Though the price of it's ONLY A DOLLAR!

Fine white shirts for a dollar!
I heard some folk holler
Or was it the voice of the scoffer?
No—but Clayton & Sons
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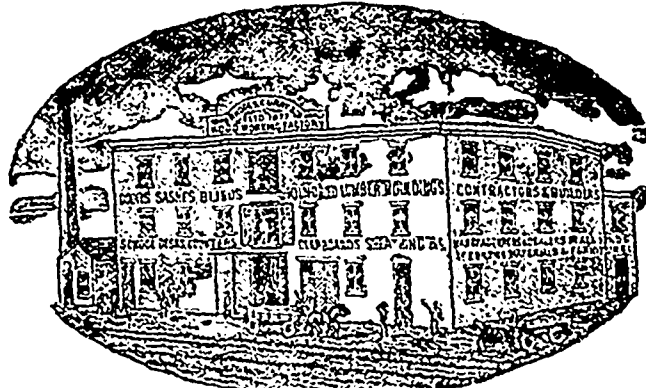
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SEND FOR ESTIMATES.

NEWS OF THE WEEK.

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

Those who wish to secure pleasant and profitable reading matter for the winter evenings should note our exceptional offer which appears on page 16. For \$2.50 in cash we undertake to send THE CRITIC to any subscriber for one year, supplying him in addition with ninety-seven of the most readable of readable books. Those who are renewing their subscriptions, as well as new subscribers, should take advantage of this offer.

The Maritime Stove Founders' Association is now in session in this city.

The C. P. R. Telegraph Co., have opened an office at Fredericton, N. B.

The total number of settlers in the Dominion last year was 88,700, an increase of 4,200 over 1887.

Moncton is going to spend \$25,000 in paving the streets, and \$15,000 to complete the sewerage system.

The Amherst Gazette is to have a dynamo to light its offices and supply the power for the newspaper and job presses.

Mr. W. Gunn, of Quebec, has been appointed to fill the new tutorship of Modern Languages in Queen's University.

It is said the name of the steamer "City of Monticello" is to be changed to "Digby." The people of Digby are much pleased with the proposition.

It is said that the proposed visit of the Canadian members of Parliament to the States is to be a fact, and that it will take place about the 1st of May.

The St. John general public hospital is to have a new \$10,000 wing built. The Commissioners are to ask the N. B. legislature for permission to borrow the money for the purpose.

Two hundred weavers employed in the Harmond cotton mill at Cornwall, Ontario, are on strike. They express their determination to hold out until their grievances are remedied.

Charlottetown wants to have the railway extended along the city front, and a deputation has waited on Sir John Macdonald, urging that the same be considered by the Government.

The plant of the Springhill, N. S., Independent newspaper has been purchased to publish the new Campbellton newspaper, which will be issued in the course of a week or two.

The Pictou Boot and Shoe Company is alive. A meeting was held lately and directors elected. The factory is being built and will probably be ready to commence operations in the spring.

Mr. C. J. Brydges, formerly general superintendent of the Intercolonial railway, dropped dead in Winnipeg on Sunday last. A large number of his friends in Nova Scotia will regret to hear of his death.

There are nineteen inmates of the Tracadie Lazaretto. Two were admitted last year. The annual report states that the general health of the inmates is good and there is less suffering than in past years.

St. John wants to have a carnival, and the affair will probably come off in about three weeks. It also wants to be the winter port, and has held a meeting at which the opinions of several prominent men were aired.

The railway station at Middleton was totally destroyed by fire on Sunday last. It is supposed to have been the work of an incendiary, as the station master says there was no fire left in the stove on Saturday night.

Says the Pictou News: The question of a water supply is an every day topic now. It is the universal opinion that an engineer should be engaged to make a preliminary survey and decide upon the most practicable scheme.

The Provincial Parliament was opened yesterday by His Honor the Administrator with the usual ceremonies. The guards of honor were furnished by the Halifax Garrison Artillery and the Duke of Wellington's Regiment.

The Sydney Advocate says,—“The work of building the foundations of the railway bridge at Coxheath is advancing. One of the abutments is about completed. Work will be commenced on the fresh water creek in a few days.”

Subscribers who fail to receive their CRITIC before Sunday of the week of issue will be good enough to advise us by postal-card of that fact, in order that, by revision of our postal arrangements, we may be enabled to remedy the inconvenience.

A bill has been introduced in the Quebec Legislative Council proposing to abolish that chamber on the basis of paying each member \$10,000 indemnity. It is reported that a majority of the members of the Council favor the proposition.

A petition has been circulated in Pictou praying for a Post Office building, and asking that an appropriation be made during the present session of parliament for the purpose of purchasing a suitable lot and building, substantial, and convenient for a Post Office.

An alarming epidemic broke out recently amongst the Chipewyan Indians at Cold Lake, 175 miles north-west of Battleford. At the date of a visitation by the Mounted Police 30 deaths had taken place. The tribe afflicted are not treaty Indians, but are remarkable for cleanliness and thrift.

Sir Charles Tupper left England for Canada yesterday. It is believed that he comes with instructions from the Imperial authorities to the Canadian government in regard to the fisheries policy, and other questions now at issue between this country and the United States.

Dr. Foster, of Toronto, proposes to take two Lacrosse teams to Australia in the spring, stopping at Honolulu, and perhaps New Zealand, by the way. He is in negotiation with Big John to see if he can organize a good team of Iroquois Indians at Caughnawaga for this tour, and Big John is talking over the matter with the best Lacrosse players of his tribe.

The failure of Buffalo skins has compelled the N. W. Mounted Police authorities to cast about for substitutes for great coats for the force. They are adopting cow-skins, which are said to be skillfully prepared by the Sarcee Indians, who it is hoped will be led to make their process a permanent and remunerative industry.

The highest department of the Dartmouth public schools has instituted a bulletin board, on which the news of the day from all parts is written by certain pupils who are chosen regularly as editors. This is a very good plan for impressing on the minds of the pupils the events that take place, which would probably otherwise be passed by without notice.

We cull the following from the columns of the *Morning Chronicle*, italics ours. "The catch of frozen herring at St. John on Saturday was 82,000. The receipts for the week amounted to 1,263,250 fish." The winter has not been severe on human beings, but the herring must have caught it badly. The fish stories that have gone the rounds of the press lately are startling.

The Truro Guardian says:—"Councillor Chambers is having his incandescent lighting station remodelled. The dynamos, which have all along been in the cellar, are to be put on the first flat. Three substantial brick pillars have been built in the cellar to strengthen the floor where the dynamos will be placed. A new 300 light dynamo and engine have lately been placed in position."

A number of the merchants of Halifax recently held a meeting in the class room of the Y. M. C. A., to consider the advisability of organizing an association to further the interests of the wholesale and retail merchants of Halifax. A committee of thirteen gentlemen was appointed to formulate a basis of association to be brought before a meeting to be convened shortly, for ratification.

We are indebted to the Toronto *Globe* for a handsome calendar, with large and distinct black figures on a red ground, surrounded by a number of views in a very effective style of engraving. Also one very handsomely adorned with well-colored characters of Scott's novels, and a figure of Sir Walter himself and his dogs, from the Scottish Union and National Insurance Company, A. C. Edwards, Agent at Halifax.

Two men went shooting rabbits on Rorey McLeod's mountain, Margaree, last Saturday evening, and one of them nearly lost his life through being mistaken for a rabbit by his brother, who saw his head through a bush and fired at it. His cries brought assistance and he was taken to the office of Dr. Carmichael, who removed several shots from his head and neck. It seems impossible to teach care in the use of fire-arms.

Of the Canadian Universities, McGill College, Montreal, leads the van with lady students, having 105 in attendance in January. University College, Toronto, comes next with 34. Queens', Kingston, has 32, and our own Dalhousie 18. Most of them are taking the regular Arts course, but some of them are taking particular branches such as English or French literature. The College classes offering better facilities for studying the same than can be obtained elsewhere.

A correspondent of the Moncton *Times* complains of the way in which the Post Office at Lakeville is conducted. He says "the mail is kept in a box on the kitchen table, where the children can play with it, and neighbors come in and examine papers and post cards, and the whole settlement knows who gets a letter every mail." He suggests that the post office be removed to the Railway station, as it would be more convenient, and private letters would not then become public property.

We gather the following from the *Canadian Gazette*, "We record on authority that Mr. Eden Colville has retired from the governorship of the Hudson's Bay board, and that Sir Donald A. Smith has been elected to that important office, Lord Anson succeeding to the deputy-governorship. The new governor has been all his life connected with the Company, he is reputed to be the largest shareholder, and no man living has a more intimate acquaintance with the business of the Hudson's Bay Company."

We are in receipt of the Halifax *Philatelist*, the organ of the Canadian Association, of which Mr. H. Hechler, of this city, is President. The Philatelic Society of the Netherlands, we learn, intends to celebrate its fifth anniversary by holding an international exhibition at Amsterdam on the 21st, 22nd and 23rd of April. Eight silver gilt medals and honor diplomas for the largest or best collections of postage stamps will be given. Intending exhibitors must use a prescribed form of card, which will be furnished by Johann Koming, Secretary of the Society, Amsterdam.

The Dartmouth Post Office is a poor affair for the size of the town. Perhaps when the proposed water supply and sewerage system are realities, the citizens will awaken to the fact that one corner of a candy and cook shop is not the best place that might be selected for the posting and delivery of letters. When doughnuts are being fried the smoke is enough to choke one, as the kitchen is just alongside of the shop. The only redeeming feature of the place is the bright little girl who attends to the work of the office in a manner that has made her a general favorite. A respectable post-office building with the aforesaid young lady in charge would give satisfaction to our friends on the other side of the harbor.

It is gratifying to note the success of the Telephone system in our city, as shown from the number of instruments that have been added during the past year to this exchange. Our citizens are more and more appreciating it as a household necessity. The lady of the house now, after breakfast, can call up her friend and after a little chat, rings up her grocer, and, after declaring her wants, orders dinner from the butcher, calls up her dressmaker and lays her plans for the most becoming dress, etc. She now quietly goes back to her household duties, having accomplished as much business in 15 minutes as would take the best part of a forenoon to meet without the aid of the Telephone.

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THE POETRY OF ARTHUR WEIR.

Prominent among the sweet singers of Canada is Mr. Arthur Weir, for the following specimens of whose gifts we are indebted to the *King's College Record*. A quotation from his sonnet "Remembrance," will serve as an example of Mr. Weir's descriptive power:—

"The aspens whisper to the passing breeze,
I hear the night-hawk's scream, the pipe of frogs,
The baying of the distant village dogs,
The lapping waves, the rustle of the trees,
And every sound is musical to me,
For every sound is a sweet song of thee."

Another example of fine description is that which occurs in "La Chino," referring to the course of the Canadian Pacific Railway:—

"Like spider in a web, it creeps
On filmy bridge, o'er sparkling streams
Or chasms where the sunlight gleams
Part-way, and dies amid the deeps.

It scales the rugged snow-clad peaks,
And looks afar on East and West,
Then, like an eagle from its nest,
Darts down, and through the valley shrieks."

But the scene of what is said to be his finest work, "The Romance of Sir Richard," is laid in the old world. This poem describes how two young lovers, visiting the ruins of an ancient castle by night, allow their fancies to wander back to the days of chivalry, and weave "The Romance of Sir Richard," beside whose tomb they are sitting. Such stanzas as these will serve to show the simplicity, sweetness and strength of this poem:—

"Darkly the moated waters sweet
Around the castle's massive pile,
That night when I my vigil kept
Of knighthood in this gloomy aisle.
The yew tree tapped the tinted panes,
The sad owl hooted in the glade,
And Philomel with plaintive strains
Her secret to the night betrayed."

Midsummer lightnings sweetly shy,
Low in the far horizon burned,
Like love-light in thine hazel eye,
When mine upon thy face is turned;
And as amidst the gloom I stood,
With the departed great, alone,
A moonbeam through the solitude
Came creeping on from stone to stone.

Like our other Poets Mr. Weir is an ardent, loyal Canadian.

OUR OTTAWA LETTER.

I had the pleasure of hearing Mr. G. R. Parkin's address before the Ottawa branch of the Imperial Federation League, last evening, explanatory of the mission he is undertaking to the antipodes under the auspices of the Australian branch of the League. As Mr. Parkin has recently, though informally, discussed this subject in Halifax, your readers will be familiar with the man and his mission. Mr. Sandford Fleming, the President of the Ottawa branch, said in the course of his introductory remarks, that, coming amongst us as the author of that very able article upon Imperial Federation which appeared in the December number of the CENTURY magazine, Mr. Parkin needed no better passport to the appreciation of an audience in the capital city of Canada, where the scheme had taken so strong a hold upon thinking men; and indeed, if the eloquent lecturer meets with the same enthusiastic reception in the political centres of the various colonies he visits during his tour as he did here, the success of his mission in making the project he advocates a practical issue in the politics of the British Empire is assured beyond a doubt. Mr. Parkin has a broad and practical grasp of the subject with which he has undertaken to deal. He at once carries the conviction home to his hearers that he is propounding no illusory and chimerical scheme calculated to tickle the fancy of political dreamers while it is unsusceptible of crystallization into a living factor in the affairs of men, but, on the contrary, by keen analysis of all possible obstacles to the proper working of the scheme and of the means whereby such obstacles might be surmounted, by a collocation of facts and figures, illustrative of the commercial significance of the various portions of the Empire in their present unconsolidated state, and of its sure and certain expansion under the favorable influences of federation, and, above all, by a masterly presentation of the argument *ab convenienti* in the event of menace by a foreign power, he showed that the enterprise is one of pith and moment to the Colonies, and one that must play an important part in working out the destiny of British civilization.

Mr. Parkin was exceedingly felicitous in his treatment of the French-Canadian phase of the question. After paying a glowing tribute to this people for their patriotism, their indomitable pluck in overcoming obstacles to their racial autonomy, and their loyalty to British institutions, he said that it was the element of French interest which largely assured the accomplishment of the project so far as Canada was concerned. For a patriotic French Canadian to listen to the seductive piping of annexationists was simply out of the question. By the treaty of Paris the extensive rights and privileges now enjoyed by French-Canadians were guaranteed to them in perpetuity under British domination, any infringement of which would be a *casus belli* between France and England. Suppose Canada were cut adrift from Britain and desired to be annexed to the United States, could Quebec with her population of a million, and withal a more province, hope to negotiate a treaty of a like nature with a nation of sixty millions? The idea is absurd to even dream about, and were Quebec to enter the American Union to-morrow, without a guarantee of her privileges such as she now enjoys, within a score of years at most she would but repeat the history of

the French race in Louisiana, and her language, customs, and laws thereafter live only in fable or romance.

And why should we, who believe in the desirability of this great national consolidation, be for a moment discouraged by the fate of those Empires which have ruled the world from time to time, and then sunk into oblivion? Assyria, Babylon, Medo-Persia, Judea, Greece and Rome have each played a mighty pipe in the diapason of the cosmic orchestra but their sounds have been hushed;—and simply because they were not in accord with the "harmony of the spheres," and bloodshed and rapine or sensuality and false philosophy marked their national aggrandizement and sealed their doom. The cruelty and rapacity of the semitic peoples of Assyria and Babylon prevented them from benefiting by the assimilation of conquered races unto themselves, for the indignities suffered by the conquered rendered them over ready to revolt against their oppressors; the Medo-Persian Empire fell before the internecine strife of its constituent tribes; Judea lost the splendor of her possible destiny by perverting her theocratical institutions; Greece approached very near the ideal Empire, but her philosophy fell short of the truth, and her *prestige* waned in company with her national virtue; the light of Christianity dawned upon Rome, but not in time to save the ancient civilization which had, before that era, sown the seeds of irrevocable decay; but there is no parallel between the history of these departed nations and the wondrous possibilities of the British people. Britain rose to prominence in the full light of Christianity, and wherever her flag has penetrated she has planted the "seeds of freedom, enlightenment, and the civilization of the new dispensation. She is working out her national expansion upon entirely different lines from the former masters of the world, and her grandest achievements are yet to come through the co-operation of her mighty Colonies. No! we should not take alarm at the experience of former Empires, so diverse in their aims and deeds, but we should rather regard them as stepping-stones in the progress of mankind towards the full fruition of national development in the federated Empire of Great Britain and her Colonies.

Several divisions have taken place in the House of Commons since my last writing, upon a number of proposed changes in the customs tariff, but which have been voted down by the Ministerialists in each instance. On the division upon a resolution to admit corn from the United States free of duty General Laurio was the only supporter of the Government who voted against them, and in favor of the proposed change in the tariff. The Government's working majority for the session is about 40.

Mr. Jamieson's prohibition resolutions have been propounded to the House, but a division upon them has not yet been reached.

DIXIE.

INDUSTRIAL NOTES.

The Burrell-Johnson Iron Co. of Yarmouth, N. S., have at present all they can do. They are building a passenger Steamer and have taken large contracts for Engines and Boilers. The prospects ahead are very bright in all lines, and the present year promises to be the best they have ever had, taken all round. They employ about 100 men and will soon have more.

The Nova Scotia Glass Works, at New Glasgow, N. S., began operations at that place in 1881, and have since then been fairly prosperous, paying an annual dividend of seven per cent. on capital stock, and have now on hand a reserve fund of twenty per cent. They have sold in the seven years over \$600,000 worth of goods and paid in wages, \$260,000. About four-fifths of the goods have gone to the upper provinces, some going as far west as British Columbia. The company employ almost entirely Nova Scotia born labor, the exceptions being a few foreign expert mechanics. About 135 men and boys are employed, and the annual pay roll is about \$35,000. The company contemplate enlarging their business and hope within the next year to double their output.

Messrs. H. H. Crosby & Co., manufacturers of Boots and Shoes, whose factory is at Hebron, Yarmouth, N. S., employ 41 hands exclusive of salesmen and travellers. They have all the latest improved machinery, which is run by water power, supplemented by a steam engine which is sometimes used in the summer time should the season be extremely dry. Trade opened rather dull early in the year, but as it advanced they find their orders up to and above last year's trade at this time. The out-put last year was a little under \$40,000. They think buyers were later in placing orders than usual, which they consider a wise proceeding, leaving themselves as much time as possible to clear off stocks on hand.

One million bricks were made in Mr. J. Miller's brick yard at Shubenacadie during last season.

There are about two million feet of spruce deals at the Indian Road Mill, seven miles from Shubenacadie, which will be shipped from that station as soon as sufficient snow falls to allow of its being brought to the village.

The Book and Job Printing business now conducted at 125 Hollis street, Halifax, under the well known firm-name of James Bowes & Sons, is, we believe, the oldest Job Printing concern in the province, being established about 1830. Since moving to their present central quarters, adjacent to the Queen, Halifax and Albion Hotels, they have added to their plant two Campbell Cylinder Printing Presses, besides type and labor-saving material of the most modern kind, which is being constantly replenished. The building is of brick and was built for a printing office by the proprietor of the

defunct Daily Reporter and Times. The office is on the ground floor, where orders may be left. It is connected by speaking tubes with the composition and press-rooms. Telephone No. 408 is here fitted up for the convenience of customers. The boiler and the steam engine, which runs the machinery, as well as the largest press are in the basement. The firm transacts a general Book and Job Printing trade. Having satisfactorily administered to the wants of our legal and business men and others for over half a century, they have no doubt "filled the bill" in their line—they seem determined to do so in the future—we therefore bespeak for them an increase in their business, commensurate, at least, with the growth of our city.

Messrs Ganong Bros, Manufacturing Confectioners, St. Stephen, N.B., are busily engaged at present in remodelling their premises. They have refitted the front section of their building which gives them four flats 65x50 feet including retail stores and offices. They have also contracted for brick and other material for re-building the rear section of 85 feet, and, by removing boiler, engine and engine rooms and bakery to a separate building, will have much better accommodation than before.

The Burrell-Johnson Iron company of Yarmouth are constructing a boat for the Petecodiac, N. B., Steam Navigation company, of the following dimensions:—Length of keel, 60 feet; over-all 65 feet; depth of hold, 6 feet; breadth of beam, 15 feet. She will be supplied with a compound surface condensing engine, steel boiler, and a water tank of 2000 gallons capacity, with steam pump, for carrying water for ships. She will be fitted with a saloon for passengers, a house for freight on deck, and pilot house, all fitted with the latest improvements. She will be heated by steam, and will be launched about the 1st of May.

As an evidence of the high reputation won by Yarmouth iron manufacturers abroad, we may mention the fact that Frank H. Wilson & Co., of the Milton iron foundry, have within a few days past received from Alexander Stephen & Son, shipbuilders of Glasgow, Scotland, an order for four large power capstans for the iron ships they have now under course of construction. Wilson & Co., have recently shipped the capstans for the new iron ship now being built at the same place for J. W. Carmichael & Co., of New Glasgow, N. S. We may add that Messrs Stephen & Son purchased the capstans which F. H. Wilson & Co. had at the London Exhibition.—*Yarmouth Herald*.

Many establishments find employment for a number of hands in handling and dealing in hides, calfskins, etc., from the time they are taken from the backs of the animals, in the form of raw hides, until they are converted into boots and shoes and other articles of utility. Not the least of the industries is that of the dealer in skins, for it is by means of his enterprise that the producer of the raw material finds a market for his hides and pelts. Engaged in this important branch of business is the well known firm of Messrs Fulton and Foster, who occupy spacious warehouses on O'Connor's Wharf, Upper Water St., Halifax. The house deals extensively in wool, hides, calfskins, etc., and the highest prices are paid for these articles of commerce. The firm do a big business as wool-pullers and dealers in all kinds of hides, and they enjoy ample facilities for conducting all transactions under the most favorable auspices and are prepared to render their customers every possible advantage. The individual members of this co-partnership are Messrs Harland Fulton and W. F. Foster, both natives of Nova Scotia and gentlemen of enterprise and active business ability.

The annual meeting of the shareholders of the Union Furniture and Merchandise company, Bass River, was held in Victoria hall on the 5th instant, George Fulton, president, in the chair. The secretary read the directors' report of the business for the past year, which showed a fair increase over the previous year, and a satisfactory result in the way of net profit. The old directors were re-elected.

Shipbuilding booms on the Parrsboro shores, says the *Springhill News*. Chas. Smith, of Port Greville, has men getting timber for a large two-masted schooner. Messrs. Elderkin, of the same place, are building the vessel. E. I. White, Apple River, is preparing timber for two vessel frames—one 300, the other 200 tons. Several other vessel frames are to be set up along the shore in the spring, and one in Capt. D. O'Neil's shipyard at Parrsboro:

CITY CHIMES.

A large, intelligent and very patient audience attended the Academy of Music on Thursday evening of last week, to listen to the rendition of Hayden's "Creation" by the Halifax Oratorio Society. If we had not attended the performance and had to depend upon the report in the *Morning Herald* as to its character, we might fairly conclude that we had missed a treat. This is what our contemporary says about it:—"From the first note to the "Amen" in the final quartette and chorus there was not a single hitch or note out of tune, but every bar was as perfect as time and tune could make it. The accompaniment, composed of the Hayden quintette club, assisted by a portion of the Duke of Wellington Regt. and by Mrs. Burgoyne on the piano, was a treat in itself; and any one who was so unfortunate as to be absent from the academy last night will surely regret it." Such a fulsome critique must have caused more than one reader to smile; for as a matter of fact, the accompaniment was decidedly out, both as to time and tune, in a number of places, and evidently required very much more practice. Taken as a whole the soloists were below the average of our best amateurs, and with the exception of Mrs. Hagarty were rendering music far

beyond their grasp. Mr. Mumford possesses a good, natural voice, but its lack of training, and his dreary conception of the part assigned to him, made it positively painful to listen to his rendering of the recitatives. Mrs. Hagarly certainly deserves great credit for the manner in which she performed her part, the rendering of "With Verdure Clad" was most tasteful, and by it she has no doubt added to her popularity as a soloist. In the choruses the parts were fairly well balanced, the only noticeable point of weakness being in the altos. The choruses were uniformly well rendered both as to time and tune, but there was an utter lack of that finish in shading which distinguishes artistic from merely mechanical performances. Considering all the adverse circumstances, Mr. S. Porter deserves a great deal of credit, but if the society desires to win a reputation for good musical work, three things will have to be borne in mind, first, the members will have to pay more attention to the conductor's instructions with reference to the observance of expression marks, second, the services of the best soloists here or elsewhere should be secured even if these have to be paid for, and, third, the orchestral work must be greatly improved, or it would be better to dispense with it altogether. Mr. S. Porter is a faithful, hard-working conductor, and the members of the society should not place upon his shoulders the responsibility of making a concert a success, when they individually and collectively could do so much to aid him beyond that which they now do.

Collins' Hill became a well worn toboggan slide during the delightful weather of the latter part of last week, and the moonlight party—the first this winter—given by the R. A. officers, was as perfect as a lovely night and a goodly company could make it. The frosty air felt fresh and invigorating, and the moon sailed across a cloudless sky, lighting the white floor beneath and the pretty blanketed forms moving up and down the slopes. Two big bonfires at the foot of the hill to the right lent a cheerful bit of warm coloring to the scene, and somehow gave an impression that there might be found comforts of an inward, as well as an outward nature. This impression proved correct later on, when the hungry and thirsty gathered round the blazing logs, and ate and drank with that appreciation of good things that only such wholesome exercise can give. What a thing to be regretted is the want of snow this winter! One such party makes us eager for another—and lo! the snow disappears, and with it any chance of seeing again a picture I have in my mind, of two young white-coated figures, climbing the hill, side by side, laughing, rosy and happy—good to look upon, and a goodly thing one always wants to see again. There was a small private tobogganing party on Thursday afternoon, which was much enjoyed—but the charm of the moonlight was not there!

The Children's Carnival in the evening proved a greater success than the previous one for grown up folks, and the dresses were for the most part new and original—the judgment passed upon the best costumes for the prizes gave general satisfaction; and that the recipients of the prizes went to bed richer and happier than the night before is a forgone conclusion.

On Saturday afternoon at 4 o'clock the square in Wellington Barracks was dotted with numerous sleighs, of all sorts and kinds; from a four-in-hand to a small—very small—cutter, in which, however, two people found plenty of room to sit quite comfortably. There was tea and talk to a considerable extent before the sleighs were well underway. The afternoon was everything that could be desired, and the whole party set out looking as bright as the day itself. Bellevue Hotel, Bedford, was reached all too quickly, followed by more tea, a nice little dance, a capital supper—and then we started on our return drive in the moonlight. The party was given by the bachelors of the Duke of Wellington's Regt., and was quite impromptu. This is the first time we have seen our new friends "at home" (or abroad?) and the general verdict is that they thoroughly understand how to make their guests put in a "real good time."

The concert of the Orpheus Club on Tuesday evening last presented an attractive programme, and drew a large and appreciative audience. Miss Louise Laine was well received, and the several songs rendered by her displayed to advantage her sweet soft voice and the artistic finish of her execution, but the selection of No. 11, "In Autumn," was injudicious, as the rendering of a song of that character requires an appreciative musical soul, which Miss Laine has so far given no evidence of possessing. Mrs. Taylor's rendition of "Resolution" was sweetly sad, and of "The old way," decidedly fetching. Mrs. Taylor's sympathetic voice always touches a responsive chord in the heart of the audience. Dr. Slayter certainly deserves special mention for the manner in which he sang Mr. Porter's charming song "Severance," and it has certainly served to freshen the laurels which he won upon the stage a decade since. Mr. Boak has unquestionably an excellent voice, but as a soloist he is uncertain, and, whether from nervousness or from want of care, he always makes his most ardent admirers regret that he had consented to sing. In a choir Mr. Boak is a tower of strength. The cello solos of Herr Mahr were superbly rendered, and his instrument became such a part of himself that it breathed forth in its deep, rich tones the warm appreciative soul of the artist. No one can hear Herr Mahr's cello playing without being the better for having heard it. Of the manner in which the choruses were rendered the writer can say little, as his position in the hall placed him at a disadvantage as a listener, but several features creditable to the Club were noticed, among these may be mentioned the very charming manner in which the theme, taken up by the tenors in "Then round about the starry throne," was repeated in the dark, rich tones of the altos; also the power of the fortissimo chords in the "Chorus of Bacchantes," as well as the very effective unison passage in the "Song of the Vikings." The Club with the Ladies' Auxilliary is far and away the best choral organization that we have had in the city in modern

times, and Mr. Porter, the modest conductor, can take to himself as much of the credit as his modesty will allow him to absorb.

COMMERCIAL.

The condition of general trade, though not active, has been satisfactory in the main. In most staple lines the movement has been steady and, for the time of the year and the state of the weather, has reached a fair volume. In some instances there appears a tendency towards improvement, and in others a better trade is claimed than a year ago. The import returns for January indicate a larger inward movement and seem to reveal that importers have entered the year with confidence in the future of trade.

In the matter of payments there has been no serious cause of complaint and maturing obligations have been in general promptly met. This fact has imparted considerable confidence to trade circles generally, and inspired our wholesale merchants with brighter hopes for the future. Responding to this improvement in the commercial outlook, bank and other securities have been more sought by investors at a considerable advance in prices. The whole business situation, which was full of dark forebodings a few weeks ago, has been completely changed and is now replete with signs of health and coming prosperity. We have a confident hope that this change for the better will prove to be permanent.

A meeting of the business men of Halifax was held a few days ago to discuss the situation, and a temporary organization under the name of the "Merchants' Association" was effected. There would or could be no necessity or field for such an organization if the Chamber of Commerce were a live and efficient body. But it is not. There is no inducement to young, energetic, active business men to join the Chamber of Commerce as it is, and has for some time been organized—that is to say as a political cock-pit.

We do not believe that two associations, both professedly working for the advancement of Halifax, are needed here, and we hope to see them amalgamated, but it must be on the lines of the new, and not of the old association. Railway and shipping rates for freight, duties, civic, provincial and dominion taxes, and our banking currency, are all matters that intimately affect our business interests, and that all our merchants ought to frequently discuss. There is plenty of room for intelligent discussion and improvement in all these lines, and we hail with pleasure any indication that they will receive the attention which their importance demands.

Bradstreet's report of the week's failures:

	Week		Weeks		Failures for the year to date.			
	1889	1889	1888	1887	1889	1888	1887	1886
United States.....	311	265	243	244	2182	1929	1978	2093
Canada.....	46	46	44	35	274	289	196	192

The following are the Assignments and Business Changes in this Province during the past week:—Chas. Wilson, confectionery, Parraboro, N. S., sold out to R. McNamara; James Munro & Son, tinsmiths, Truro, N. S., failed; H. H. Harrison, painter, Dartmouth, N. S., closed out his business there; Chas. Fraser (estate of) general store, Springhill, N. S., stock in trade, &c., advertised for sale by tender; Gillis & McDonald, grocers, Sydney, N. S., Allan Gillis & Hector McDonald co-partnership registered 1st Feb., 1889; W. D. Harrington, grocer, Halifax, sold out to Drake & Nisbet; T. B. Dane & Son, tailors and clothiers, Yarmouth, sold out to G. Murray Dane, style unchanged; L. E. Prowse, dry goods, Charlottetown, P. E. I., admitted Benj. C. Prowse, dry goods, partner as Prowse Bros.; McGregor & Knight, books and stationery, sold out to Thos. Knight, who continues business under style of Knight & Co.

DRY GOODS.—The condition of the dry goods trade is, on the whole, satisfactory. The development of the spring business has been quite up to expectations and some houses claim that it shows a larger volume than it did last year. The delivery of goods has been somewhat hampered by the uncertain state of the weather, and the consequent wretched condition of the country roads. Domestic manufactures appear to be on a sound basis. The advance in cottons has been well sustained and, from all that can be gathered, seems to be of a permanent character. It is understood that the mills are carrying much less stock than they did a year ago, and that they have a satisfactory amount of work on hand. Woollen mills now report that the orders for fall goods are more numerous and for larger quantities than for several years, which practically assures a busy season for this branch.

IRON, HARDWARE AND METALS.—The market for pig iron has been firmer in sympathy with the advance on the other side. Travellers are nearly all on the road and some of them report meeting with good success. Prices of shelf goods are not likely to be any higher—in fact slight concessions have been made on one or two lines. In the wholesale hardware trade a fair seasonable business is in progress. In bar iron the market is unsettled owing to the extra duty on wrought scrap iron for which the Londonderry Iron Company ask. The Glasgow market for warrants has advanced from 40s. 10d. per ton to 42s. 6d., being a rise of 1s. 8d. within the last fortnight. The advance is however said to be purely speculative.

BREADSTUFFS.—Special grades of flour have continued in request, resulting in a fairly active business in such at firm prices, but in other respects the market has a quiet look. The bulk of the stock on hand is of grades that are not just now in active demand, and prices are no more than steady. The demand for choice bakers' continues to be fair. Beerbohm's cable says:—"Cargoes off coast, wheat steady, corn nil. Do. on passage and for shipment, wheat quieter; corn slow. Mixed American maize, present and following month, 20s. 3d. Liverpool spot wheat slow; do. corn rather easier. Weather in England, sudden change to mild weather. French country markets firm." The *Mark Lane Express*, in its weekly review of the grain trade, says: "English wheats continue depressed. Foreign wheat is more active and firmer, but quotations are unchanged. As to day's

(Monday) market only the poorer English wheats were offered. The London market was downward. California wheat was a turn dealer. No red winter was offered. Flour was stronger, influenced by the rise of 2 francs per sack in Paris. American advanced 6d. The Montreal Trade Bulletin says:—"The highest price of spring wheat flour in this city during the past 25 years was in 1867, when spring extra touched \$9.45 per bbl., and the lowest was in 1884, when it declined to \$3.35 per bbl. The highest price of wheat in this market was in 1867, when Upper Canada spring wheat was sold at \$2 per bushel, and the lowest figure was reached in 1886, when it was marked down to 79 cents per bushel."

The feeling in the Chicago wheat market has been unsettled, May option going up to \$1.10, an advance of 10c over last week's report, but receding later to \$1.06. February was quoted at \$1.03; July 93c. Corn was also unsettled, May moved up 1/2c, but June fell off 1/2c, standing at last quotations 35 1/2c. Oats were firmer and advanced to 25 1/2c March; 27 1/2c May; 27c June. In New York wheat was excited, irregular and generally lower. The feeling there is illustrated by the following remark made by a prominent trader. "What is the use of buying wheat at these prices with a doubtful export outlet and nothing against an expectation for a good new crop, when we can buy steel rails at \$25.90 a ton, the lowest figures in the history of steel rails? Wheat is not the only cheap thing if, indeed, it is cheap. Cotton is a cent under last year's prices and is still weakening. However, with manipulation in wheat, there is no telling what the market may do, although it ought to sell off." What strength the market has is derived from the fact that some dealers have sold more than they can lay their hands upon at the moment. Quotations for cash wheat were:—No. 1 red \$1.07 to \$1.08; extra red \$1.05 to \$1.07; No. 2 red \$1 to \$1.02; No. 3 red 95c; No. 1 white \$1.02; state white \$1 to \$1.02. Corn was unsettled, late quotations were 44c. February; 44 1/2c March; 43 1/2c April; 43 1/2c May; 43 1/2c June. Oats were 30 1/2c. February; 31 1/2c March; 32 1/2c May. The tone of the Toledo market was weak and prices broke 1/2c to 1/4c. In Detroit the wheat market was stronger and moved up 1/2c. At Milwaukee it was steady.

PROVISIONS.—The local provision market has been slow and weaker, owing to the absence of cold weather. The enquiry for pork has been unusually small. Holders and buyers keep apart and nothing appears to be doing but a very small jobbing business merely to supply the consumptive demand. There has been a fair request for hams and a considerable business was accomplished in that line. In the Liverpool market a weak feeling has prevailed and prices were lower. Pork declined 1s. 3d. to 67s. 6d.; and bacon fell off 6d. to 30s. 6d. to 32s. 6d. Tallow was unchanged at 30s. The Chicago market was active but the weak feeling continued and pork declined 7 1/2c. to 12 1/2c. standing at \$11 March, \$11.12 1/2 May and \$11.32 1/2 June. Lard was quiet and steady for the July option which eased off 2 1/2c. Late quotations are \$6.57 1/2c. March, \$6.67 1/2c. May, \$6.75 June.

SUGAR.—The sugar market has been weak and both granulated and yellows show a declining tendency. The demand has been slow and the market has been slow with only a small jobbing trade.

MOLASSES.—A weaker feeling has prevailed in molasses and we do not hear of any transactions worthy of note taking place.

FRUITS.—The apple market continues in a demoralized condition as reported for some time past. The fruit held is keeping very poorly and holders are anxious to get rid of their stock at any reasonable or unreasonable price. In dried fruits there has been no important change. The feeling continues strong owing to the strong advices from abroad, but business has ruled quiet. The demand for Valencia raisins has been slow and only a few small sales were effected. Currants are firm but the movement has been light. Oranges and lemons are quiet with little demand.

BUTTER.—Little can be said respecting the butter market, which has continued quiet and uneventful. Desirable grades, which are in moderate supply, are held and command full prices, but trade is of a local character.

CHEESE.—Nothing has occurred to enliven the cheese market which has continued very quiet with no business to speak of. The situation across the Atlantic has not improved any; still owners of stock show no anxiety to sell, preferring to await a possible improvement. Stocks in Canada cannot be heavy and seem to be under strong control, as there is no apparent pressure to sell. The cable remained at 57s. 6d. The New York Commercial Bulletin says:—"The apparent evidence of an increased interest among foreign operators has not yet materialised so far as can be discovered. Of some 3,500 boxes now under engagement 1,000 are through, 1,000 carried over, and of the balance quite an amount is against direct shipment to be made by holders, so that really new investment is probably limited on foreign account and the shippers who were calculated upon to take more cheese this week are not as yet ready to act. Nor does the home trade seem to be waking up to any great amount of anxiety. While here and there a pretty full sale takes place, most of the business is confined to small lots as wanted for early necessities in the regular course of business."

FISH.—As anticipated in our last a slightly better feeling prevails in the local fish markets, owing to an improvement at some of the West Indian ports. Receipts of cured cod are practically nil, though the first signs of improvement in demand here would, doubtless, have the effect of bringing to this market several cargoes of bank fish from the westward which are now held in anticipation of such an event. In general the market is very sluggish and really nothing is doing. The slight advance that has occurred in the Havana market is wholly due to small receipts. Probably 100 drums would cover all the codfish that has arrived there via New York during the past three weeks. Still that market is so precarious that one or two good cargoes delivered there would flatten out prices again. The Montreal and Gloucester markets are very slow, and virtually nothing is doing in them at unchanged figures. Late letters from Georgetown, Demerara, state that there is a sufficient stock of fish there to cover all wants to the first week in April.

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.

SUGARS.	
Cut Leaf	8
Granulated	7 1/2
Circle A	7
White Extra C	6 1/2 to 6 3/4
Extra Yellow C	5 1/2 to 5 3/4
Yellow C	5 1/4 to 5 1/2
TEA.	
Congou, Common	17 to 19
" Fair	20 to 23
" Good	25 to 29
" Choice	31 to 33
" Extra Choice	35 to 39
Oolong, Choice	37 to 39
MOLASSES.	
Barbadoes	35
Demerara	36 to 40
Diamond N	45 to 46
Porto Rico	36 to 39
Cienfuegos	32
Trinidad	35
Antigua	35
Tobacco, Black	38 to 44
" Bright	42 to 58
BISCUITS.	
Pilot Bread	3.25
Boston and Thin Family	7
Soda	7
do. in lb. boxes, 50 to case	7 1/2
Fancy	8 to 15

BREADSTUFFS.

It is always the case that the man who puts off buying until the markets get to bottom gets "left," as the Yankees call it, and so in this case there were lots of buyers of flour and breadstuffs who would wait until patents touched \$5.00. They did touch \$5.30 or \$5.35, and 90 per cents were bought in some few instances as low as \$5.20, but very few. The current asking rate to-day with the millers is \$5.65 to \$5.75 for 90 per cents, and \$6.00 for patents.

They are actually claiming a scarcity of wheat in the North-western States, and pretend they will have to draw some back from the East.

Oatmeal remains quiet, but will probably advance in sympathy with flour, particularly as oats are a turn dealer West.

We make no change in quotations.

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

PROVISIONS.

Beef, Am. Ex Mess, duty paid	12.50 to 13.00
" Am. Plate	13.00 to 13.50
" Ex. Plate	14.00 to 14.50
Pork, Mess, American	18.50
" American, clear	20.00
" P. E. I. Mess	17.00 to 17.50
" P. E. I. Thin Mess	15.50 to 16.00
" Prime Mess	14.00 to 14.50
Lard, Tubs and Pails, P. E. Island	13 to 14
" American	12 to 13
" Cases	13.50 to 14.00
Hams, P. E. I., green	8 to 9
Duty on Am. Pork and Beef \$2.20 per bbl.	

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

The above quotations are carefully prepared by a reliable wholesale house.

FLOUR.

Graham Flour	5.75 to 6.10
Patent high grades	6.10 to 6.20
90 per cent. Patents	5.75 to 5.90
Superior Extra	5.60 to 5.75
Extras from Patents	5.25 to 5.50
Low grades in sacks	8.30 to 8.40
" " barrels	3.55 to 3.60
Oatmeal, Standard	4.65 to 4.75
" Granulated	5.00 to 5.15
" Rolled	5.00 to 5.10
Corn Meal—kiln dried	3.00 to 3.10
Bran, per ton	21.00 to 22.00
Shorts	23.00 to 23.50
Middlings	21.50 to 22.00
Mill or Mixed Feed, per ton	22.00
Oats per bushel of 34 lbs.	43 to 45
Barley " of 48 "	nominal
Pear " of 60 "	1.00 to 1.10
White Beans, per bushel	1.80 to 2.00
Pot Barley, per barrel	5.55
Hay per ton	14.00 to 16.02
Straw "	11.60 to 12.00

These quotations are prepared by a reliable wholesale house.

FISH FROM VESSELS.

MACKEREL—	
Extra	20.00
No. 1	19.00
" 2 large	16.00
" 2	none
" 3 large	11.00
" 3	11.00
HERRING.	
No. 1 Shore, July	4.50 to 4.75
No. 1, August, Round	3.75 to 4.00
" September	3.75 to 4.00
Labrador, in cargo lots, per bl.	4.00 to 4.50
Bay of Islands, Split	3.25 to 3.50
" Round	2.75 to 3.1
ALBACORE, per bbl.	5.0
CODFISH.	
Hard Shore, new	4.25 to 4.50
New Bank	4.25
Bay	4.12 to 4.20
SALMON, No. 1	15.50 to 16.00
HADDOCK, per qu.	3.00 to 3.25
HAKE	2.50 to 2.75
CUSK	3.00
POLLOCK	2.25
HANK SOUNDS, per lb.	30
COD OIL A	26 to 27

J. A. CHIPMAN & Co., Head of Central Wharf, Halifax, N. S.

BUTTER AND CHEESE.

Nova Scotia Choice Fresh Prints	30
" in Small Tubs	25
" Good, in large tubs	31
Store Packed & oversalted	14
Canadian Township	22 to 24
" Western	17 to 19
Cheese, Canadian	11 to 12

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

LOBSTERS.

Per case 4 doz. 1 lb cans.

Nova Scotia (Atlantic Coast Packing)	5.00 to 5.40
Tall Cans	4.80 to 5.00
Flat	6.20 to 6.40
Newfoundland Flat Cans	6.35 to 6.50

The above quotations are corrected by a reliable dealer.

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

WOOL, WOOL SKINS & HIDES.

Wool—clean washed, per pound	15 to 22
" unwashed	12 to 15
Salted Hides, No 1	5 to 6
Ox Hides, over 60 lbs, No 1	6
" under 60 lbs, No 1	5
" over 60 lbs, No 2	5
" under 60 lbs, No 2	5
Cow Hides, No 1	5
No 3 Hides, each	4
Calf Skins	25
" Deacons, each	25
Lambskins	25 to 75
Tallow	3

The above quotations are corrected by a reliable dealer.

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

LUMBER.

Pine, clear, No. 1, per m	25.00 to 28.00
" Merchantable, do do	14.00 to 17.00
" No 2, do	10.00 to 12.00
" Small, per m	8.00 to 14.00
Spruce, dimension, good, per m	9.50 to 10.00
" Merchantable, do do	8.00 to 9.00
" Small, do do	6.50 to 7.00
Hemlock, merchantable	7.00
Shingles, No 1, sawed, pine	3.00 to 3.50
" No 2, do do	1.00 to 1.25
" spruce, No 1	1.10 to 1.30
Laths, per m	2.00
Hard wood, per cord	4.00 to 4.25
Soft wood	2.25 to 2.50

HOME AND FOREIGN FRUITS.

Apples, No. 1, new, per bbl	1.50 to 2.75
Oranges, per bbl, Jamaica (new)	6.00
Lemons, per case	3.50 to 4.50
Cocoanuts, per 100	3.60 to 4.00
Onions	
" American Silver Skin	2 to 2 1/2
Dates, boxes, new	6 1/2 to 7
Raisins, Valencia, new	6 1/2 to 7
Figs, Elme, 5 lb boxes per lb	12
" " small boxes	13
Prunes, Stewing, boxes and bags, new	8
Cranberries	7.00
Foxberries	4.00 to 4.50
Grapes, Almeria, kegs	6.50 to 7.00
Fine Apples, per doz	2.50 to 3.00

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

POULTRY.

Turkeys, per pound	13 to 14
Geese, each	50 to 72
Ducks, per pair	70 to 80
Chickens	40 to 53

The above are corrected by a reliable victualer.

LIVE STOCK—at Richmond Depot.

Steers best quality, per 100 lbs. alive	4.00 to 4.25
Oxen	3.50 to
Fat Steers, Heifers, light weights	3.00 to
Wethers, best quality, per 100 lbs	4.00 to 4.50
Lambs	4.00 to 5.00

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

These quotations are prepared by a reliable victualer

MATTLAND'S MYSTERY.

(Continued.)

Every little while, too, with prodigious kicking of dust and show of heels, with eyes fairly bulging out of his feather-brained head, and tall lop-ears laid flat on his back, a big jack-rabbit would bound off into space, and go tearing across the prairie in mad race for his threatened life, putting a mile between him and the Monee before he began to realize that the two quadrupeds ambling along the distant trail were obedient to the will of that single rider, who had no thought to spare for game so small. Some Indian ponies, grazing across his pathway, set back their stunted ears, and, cow-like, refused to budge at sight and hearing of the big American horse; whereat a little vagabond of a Cheyenne, not ten years old nor four feet high, set up a shrill chatter and screech and let drive a well-directed clod of turf, and then showed his white teeth in a grin as Perry sung out a cheery "How! sonny," and spurred on through the opening thoroughfare, heedless of spiteful pony looks or threatening heels.

Perry's spirits rose with every rod. Youth, health, contentment, all were his, and his heart was warm towards his fellow-men. To the best of his reckoning, he had not an enemy or detractor in the world. He was all gladness of nature, all friendliness, frankness, and cordiality. The toughest cow-boy whom they had met on their long march down, the most crabbed of the frontiersmen they had ever encountered, was never proof against such sunshine as seemed to irradiate his face. He would go out of his way at any time to meet and hail a fellow-man upon the prairies, and rarely come back without knowing all about him,—where he was from, whither he was bound, and what were his hopes and prospects. As for himself, no man was readier to answer questions or to meet in friendliest and most jovial spirit the rough but well-meant greetings of "the Plains."

Being in this frame of mind to an extent even greater than his normal wont, Mr. Perry's eyes glistened, and he struck spur to hasten Nolan's stride, when, far ahead, and coming towards him on the trail, he saw a horseman like himself. Being in this mood of sociability, he was something more than surprised to see that all of a sudden that horseman had reined in—a mere black dot a mile away—and was presumably examining him as he advanced. Hostile Indians there had been none for many a long month, "road-agents" would have starved in a region where there practically were no roads, cow-boys might—and did—get on frolics and have wild "tears" at times, but who ever heard of their being hostile, man to man? Yet Perry was plainsman enough to tell, even at the mile of distance, that the stranger had halted solely to scrutinize him, and next, to his vast astonishment, that something in his appearance had proved either alarming or suspicious, for the horseman had turned abruptly, plunged through the timber and across the stream, and in another moment, veering that way himself to see, Perry marked him fairly racing into the mouth of a shallow ravine, or "break," that entered the valley from the south, and there he was lost to sight.

"What an ill-mannered galoot!" was his muttered comment, as he gave Nolan a brief chance to crop the juicy grass, while his perturbed rider sat gazing across the stream in the direction taken by the shy horseman. "I've half a mind to drop the ranch and put out after that fellow. That ravine can't go in so very far but what he must soon show up on the level prairie; and I'll bet Nolan could run him down." After a moment's reflection, however, Mr. Perry concluded that, as he had come so far and was now nearly within rifle-shot of the mysterious goal of his morning ride, he might as well let the stranger go, and pushed ahead, himself, for Dunraven.

The stream bent southward just at the point where he had first caught sight of the horseman, and around that point he knew the ranch to be. Very probably that was one of the ranchmen of whom Mrs. Lawrence had spoken,—churlish fellows, with a civil word for nobody, grim and repellent. Why, certainly! That accounted for his evident desire to avoid the cavalryman; but he need not have been in such desperate haste,—need not have kept at such unapproachable bounds, as though he shunned even being seen. That was the queer thing, thought Perry. He acted just as though he did not want to be recognized. Perhaps he'd been up to some devilment at the ranch.

This thought gave spur to his speed, and Nolan, responsive to his master's mood, leaped forward along the winding trail once more. The point was soon reached and turned, and the first object that caught Perry's eye was a long row of stakes stretching from the cottonwoods straight to the south up the gentle slope to the prairie, and indicating beyond all question the presence there of a stout, high and impassable wire fence. There are few things a cavalryman holds in meaner estimate.

"That marks the western limit," thought Perry to himself, "and doubtless reaches miles away to the south, from what I hear. Now, where does one enter?"

A little farther on he came upon a trail leading from the low bluffs to his left hand. It crossed the winding bridle path on which he rode, though some of the hoof-tracks seemed to join, and wheel-tracks too. He had marked that between the fort and the point no sight of wheel appeared: it was a hoof-trail and nothing more. Now a light-travelled wagon-track came in from the north, and while one branch seemed to cross the Monee and to ascend the opposite slopes close along the wire fence, the other joined him and went on down the stream. This he decided to follow.

A ride of a few hundred yards brought him to a point where a shoulder of bluff twisted the trail well in towards the stream, and he, thinking to cross and reconnoitre on the other shore, turned Nolan in that way, and was suddenly brought up standing by the heaviest and most forbidding wire fence he had ever seen. Yes, there it stretched away through the cottonwoods, straight as a die, back to the angle whence started the southward course he first had noted, and, looking down stream, far as the eye could reach, he

marked it, staked as though by the theodolite itself, straight as a surveyor could make it, a rigid line to the southeast. Sometimes the stream lay on one side, sometimes on the other; so, too, the cottonwoods; but there, grim and bristling and impassable, over five feet high, and fairly snarling with its sharp and jagged teeth, this inhuman barrier lay betwixt him and the lands of Dunraven Ranch.

"Well," thought Perry. "I've often heard an Englishman's house was his castle, but who would have thought of staking and wiring in half a county—half a Texas county—in this hoggish way? How far down is the entrance anyhow?"

Following the trail, he rode down stream a full half-mile, and still there seemed no break. Nowhere on the other shore was there sign of bridle-path eading up the slopes. Turning to his left in some impatience, he sent Nolan at a rapid lope across the intervening "bottom," and soon reached the bluffs, which rose perhaps forty or fifty feet above the stream. Once on the crest, the prairie stretched before him, northward, level as a floor, until it met the sky; but it was southward he longed to look, and thither quickly turned. Yes, there it lay,—Dunraven Ranch, in all its lonely majesty. From where he stood the nearest building stood a good long mile away. That it was the homestead he divined at once, for a broad veranda ran around the lower story, and white curtains were visible at the dormer-windows of the upper floor. Back of it and on the eastern flank were other buildings, massive-looking, single-storied affairs,—evidently stables, storehouses, and corrals. There was a tall windmill,—an odd sight in so remote a region,—and a big water-tank. Perry wondered how it ever got there. Then at the southwest angle was a building that looked like an office of some kind. He could see horses tethered there, and what seemed to be human figures moving about. Beyond it all, to the east and south, were herds of grazing cattle, and here and there in the dim distance a horseman moved over the prairie. This reminded him of the stranger who had given him the slip; and he gazed westward in search of him.

Far up the valley, between him and the distant post, he could plainly see a black object just descending the slopes from the southern prairie to the stream. Not another was in sight that his practised eye did not know to be cattle. That, then, was his horseman, once more going fort-wards in the valley, after having made a three- or four-mile *détour* to avoid him. "Now, what sort of a Christian is that fellow?" thought Perry, as he gazed at the distant speck. "Going to the fort, too. By thunder! I'll find out who he is, anyhow. Now I'm going to the ranch."

Down the slopes he rode. Down the winding trail once more he trotted, peering through every gap among the cottonwoods, slaking Nolan's thirst at a little pool in the stream, and then, after another long half-mile, he came to a sudden turn to the right. The road dipped and twisted through the stream-bed, rose to the other side, wound through the cottonwoods and then out on the open turf. Huzza! There it stretched up the slopes straight away for the south, straight through a broad gap between two heavy gate-posts standing on the stake-line of that rigid fence. Nolan broke into a brisk canter and gave a neigh of salutation; Perry's eyes glistened with anticipation as he bent over his charger's neck, keenly searching the odd-looking structure growing on his vision as they neared the fence. Then, little by little, Nolan's eager stride shortened and grew choppy. Another moment, and horse and rider reined up short in disappointment. Between the gate-posts swung a barrier of cobweb lightness, slender and airy as ever spider wove, but bristling with barbs, stiff as "bullfinch" and unyielding as steel. One glance showed Perry that this inhospitable gate was firmly locked.

For a moment he sat in saddle, studying the situation, while Nolan poked his head over the topmost strand of wire and, keeping at respectable distance from the glittering barbs, gazed wistfully over the enclosed prairie in search of comrade quadruped who could tell him what manner of place this was. Meantime, his rider was intently eyeing the heavy padlock that was secured on the inner side of the gate. It was square in shape, massive and bulky,—something utterly unlike anything he had ever seen among the quartermaster's stores. Dismounting, and holding Nolan well back from the aggressive aperture and turned the padlock so as to get a better view. It was of English make, as he surmised, and of strength sufficient to resist anything short of a trip-hammer. Evidently no admission was to be gained here, he reasoned; and yet it was through here that that horseman had come but an hour before. Here were the fresh hoof-prints in the trail, and it was evident the rider had dismounted, opened the gate, led his horse through, closed and fastened it, then remounted and ridden away. Perry was plainsman enough to read this from the hoof-prints. Studying them carefully, a look of surprise came into his face: he bent down and closely examined the two or three that were most clearly defined upon the trail, then gave a long whistle as a means of expressing his feelings and giving play to his astonishment:

"Johnny Bull holds himself too high and mighty to have anything to do with us blarsted Yankees, it seems, except when he wants his horses shod. These shoes were set at the post blacksmith shop, or I'm a duffer," was the lieutenant's verbal comment. "Now, how was it done without the quartermaster's knowing it? That's the cavalry shoe!"

Pondering over this unlooked-for revelation, Mr. Perry once more mounted, and turned his disappointed steed again down stream. He had determined to follow the fence in search of another opening. A mile he rode among the cottonwoods and across low grassy points, and still that inflexible barrier stretched grimly between him and the open prairie to the south. Once, up a long shallow "break," he caught sight of the roofs of some of the ranch-buildings full a thousand yards away and realized that he had passed to the east of them and was farther from the goal of his ambition than when he stood at that bristling gate. At last, full half a mile farther on, he saw that a wire fence ran southward again across the prairie, as

though marking the eastern boundary of the homestead-enclosure, and, conjecturing that there was probably a trail along that fence and an opening through, even if the southeastward line should be found fenced still farther, he sent Nolan through the Monee to the open bank on the northern side, cantered along until the trail turned abruptly southward, and, following it, found himself once more at the fence just where the heavy corner-post stood deeply imbedded in the soil. Sure enough, here ran another fence straight up the gentle slope to the south, a trail along its eastern side, and a broad cattle-gap, dusty and tramped with the hoofs of a thousand steers, was left in the fence that, prolonged down-stream, spanned the northern boundary. Inside the homestead-plot all was virgin turf.

Following the southward trail, Perry rode briskly up the long incline. It was east of this fence he had seen the cattle-herds and their mounted watchers. He was far beyond the ranch-buildings, but felt sure that, once well up on the prairie, he could have an uninterrupted view of them and doubtless meet some of the ranch people and satisfy himself what was in the stories of their churlish and repellent demeanor. The sun was climbing higher all this time, and he, eager in pursuit of his reconnoissance, gave little heed to fleeting minutes. If fair means could accomplish it, he and Nolan were bound to have an acquaintance with Dunraven Ranch.

Ten minutes' easy lope brought him well up on the prairie. There—westward now—was the mysterious clump of brown buildings, just as far as when he stood, baffled and disappointed, by the gate-way on the Monee. Here, leading away towards the distant buildings, was a bridle-path. Here in the fence was a gap just such as he had encountered on the stream, and that gap was barred and guarded by the counterpart of the first gate and firmly secured by a padlock that was the other's twin. Mr. Perry's comment at this point of his explorations was brief and characteristic, if not objectionable. He gave vent to the same low whistle, half surprise, half vexation, that had comforted his soul before, but supplemented the whistle with the unnecessary remark, "Well, I'll be damned!"

Even Nolan entered his protest against such incredible exclusiveness. Thrusting his lean head far over the topmost wire as before, he signalled long and shrill,—a neigh that would have caught the ear of any horse within a mile, and then, all alert, he waited for an answer. It came floating on the rising wind, a responsive call, a signal as eager and confident as his own, and Nolan and Nolan's rider whirled quickly around to see the source from when it rose. Four hundred yards away, just appearing over a little knoll in the prairie, and moving towards them from the direction of a distant clump of grazing cattle, another horse and rider came trotting into hailing-distance; and Perry, his bright blue eyes dilating, and Nolan, his dainty, sensitive ears pricked forward, turned promptly to meet and greet the new arrivals.

For fifty yards or so the stranger rode confidently and at rapid trot. Perry smilingly watched the out-turned toes, the bobbing "bent-over" seat, and angular elbows that seemed so strange and out of place on the broad Texan plain. He could almost see the "crop" in the free hand, and was smiling to himself at the idea of a "crop" to open wire gates, when he became aware of the fact that the stranger's mein had changed; confidence was giving place to hesitancy, and he was evidently checking the rapid trot, of his horse and throwing his weight back on the cante, while his feet, thrust through to the very heels in the gleaming steel stirrups, were braced in front of the powerful shoulders of the bay. The horse wanted to come, the rider plainly wanted to stop. Another moment, and Perry could see that the stranger wore eyeglasses and had just succeeded in bridging them on his nose and was glaring at him with his chin high in air. They were within two hundred yards of each other by this time, and, to Perry's astonishment, the next thing the stranger did was to touch sharply his horse with barbed heel, whirl him spitefully about, and go bobbing off across the prairie at a lively canter, standing up in his stirrups, and bestriding his steed as though his object were not so much a ride as a game of leap-frog.

It was evident that he had caught sight of Perry when Nolan neighed, had ridden at once to meet him, expecting to find some one connected with the ranch, and had veered off in disgust the moment he was able to recognize the uniform and horse-equipments of the United States Cavalry.

IV.

Sweet-tempered a fellow as Mr. Perry confessedly was, there was something in the stranger's conduct that galled him inexpressibly. The tenets of "society," the formalities of metropolitan life, have no recognition whatsoever on the wide frontier when once the confines of the garrison are passed. Out on the broad expanse of the Plains the party who shuns the greeting of his fellow is set down at once as a party whose antecedents are shadowy and whose character is suspicious; and never before in his experience of several years and his wanderings from the Yellowstone to the Washita had Ned Perry met a frontiersman who fled at sight of him, except one horse-thief. From his handsome mount, his garb, and his general appearance, Perry set this stranger down as one of the Englishmen residing at the ranch. It was not fear of arrest and capture that sent him scowling away across the prairie; it was deliberate intent to avoid, and this was, to Perry's thinking, tantamount to insult. One moment he gazed after the retreating form of the horseman, then clapped his forage cap firmly down upon his head, shook free the rein, and gave Nolan the longed-for word. Another instant, and with set teeth and blazing, angry eyes, he was thundering at headlong speed, swooping down upon the unconscious stranger in pursuit. Before that sun-burned, curly-haired, bulkily-framed young man had the faintest idea of what was impending, Mr. Perry was reining in his snorting steed alongside and cuttingly accosted him:

(To be Continued.)

ARMY & NAVY DEPOT.

James Scott & Co.

WHOLESALE & RETAIL

Grocers & Wine Merchants,

117 and 118 GRANVILLE STREET,

Offer for Sale in Bond or Duty Paid:

- 350 cases Old Brandy
- 275 " Scotch and Irish Whiskey.
- 170 " Holland Gin
- 75 " Plymouth and Old Tom Gin
- 400 doz. Port and Sherry
- 300 cases Claret
- 60 " Hock and Moselle
- 400 doz. Ale and Porter, pts. & qts.
- 100 cases Champagne

—ALSO—
Angostura, Orange, and John Bull BITTERS.

A Full Line of GROCERIES always on hand.

PATENT STEAM COMPRESSED AND SHREDDED CODFISH.

The BEST, CHEAPEST, and most convenient form of Dried Codfish ever offered to the public. Its rapidly increasing sale indicates the favor with which it is received. It is recommended not only for its cheapness, but because it can be got ready for table in a few minutes, no small advantage when household help is so difficult to procure. The half of a pound package when made into Patties is sufficient for a meal for an ordinary family. Put up in 1 lb. PKGS., 40 PKGS. in a Box. The Subscribers having been appointed the Sole Agents for the above article for the Maritime Provinces, are now prepared to supply the trade in lots to suit.

GREEN CODFISH Bought by the Subscribers to make STEAM COMPRESSED and SHREDDED CODFISH. E. G. & C. STAYNER.

- EPIDERMA, FOR SOFTENING THE SKIN.
- EPIDERMA, TO USE AFTER SHAVING.
- EPIDERMA, FOR DRYNESS OF THE SKIN.
- EPIDERMA, FOR SUNBURN AND REDNESS.
- EPIDERMA, FOR RENDERING THE SKIN SMOOTH, SOFT AND PLIABLE.

WE STRONGLY RECOMMEND EPIDERMA.

HATTIE & MYLIUS, ACADIA DRUG STORE, 155 HOLLIS STREET. OPEN ALL NIGHT.

TAYLOR'S

NEW STYLE Double Tongue and Groove Fireproof

SAFES.

Patentees and Solo Manufacturers, J. & J. TAYLOR, 117 & 119 Front St. East, TORONTO.

CHESLEY, Ont., June 12, 1868. MESSRS. J. & J. TAYLOR, Toronto: Gentlemen—My store was burned here on the 2nd inst., and a No. 8 safe which I purchased from you a few years ago came out all right, not even the paint on inside door being blistered. I may add the door has a non-conducting flange on it, and also an air chamber in it, which I am convinced adds much to its fire-resisting quality. Yours truly, D. MONTGOMERY.

Gifts! Gifts! Gifts!

Old and Young, Big and Little, Rich and Poor, will find just what they want in our

Beautiful Display

HOLIDAY GOODS.

COME AND SEE! ALL ARE WELCOME

Wm. Bannister,

WATCHES, CLOCKS, JEWELRY, SILVERWARE, ETC.

136 Granville Street, HALIFAX, N. S.

SOMETHING WORTH KNOWING!

PUTTNER'S

Will Cure you of a Cough, Cold, Bronchitis, or other Lung Troubles.

EMULSION

It is unsurpassed for Scrofula, General Debility, Loss of Vigor, Etc.

OF COD LIVER OIL,

For Lack of Energy, Nervousness, Paralysis, Loss of Brain Power, it is highly recommended.

WITH HYPOPHOSPHITES.

As a Tonic for Children, for Invalids recovering from sickness, for Women who are nursing it is of the greatest value.

SOLD BY ALL DEALERS.

BROWN BROS. & CO., DRUGGISTS.

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LONDON DRUG STORE,

147 Hollis Street,

J. GODFREY SMITH,

DISPENSING CHEMIST,

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In Stock, the great cure of Neuralgia "Eau Anti-Neuralgique." Chronic cases yield to its curative effects.

Also, in Stock, a line of FANCY GOODS, Dressing Cases, Toilet Sets, in Plush, Leather, &c.

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HALIFAX, N. S.

PARLIAMENTARY REVIEW.

DOMINION.—During the past week Parliament has been occupied in voting supplies, and, as is generally the case, the estimates for these supplies have been more or less criticised by the opposition, and their correctness defended by the supporters of the government. It is well for the country that the estimates should be criticised, otherwise we should soon have a reign of reckless expenditure. As it is we have Laurier, Cartwright, Mitchell and Davies ever on the watch to condemn extravagance upon the part of the government, while the ministers of the crown appear to be equally prepared to defend what they call legitimate expenditure.

Hon. Peter Mitchell condemned the increased expenditure upon the militia, and spoke strongly against the establishment of a Canadian standing army. The regular force was now twelve hundred men (an erroneous statement, the strength being only 1079) which was quite large enough for our needs. Sir Adolph Caron pointed out that the increased expenditure was comparatively small, and was relatively more so when the rapid development of the country was considered. In the department of militia scrupulous economy had been observed, economy which on more than one occasion had been regarded in some quarters as parsimony.

In referring to the estimates for the management of the North West lands, Sir Richard Cartwright characterized the expenditure as unpromising, the receipts were, it is true, between two and three hundred thousand dollars, but the expenses of management exceeded the larger sum.

It is not probable that any reduction will be made in the rate of postage during the present session, but the Postmaster General has intimated to the house that a limit of a single postage will be increased in weight from a half to one ounce. This reform may be of little weight, but it is of great consequence to business and professional men.

A slight scuffle took place over a proposal to give farmers a rebate upon their imports of indian corn. It seems that the distillers of whiskey are given this rebate for the corn used in the manufacture of whiskey for export, but that they are not given it for that used in the manufacture for home consumption. It is further claimed that from the slops from this corn the distillers can fatten cattle at a less rate than can general farmers. The supporters of the government meet these objections by claiming that the free admission of corn would seriously handicap the sale of oats and other hardy grains grown by our own farmers, and further, that while a rebate might fairly be claimed for corn fed to animals for exportation, it would be impossible to draw the line definitely between those intended for domestic use and those destined for British and American beef-eaters. It is plain that the corn question, like many other questions, has two sides to it.

The coal trade of Nova Scotia, but more particularly that of the Cumberland mines, with the Upper Provinces was seriously threatened by the sudden advance in charges made over the Intercolonial railway, but it is satisfactory to observe that the government, after having given the matter a second thought, determined to return to the old scale of rates; and now the Springhillers are happy, and Mr. Leckie and his associates are correspondingly grateful.

The treaty-making power, to which we referred in our last issue, was formally brought to the notice of the house on Monday last, by a resolution ably moved by Sir Richard Cartwright. During the course of his remarks, Sir Richard described Canada as now being in a state of tutelage, discreditable alike to the manly spirit of the Canadian people, and the commanding position of this great Dominion. He intimated that within the past two years, the strained relations between Canada and the United States had at one time reached a point where the slightest tension would have snapped the cords of unity and plunged us into a war with a power with which we could not expect to cope successfully. He believed that the defence of Canada would always devolve upon her own militia and volunteers, and he thought that we should no longer delay accepting our national manhood by taking upon us national responsibilities, of which the power to make treaties with foreign nations was recognized as being most important.

In replying to Sir Richard, Hon. Mr. Foster, Finance Minister, ironically observed that unrestricted reciprocity had apparently been abandoned by Sir Richard's party, and on being assured to the contrary, he said that in his speech in support of his resolution Sir Richard had spoken of the necessity of Canada having the power to make treaties with foreign countries, but that the only country to which he had referred was the United States, and that it was quite evident to his mind that unrestricted reciprocity was for the time shelved and was to be veiled by the new treaty-making policy. Hon. J. M. Davies supported the views of Sir Richard Cartwright, but after he had spoken, members appeared to have become tired of the subject and it was accordingly voted down, 94 to 66, a government majority of 28.

LEITH HOUSE.

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Wine and Spirit Merchants,

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NATIONAL COLONIZATION LOTTERY.

Under the Patronage of Rev. Father Labelle
Established in 1884, under the Act of Quebec,
32 Vict. Chap. 35, for the Benefit of
the Diocesan Societies of Colo-
nization of the Province
of Quebec.

CLASS D.

The 20th Monthly Drawing will take place
On WEDNESDAY, February 20th, 1889.
At 2 o'clock, p.m.

PRIZES VALUE, \$50,000.

Capital Prize—1 Real Estate worth \$5,000.00

LIST OF PRIZES.

1 Real Estate worth	\$5,000	\$5,000
1 Real Estate worth	2,000	2,000
1 Real Estate worth	1,000	1,000
4 Real Estates worth	500	2,000
10 Real Estates worth	300	3,000
30 Furniture Sets worth	200	6,000
60 Furniture Sets worth	100	6,000
200 Gold Watches worth	50	10,000
1000 Silver Watches worth	10	10,000
1000 Toilet Sets	5	5,000

2307 Prizes worth \$50,000.00

TICKETS \$1.00.

Offers are made to all winners to pay the prizes cash, less a commission of 10 per cent
Winners' names not published unless specially authorized.

DRAWINGS ON THE THIRD WEDNESDAY OF EVERY MONTH.

S. E. LEFEBVRE, Secretary,
OFFICES—19 ST. JAMES ST., MONTREAL, CA.

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All operations in Dentistry thoroughly performed. Teeth and Roots usually sacrificed to the forceps restored and made useful by the application of Artificial Crowns, thus avoiding a plate in the month.
Whole or partial Sets of Teeth Mounted on Gold or Vulcanite with ease and comfort to the wearer.

FARM FOR SALE.

A splendid Fruit Farm, in a first-class neighborhood. The farm consists of 70 acres of land, 60 of which is choice upland and 10 meadow. Also, a wood lot of 25 acres, 2 miles from the farm. The place cuts 30 tons of hay, and yields 200 bushels Grain, 500 or 600 bushels of Potatoes, and 200 to 300 bushels of Vegetables, besides a great quantity of small fruit and Apples. The small fruits comprise 2½ acres Strawberries, ½ acre Gooseberries, &c., 2½ acres Cranberries, planted last spring, besides 3 acres in nursery stock, containing over 20,000 young trees from 1 to 4 years old. The orchard contains 600 trees, ½ in bearing, and which yielded in 1885 25 bbls., in 1886 35 bbls., in 1887 75 bbls., and in 1888 175 bbls. Good 10 roomed house and all necessary out-buildings. Price \$3,500. Apply to

Wiltshire & Co.,
KENTVILLE.

DRY GOODS!

STAPLE & FANCY.
FOREIGN AND DOMESTIC.
GREAT VARIETY.

New Goods continually arriving at
PRICES LOWER THAN EVER,
—AT—

"The BRANCH"
JOHN W. WALLACE,
CORNER GRANVILLE & DUKE STS.

MINING.

The gold mining industry in Nova Scotia made great strides in advance last year, and the prospects of large returns this year are very bright. In September last THE CRITIC editorially called attention to the superior claims of Halifax as the place to establish a mint, and pointed out the necessity of a gold coinage for the Dominion. There is now enough gold mined in the Dominion to warrant the expense incident to such an undertaking and the matter should be pressed on the authorities at Ottawa.

The Gold Miners Club has taken up the subject, which was warmly supported by Mr. Townsend, one of its members, in one or two communications to THE CRITIC, but on the principle that "half a loaf is better than no bread," the members have determined not to ask for the establishment of a mint at once, but have drawn out petitions to both the Dominion and Local Governments asking for the establishment of a Government assay office. For a comparatively insignificant sum, the office of the Government Analyst in Halifax could be turned into a fully equipped assay office, where the gold bars of the miners could be analysed or assayed, and their value stamped upon them, thus becoming at once convertible into cash, without the delay and expense now entailed in waiting for returns from the United States mints.

Assays of ores could also be made, and with the Government stamp to prove their authenticity would become of inestimable value to all interested in any branch of mining.

We pointed out their advantage at the time, and gladly note that a decided effort is now being made to have money and authority granted by the Dominion and Local Governments to carry the scheme into effect. Petitions have been largely signed, and the demands are so modest that there is little doubt but that the Government will accede to the wishes of the petitioners.

We however still believe in the establishment of a mint at Halifax and in a Canadian gold coinage. One and a quarter millions of gold are now annually mined in the country, and this output should be doubled or quadrupled. It is not creditable to Canada, mining the amount of gold she does, that she has not a vestige of a gold coinage.

Mr. D. Touquoy at a clean up of his mill for January realized 76½ ozs. refined gold from 175 tons surface stuff and 126 tons quartz crushed. The gold was so clean and pure that the loss in refining was very small.

QUEENS CO. ITEMS, CONDENSED FROM THE "GOLD HUNTER."—The Caledonia Mining Co. of Molega are about putting up very complete works, the plans being now ready, having been prepared by Mr. G. W. Johnson of the Burrell Johnson Iron Co. of Yarmouth, who take the contract to supply the buildings and machinery complete.

The Pleasant River Gold Mining property, containing 469 acres, formerly owned by Capt. Hines and others of Bridgewater, N. S., has been purchased by Messrs. W. H. Thompson and Levi Newcomb, who intend working it as a private enterprise. A ten stamp mill will be at once erected, and the mine equipped with the most complete plant and machinery from designs by Mr. Newcomb.

WHITEBURN MINES—The last clean up of this mine yielded 100 ozs. gold from 30 tons quartz crushed.

PLEASANT RIVER—A mill run of the ore taken from the newly discovered lead in Pleasant River, near the Little Lake, yielded one-half ounce to the ton.

MILL VILLAGE.—It is reported that Mr. Duncan McPhail and a gang of about 20 men have been engaged in prospecting on the new find at Dolliver.

President Douglas of the North Brookfield and Minneapolis Mine, together with other interested parties, is now looking over his properties. Mining generally is booming in Queens Co.

Mr. Pushio, Mining Expert, is now located at Bedford, but also has an office at 60 Broadway, New York. Mr. Pushio is now doing good work in prospecting at Ardoise Hill, where he has opened a number of gold-bearing leads. He is very sanguine as to the great value of the district.

The following are the official returns so far received at the Mines' office for the month of January:

District	Mill	Tons Crushed	Ozs.
Sherbrooke	Miners	276	45½
South Uniacke	Withrow	23	92½
"	Phoenix	125	6½
Lake Catcha	Cambridge	20	12
"	Oxford	118	77
Carleton	Carleton	53	53
Salmon River	Dufferin Mining Co.	276	45½
Cariboo	Moorso River Co.	238	36½
"	Touquoy	301	76½
Whiteburn	Whiteburn Mining Co.	70	50½
"	McGuire & Co.	28	75½
Molega	Parker Douglas Co.	175	120½

* 175 Tons surface and 126 tons quartz.

Mr. John Anderson, who discovered the Chezzetcook district, and sold the Oxford Company the fine property now owned by them, is now pushing mining operations in all parts of the Province, having interests in some 26 different mining districts. In connection with Mr. Mott and others, he is now engaged in prospecting for silver about a mile or two from Musquodoboit Harbor, up the road to Meagher's Grant. A large quantity of rich ore has been struck, at least we should judge it was rich from a sample in our pos-

session. At Block House, near Mahone Bay, he is interested in a large block of areas, and these will at once be vigorously prospected. This together with works at Killag and various other parts of the Province keep Mr. Anderson on the run.

"Notes on the Nova Scotia Gold Veins," by E. Gilpin, jr., A. M., F.G.S., Inspector of Mines, Nova Scotia, is the title of a valuable paper published in the Transactions of the Royal Society of Canada, and read May 28, 1888. It is impossible to do justice to this paper by an attempt to summarize its contents. In it Mr. Gilpin gives the results of his observations and experience and throws much light on the probable formation of our gold veins. It is a paper that should be widely circulated and read, as some erroneous theories are exploded and many valuable hints are given in it. Every gold miner should have a copy.

W. & C. SILVER. MANUFACTURERS OF CLOTHING.

New Fall Suitings just opened, Scotch and Canadian Tweeds, Nova Scotia Homespun, &c., &c., SUITS MADE TO ORDER.

UNDERCLOTHING IN GREAT VARIETY. GEORGE STREET, - HALIFAX, N. S.

SOUTH-END Door, Sash & Moulding Factory & Planing Mills, 81 & 83 PLEASANT STREET, HALIFAX, N. S., E. GIBSON & SONS, - - - Proprietors.

Doors, Sashes, Frames, Mouldings, Planing, Tongue and Grooving, Turning, Scroll Sawing, Band Sawing, Etc., Etc.,

And every description of work usually done in a first-class Factory. Estimates furnished for every description of work. Every facility for loading direct from the wharf. Orders from the Country promptly attended to. TELEPHONE NO. 130.

EXTENSIVE GOLD MINE FOR SALE.

To be sold at public auction by the undersigned, at the Merchants' Exchange, in the City of Halifax, on Thursday, the Fourteenth day of March next, at twelve o'clock, noon:

That extensive, valuable, and well-equipped GOLD MINE, known as the Dufferin Gold Mine, situate on the Atlantic coast, about ninety miles east of said City. Daily mail from Halifax. Telegraph office at Salmon River, four miles from the works. Salmon River harbor never freezes, and is safe and easy of access. The Mine embraces 342 acres, each 150x250 feet, all in one block. The entire area measures fifteen hundred feet in width across, and eight thousand five hundred and fifty feet along the lodes. The leases have nearly fourteen years to run, and can at any time be renewed for a period of twenty-one years upon payment of two dollars per acre. Within this area is a belt of veins dipping on each side of an anticline. They have been found, by tests made on the surface, to extend upwards of 4,000 feet. The ore has been partially removed to a depth of 201 feet over a distance of about 700 feet, and to a depth averaging about 70 feet over an additional 1,000 feet in length or thereabouts. The veins are of various widths, the largest averaging about 10 feet of gold quartz.

The Mine was discovered in the autumn of 1880, but was not worked to any extent until the autumn of 1881. It has yielded up to the end of November 31,012 ounces of gold from 61,508 tons of quartz, according to the sworn returns made to the Mines Office. The gold can be produced at a cost which will leave a very handsome margin of profit.

The Mine is operated by machinery worked by water power, the power being transmitted by a line of wire rope running from the water wheel to the Mine—a distance of about 4,750 feet—and lying parallel to the outcrop of said veins, at a distance therefrom of about 50 feet. The Salmon River crosses the property twice. It supplies the hoisting and pumping power, and the same water is afterwards used to drive the crusher. The latter has 33 stamps, and there is ample water power to operate three times that number. Sixty stamps can be operated with present machinery. Of the 120 horse-power existing for pumping and hoisting only about twenty five is used. There are about 700 acres of well timbered and well watered land owned with the Mine. This partly covers the areas, and where it does not immediately adjoins them. It is also provided with a steam plant to operate hoisting gear and pumps in case of accident to the transmission power, a sawmill, sufficient for the requirements of the property, a tramway from the Mine to the crusher for carrying quartz, and stables, offices and boarding houses sufficient to accommodate a large number of employees.

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**ORIGIN AND MODE OF OCCURRENCE OF GOLD-BEARING VEINS
AND OF THE ASSOCIATED MINERALS.**

By JONATHAN C. B. P. SEAVER, C. E., F. G. S. &c.

The honeycomb quartz is doubtless the result of the decomposition of
the pyrites, the resulting limonite having been dissolved out and probably
redeposited with other matter in open fissures to form parts of the bands of
ironstone described before. Every stage of the change can be illustrated
by specimens from the mine, the quartz charged with minute crystals of
pyrites giving place to a quartz in which crystals of pyrites yet
exist, but which is cavernous in places, and this again passes insensibly
into skeletons of silica, the evident result of the complete extraction
of the iron. The lode formation has been greatly denuded along the greater
part of its course, the country being cut into deep gullies, and steep ridges
which cross it at about right angles to its strike, and head from the mountains
capped with "desert sandstone," which bound the auriferous belt to the west.

Most of these gullies have been worked for alluvial deposits, and yielded
rich returns many years ago, the gold which was obtained in them having
doubtless been principally derived from the wearing away of this auriferous
belt of country, some of the richest finds occurring just about where the
line of the lode formation crossed the gullies worked.

Mount Morgan, standing as it does some five hundred feet above these
gullies, is evidently a portion of the lode bearing formation that has not
been so much denuded as the surrounding country, but on the same line,
and at a distance of four miles away a similar undenuded area is found
which also carries gold, but not so far as yet proved in the same quantities,
and other smaller patches also exist.

The gold obtained from the Mt. Morgan Mine is of a purer quality than
any ever known to have been found before in nature, and the yields from
the ore consisting of the ironstone and porous quartz is something enormous.
The hill is being worked from the top like a quarry, and to the width of
over two hundred feet, some of the ore giving as high as from 4 to 10 ounces
of gold to the ton. Tunnels have also been put in to test lower levels.

The laminated layers of quartz in some parts of the workings have
the appearance of having been cracked and fractured into minute irregular
fissures, and these fissures filled in with silica from solution.

The process at present used to treat the ore is that of chlorination, the
gold being of too fine a quality to save successfully by the ordinary methods
of treating auriferous ores.

No metals are known to occur in the ore excepting the iron and gold,
and a small quantity of manganese.

(Space forbids us to follow the author in his lengthy description of the
gold veins of New South Wales, of New Zealand and South Australia,
and we will pass on to his description of some of the most noted mines in
the United States and Venezuela—Editor)

Of gold veins in other parts of the world, those of the United States
hold the greatest prominence, and the "Comstock Lode" is certainly the most
remarkable auriferous one in that country, and one of the most remarkable
in the world. It is situated in the State of Nevada, and occurs upon the
side of a diorite hill named Mount Davison. It occupies for part of its
course a line of contact between diorite and diabase rock, but further
north is contained wholly in diabase, and to the south it just touches
metamorphic rock on one side while being bounded on the other by diabase.
It has been traced for a distance of over four miles in a nearly due N. and
S. direction, and it dips towards the East at an angle of about 45 degrees,
and has a general thickness of from 20 to 60 feet. The fissure upon which
it has formed is a line of fault. Its vein matter consists of country rock,
clay, and quartz, all of which have been much crushed, probably due to the
moving of the walls of the fissure on each other. A great heat commenced
to prevail in the lower levels of the workings on this lode, which were over
3,000 feet in depth, and I understand that this has so much increased of
late that the miners are unable to work for any length of time.

This lode has yielded enormous returns, over \$300,000,000 worth of
bullion having been taken from it up to 1st June, 1880, and of this
\$175,000,000 was silver and the remainder gold; \$115,871,000 of this had
been paid in dividends.

Some very interesting investigations connected with metalliferous lodes
have been made at these mines, to some of which I shall refer further on in
my dissertation on the origin of quartz veins and other auriferous lodes.

The Bassick Mine in Colorado, in the United States, is certainly one
unequaled for its peculiarities in any other part of the world. It consists
of a hill of trachyte and feldspathic conglomerate above 200 feet above the
surrounding country. In this hill is an irregular fissure, elliptical in
horizontal section, and about 100 feet long by 20 feet wide; it has been
followed for over 800 feet downwards. The ore in this fissure is composed
of concentric layers surrounding individual worn and rounded boulders of
country rock. The boulders are from the size of small pebbles to two feet
in diameter, and the ore that surrounds them is in three or sometimes four
layers. The first layer consists of sulphides of zinc, antimony and lead,
with about 60 ounces of silver, and from one to three ounces of gold to the
ton. The next layer contains more lead, silver and gold than the last,—
frequently as much as 100 ounces of gold, and 150 to 200 ounces of silver
per ton. The third layer consists of blend, with from 60 to 120 ounces of
silver and 15 to 50 ounces of gold to the ton. The fourth layer, when it
occurs, is formed of chalcopyrite, (copper pyrites,) and varies much.

Near the centre of the deposit the boulders are larger, and the layers of
ore thicken, and contain more of the precious metal; but the boulders
gradually become smaller, and the layers of ore thinner and poorer, as the
sides of the fissure are approached, until they merge into a pebbly con-
glomerate in a feldspathic base and from thence into the country rock trachyte.

(To be Continued.)

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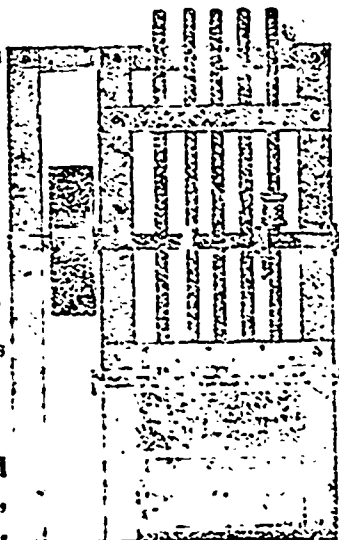
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HOME AND FARM.

HORSE-FEED, (Continued).—BROOD MARES.—The brood mare should be fed so as to give a good supply of milk for the colt. This is the primary object in feeding her. If she is working—and work, if not too heavy and exhausting, does not hurt her—she will require food not only to supply milk for the colt, but also enough to supply the waste of muscle and keep her in good condition. The mare's milk is very rich in muscle-producing matter, and, of course, she must obtain that from her food; and therefore, her food should consist of a large percentage of albuminoids. The following is a good ration for mares weighing from 1000 to 1200 pounds, but if larger the amount should be increased:—7 lbs. cut clover hay, 7 lbs. cut oat straw, 3 lbs. gr. oats, 3 lbs. bran, 3 lbs. gr. oil-cake, and twice a week, 6 lbs. roots. The hay and straw should be moistened and mixed with the oats, bran and oil-cake. This ration is strong in albuminoids, and, therefore, a good ration for a mare to give milk on. It is very important that the mare should be well fed, so that the colt will have sufficient milk to grow rapidly and develop fully. The muscle and bone is what makes the colt so useful an animal. Another good ration is:—14 lbs. cut hay and straw, mixed, 6 lbs. pulped roots, 2 lbs. peameal, 2 lbs. chopped oats, 2 lbs. bran. If the mare is worked, increase the quantity of oats and peas. The turnips, if pulped and mixed with the hay, straw and meal, are not so cold, and keep the bowels laxative enough for health.

THE COLT.—The mare's milk is the best food for the young colt, and if the mare does not give sufficient she should be fed, to produce more milk, on such foods as clover hay, bran, gr. oil-cake, roots, &c., &c. If still she does not give enough milk, then cow's milk should be given to the colt, at first in small quantities, and sweetened, as the mare's milk is much sweeter than the cow's. Half a pint of cow's milk given five or six times a day to a colt four or five days old, is enough for a time, but the quantity should gradually be increased. As soon as the colt learns to take cow's milk it should not be sweetened. When the colt is old enough to eat, ground oats and oil-cake, mixed together, or half a pint of flax-seed boiled with two quarts of wheat-bran, should be given to it. The quality of the bone and muscle depends, to a great extent, on the food given when young. In many parts of the States colts are fed on corn, which has the effect of making them tender footed; the bone is not good, and the muscles are flabby. They cannot endure hard or prolonged work, although they look fat and sleek. This is due in a great measure to the superabundance of fat and carbo-hydrates in corn and the want of muscle-producing matter in it. This turns out to be a serious defect in horses, and renders many of them useless for hard work. Later on the colt may be fed cut hay and straw, roots, gr. oats, gr. oil cake, and bran. There is no danger of colts growing too rapidly on healthy foods and well-balanced rations. However, if fed injudiciously, as on corn-meal, or pea-meal, with loose straw or hay, they may show bad results. Dry pea meal or corn-meal given to colts, mares or horses, is very apt to form into a so id cake or mass in the stomach, so that the gastric juice cannot act properly upon it, and soon disease results from this. If the same foods were mixed with something to keep them from forming into a mass, they would be all right and perfectly safe to feed. Corn meal and pea meal, unless in very small quantities, are not good for young, growing colts.

OUR COSY CORNER.

Among other "combines" detrimental to the consumer—or let us say, in this case, the employer—is one from which the ladies of Halifax suffer a good deal of vexation and annoyance, if not actual loss. It is the "combine" of a very large proportion of the Dressmakers of the city, to charge good, if not exceedingly high, prices for very bad work. So marked is this feature that there would be no want of instances, were information required, of ladies having their material spoiled from gross misfits in the making up, arising from sheer carelessness as to measure and instructions. So much has this been felt that when, at the instance, we believe, of some ladies who had been sufferers from this off hand coolness, a prominent dry goods firm of the city ordered out from England a quantity of ready made up skirts, they were, we have heard, waited upon by a number of dressmakers with indignant protests against "taking the bread out of their mouths." Now such a desire would be far from the minds of the ladies of Halifax, who are, as a rule, extremely kind-hearted, considerate and charitable; but it cannot be expected that they can put up with the frequent utter disregard of the quality of the work for which they pay exceedingly good prices, without protest. If that protest were to take the form of information, in quarters where skilful and conscientious work women are numerous and ill paid, that Halifax would afford a good field for some of them, the careless and exacting of the class under consideration would be justly subjected to a competition (the thing, of all others, which they are not alone in Halifax in dreading) brought on them by their own wilful disregard of business conscientiousness. It is nothing less than shameful that a lady should have to pay five, six or seven dollars for getting a dress made, and find when it is sent home that, despite apparently careful measurements and precise instructions, the body either will not meet, or on the other hand, it would be easy to get in or out of it without unbuttoning it, the material has been wasted, and the greater part of the work has to be ripped and made over again at home, under the fear that to send it back will only make bad worse.

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CHESS.

All communications for this department should be addressed—**CHESS EDITOR,** Windsor, N. S.

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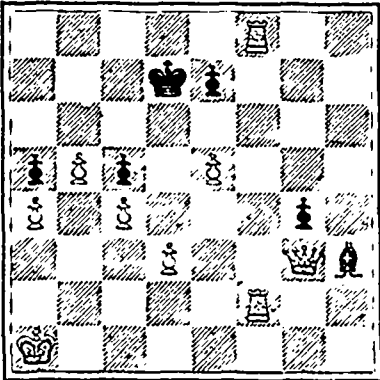
Correct solution to Problem No. 67 received from Mrs. H. Moseley, too late for insertion in last issue.

This Problem (67) won 2nd prize in the Andrews Memorial Tournament.

PROBLEM No. 70

By Jan Katrc, Bohemia.
1st prize Andrews Memorial Tournament.

BLACK—6 pieces.



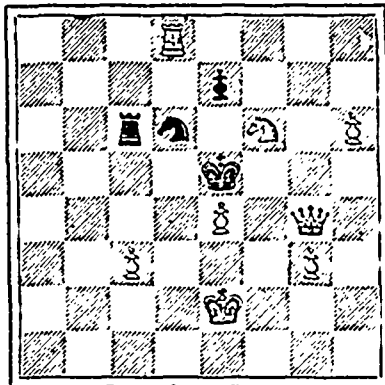
WHITE—9 pieces.

White to play and mate in 3 moves.

PROBLEM No. 71.

Dr. Tina.

BLACK—4 pieces.



WHITE—8 pieces.

White to play and mate in 2 moves.

GAME No. 51.

- | | |
|-----------------|----------------|
| WHITE. | BLACK. |
| Steinitz. | Tschigorin, |
| 1 Kt to KB3 | Kt to KB3 |
| 2 P to Q4 | P to Q4 |
| 3 P to QB4 | P to K3 |
| 4 Kt to QB | P to QB3? |
| 5 P to K3 | B to Q3 |
| 6 B to Q3 | QKt to Q2 |
| 7 Castles | Castles |
| 8 P to K4 | QP takes K |
| 9 Kt takes K1 | Kt takes Kt |
| 10 B takes Kt | P to KR3 |
| 11 B to QB2 | R to K1 |
| 12 R to K1 | Q to KB3 |
| 13 B to Q2 | Kt to B1 |
| 14 B to QB3 | B to Q2 |
| 15 P to QB5 | B to QKt |
| 16 P to Q5 | Q to B1 (weak) |
| 17 P to Q6 | P to QR13 |
| 18 P to QKt | P to K13 |
| 19 Q to Q3 | P to QR4 |
| 20 P to QR3 | P to K4 |
| 21 Kt to R4 | KtP takes P |
| 22 KtP takes BP | B to QR2 |
| 23 QR to Q1 | B takes BP |
| 24 Q to B4, ch | Kt to K3 |
| 25 Q to K4 | Kt to B1 |
| 26 Q to B4, ch | Kt to K3 |
| 27 B to Kkt | Q to QK13 |

- | | |
|----------------------|------------|
| 28 R to K2 | KR to QK |
| 29 R to QKt | Q to R2 |
| 30 B to KB5 | K to B2 |
| 31 R to K2 | Q to QR3? |
| 32 Q to KKt4 | Kt to B5?? |
| 33 R takes KP | P takes R |
| 34 QB takes P | P to KKt4 |
| 35 B to Kt6, ch | Kt to B1 |
| 36 Q takes B | Q to QR2 |
| 37 Q to KB5, ch | K to Kt1 |
| 38 P to Q7 and wins. | |

Mr. T. Taverner, of Bolton, Eng., sends the following interesting item to the Wilkesbarre Record: "On Thursday last Mr. Donnishorpe, the well-known chess player, was at the British Chess Club in London. Being a practical joker, he took the first half dozen pieces on the board and placed them one after the other, haphazard, on the KKts file and then announced mate with the pawn in seven moves. Messrs. Gausburg, Mortimer and Guest tried to solve it, under the idea (conveyed by Mr. D. for a joke) that it was a bona fide position of Kletts. Imagine Mr. Donnishorpe's surprise when a mate was discovered in exactly seven moves, and only one solution. The position is published in Monday's Morning Post as follows: White—P at Kt2, K at Kt3, Q at Kt4, Kt at Kt 5 and B at Kt 6—5 pieces; Black K at KKt sq—1 piece. White to play and mate with the pawn in seven moves. The Morning Post vouches for the accuracy of the whole affair. Mr. D. calls the position a miracle and asks mathematicians to say what are the odds against the feat ever being repeated. He says the odds are infinitely greater than against a whist player having all the thirteen trumps.

DRAUGHTS-CHECKERS

All Checker communications and exchanges should be addressed to W. Forsyth, 36 Grafton Street, Halifax.

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.

TO CORRESPONDENTS.

GEORGE J. ABBOTT, P. O. box 130, Pictou.—We are pleased to greet you as another lover of the game added to our list of solvers. The dozen entries required by us to establish the correspondence tourney were not made, and we have abandoned the plan.

Mr. Abbott would like to play a few games by post card with any of our readers.

S. GRANVILLE, Halifax.—If you can show a sound black win in Problem 88 you will be entitled to two points, which we have already promised for any corrections shown by our solvers.

SOLUTIONS.

PROBLEM 89.—We regret to note that an error occurred in our statement of the terms of this Problem. They should have read white to move and win—not black. We therefore refrain from giving the solution at present so as to give our solvers time to work on it.

PROBLEM 90.—The position was black kings 10, 32; white man 24, king 12; white to play, what result?
24 20 2-10-15 16 12 23-18
1-32-27 20 16 15-10 21 25
12 8 27-23 8 11 drawn.

VAR. I.
10-15 16 11 19-15 7 3
20 16 32-27 12 8 15-10
15-19 11 7 27-23 8 11
drawn.

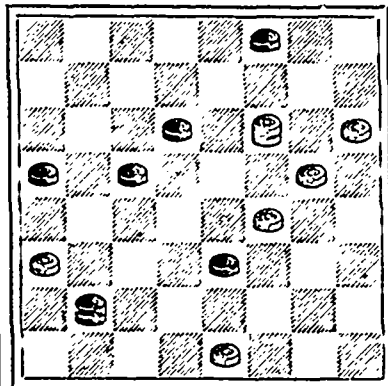
VAR. II.
27-23 23-18 18-23
* 8 11 20 16 *16 12 drawn.
* Only moves to draw.

We have not as yet received a single correct solution to this problem.

A CHECKER MATCH.—Negotiations have been in progress for some little time between Messrs. W. Forsyth, of this city, and Henry Gaskin, of St. John, with a view to arranging a match. The gentlemen have each been champions of their respective provinces for several years. These negotiations resulted in the two champions agreeing to play in Halifax for the championship of the Maritime Provinces, and a purse of \$400—Mr. Forsyth to allow Mr. Gaskin \$30 for expenses. Fifty games to be played—wins and draws to count. Play was begun on Wednesday morning in a room in the Queen Hotel, kindly loaned by Mr. Shoraton. In the morning session four games were played, of which Forsyth won two, and the other two were drawn. In the afternoon session four games were also played. Of these Forsyth won three and Gaskin one. The score thus stood at the close of the first day as follows.—Forsyth 5, Gaskin 1, drawn 2. Thursday morning Forsyth won one, Gaskin one, and one game was drawn.

PROBLEM No. 93.

End of a game recently had between two Halifax players.
Black men 3, 10, 13, 14, 23, kg. 25.

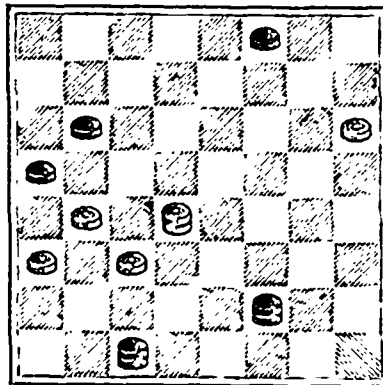


White men 12, 16, 19, 21, 31, kg. 11.

White to move. What result? Wishing to draw out a complete analysis of this position, we will give three points to any person giving the best and most comprehensive solution.

PROBLEM No. 94.

By W. Brooks, Dartmouth, being the end of a game begun and played to this point, between W. Forsyth, Jr., and H. Moseley, both of Dartmouth.
Black men 3, 9, 13, kgs. 27, 30.



White men 12, 17, 21, 22, kg. 18.
Black to move and win.

This is a very neat ending, and we give Mr. Brooks full credit for his very complete solution.

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.
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