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THE CRITIC.

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The editor of THE CRITIC is responsible for the news 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 his 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.

Fashions are fancies, and hence their constant change. The world is just now threatened with the Chinese style of coiffure. Several ladies in Halifax have already adopted this new or old method of dressing the hair; and, whether becoming or not, we presume everybody will have to follow the fashion and pronounce it "just lovely."

A German scientist attributes the recent earthquakes in Italy and other violent disturbances to the influence of the sun and moon on the earth, and predicts further disturbances every month this year. The most violent will occur in September and October, but will not necessarily be earthquakes, but may be simply gales and unusually heavy rainfalls.

A curious strike is now going on among the priests in the Island of Chios. The people in some of the parishes have refused to pay their tithes, and the Bishop of Chios, according to the usages of the Orthodox Greek Church, has placed them under an interdict, whereby the priests are forbidden to baptize, marry, or bury the dead. The parishioners have appealed to the Sultan of Turkey for a settlement of the differences. Abdul Hamid has no love for Christian dogs, but he will probably insist upon their paying the priests that which they are justly entitled to receive.

As will be seen by reference to our advertisement THE CRITIC purposes issuing a special Jubilee number, the contributors to which are all natives or residents of the Maritime Provinces. The names of many of the writers are well-known both in Canada and the United States, and the reputation of these is in itself sufficient to ensure an enormous sale for this special number. We have aimed at making it one of the best specials that has ever been brought out in the Maritime Provinces, and that we have succeeded in making it such will, we believe, be very generally acknowledged as soon as the Jubilee number is placed upon sale.

A history of Mexico, by Mrs. Fanny Chambers Gooch, will shortly be published by a New York house. The writer spent six years in Mexico studying Mexican life, and as, through the kindness of President Diaz, she has had access to the Mexican Archives, her book will probably both surprise and interest the reader. President Diaz is delighted with Mrs. Gooch's success and intends having her history, which he considers most authentic, translated into Spanish for the use of the Mexican people. Lady historians were known in Japan before the Norman Conquest of England, but among Anglo-Saxon and Anglo-Americans they have never taken a prominent place.

The battalions of the "White Czar" are composed of men drawn from thirty distinct nationalities, who do not even have the common bond of religion to unite them, there being Greeks and Roman Catholics, Jews, Israelites and Pagans in the ranks. Military service is obligatory in Russia, each conscript who comes up to the required standard of five feet in height being obliged to serve ten years. Exceptions are made in the case of persons who have received instruction in the schools, a term of four years being required from those who can show a certificate of having passed through the primary schools, of eighteen months for those who have taken a course in the high schools, and six months for those who have graduated from the University.

The hardships which our forefathers had to undergo in felling the forest primeval, and in making homes for themselves in the New World, have made us more practical and less superstitious than we otherwise might have been, but even in this country we find traces of that traditional water-worship, which a study of early English customs and Danish folk-lore would lead us to believe was at one time very general in Europe. Wishing-wells and wishing-springs are not unknown in Nova Scotia, and even the fair Acadian maiden has been known to pin cross straws and throw them into the water, eagerly counting the bubbles—each of which is supposed to denote a year—and their number their years before she may be married.

Stanley, before leaving Zanzibar for the relief of Emin Bey, made an arrangement with Tippu-Tib and six hundred of his followers to proceed by steamer round the Cape of Good Hope and up the Congo to Stanley Falls, from thence Tippu-Tib and his company are to push on to Lake Albert, where Emin Bey and his black garrison are now located. Upon Stanley's arrival at Lake Albert the force from Stanley Falls is to be employed in transporting to the Congo River the seventy-five tons of ivory which Emin Bey has collected. Tippu-Tib's freight charges are thirty dollars per loaded load, and he expects to transfer the ivory to Stanley Falls in three, or at the most four round trips. The ivory is valued at \$300,000.

The new Irish land bill is somewhat vague in its provisions, and it is not probable that it will at all meet the exigencies of the case. Under it primogeniture is abolished, and arrangements are made for the transfer of land by a cheap registration. While it makes no provision for a reduction in the judicial rent it provides that landlords may enter into a new lease with insolvent tenants, or annul the leases and appoint the tenants as simple care-takers of the properties upon which they may dwell. The abolition of primogeniture and cheap registration are the good features in the new bill, but it is certainly a doubtful expedient to allow an insolvent tenant to take out a new lease on better terms than those of the old lease, while solvent tenants cannot secure a fair reduction in rents. Virtually, it is a premium on insolvency, instead of a straightforward reduction in rent-charges.

A military paper, *The Broad Arrow*, complains vigorously of the system under which retirements on age are conducted in the British Army, arguing that age is no test of efficiency, mentally or bodily. Many men at 50 are more physically fit for hard work than others at 30; still the physically fit man of 36 is forced to go on a pension, his place being taken by a man younger, it is true, but not of the same stamina. The number of strong, active, intelligent officers at the present moment pensioned or half paid is a scandal to the country, and a crying injustice to the taxpayers. Let the army be kept up, nay, let it be increased, but do not, whilst officers are still in the prime of life, force them to retire from the service and try to exist on a beggarly pittance. If an officer is unfit to serve at 25, pension him; if he is fit physically to serve at 60, retain him, no matter what his rank.

TAXES AND TAXATION.

The Jews appear to have had a strong aversion to the tax-gatherers, and all down the ages men have been endeavoring to avoid taxation; and many and bitter have been the controversies which have taken place upon the imposition of new taxes. During the time when England was at war, and had to face fearful odds, her statesmen have been at their wits' ends to devise means for replenishing the depleted treasury, and many expedients were resorted to which we would deem very peculiar, if not indefensible. During Queen Elizabeth's reign, a tax of one shilling per annum was imposed upon all persons refusing to attend the Church of England services, and in the reign of King William III, a tax varying from 50c. to \$150, was levied according to rank upon the parents at the birth of each child, while bachelors and widowers without children, were reminded of their duty by the annual tax, which they were called upon to pay for their "single blessedness." In the latter part of the last century, when England was engaged in the Napoleonic struggle, the ministers were at their wits' ends to raise money; and hence almost everything was taxed; the very window glass

through which the houses were lighted was levied upon for its contribution towards the revenue. But as if not satisfied with what could be extracted from the living, a tax was imposed upon the funerals of the dead, which the relatives or friends of the deceased were obliged to pay before the body could receive a decent burial. These taxes were indeed peculiar, and would certainly not be tolerated in any civilized country in the present day. But even we, at this time, find it difficult to agree upon any system of taxation that will not be regarded by a section of our people as both unjust and indefensible. Theoretically, direct taxation for the purposes of government is the best method for raising a revenue; but in practice, the levying of customs and excise duties is found to cause less friction, and to be more sure of collection. This is probably because few men stop to think when they are purchasing an article, that 15, 20, or even 30 per cent of its cost is directly paid by him into the federal treasury; nor does he realize that almost everything he wears, much that he eats, many of the implements he uses, and indeed the books he reads, all cost more, in consequence of the tax which is levied upon them as imports. With municipal taxation most people are familiar, it taking the form of direct assessment; school taxes, road taxes, county taxes, and poor rates, have a meaning in dollars and cents, compared with which a federal tax of 20 per cent ad valorem, or 25 per cent specific duty, conveys but a hazy idea; but the very fact that the payment of our municipal taxes is compulsory, makes it important that in devising any plan of assessment the law should be framed so as to distribute the burden of taxation equitably, so that it may fall alike on rich and poor, on the producer and the consumer, and on the idle as well as the employed. In conversing with a merchant of Halifax a few days since, he told us that he had known a man who was actually not worth a penny, to be called upon to pay in taxes \$750 for the property which stood in his name; but although it may seem an anomaly that a penniless man should be taxed for such a large sum, it must be remembered that it is not the man but the property that is taxed, and that the person who is the nominal owner is liable for the amount, failing which, the municipality has a first lien upon the property itself. While speaking upon this question of taxation, we would remind our readers, that at the next session of the Legislature, an Assessment Bill will probably be introduced, and as the question of equitable assessment is both intricate and perplexing, it behoves every taxpayer to give the matter most careful study, and weigh well the words of those who have investigated the question from every standpoint. Several questions may be considered; such, for example, as these:—Should the farmer be taxed upon his live stock and farm produce? Should the holders of mortgages be taxed upon the same? Should the capital of a bank be taxed, and likewise the income of its shareholders? These and other questions, bearing upon assessment, we purpose discussing at length in subsequent issues; and we shall cheerfully open our columns to those who have anything worth publishing upon the subject, whether they agree or disagree with the remarks we make editorially.

DEFECTIVE WEAPONS.

The publication of "Valentine Vox" had considerable effect in rousing and directing public reprobation to the horrors of old time Lunatic Asylums; "Nicholas Nickleby" extinguished the Yorkshire schools, in which boys were, in a manner, farmed out like the poor of Digby; "Bleak House" dealt a heavy blow to the slow tortures of Chancery; but Stiggins and Chadband still flourish, and Little Dorritt failed to affect the art of "How not to do it," except, as it would seem, to transform it into bolder superior science of "doing it" in the worst possible way, and with the utmost possible combination of audacity, stupidity, and venality.

It used to be the custom of Englishmen to arrogate to themselves a certain standard of purity in public affairs, but recent revelations leave but little doubt of the extent of corrupt influences in Ordnance, Naval and Military management. This evil influence assumes its strongest form in the interests of contractors, and it is unhappily combined with that slowness and perversity of perception in public offices which leads to the persistent selection of bad models and methods. The highest inventors are generally snubbed and worn out with vexatious delays, and the official mean traditions of sucking the brains of originators, and adapting parts of their inventions to weave into a bad patchwork with old patterns—as has lately been done with Dr Oliver's excellent knapsack—are not yet exploded.

The bursting of great guns has shown how the mismanagement in the most important branches of the Ordnance Department, and we are now again indebted to the *Times* for a description of the shameful ignorance and carelessness which has palmed off on the Navy over 87,000 worthless cutlasses and sword-bayonets. On this point, let the *Times* speak for itself:—

"At last we know the whole story of the defective cutlasses and sword bayonets supplied to the Navy, and a very discreditable story it is to all parties concerned. The committee recently appointed to inquire into the matter have reported 'that they believe that the converted cutlasses and cutlass sword bayonets, pattern 1871, with which the Navy is now for the most part armed, are absolutely inefficient, untrustworthy, and unfit for service.' This is bad enough, but, bad as it is, it is by no means the worst part of the story. The original design of the pattern of 1871 is declared to have been deficient in strength. 'It is extraordinary,' says the committee, 'that so weak a pattern as that of 1871 should have been designed for use as a bayonet, and that it should have been accepted as efficient by the naval authorities.' The original design being bad, the execution was still worse. No less than 83,577 weapons of this defective design were provided for the service by the conversion of arms of an older pattern. This conversion was effected partly by grinding, and partly by the correction of the

curve of the original weapons through the agency of heat. The conversion was carried out under different authorities by workmen entirely unskilled in the delicate art of sword-making, and without any regard to the original character of the manufacture and material of the unconverted weapons; and the weapons, when converted, were tested in a wholly inadequate manner. 'No sufficient or exhaustive inquiry was made as to the saving likely to be effected by this conversion, and the committee feel bound to record their conclusion that the conversion of these cutlasses and cutlass sword bayonets was a most unwise step.' In other words, the original design was bad even for new weapons, and still worse for converted weapons; the policy of conversion was unwise, and not even economical; the process of conversion was clumsily conceived and unskillfully performed; the tests applied to the converted weapons were totally inadequate; and the net result is disastrous and disgraceful failure, which it will cost the country no less than £26,000 to remedy by such temporary expedients as can be adopted at once. The committee are very chary of apportioning blame, probably because they felt that there was nothing but blame to be apportioned to all parties concerned. The War Office designs a bad weapon, the Admiralty accepts the design; the War Office makes it badly, and tests it inadequately, and it is then issued for service. This process has been going on ever since 1871, and we have only just made the discovery that the weapon, designed, manufactured, and tested by the War Office and accepted by the Admiralty 'is absolutely inefficient, untrustworthy, and unfit for service.' No one is blamed, though the system which periodically substitutes one incapable official for another is mildly censured, and the country is expected tamely to bear the burden imposed upon it by these disgraceful blunders. The War Office at first stood proudly on its defence; it professed to be shocked at the suspicion thrown by the Admiralty on its precious tests. The weapons could not be bad, it declared, if they still satisfied the tests which were held to be satisfactory in 1871. It now appears that the War Office is the chief offender. Its tests are declared to be wholly inadequate; its designs are bad, and its execution worse. What security have we that matters will be any better in future?"

ITALIAN LABORERS FOR THE C. B. RAILWAY.

For years the inhabitants of the Island of Cape Breton have been urging through the Press and on the floors of the Provincial and Federal Parliaments, their unquestioned rights to railway communication with the continent. For years these rights have been made the foot-ball of party, and the people have had to be satisfied with sops in the form of promissory resolutions. But at length the Dominion Government, recognizing its duty, adopted a railway policy, which, it was claimed, would be of immense advantage to Cape Breton. The railway was to be built from the Strait of Canso to Sydney, or Louisburg, as a Government work, and was to be operated as a part of the Intercolonial, thus insuring to the people of the Island low freight charges and moderate passenger rates. But the construction of this great public work was to be of immediate value to Cape Bretonians. All classes of labor were to be benefited by the employment which its construction would afford, and the wages earned would help to ease the somewhat tight money market which at present exists. Shop-keepers with long unsettled accounts, and farmers who had produce to sell, looked forward to the building of this railway as a red-letter day in the history of the Island, for they knew well, that when their own people were paid off, they would settle up back accounts, and pay liberal—not starvation—prices for the products of the farm. But these prospective good times are, it appears, not to be realized; the Government has done its duty in voting the subsidy for the road, and in letting out the contract to well-known and thoroughly reliable men. The contractors have likewise done their duty in sub-letting the building of sections of the road to men who have good reputations as railway contractors; but three sub-contractors have committed a grave mistake in importing foreign laborers for the work of construction, instead of employing the home labor which might have been obtained without difficulty. There may be some excuse for contractors building railways in the far West importing cheap Italian labor, but all things considered, there is not the shadow of an excuse for their doing so in Cape Breton. If the foreign laborers were more skilled, more industrious, more honest, and more temperate than the hardy sons of Cape Breton, we might see some reason for their bringing these men into the Province; but considering that in these respects they fall far below the Cape Bretonians, we believe that the employment of the foreigners is not only a mistake, but will prove to be an absolute hindrance to the speedy prosecution of the work. If our protective policy is worth anything, it should protect labor as well as industries. If the products of the pauperized labor of Europe cannot enter our ports free of duty, and compete with our home products on an equal footing, neither should the pauperized labor of Europe be allowed to underbid native labor in our labor markets. From a purely economical standpoint the sub-contractors on the Cape Breton railway will certainly lose money in the long run by not employing the labor that was to hand; but, unfortunately, the inhabitants of Cape Breton are not only to lose the direct benefits that would follow from the employment of their own people, but during the construction of the railway they will have to tolerate in the land a band of Ishmaelitic navvies, whose dishonesty and general low moral standing is proverbial, and seldom fails to have a baneful influence upon the people among whom they are thrown. Cape Breton skill and Cape Breton muscle is worth a fair percentage more than that of the swarthy Italians. But the sons of Cape Breton have the right to ask, that before employing strangers, the sub-contractors should offer to native labor the same wage as that offered to foreign labor, otherwise they will be doing an injustice to many honest, capable men.

CHIT-CHAT AND CHUCKLES.

A Spaniard has turned the whole Bible into poetry, 200,000 stanzas.
The Czar of Russia receives the largest salary of any ruler, \$10,000,000 annually.

Pointed finger nails are now held to be inconsistent with real refinement and gentility.—*Sat. Evening Gazette.*

The flea, grasshopper and locust jump two hundred times their own length, equal to a quarter of a mile for a man.

A lady was asked.—“At what age were you married?” She was equal to the emergency, and quietly responded, “At the parsonage.”

“PUBLICANS AND SINNERS.”—The recent adulterators of beer were real specimens of “publicans and sinners,” without a single pint in their favor.—*Punch.*

Employer: “James, here is a letter for you from the dead letter office” James (in agony): “Then it’s from my son. He’s bin sick for weeks, and I’ve bin expectin’ this every day.”

Theatrical Manager: “The only thing in Rome that reminded me of home was the Catacombs.”

Friend: “In what respect?”
Manager: “They were just full of dead heads.”

The Duke and Duchess of Connaught have both been gaining the hearts of the natives by conversing with them in Hindustani. The Duke, it seems, is fluent, and the Duchess studies two hours a day with a “Mooushee,” and is able to converse with native ladies at receptions.

It is told of a good-humored celebrity that when a man once stood before him and his friend in the theatre, completely shutting out all of the stage, instead of asking him to sit down, or in any way giving offence, he simply said, “I beg your pardon, sir, but when you see or hear anything particularly interesting on the stage, will you let us know, as we are entirely dependent on your kindness.” That was sufficient.

There are at present about one hundred and eight female medical students attending the lectures of the Paris Faculty. Some of these are English and some American, but the majority are Russian. Very few Frenchwomen are among the number. Many of the Russian female students are a curious and rather unkempt lot. They live in a primitive kind of place at the back of the observatory, using one large room as their study and dormitory. Some of them are married and have children.

THE BLUE GLASS CRAZE.—The blue glass craze of several years ago numbered among its victims Mrs. Ruth Smith, a wealthy lady of Bridgport, Conn. She caused to be built on the southeast corner of her house a room composed entirely of blue glass, into which the sun streams the entire day. Mrs. Smith wears blue glass spectacles, dresses in blue silk and has her meals brought to this novel room on dishes of blue glass, where she eats, sleeps and lives. It is stated that she has not been out of her glass home more than ten minutes at a time in eight years, during which period she has never felt a pain or an ache of the slightest description.—*Chicago Times.*

SALT.—A morning hand bath in cold salt water is delightfully invigorating.

Warm salt water inhaled through the nostrils will cure cold and catarrh. A pinch of salt taken frequently will stop a cough or throat irritation.

A glass of salt water, warm or cold, taken on rising in the morning will cure constipation.

Bathing the eyes when tired or weak in warm salt water will soothe and strengthen them.

Salt, plentifully sprinkled on the icy door-step, will have a better and cleaner effect than ashes.—*Prudence Prim, in Good Housekeeping.*

Singular to relate even great and wealthy men are prone to err as well as common mortals. John Jacob Astor, on one occasion, being asked what had been the largest sum of money he had ever made, replied: “The largest sum I ever misused making was in reference to the purchase of Louisiana, in connection with De Witt Clinton, Gouverneur Morris and others. We intended to purchase all that province of the Emperor Napoleon and then sell it to President Jefferson at the same price, charging two and one-half per cent. commission on the purchase. The scheme fell through, however, for some trifling cause or other. Had I succeeded I should have made about thirty million dollars.”

A large clock just completed in Germany by Christian Martin is said to surpass in wonderful construction all previous achievements. It is designed to show the seconds, minutes, quarter hours, hours, days, weeks, months, the four seasons, the years, and leap years until the close of 93,999 A. D. It gives indications for every latitude, and records the successive phases of the moon. It not only strikes the quarters and hours, but the minutes as well, sixty different symbolic figures performing the work. A night watchman blows the hours of the night on his horn, a cock crows at sunrise, and a cuckoo appears in spring. There are moving pictures, a bell-ringing secretian who kneels and folds his hands, and auto-toned musical works, besides other interesting features.

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33. Reaping the Whirlwind. A Novel. By Mary Cecil Hay, author of “Old Middleton’s Money,” etc.
34. Dudley Carleton. A Novel. By Miss M. E. Braddon, author of “Lady Audley’s Secret,” etc.
35. A Golden Dawn. A Novel. By the author of “Dora Thorne,” etc.
36. Valerie’s Fate. A Novel. By Mrs. Alexander, author of “The Wooing O’er,” etc.
37. Sister Rose. A Novel. By Wilkie Collins, author of “The Woman in White,” etc.
38. Anne. A Novel. By Mrs. Henry Wood, author of “East Lynne.”
39. The Laurel Bush. A Novel. By Miss Mulock, author of “John Halifax, Gentleman,” etc.
40. Robinson Crusoe. A thrilling narrative by Daniel Defoe, describing the adventures of a castaway in the South Pacific Ocean.
41. How to Make Country Pay. A practical and instructive series of articles by Mr. F. H. Jacobs, poultry editor of “The Farm and Garden,” Phila. Illustrated.
42. Parlor Magic and Chemical Experiments, a book which tells how to perform hundreds of amusing tricks in magic and instructive experiments with simple agents.
43. Gems of the Poets, containing charming selections from Tennyson, Longfellow, Whitier, Byron, Shelley, Moore, Bryant, and many others.
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45. Anecdotes of Public Men—Washington, Franklin, Webster, Clay, Tilden, Lincoln, Scott, Grant, Garfield, Gladstone, Butler, Hancock, Lee, and all the leading men of the century.
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A. M. FRASER,
MANAGER OF THE CRITIC, HALIFAX, N. S.

NEWS OF THE WEEK.

Subscribers remitting Money, either direct to the office, or through Agents, will find a receipt for the amount inclosed in their next paper. All remittances should be made payable to A. 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 three. For \$2.00 in cash we undertake to send THE CRITIC to any subscriber for one year, supplying him in addition with forty-five of the most readable of readable books. Those who are renewing their subscriptions, as well as new subscribers, should take advantage of this offer.

The Montreal flood has subsided. During the inundation 26 miles of streets were under water.

Black fever and diphtheria are decimating the lumbering population in the St. Maurice Valley, Quebec.

The appointment of Frederick Mowatt, son of Attorney-General Mowatt, as Sheriff of Toronto, is gazetted.

The Intercolonial railway authorities have agreed to allow all train hands extra pay for serving over time. This is but just.

Blood Indians in the Northwest are creating trouble and committing depredations. A company of mounted police has been fired on by the Bloods.

The Orpheus Club has made arrangements with the famous artists, the Trebelli-Muson Company, for a season at Orpheus Hall, during the present month.

An unfortunate woman named Mary Crowe, who was arrested on Monday last on a charge of assault, made two unsuccessful attempts to hang herself in the Halifax police station.

The general opinion of all who heard Sol Smith Russell in "Pa" was, that it was the most laughable comedy presented here for years. "Pa" is overflowing with pure unadulterated fun.

A school of grampus whales got in shallow water on the shore at Harvey, Albert County, N. B., the other day, and seventeen were killed and captured. The whole village turned out with guns, axes, etc.

Our friends in the Magdalen Islands have not yet received their copies of THE CRITIC, the steamer *Beaver* having had to put back, owing to the ice in the gulf. We trust this issue of the paper may reach them within a few days.

The vote of want of confidence in the Mercier administration of Quebec moved by Letellier, leader of the opposition, was defeated by a majority of eight. The Speaker being a Liberal the parties virtually stand, Liberals 37, Conservatives 28.

Manitoba is a unit against the disallowance of railway charters within her borders. The monopoly clause in the charter of the Canadian Pacific Company is their *bête-noir*, but it is not probable that the company will give it up without a cash equivalent.

The first division in the Dominion House of Commons resulted in the government being sustained by a majority of 32. This ensures a good working majority for Sir John McDonald, and at the same time a strong opposition under the leadership of Hon. Edward Blake.

A very lively meeting of the Chamber of Commerce was held on Wednesday last. A resolution favoring steam communication with the West Indies, and one supporting the City Council's move to obtain better railway terminal facilities, were adopted after long discussion.

Prince Edward Island has not secured an appropriation for the proposed subway, but it has obtained an additional subsidy of \$20,000 per annum. The Nova Scotian Government should look alive and see if there is not a subway by which this Province can secure an additional subsidy.

Fortunately the Dominion Government have chosen June 22nd as the day on which the Queen's Jubilee is to be celebrated throughout Canada, as Tuesday, the 21st of June, is the natal day of Halifax. This will give all classes of our citizens two consecutive holidays in Jubilee week.

The eloquent Presbyterian divine from Ottawa, who preached last Sunday in St. Matthews Church of this city, had evidently the power of attracting even sinners to hear him. Notwithstanding their attachment to the brief, 37 legal gentlemen went to listen to the long sermon preached on the occasion. O, ye Scribes and Pharisees.

With the firing of big guns and the inspiring strains of band music the first session of the present Provincial Parliament was brought to a close on Tuesday last. No doubt the members will be glad to escape from their legislative duties, which are very much more of a tax upon our representatives than most persons consider them.

The Halifax hotel-keepers are evidently making preparations for a large influx of visitors during the coming summer. Within the compass of one block three hotels, the Halifax, Queen and the Acadian, are undergoing extensive alterations, which, in addition to providing increased accommodation, will greatly improve the external appearance of the hotels named.

Young DeFreytas, a Halifax lad aged 19, has leaped without injury from the famous Brooklyn bridge. A policeman, in endeavoring to prevent DeFreytas attempting the leap, seized the young man by the heel just as he sprang in the air, but lost his hold. DeFreytas fell, but before reaching the water turned head downwards with hands prepared for diving, and thus escaped a horrible death.

In consequence of the wash-outs along the Boston & Maine Railway, the remains of Bishop Binney were brought to Halifax via the G. T. and I. C. railways. The funeral of the deceased prelate will be one of the most imposing that has taken place in Halifax for many years. Bishop Binney's successor will probably be chosen by the Synod of Nova Scotia between the 10th and 15th of June.

A fishing schooner named the *Georgie Harold*, reports that a schooner has been wrecked on Sable Island. A steamer has been despatched from Halifax to take off the survivors, if indeed they have been saved. It is time that Sable Island was connected by cable with the mainland; and it is likewise time that a new chart was made of the surroundings, as these are constantly changing; and if our information is correct, the present charts in general use are utterly unreliable.

Halifaxians, irrespective of politics, agree in their belief that Mr. J. C. Mackintosh was one of the most efficient magistrates who have ever sat in the Mayor's chair. Mr. Mackintosh's success was due to his experience in financial matters, his executive ability and his keen appreciation of the moral responsibilities which rested upon him. Mayor O'Mullin starts with an excellent aldermanic prestige, and he will unquestionably fulfill the duties of his new and honorable position with intelligence.

A correspondent writes, bitterly complaining of the rudeness to which church-goers who are obliged to pass along Brunswick street, are exposed. He says that a disgraceful altercation between soldiers and street rowdies took place on Sunday evening last, and that the obscenity of the language used was beggars' description. As this is a public thoroughfare, and is much frequented, the military and civil policemen should be vigilant, so as to prevent the locality from getting a worse name than it already has.

Granges and Patrons of Husbandry, in the jurisdiction of the Maritime Provincial Grange, are requested to remember that Thursday, the 12th inst. is Grange Arbor Day, and to use every effort to make the day pleasant and profitable, and worthy of itself as a holiday—its objects and the Order. The educational authorities of this Province have, with characteristic zeal for the educational interests intrusted to them, recommended that district schools co-operate with the Grange in the observance of Arbor Day.

Judging from the statements of the Minister of Agriculture, Canada will, this year, secure a large number of desirable emigrants. The Indian and Colonial Exhibition has probably had the effect of inducing many persons to settle in this country who might otherwise have sought other fields. In this connection THE CRITIC may fairly pat its own back, as we have direct proof that the wide circulation of our special exhibition number has directed attention to Nova Scotia as a field for emigration. Among others we might cite the case of a gentleman residing in South America, who after reading the contents of one of these numbers, decided to try his fortunes as a farmer in this Province.

We have much pleasure in recommending to our patrons the excellent preparations manufactured by E. M. Estey, Manufacturing Pharmacist of Moncton, N. B. The preparations made by this house have a very large sale throughout the Dominion. They consist of Fragrant Philoderma—toilet preparation that has become a household word. Estey's Cod Liver Oil Cream—one of the leading preparations of the kind in the market, and Estey's Iron and Quinine Tonic, an excellent Tonic for building up the system. These goods received highest award at the Colonial and Indian Exhibition in London, Eng., and Mr. Estey lately made a large shipment to Australia. His business is steadily increasing, and with such valuable goods as Mr. Estey manufactures there is no question but that he has a bright future before him.

It is reported that the Soudanese rebels have been defeated by friendly tribes, and that Osman Digna has been taken prisoner.

The Creoles of Cuba are agitating for home rule, and the Spanish government, in view of the agitation, has made important tariff concessions, and granted subsidies for the construction of local railways.

A despatch from Athens says that a court-martial has sentenced to death three officers for treachery, in having surrendered to the Turks during the frontier fighting. Five others charged with the same offence were acquitted.

Customs officers throughout Great Britain and Ireland have received stringent orders to search all vessels arriving from America, China and the east, the government having been warned that explosives have been sent from San Francisco to ports in the east to be transhipped to England.

Schnaebels has been released by order of the German Government. He at once left for Paris, where he received a perfect ovation. The Parisians now propose presenting Schnaebels with a handsome diamond cross. Thus ends an incident which at one time threatened to provoke war between Germany and France.

A dispute has arisen between the Belgian Government and the Vatican, which threatens to a "Kulturkampf" in Belgium. The Beernaert Cabinet wanted the Vatican to instruct the Catholics in Belgium to vote for the army bill, which makes religious students liable to military service. The Vatican flatly refused to do so.

Mr. Gladstone, in excusing himself from attending a meeting of the anti-vaccination society, stated that he was busily engaged in opposing the compulsory inoculation of the whole Irish nation with the coercion bill. As there are no less than 144 proposed amendments to this act, only nine of which have yet been dealt with, both Mr. Gladstone and the British Parliament are likely to be kept pretty busily engaged for many weeks to come.

The Irish members in the British House of Commons are becoming exasperated over the anti-Irish articles which have lately been appearing in the *London Times*. That journal, in addition to charging Parnell with having connived with the law-breakers in Ireland, now accuses Mr. Dillon, M. P., of lying. This is regarded as a breach of the privileges of Parliament, and efforts are being made to bring the publishers of the *Times* to the bar of the House of Commons, in order that they may make good their charges or suffer the consequences.

TRURO JOTTINGS.

(From our Staff Correspondent.)

To see the beneficial effects of railways, and also to note the substantial advancement in wealth and commerce now being made in Nova Scotia, it is only necessary to visit Truro and Amherst, two of the most thriving towns on the line of the Intercolonial.

Doctor Muir, the popular Mayor of Truro, has promised to furnish THE CRITIC with the last report of the Town Council, which furnishes statistics proving the rapid advance of the town, the assessable value of which has increased over 50 per cent during the past year. The manufactories are all doing a thriving business, and the leading dry goods firms are, through the agency of travellers, selling their stocks in all parts of the Province, and doing an aggregate business that must equal if it does not exceed the trade of the leading Halifax firms. During a stay of two days in Truro I visited all the leading establishments, and was everywhere received with cordial hospitality and shown through the leading establishments. J. F. Blanchard & Co. and Wm. Cummings, Sons & Co., are the leading dry goods firms, both doing a large wholesale and retail trade, and seemed to be engaged in a commendable rivalry as to which concern shall excel in the volume of business done and the extent and beauty of their shops and premises. J. F. Blanchard & Co. have but lately moved into their spacious new warehouse on Prince Street, which is some five stories in height and which is stored from cellar to garret with what they claim to be the largest stock of dry goods in the Province. The lower floor is divided into two large retail stores, in which the varied stock for sale is displayed in a most tempting manner. In the rear are the large counting-rooms, divided from the store by glass and hardwood partitions varnished and finished off in a most handsome style, while the desks and fittings are of the best materials and workmanship. On the floors above, reached by easy flights of stairs, are the wholesale departments, millinery department, hat and cap rooms, carpet rooms, custom tailoring department, cloak rooms, etc., etc., etc. All of the travellers, live in number, were in town, and to give me some idea of the extent of their business, Mr. Blanchard showed me into the trunk room, where some twenty-five huge trunks were being filled with samples. Here I met Mr. Fairbanks, formerly with Duffus & Co., who was busy preparing for a raid through some of the counties. How the country merchants must tremble and grasp their pocketbooks as he descends upon them with an avalanche of trunks! It would take pages, and my letter would grow too tedious for perusal should I attempt to describe all that is to be seen on the premises of Messrs. Blanchard & Co., and any reader of THE CRITIC who is in Truro should not fail to visit their warehouse and see for himself.

Wm. Cummings, Sons & Co., have equally extensive premises just around the corner from Blanchards', but, in addition to dealing in dry goods, carry a heavy stock of teas, groceries, and boots and shoes. Their retail store is very extensive, their counting-rooms handsomely fitted up, and their display of millinery unsurpassed. One of the partners showed me over the premises, and I left with a bewildered idea of the great business the firm must carry on.

Both establishments have special show days, which are duly advertised, and the fair sex of Truro are now able to feast their eyes on displays that are hardly equalled in Halifax. Still this would scarcely prove a great inducement for a married man to settle in Truro.

J. H. Crosscup & Co., and Troup & Co., also do a large business in dry goods, and they, together with several other concerns near the station, furnish the ladies of Truro abundant opportunity for a shopping tour. Truro has two commercial centres. Just around the station are a number of shops, hotels and manufactories, while some three-quarters of a mile easterly there is another district devoted to commerce. Here are found the wholesale dry goods houses, the Gates' Organ Company, the Prince of Wales hotel, (a noble hostelry), and a few blocks of stores.

Chambers & Layton, furniture dealers, are here, and with commendable enterprise they are about introducing the most modern styles of furniture. For this purpose they have imported skilled workmen and a special designer from abroad, and when their new factory is completed they will be able to turn out the most aesthetic articles. Prince Street is the main thoroughfare connecting the eastern and western section, and along it are many handsome private residences with tastefully laid out grounds. Walker & Hanson, extensive hardware merchants, and ex-Mayor Fraser, of Halifax, have their establishments on Prince Street, and the pretty English Church and new post-office are on the same thoroughfare. Space forbids me to mention the large number of firms doing business near the station, but Bligh & Prince, and Frost & Wood, large dealers in agricultural implements, should not be passed over. Truro is fast becoming a manufacturing centre, and I am glad to be able to report that all the ventures in this direction are thriving.

The Truro Condensed Milk and Canning Co., the only establishment of the kind in the Dominion, is pushed with orders, and has established an enviable reputation for the superiority of its product. It is a valuable establishment for the town, as it purchases most of its raw material here, gives employment to a number of mechanics and laborers, and sells its product largely abroad. Two extensive and neatly painted buildings have been erected by the company, and everything about the premises is kept scrupulously clean. Doctor Muir, who seems to have a finger in every pie, is president, and amongst the directors may be mentioned Simon Holmes and Joseph Seston, of Halifax.

The Truro Felt Hat Co. is rushed with work, and is a most interesting establishment to visit. I was shown through by the proprietor and witnessed every step in the manufacture of a hat, from the carding of the wool to the sewing on of the band on the completed article. A most ingenious machine forms the hat, which at first is fully a yard long. It then goes through a

variety of operations, during which it is dyed, pounded under hammers, pressed under great presses, blocked, sand-papered, shaped and fitted. The factory turns out both soft and hard hats, and gives steady employment to a large number of skilled mechanics, both male and female.

The Truro Foundry and Machine Co. is another of the successful manufactories of Truro, and gives employment to a host of mechanics. At the time of my visit it was in full blast and orders for work were being received from all directions. While doing a general foundry business, the company makes a speciality of manufacturing gold-mining machinery, boilers and engines.

Any one who has lost faith in the great future in store for Nova Scotia should visit Truro, where he will see enough to convince him that substantial progress is being made.

This is a great town for railroad men, and the principal topics of conversation at the hotels are railroads and horses. Inquiries as to whether No. 13 is on time, or Jim Snooks is driving No. 6, or some similar question, mixed up with general railroad gossip, proves that railroading is an important business here. These interesting conversations, which are almost unintelligible to the outsider who is not posted in railroad terms, are relieved by excited discussions between old grangers as to who has the best team to haul. Fast trotters are all the rage, and blooded stallions and fleet mares seem to be continually raced up and down the streets. They have got the Scott Act here, and have it very badly. In fact liquor seems to go Scott free as far as paying any license is concerned. The county lost so heavily in its efforts to enforce the act, that it seems to have stopped trying, and the liquor sellers have things their own way.

The tourist can take his choice of an unlimited number of hotels. The Victoria, Grand Central and Parker front the station, and are all excellent houses in their way. Winans, as snug a house as man needs to patronize, with large well-furnished rooms, good table and attendance, is near by, while the Prince of Wales Hotel, with "mine host" A. L. McKenzie in charge, is in the east end. I "put up" at Winans and could not desire a more comfortable stopping place. Winans is a good judge of horse flesh, and gave me a drive behind Don Carlos, a fine gray trotter, that effectually brushed the cobwebs out of my brain, while it gave me a good opportunity of seeing the residence portion of the town. We first dashed down Queens Street, past the fine private residences of Mr. VanMetre, the Archibalds, father and sons, and the double residence of the Blanchard Brothers. Turning into Prince Street past the Prince of Wales Hotel, we drove out to the large private house of Mr. Cummings, and then turning round we dashed up Prince Street at railroad speed. The whole route was lined with fine private residences and it would be hard to find a town of the size of Truro that can boast of more comfortable homesteads or better kept grounds. The Archibald homestead is reported to be a fine old place, but I did not have time to visit it.

Several of the successful gold miners of Nova Scotia have built residences in Truro, and amongst them might be mentioned Geo. Stewart, A. C. VanMetre, and the Archibalds.

Truro is situated on a plain apparently surrounded by hills, and is in the centre of a good agricultural district. On Saturday the farmers drive in to do their marketing and sell their produce, and the streets are lively with teams and pedestrians. It is now seen at its worst, but in a few weeks when the trees bud out and the fields are clothed in green, it will be hard to find a prettier town in the Province. Handsome churches, and the Normal School and Truro Academy prove that the moral and mental welfare of the people are well looked after, and to sum up Truroians have good reason to be proud of their snug go-ahead town. Think what a paradise for boys; twenty or thirty trains must pass through here daily, while the shunting engines are always at work.

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Works and Iron Yard—Cor. Sheffeld and
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ST. JOHN, N. B.

RELIGIOUS.

CATHOLIC.

On the feast of St. Anthony, his patron saint, and the 25th anniversary of his appointment as director of the Villa Marie congregation, Montreal, Rev. Abbe Gilaud was made the recipient of a nice testimonial. The address was accompanied by a magnificent golden chalice, a golden ampulla for carrying the holy oil, a golden basin and cruets, and a golden receptacle for the Viaticum.

The Bishops of Switzerland have issued a joint pastoral on the subject of the sacerdotal jubilee of his Holiness Leo XIII. By direction of these prelates Pius Verein is organizing a great Swiss pilgrimage to the tomb of St. Peter and Paul. A pastoral, with reference to the Papal jubilee, has likewise been addressed to the faithful by the Belgian Episcopate.

In 1886 the death of four Cardinals were recorded. In the United States three Bishops passed to their eternal reward, and 107 priests ended their earthly labors. Fifty-two Sisters and eleven Brothers also passed away.

Bishop Healey, of Portland, Me., has issued a circular letter to his clergy, in which he instructs them to forbid the use of flowers at funerals in the churches under their charge.

BAPTIST.

The Baptist National Anniversaries will be held this year in Minneapolis, commencing Tuesday, May 24.

Last Sunday evening, the Rev. T. Trotter, pastor of a Baptist church at Woodstock, Ont., occupied the pulpit of the First Baptist Church.

Rev. Mr. Powell has received and accepted a call from the Baptist church at Guysboro.

It has been proposed to raise \$100,000 this year for a fund to help disabled Baptist ministers and the widows and orphans of deceased ministers in the Maritime Provinces. About \$30,000 is as good as pledged already in Nova Scotia and New Brunswick.

METHODIST.

A new Methodist church was dedicated at Lawrencetown, Annapolis County, last Sunday. The Revs. J. J. Teasdale and John Latheru, D.D., took part in the opening services.

Methodism is making considerable progress in Newfoundland. The churches report many additions to the membership. On Sunday, the 24th of April, a new missionary church was dedicated in St. John's.

Rev. T. Watson Smith leaves in a few days for Europe, for the benefit of his health.

PRESBYTERIAN.

Rev. John W. Dulles, D.D., a well-known Presbyterian minister in the United States, who has for some years occupied the position of General Secretary of the Presbyterian Board of Publication, died at his residence in Philadelphia, the 13th of April.

A new Presbyterian Church at the Gore, Hants Co., will be dedicated next Sunday.

At a meeting of the Halifax Presbytery held on Friday last, calls were received and sustained from Lower M. quodoboit, to Mr. Coffin; and from Noel to Mr. A. Campbell. Both these gentlemen have just finished their theological course at Pine Hill College.

As stated in our last issue, the closing services in connection with Pine Hill College took place on April 28th. Rev. Dr. Pollock read the report of the Senate, from which it appeared that there were 28 students in attendance during the term, 11 of whom were in the third year. After the distribution of the prizes, the Rev. Mr. Heridge, of Ottawa, delivered a very eloquent and scholarly lecture on Culture and Christianity. The graduates are—James T. Blair, Alex. Campbell, J. R. Coffin, E. M. Dill, John Hawley, James A. Johnson, D. McDonald, H. McLean, John Valentino, A. P. Logan, and A. Hamilton.

Queen's University, Kingston, proposes to raise an endowment of \$250,000.

CHURCH OF ENGLAND.

The Diocese of Nova Scotia has experienced a heavy loss in the death of Bishop Binney. A distinguished Academical career at Oxford, culminating in a 1st class in Classical and 2nd in Mathematical Honors, with the Fellowship of his College, prepared him for the laborious and successful Episcopate, which has lasted for more than 36 years. The Bishop's mind was clear, acute, and strong. It was at the same time reasonable and just. Under an apparently stern manner, there lay a warmth of sympathy unsuspected by many; and his numerous and generous contributions, as well to public objects as to the alleviation of private distress, showed the essential kindness of his heart. It is too soon to thoroughly estimate the value of his work; but it will probably be found that the Diocese has received an impress from his life labors second only to that which followed the Episcopate of Charles Inglis, the first Bishop of Nova Scotia. The Bishop has been an active figure in Halifax for many years, and will be missed as much as any public man of the day. The heartiest sympathy of the community will be extended to his Lordship's bereaved family.

MORE MONEY FOR YOUR WORK if you improve good opportunities. Hallett & Co., Portland, Maine, will mail, free, full information showing how you can make from \$5 to \$25 and upwards a day and live at home wherever you are located. Better write: some have made over \$50 in a day: all new. No capital required: -started free. Both sexes; all ages. Success for every worker. Send address and see for yourself.

ALL SORTS FROM PORT HOOD.

Dear Critic,—I am glad to be able to chronicle the arrival of spring. Spring is here at last. Not the spring that the hurdy-gurdy sings to you about, or the never-will-be-poot makes the subject of his universal sigh, but plain, everyday spring, and it is recognizable by signs that are unmistakable, sleek, rain, fog, mud, cold wind, robins, frogs, warblers and tin-whistles, compose a phalanx of incontrovertible facts whose import is unequivocal. We are still hemmed in by an unbroken barrier of nice, clean, white ice, whose breath, in the shape of fog equally white sometimes, folds us in its cold embrace, and tantalizingly whispers to us of the beautiful summer that is on the way.

The lobster factory staff have been here about a fortnight preparing for the summer campaign; they anticipate doing a larger business than ever this year. They have gained the particular good-will of the fishermen by granting appreciable concessions in the shape of supplying a portion of the gear required by each for the season's work, doubtless being prompted thereto by the heavy losses sustained by the latter during the more than ordinarily severe storms of last autumn.

The winter, on the whole, has been a quiet one, which, however, is not unusual in this part of the world. The fishermen are endeavoring to propitiate Providence by committing to his care a considerable number of new boats and gear, in hopes of an unusually prosperous season, which may go far towards compensating for the serious loss of the trade with the American brethren. Owing to the severity of the winter and the tardiness of spring, cattle feed is reported as very scarce indeed; as yet, however, the consequent loss in cattle has not been very considerable. During the month of March a singularly fatal disease developed itself in the district of Glencoe, about 15 miles away; the identity of the disease was then, and is still, a matter of dispute among the physicians who attended its victims, some maintaining that it was congestion of the lungs, others being equally positive that it was typhoid fever. Whatever it was it succeeded in causing the deaths of no less than seven persons in the district—5 in one family and 2 in another.

The coal mines have been working almost without interruption ever since December, turning out a large quantity of coal which might compete successfully with any other in the market. Want of sufficient shipping facilities alone prevents the coal industry from being developed on a par with that of more favored localities. A scheme is, however, being mooted, which is expected to take substantial form in the shape of a railway connecting both the Port Hood and the Broad Cove coal mines with the Strait of Canso, thus affording facilities for shipping which would speedily convert the coal industry here into a paying speculation.

Your esteemed publication comes to hand with the regularity of a gush-bill, (nothing personal), but its welcome is always in the inverse ratio to that of the latter. I don't imagine THE CRITIC hankers after *taffy*, but it will pardon me if I venture the opinion that there is no paper in the Dominion, of its size and price, which affords more pleasure to its readers. The reading of THE CRITIC is one of my greatest treats, containing as it does the cream of the thought of the day on current topics in its editorial columns, and the essence of interesting news, both domestic and foreign, in the columns devoted to that branch. Another remark that is true of THE CRITIC is, that it never deteriorates, its latest issue is always the best.

I observe in your editorial columns of your issue of the 22nd ult. a reference to H. Rider Haggard's novels, which of late have been attracting so much, and well-deserved attention. Mr. Haggard is, undoubtedly, a writer of more than ordinary ability, and I would be far from presuming to criticize any of his productions; but, in the two that I have read and enjoyed as yet I could not fail to be struck with one or two extraordinary mistakes, which, if intentional, are surely not excusable on the plea of novelist's license; and which, if unintentional, would stamp him for a somewhat careless writer. For instance, in "King Solomon's Mines," he has the assurance to introduce a total eclipse of the sun on the day succeeding a slaughter of witches, which occurred under the light of a magnificent full moon! The atmosphere in South Africa must possess extraordinary power of refraction to render such an event possible, which anywhere else can only occur at new moon. The very next evening this remarkable moon of H. R. H.'s rises again as unconcernedly as though it had not lately been indulging in eccentricities compared with which the freaks of Joshua's pet moon were a mere bagatelle. In his closing chapter of "The Witch's Head," he is taking a parting peep at his hero, Ernest, who was injured on the day of the battle of Isandhlwana, of which the writer furnishes the day and year—1879. Ernest returns from South Africa almost immediately, and is married shortly after; he was 28 or 29 years old when he returned. In his final allusion to him the writer tells us that Ernest is 50 years old now, his hair is streaked with silver, &c., &c., which would necessitate an elapse of more than 20 years since the Zulu war, whereas scarcely 8 have yet gone by. Does Mr. Haggard intend to pose as a prophet? I am reading his "Dawa" now; I hope in this he will not trifle with our feelings as in the others, for good-nature has a limit, you know.

MORE ANON.

[FOR THE CRITIC.]

WHITE SLAVERY.

Mr. Editor: Since the beginning of the agitation for the abolition of the farming-out of the poor, the cause of humanity owes a debt of gratitude to the public press. A great deal is said against the acerbity of public newspapers on political matters, and not always without cause, but both sides, with but few exceptions, have in this struggle stood up manfully for reform. THE CRITIC has done yeoman service in this noble cause, showing

itself not a servile follower of the interested and willfully blind few, but a leader of the benevolent and far-sighted many.

James J. Ritchie, Jr., Esq., barrister-at-law, last week showed in your columns that, bad as the Digby investigation matter looks in the Commissioner's Blue Book, the actual revelations brought out were beyond comparison, worse and more abominable, being utterly unfit for publication. And yet these were but a few samples gleaned amidst great opposition from a field most jealously guarded by interested parties.

You have clearly shown that Digby County is not alone in this farming-out system, but that the poor are thus inhumanly treated in other counties in this province, and still worse, if possible, in New Brunswick. Nevertheless, in both provinces, humanity has not waited for tardy legislation. One of the many misfortunes of paupers is that they have no votes, but are sunk out of sight and hearing from mere political philanthropy.

It has already been shown that in some counties of Nova Scotia, notably in Annapolis and Yarmouth, the farm and home for the poor simply provides for the comfortable maintenance and protection of the deserving poor, at little over one-half the expense to the rate-payers which is incurred in these counties, where the back-woods boarding (i) house, and the greedy indemnifier, and the filthy polluter, abound.

In New Brunswick the humane and wide-awake people of Moncton, finding themselves hindered by the majority in the outside parts of the county from establishing an alms house, have manfully struck out for themselves, as did the people of St. Clements, in Annapolis County, before the remainder of that county saw their way to reform. The Moncton people built and equipped a handsome and commodious alms house in the outskirts of the town, and this is their experience so far:—

In his report for 1885 the mayor says: "This institution was completed and opened about the 1st February last, and the report of the commissioners will abundantly show the wisdom of the electors in establishing this charity. Although a keeper and matron need to be supported for a very small number of paupers, and although interest needs to be paid for a much more expensive building than Moncton actually requires, the result shows that this town has saved money by its alms house. This will, of course, be more apparent when the parishes, as they will, take advantage of our standing order to come in on equal terms with ourselves. For the present we have the satisfaction of knowing that only the indigent and deserving poor are relieved, that our alms and charity are not nursing and encouraging crime, and that the really poor and helpless are provided with a comfortable home, such as the victims of poverty and helplessness are entitled to, and such as christianity suggests as their legitimate claim. I have no fear as to the result of the alms house system of caring for the poor."

In the Town Government's Report for 1886, we find that to a great extent this institution has been the means of abating undeserving poverty, for the reasons above stated, and has to a great extent reduced the taxes for the support of the poor.

The formerly refractory outside parishes, beginning now to see their mistake, have in some cases been applying to have their paupers admitted to the Moncton alms house, but are refused on the ground that Moncton did not provide a pauper boarding-house for the rest of the county, but an asylum, in the benefits of which other parishes may participate, but only on equal terms.

I visited this alms house last month and found it a vast improvement on our multitudinous back-woods institutions. As compared with that at Bridgetown it is still susceptible of further improvement, notably in the matter of self-support, for whilst the produce raised on the farm at the latter largely contributes to its support, as well as to the self-respect and well-being of the paupers, that at Moncton shows but a credit of \$20 in the year, and that merely for the hay sold from the alms house lawn.

Medical attendance is provided there, as at Bridgetown, not at the whim of indemnifiers, anxious to save all they can out of the paupers, but at the call of necessity in every case.

It is such experiments as these which upon the eyes, not of gain makers in the old rut, but of philanthropy and true prudence.

Certain of the rate-payers on the islands outlying Digby Neck have, I see, through their representative in the Local Legislature, petitioned that they may, in the event of the establishment of a home and farm for the poor in that county, be permitted to retain the old system of keeping their poor among themselves, on the plea that their paupers would shrink from being removed from their own neighborhood to a central alms house, and the tax payers would much prefer to assist them, as heretofore, with relief at their own homes.

If our counties are to be thus reduced piece-meal on petition, a general system cannot so advantageously be carried into effect, and the old rut will for a time be in the remoter places adhered to. Among the similar recusants in Albert County, N. B., the actual working of the Moncton alms house has been a great eye-opener, and has proved that such excuses are without sufficient foundation, thus producing a late repentance. In the first year of the alms house, \$237.50 was spent by the commissioners in outside relief, at their own homes, to the deserving poor. In the next year, (1886), owing to sickness in the town, not only sustenance but medical help were thus supplied, outside of the alms house, to the extent of \$562.47. The same rule is followed in Annapolis County.

JOHN AMBROSE.

[FOR THE CRITIC.]

TRUTH.

A very comprehensive word, not easily defined, yet well understood in reference to its principal meaning. It always signifies the opposite of falsehood. Webster's second definition of the word is appropriate and suggest-

ive: "True state of facts or things." No virtue is of greater importance to the best interests of society, the church of Christ, and human governments, than truth. It is this excellence that gives to the Bible an unrivalled pre-eminence. It is an essential feature in good, moral character. It may be found in close proximity to that which is false, but they cannot coalesce, for "no lie is of the truth." There is a dividing line between the two, and man may find it if he will. And, without any compulsion, he can take which side he pleases. A lie is a voluntary act of the human mind. Truth is not an act but a possession, which may be bartered for much less than it is worth. We are divinely exhorted to "Buy the truth and sell it not."

Cassaubon says: "The study of truth is perpetually joined with the love of virtue; for there's no virtue which derives not its original from truth, as, on the contrary, there is no vice which has not its beginning from a lie. Truth is the foundation of all knowledge, and the cement of all society." Shaftesbury has well said: "The most natural beauty in the world is honesty and moral truth. True features make the beauty of a face, and true proportions the beauty of architecture, as true measures that of harmony and music." It was a wise remark of the late Rev. H. W. Beecher that "Men never make truths; they only recognize the value of this currency of God." They can, however, make lies, and often do it. "Truth is violated by falsehood, and it may be equally outraged by silence." Murphy declares "None but cowards lie." It has been said, "Truth seldom goes without a scratched face." And it has been terribly scratched and distorted in the recent political contest in the Dominion of Canada. And in this discreditable work both parties have been guilty. In some cases the press has not only quite ignored this cardinal virtue, but stooped so low as to deal in scurrility and senseless abuse. In reading those violent tirades I felt as though I could not henceforth talk about our refined civilization. Is it so that truth, honor and manliness must be discarded in our necessary political struggles? Surely our duties to the state, as well as those to others, can be discharged with "our limbs girt about with truth." There is political truth, and those who seek in the right way will find it. But in vain some newspapers are perused to recognize it. If, like Shakespeare, we resolve

"If circumstances lead me I will find
Where truth is hid, though it were hid indeed
Within the centre."

we will not find it in party papers without going through much deep mud. But by perseverance we will reach the solid pan.

Both sides of politics have some true ideas; of course one side has more than the other; and the same may be said of errors. There is some hope now that the truth will be blended, as the minority is large. I am glad it is so. Such a brake on the wheels every human government needs. It is probable that the opposition will fare better throughout the Dominion than if they had the reins. They will not have the trouble of discharging the duties of the chief offices, but they will enjoy all the benefits of an experienced, well tried, and thoroughly tested government. There will probably be more watching than praying among them. Let them watch every movement, and raise the signal of alarm whenever danger is in sight. All legislative bodies are both liable and prone to go astray. Every safeguard possible should be adopted in order to save our country from political corruption.

The discovery and removal of the false is the way to advance the truth. This is the aim of all wise and good men. The progress of truth in private, social, and public life is the measure of a nation's prosperity. We rejoice to know that less or more of it is found in commerce, literature, science, legislation and religion. But it does not permeate all classes as it should. A Latin author is correct in declaring "That no doctrine is so false as not to contain in it some truth." On the whole, truth is prevailing in the world. It is true, error tries to keep up with it, but it cannot, except sometimes in politics.

Some of the old adages of truth are, we believe, correct, and highly encouraging. "Truth will be uppermost, one time or other, like cork, though kept down in the water;" "truth is mighty, and shall prevail;" "it takes a good many shovelfuls of earth to bury the truth." In the political life of Henry Clay we have a fine illustration of the influence of truth. He had just propounded a political scheme to an associate. "It will ruin your prospects for the Presidency," suggested his friend. "Is it right?" said Mr. Clay. "Yes," was the answer. Mr. Clay continued, "I would rather be right than President." Another eloquent American says: "A man in the right, with God on his side, is in the majority, though he be alone, for God is multitudinous above all the nations of the earth."

"Seize upon truth where'er 'tis found,
Amongst your friends, amongst your foes,
On Christian or on heathen ground,
The flower's divine where'er it grows."

LaHave, March, 1887.

ALPHA.

PARLIAMENTARY REVIEW.

DOMINION.—The Queen's, N. B., election case was, after a sharp debate, referred to the committee on privileges and elections, by a vote of 109 to 77. The government stated that information was being collected relative to the sub-marine way to connect P. E. Island with the mainland. A debate, in which Messrs. Jones, Borden and Kenny took part, as to the want of additional railway terminal facilities at Halifax, was brought to a close by Hon. Mr. Pope promising to bring down the returns, etc.; and stating that the government had under consideration the question of how to meet the growing requirements of business in this respect.

Sir John Macdonald introduced a bill respecting the departments of customs and inland revenue. He said that it was proposed to make these two departments sub departments under a new minister of trade and commerce; that the head offices would be under secretaries, the departments

being purely administrative, and the head officers would be responsible to parliament and would come and go with the government.

Mr. Thompson introduced a bill to create the office of solicitor-general. He said the new functionary would have a seat in parliament, but not necessarily in the cabinet. He would represent crown cases before the courts and thus lighten the work now devolving upon the justice department.

In reply to a question Hon. Mr. Carling said that the government had not yet decided whether it was advisable to prohibit the importation of cattle from Great Britain to prevent the introduction of cattle disease. Sir John said that it was not intended to repeal the Franchise Act. Hon. Mr. Foster said it was proposed to construct a lighthouse and fog alarm on Murr Ledges, near Grand Manan, but it was not yet determined whether the appropriation should be asked this year. Mr. Eisenhauer moved for correspondence respecting the Nictaux and Atlantic railway and urged on the government the claims of this undertaking. Hon. Mr. Jones endorsed the statements of Eisenhauer. Mr. Mills, Annapolis, said the matter concerned his county seriously. He believed that if the Dominion Government did not take hold of the project it would never be completed. He had expressed to his constituents the belief that this parliament would deal with the matter, and had confidence now that the thing would be done. In answer to Mr. Perry, Sir Chas. Tupper said that no sum had been placed to the credit of Prince Edward Island, but that it was the intention of the government to ask parliament to increase the annual subsidy of that province by \$20,000 per annum. Hon. Mr. Pope has given notice of a resolution proposing to appropriate \$224,000 to complete the Oxford and New Glasgow railway as a government work. The fisheries correspondence was brought down on Tuesday, and confirms the rumor that the British Government has proposed to that of the United States to give up the fisheries to the latter on the terms of the Washington treaty, but without any payment therefor. This arrangement to be for the current year at least, with the probability of its being made permanent. The announcement was made that the government had expended \$46,000 in securing and improving Hauff National Park and a bill to sanction that and further estimated expenditures passed its second reading.

PROVINCIAL.—The debate on the government resolutions concerning the relations between Nova Scotia and the Dominion, ended with the resolutions being carried by a vote of 23 ayes to 8 nays. Two government supporters paired with two of the opposition.

The Hon. Prov. Sec'y moved a series of resolutions expressing sympathy with Ireland in her efforts for just treatment, and condemning the coercion policy of the now dominant party in Great Britain. They were passed unanimously with hardly any debate.

The resolution asking for a conference by committees between the House of Assembly and the Legislative Council to arrange for the abolition of the latter body was passed without division. It is, however, improbable that anything will be accomplished in this direction before next year.

The Legislative Council bill, giving female rate-payers the right to vote in municipal elections, was passed by a vote of 18 to 14.

As recommended by THE CARRIE, the committee on agriculture reported, recommending the granting of a bounty for the importation of thoroughbred horses, and the purchase of a farm by the Government, to be used as an experimental farm.

The Government bill relating to assessment was ordered to lie over till next session.

The special committee appointed by the House "to enquire into the working of the County Incorporation Act; also the cost of conducting county business under the sessions previous to the introduction of the County Incorporative Act; also with the disposition of road money by said county corporations," reported, making several recommendations. They find that the present system works fairly well on the whole, when its provisions are carried out.

The Hon. Prov. Sec'y laid the estimates for the current year on the table of the House. They show an anticipated surplus for 1887 of \$31,389, but this is obtained by crediting the probable revenue with a sum of \$71,000, which it is expected will be paid by the Dominion Government for past expenditures by that of Nova Scotia on piers, breakwaters, etc. The estimated expenditures included a large sum for the repair, heating and ventilating of the provincial building, \$6,000 for the purchase of a farm for the purposes of a school of agriculture, an increased grant for steamboats, packets and ferries, which was now unprecedentedly large, an increase of \$10,000 for roads and bridges and \$5,000 for interest on floating loans; some small increase in salaries of minor officials and \$800 to the school of art and design, if established under conditions approved by the council of public instruction. After some debate the estimates passed.

The Hon. Prov. Sec'y introduced a bill to amend the License Act of 1886 as regards wholesale licenses.

A bill was introduced and passed to increase the salaries of the Provincial Ministers to \$2,500 each, with \$800 extra to the Premier, who is at present the Provincial Secretary. The present salaries are \$2,400 for the Provincial Secretary, \$1,600 for the Attorney-General, and \$2,000 for the Commissioner of Works and Mines.

On Monday the Prov. Sec'y introduced a congratulatory address of both houses of the legislature to the Queen on her attaining the jubilee anniversary of her accession. It was unanimously passed, as was also a request to the Lieut.-Governor to forward the same. Mr. McKinnon submitted the report of the committee on crown lands. The claim of Lewis P. Fairbanks was referred to the government to be dealt with as they saw fit. The Legislative Council refused to have a conference on the subject of its own abolition. Hon. Mr. Longley's resolutions relative to commercial union with the United States, the new city charter of Halifax, and the bill pro-

viding for compulsory arbitration in the case of strikes in coal mines, were shelved till the next session. In the House of Assembly before closing a resolution was adopted paying a fitting tribute to the memory of the late H. C. D. Twining, for over thirty years clerk of the house. On Tuesday the legislature completed its labors and at 3 p. m. of that day His Honor the Lieut.-Governor attended, and closed the session with the usual ceremonies.

COMMERCIAL.

No quickening of the pulse of trade has occurred during the week under review, for the reason that the suspense as to possible changes in the customs and inland revenue tariffs has continued. It is decidedly unfortunate that the meeting of parliament should have been delayed to so late a period of the year, as it introduces so strong an element of uncertainty to business generally, as to greatly paralyze movements at a time when they should be brisk. The general situation, however, continues to be healthy in appearance, and the prospects are reasonably satisfactory. Payments are fairly prompt, though some complain of sluggishness in this direction. Enquiries from the country are rather numerous, but a good many orders are held in abeyance awaiting the departure of ice from our eastern shores, so as to permit the shipment of goods by water conveyance.

The returns of the customs and inland revenue departments in this city for the month of April last, show a marked increase of receipts as compared with those of the corresponding months in 1886. The figures of the increase are in customs, \$105,550, and in inland revenue, \$16,597.85—total increase, \$122,147.89. A portion of this very large increase is undoubtedly due to the legitimate causes such as the growth of trade, but we apprehend that much the greater part is attributable to the prevailing belief that the taxes are to be materially advanced.

The present spring has been, so far, very backward, and it has been impossible for farmers to make any progress in their usual spring work. The long expected favorable change in the weather may take place any day, and then the granger element will bestir itself to make up for time lost by the unkindness of the elements.

The necessity for better railway terminal facilities at this port is attracting attention in the Dominion Parliament, and there appears to be good reason to hope that the government will vigorously take hold of the matter and give Halifax all that the business interests of the country require in this respect. This is a thing that is of importance to the whole Dominion—to Halifax incidentally comparatively—for a large portion of its traffic naturally finds its Atlantic inlet and outlet here.

Meetings of the creditors and of the shareholders of the defunct Maritime Bank of New Brunswick were held last week, when statements were made by Mr. John Knight, the auditor, and by Mr. McLellan, the President. Mr. Knight's statement shows the liabilities of the bank to be nearly three millions of dollars, which are offset by a mass of assets, most of which are merely nominal and on which little or nothing will be realized, as they are openly classified as being "known to be very doubtful assets." The President's statement is a curious detail of how, with what Byron states compose the pavements of the infernal region, the very best intentions, he was fooled into giving away the funds and hypothecating the securities of the bank to a set of reckless and unprincipled scoundrels, who were always ready with specious reasons not only for not paying anything but for receiving further advances. Like Capt. Williams of the wrecked steamer *Atlantic*, he was extremely sorry after the event and was willing to take upon his shoulders any amount of blame in the matter. One important detail he failed utterly to explain, and that was how he came to make a solemn declaration in the regular statement of the condition of his bank to the government on the 28th of February last—only a few days before the bank closed its doors—of the character that he did. That statement showed the total liabilities of the bank to have been but \$1,409,482, and the assets, \$1,825,933—leaving a surplus of \$416,511 over the total liabilities. The whole affair must come before the courts for adjudication, and we can only hope that the investigation will be most thorough.

The following are the list of assignments and business changes in this province during the past week:—B. H. Calkin, G. S., Kentville, retired and business closed; Wm. J. Egan, printer, Halifax, assigned to Daniel A. Gamble in trust; Thos. Devors, blacksmith, Annapolis, burnt out; N. H. Buckler, blacksmith, Annapolis, burnt out; Chas. C. Dodge, hotel and liquors, Middleton, assigned in trust to O. M. Taylor; J. E. Hill, grocer, Bridgewater, sold out to Solomon Hebb, Jr.; Chas. O. Backman, pork, Dartmouth, assigned in trust; Muirhead & Co., plumbers, Halifax, admitted John Borton as Muirhead & Co.; C. J. McKinnon, general store, Thorburn, removed to New Glasgow; A. S. Larder, jeweller, Halifax, offers business for sale; A. A. Bliss & Co., boots and shoes, Halifax, sold out retail business to Geo. Downie and Theo. Larson, who continue it under old firm name. W. G. DeBlois continues manufacturing boots and shoes under the style of DeBlois & Co.; John Stapleton, general store, Port Hawkesbury, sold out to Jas. B. Stapleton; Danl. C. Mackintosh, dry goods and millinery, Liverpool, assigned to F. O. L. Patch in trust, assets \$6,000, nominal liabilities, \$2,700; Rob. D. Campbell, general store, Aspy Bay, burnt out, (insured).

DRY GOODS.—Orders are coming in fairly, and there is no serious complaint. The market continues to show a healthy tone. The advance in cottons has been fully sustained, and all domestic woollens are firm.

METALS.—The metal trade has been quiet and, through the fear of increased duties, business has been unsettled in tone and small in volume. The impression, however, appears to gain ground that the government may not hastily disturb the tariff except on scrap iron, a duty on which it is generally believed is likely to be established. Iron in Great Britain is cabled generally as lower.

BREADSTUFFS.—The grain markets have ruled very weak throughout, and little has been accomplished. Flour is quiet, and can be secured at nearly buyer's option.

PROVISIONS.—With the exception of lard, which alone shows any liveliness, the market for hog products has been dull, though prices have been fairly maintained.

BUTTER.—The market has continued to favor buyers, though there has been no material change in prices since our last report. If the present state of affairs continues, old stock will have to be sold cheap. This is in marked contrast to what the prospects were three months ago. Prices have an easy and irregular tone, and there is a well-defined disposition to sell on every reasonable offer.

CHEESE.—The cheese market has been quiet and unchanged, but signs are not wanting of an early resumption of animation as the new make approaches nearer.

SUGAR AND MOLASSES.—A slight further advance has been established on granulated sugar, the market for which has ruled strong. Yellows have been very large, but unchanged. Molasses is easier with a declining tendency.

FRUITS have been quiet and little is doing in them, though the sinking of the steamer *Barcelona*, the first of the direct cargoes this season, while ascending the St. Lawrence, has had a tendency to make prices firmer.

APPLES.—The market is very firm for fine to fancy stock. Late cables from Liverpool report sales there at £1 per bbl. Here the supply of first-class apples is small, and holders consequently demand full prices.

TEA.—There has been a good country demand for tea, which has resulted in a fair distribution business being done. The Japan market for new crop teas has just opened, and a cable has been received advising sales of choice garden pickings at 40 to 12c. per picul, or about the same as last year's opening rates. The first steamer was to leave Yokohama on Wednesday, the 4th instant, for San Francisco, the rate of freight being 2c. per pound less than last year, which was 5c. According to the same cable the prospects for the new crop of Japans are very favorable, and the quality is reported to be generally excellent.

COFFEE.—The market is very strong and prices have further advanced fully 1c. per lb.

LUMBER.—There has been a good retail demand for lumber at the wharves and yards, as jobbers are getting busy making repairs to houses, etc. The market on this side has, on the whole, ruled active. In England both spruce deals and timber are weak and depressed. Prices, however, are not quoted lower and the recent New Brunswick complications will not, it is hoped, interfere with future business.

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.

We intend devoting special attention to our Commercial and Financial Articles, and to our Market Quotations, and to this end have secured the co-operation of several persons thoroughly conversant with questions of finance and commerce.

GROCERIES.

Table listing various grocery items such as Sugar, Tea, Coffee, and Butter with their respective prices.

BREADSTUFFS.

PROVISIONS AND PRODUCE. Quotations below are our to-day's wholesale prices for car lots not cash. Jobbers' and Retailers' prices about 5 to 10 cents per bbl. higher than car lots. Markets quiet. Breadstuffs are selling below current cost.

Table listing various breadstuffs and provisions such as Flour, Corn, Beans, and Potatoes with their respective prices.

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

BUTTER AND CHEESE.

Table listing various butter and cheese items such as Nova Scotia Choice Fresh Prints and Canadian Creamery with their respective prices.

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

FISH FROM VESSELS.

There are so few pickled or dry fish arriving from the coast that a quotation cannot be correctly given. The most of those that are arriving are consigned, and go into store.

Table listing various fish items such as Mackerel, Herring, and Salmon with their respective prices.

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

LOBSTERS.

Table listing various lobster items such as Nova Scotia (Atlantic Coast Packing) and Tall Cans with their respective prices.

The above quotations are corrected by a reliable dealer.

LUMBER.

Table listing various lumber items such as Pine, Spruce, Hemlock, and Shingles with their respective prices.

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

HOME AND FOREIGN FRUITS.

Table listing various fruits such as Apples, Oranges, Lemons, and Bananas with their respective prices.

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

POULTRY.

Table listing various poultry items such as Turkeys, Geese, Ducks, and Chickens with their respective prices.

The above are corrected by a reliable victualer.

LIVE STOCK—at Richmond Depot.

Table listing various live stock items such as Steers, Oxen, Fat Steers, Heifers, and Weathers with their respective prices.

These quotations are prepared by reliable victualer.

GREAT JUBILEE NUMBER

—OF—

THE CRITIC!

A SPECIAL LIBRARY EDITION OF TWENTY-FIVE THOUSAND COPIES,

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It is intended to make it a distinctively Maritime production, all the literary contributions being from the pens of well-known writers, either natives or residents of the Province of Nova Scotia, New Brunswick, and Prince Edward Island. Among the number may be mentioned the following well-known literateurs:—

- List of contributors including Rev. Dr. Grant, Principal of Queen's College, Kingston, Ont.; Hon. Sir Charles Tupper, K.C.M.G., C.B., Finance Minister of the Dominion of Canada; Hon. Sir Adams G. Archibald, K.C.M.G., ex Governor of Nova Scotia; Alex. E. Sweet, Editor of The Times; Robert J. Burdette, The "Hawkeye" Man; His Grace the Most Rev. C. O'Brien, Archbishop of Halifax; George Stewart, D.C.L., Editor of the Quaker Chronicle; Professor C. G. D. Roberts, Author of "Echoes from Old Acadia"; Hon. George E. Foster, Minister of Marine and Fisheries; S. D. Scott, Editor of the Sun; Mrs. Leonovens, Author of "An English Governess at the Court of St. Petersburg"; Colonel Wainwright, former Attache of Lord Walsley; F. Blake Crofton, Author of "Big Talk Stories," and Contributor to Magazines; Hon. J. W. Langley, Attorney-General of Nova Scotia; Rev. R. F. Burns, D.D.; Professor C. F. Fraser, Editor of The Critic, &c., &c., &c.

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HILDRED.

(Continued.)

"If she be not fair to me, what care I how fair she be?" quoted the earl. "I am glad you think so. I do not admire her style of beauty. If any one else does, so much the better—I do not object. There is the bell. Isn't it dreadful that the sound of the dinner-bell has a greater charm for me than the discussion of a lady's beauty?"

Lady Caraven hastened forward. Her husband said something to her; she answered him with a cold haughty look. Sir Raoul spoke; it was quite another face that she turned to him—brilliant, tender, beautiful. She begged him to take her arm. He looked at her laughingly.

"It would be cruel to take so fair an arm," he said, "with a strong one like Ulric's near."

"Mine is strong with good-will," she said, smiling.

And Sir Raoul could not refuse. He leaned as lightly as possible on the lovely round arm, but his heart was warned by her kindness.

Then he set to work resolutely to watch her, to see if in any respect she was deficient. He could not discover anything. She took her place with consummate grace. She was well versed in all the etiquette of the table—she was a charming hostess. He saw, too, that, with all her wealth and all her beauty, she was an excellent mistress of the household; her servants were well trained and obedient.

"I do not see myself," thought Sir Raoul, "what more Ulric can desire."

He could detect no fault in her; but he did stop to wonder what their dinners must be like when they were quite alone.

The earl might have guessed the nature of his thoughts, for he said suddenly—

"We had some friends coming to night, but I postponed their visit, thinking that you would be tired, Raoul. We never dine alone."

The young countess made no remark. Sir Raoul saw that she had plenty of self-control; no matter how sarcastic or bitter her husband was, she was never provoked to reply.

"She has that virtue," he said to himself, "self-control—and it is a sure foundation for many others."

CHAPTER XXII.

Sir Raoul Laureston had been for three weeks at Halby House; during that time he had grown to love the young countess as though she had been a sister of his own. In proportion as his love for her increased his affection for the earl decreased. In one he saw self-control, in the other unbridled self-indulgence. He thought over and over again that so fair a girl deserved a better fate. He had also become less sanguine as to the reconciliation of husband and wife, less hopeful about it, and he wondered less at their estrangement. The handsome boy whom he had loved so dearly was indeed changed. He seemed to have completely lost sight of the higher ends of life. Duty was a dead letter to him. Self-indulgence, pleasure, gaming, betting, and horse-racing filled up his time, to the total and inexcusable neglect of the beautiful young wife who bore his name. Indeed, after Sir Raoul arrived he neglected her more than ever. He had been accustomed to escort her to all public places, but now he went his own road, saying to himself that she was "all right"—Raoul was there, Raoul would attend to her.

They agreed very well together; but then Raoul was always different from other men—a *preux chevalier*. For whole days together the earl did not see his wife, and oftener now than ever he dined from home. There were times when Hildred's youth and pride rose in hot rebellion against her fate, when she could not endure to remember that the gallant soldier and hero was a witness of all the slights and humiliations to which she had to submit, when she felt that she must run away from it all, for it was utterly unbearable.

One evening the earl was more than usually disagreeable. Some friends were dining with them, and during dinner Lord Caraven began to speak of one of his acquaintances who had gone abroad for his honeymoon.

"Another added to the long list of victims," he said—"another name written on the scroll of folly. He was a man who had everything he desired, yet he got married—I want a word for such folly."

"Ulric," said Sir Raoul, sharply—"pardon me—that is not the way a married man should speak."

"Pardon me," said the earl, laughingly—"it is only a married man who can speak so. You outsiders know nothing of the matter. 'Distance lends enchantment,' you know."

Sir Raoul saw a crimson flush mount to Hildred's white brow. Suddenly the young countess spoke. Her voice sounded pitilessly sweet and was as clear as a bell.

"I quite agree with Lord Caraven," she said: "if there be one folly greater than all others, it is that which we call by the name of marriage."

There was a dead silence for a minute; even Lord Caraven felt that he had gone too far—that he had spoken in an undignified, ungentlemanly fashion; then came Sir Raoul to the rescue.

"It is an old institution," he said; "we will not abuse it. Talking of abuse, has any one read the 'Saturday's' stinging review of Captain Hartlake's great military work?"

This changed the conversation; but that night, when the young countess was about to retire, she went across the room to Sir Raoul, and her soft fingers closed over his.

"I want to say good-night and to thank you," she said. "I want to say also that you have been very kind, and that I feel sure you believe in what is good; so pray for me—pray for me—for I am frightened at myself."

He repeated the words after her, wondering at them. "Frightened at herself, poor child!"

There had been a terrible wrong here. Who had done it? Was it the money-lending father who had sold his child for a coronet? Was it the spendthrift lord who had been willing to build up his credit again with the money-lender's money? On which of them lay the guilt of that loveless, luckless marriage? Then a new thought struck Sir Raoul. How had Hildred been induced to give her consent? She so refined, so true, and so tender, so proud and so earnest, how had she been induced to consent? She must have believed in Ulric's love at some time or other, he told himself; otherwise she would never have married.

Pray for her, poor child! What deadly temptation lay in her path? He could guess. He could read dislike of her husband in her averted, drooping eyes.

"I will help her," he thought. "In days gone by I have used my influence over my men to good purpose. I will use it now with her."

He set himself the task; but he had not much hope. The days of his sanguine faith had passed. Indifference and dislike between husband and wife were deadly foes to contend with.

Amongst the friends who came to see Sir Raoul was Lumley Atherstone, the famous artist—a genius who lived for art, who never saw the color of a flower, the shape of a leaf, the rosy clouds of sunset, the pearly tints of dawn, the beauty of a woman's face, or the grace of a human figure, without a thrill of joy, and a thanksgiving for the gift of discernment—an artist to whom everything was subservient to art, who estimated people only according to their power of idealism, who was steeped in dreams of beauty—an artist who was also in some measure a man of fashion, whose least word in matters of taste was as law. No matter how the world praised a woman, if his decision was unfavorable no one ventured to call her a beauty; if he praised her, her reputation was made.

He was fastidious too in his art; no matter how wealthy the person who wished for a portrait—no matter whether she were princess or duchess—unless she would make a picture that would do credit to him he would sternly refuse to paint it. He would have nothing to do with commonplace people or commonplace faces. What would have been impertinence in another was fastidiousness in him; and he was respected all the more for his plain speaking. When the wife of a wealthy merchant went to him and exhibited a face that indicated good temper and luxurious living, she was politely assured by the artist that he had more engagements for the next three years than he could possibly fulfill. If a countess with shrewd crabbed features requested a sitting, he made the same excuse. It was useless—Lumley Atherstone worshipped beauty. Moreover, he loved beauty of mind as well as beauty of face. A noble soul had great attractions for him; that was why he liked Sir Raoul—the picturesque side of the soldier's character had struck him, and they were the greatest of friends.

He was sitting one morning talking to Sir Raoul when Lady Caraven entered. He had not seen her before, and he at once admired her. Hildred had heard strange stories of the artist—of his fancies, his caprices, his genius—and she was delighted to meet him. She looked very lovely and *spirituelle*. She wore a dress of pale pink muslin trimmed with white lace—the pale pretty pink set off the exquisite coloring of her face to the greatest advantage. The slender supple figure, rounded as Hebe's, with its perfect grace of movement, the lovely southern face, the proud noble head with its crown of dark hair, filled him with wonder and delight. He did not say much to her because he was so deeply engaged in admiring her. When Hildred had spoken to Sir Raoul, and talked for a few minutes with the artist, she went away. With dreamy eyes Lumley Atherstone looked after her.

"She is very beautiful, Sir Raoul," he said. "I have not seen such a face or figure since I left Italy."

"Lady Caraven is certainly a lovely woman," was the quiet reply. The artist sat quite still, wrapped in a dream. Suddenly he turned to the soldier.

"Do you think," he said, "if I asked it as a great favor, that Lady Caraven would let me paint her portrait?"

"I cannot tell," answered Sir Raoul.

"I have just seen her—seen her in a low Venetian dress, with one white shoulder bare and a mantle of purple and gold round the other, a crown of red roses on her hair, and rubies round her throat."

"Seen her? Where?" asked the simple soldier, greatly perplexed.

"Here, Sir Raoul," replied the artist, touching his temple—"here where I see pictures so tantalizing and so beautiful that I cannot reproduce them. If she will but consent, I can make her and myself immortal. When may I ask her?"

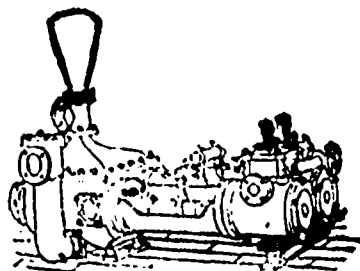
"I do not understand much about the etiquette of such matters, but I should have thought it would be etiquette to speak first to Lord Caraven."

"To be sure—you are quite right; he might not like his wife's lovely face to be shown to the world. But in that case I should blame him; a man cannot but be better after having seen such a face as that."

"I do not think he will refuse; but I should most certainly speak to him first."

The fact was that Sir Raoul felt proud of the artist's great admiration, and he wished the earl to hear how the most eminent painter of the day estimated the beauty that he ignored. Such praise would not have the same value coming from any one else; if he himself, for instance, uttered it, the earl would laugh—coming from Lumley Atherstone, he would not dare to do so.

He told the artist that he believed Lord Caraven was even then in the house, and that if he pleased he would send for him. The earl came in.



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MOOSE RIVER MINES.—Our old friend, Mr. Touquoy, paid us a visit this week, bringing with him his usual monthly brick, which, this time, weighs 76½ oz., the result of crushing 58 tons of quartz. Mr. Touquoy has now 12 men at work, and says his prospects are still growing brighter.

HERE AND THERE.—Several mining properties are reported as having changed hands, but as yet it is impossible to give any definite statement of facts. A company of London capitalists have, it is said, concluded to purchase a well-known gold mine east of Halifax, and the agent of a wealthy American company is now negotiating the purchase of a property in Queens County. Halifax capital is also being largely invested in the mines of Queens. These encouraging indications prove that both home and foreign capitalists are beginning to realize that the mineral resources of this province offer a field for paying investments. Prospecting east of Halifax has led to the discovery of a vein of quartz eleven inches wide, which shows good sights of gold. From Renfrew we hear that development work on the property under the management of Mr. A. A. Hayward, is still kept up, and that there is in sight a large amount of gold bearing quartz.

It is with regret that we chronicle the death of Captain Hale, which took place at Carlton on Sunday last. For the past three years the deceased gentleman has been well and favorable known among the mining fraternity of this province. By his death we lose one of our most enterprising and capable mining men. Captain Hale has been connected with several mines in different localities, but for the past year he has devoted himself almost exclusively to the development of the Carlton mine near Yarmouth, in which he has been assisted by Mr. A. C. Ross.

The Spring Hill Mining Co. have contracted to ship from 30,000 to 40,000 tons of coal to Portland, Me.

The New York *Mining and Engineering Review*, in reviewing the annual report of the Inspector of Mines, makes the following reference to the mineral wealth of the province:—"We have many times called attention to the magnificent mineral resources of Nova Scotia, where gold, copper, iron, coal, manganese, antimony, gypsum, and other valuable minerals are found in large deposits, easily worked, easy of access, and near together. No country in the world has greater natural advantages than Nova Scotia, and few make less use of their advantages. The Bluesoes appear to lack enterprise, and are unwilling to make the investments necessary to develop mines. Were Nova Scotia a State of this Union, her output would soon make a far different showing from the almost stationary figures given above.

The following extracts respecting the properties named are from the Official Report of the Inspector of Mines:—

Caribou.—The returns for 1886 show 2,233 ounces, compared with 1,330 ounces in 1885. On the property of the Moose River Company a good deal of work was done by tributors on the Little North and Copper lead. Bruce did some prospecting on the Taylor and Archibald properties, working in the latter two small rich leads.

Mr. Touquoy worked several leads, among which may be mentioned the North, Little North, and Copper Lead. On the first, last year's operations were continued. The South lead was opened by him for about 60 feet, the vein forms a saddle dipping west. On the Copper lead a new shaft was sunk, and about 70 feet opened.

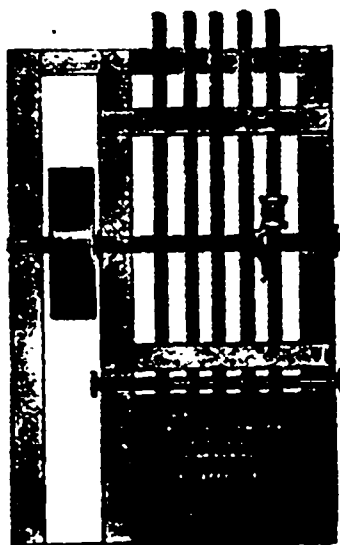
In Caribou, Mr. Bruce worked in Lease No. 79, on the North Lead No. 1 of Mr. Touquoy, and the Lake lead was worked by Mr. Wadsworth for some American capitalists. The lead passing abruptly across the metals for some distance, resumed its normal course, widening to several feet and yielding rich quartz.

Durr's Hill.—The Dufferin Gold Mining Company has proved the most permanent of the gold mining corporations of the Province. During the past year the returns show that 11,628 tons of quartz yielded 5,509 ounces, being a total to date of 24,556 ounces from 44,381 tons of quartz. During the past season their works have been pushed to the east, the quartz measuring from four to twelve feet in thickness. A dam has been built across the river about one half mile above the crusher dam, and power obtained to do all the pumping, hoisting, etc., by an endless wire rope, connected with friction gear, etc., at each shaft.

Fifteen Mile Stream.—Mr. Hudson has continued working his area, but the resumption of work on the property generally known as the Hall-Anderson did not take place. Mr. Grant and others did some prospecting, and Mr. Walton began to test some promising leads at Caledonia.

Montague.—Work on the Albion areas was stopped entirely in the spring, and the district was idle until the fall, when Mr. Hale reopened the main lead on the Symond's property to the east of the mill; the vein proves well, and work will be continued.

Oldham.—Mining business has revived to some extent in this district, and is in a very encouraging condition. J. E. Hardman has been sinking and drifting on the "Dunbrack" lode, and has obtained some rich quartz.



MINING.—Continued.

E. C. McDonnell has been working the property adjoining **J. E. Hardman** on the "Dunbrack" lode. The lode increased in value in depth, and the returns from the quartz in the bottom was 3 oz. per ton. Mr. McDonnell intends to move his engine, hoist and pump to the 310 feet shaft, and push the work forward vigorously during the coming season.

Donaldson Bros. have been working a property on the same lode, and are now down 95 ft. in the main shaft. The lode has improved in value, in depth. They propose to put up appliances to carry the shaft deeper during the coming season.

Renfrew.—In the spring some ground was worked by Mr. Hayward, and attention was turned to deepening the shaft, which is now 300 feet deep. A large amount of ore has been blocked out, and it is expected will occupy the mill for several months.

Sherbrooke.—The total returns from this district were 1,341 oz. from 2,850 tons, the smallest being 63 ounces in May, and the highest 278 ounces in March. During the season Mr. Williams worked on the New York property, re-opening the Old German pit, the lead showing from 4 to 10 inches, at the shaft bottom 180 feet deep. Several leads were opened and tested on the Wellington area. On the Pactolus stopes were carried eastward from the great open cut into the Meridian property. Work was done by Messrs. Foley, May, and others at several points, but I regret to say that mining is still dull in Goldenville.

At **Cochran's Hill** a little work was done on the Cumming property by Mr. Caffrey; and Mr. R. P. Fraser continued the development of the Crow's Nest mine, where several promising leads were worked, and low grade ground tested.

Stormont.—Operations have been partially suspended in this district. Tribute work has been carried on by Mr. Hewitt and others at various points. At the Narrows of Country Harbor, a good deal of prospecting has been done on Johnson's Brook. Several promising leads have been found, especially on the properties of the Messrs. Cook, and of Mr. Morrison. The total yield of the district was 435 ounces from 429 tons of quartz. A fifteen stamp mill has been put up, road made, etc.

Tanjier.—The returns show 360 ounces from 936 tons of quartz, compared with 431 ounces from 874 tons in 1885. A little work was done on the Strawberry Hill property. Mr. Miller worked on the Leary Lead, and Mr. Murphy took out some ground in the west end of the Nugget lode workings. In Mooseland a little work was done by Mr. Irvine, and some prospecting carried on by Messrs. Townsend, Miller and Disoway.

Uniacke.—Little work of note was performed here during the past season. The returns show only 320 ounces.

Beaver Dam.—This mining camp has been revived and has received considerable attention during the season from prospectors. William Yeaton has a party of 12 men in camp developing his property. He has opened up 3 leads that he estimates will pay well to work. Having put up a crusher with one battery of four stamps to test the leads as they were opened, he is now preparing to place the second battery and push the work during the coming season. He has built a dwelling house, shaft houses, barn and blacksmith shop. The mill is run by water. Several other parties are prospecting properties here.

Gold River.—Prospectors have had their interest in this place revived and have paid considerable attention to the exploration of the part of the district lying east of the river. Several large leads have been found. Webster Eaton has been opening up the Mills property, and is building a crusher at the mouth of the "Branch" brook. Work has also been done by Heisler and others.

Whiteburn.—Mining operations and prospecting have been vigorously pushed during the season. Several new leads have been opened up. Two new mills have been put in operation, one on the Parker and Douglas Property, and the Foster mill on the Parker, Cole and Wile property. The works on the Parker and Douglas Company's property have all been put up during the season. The new lead discovered in September to the westward of McBride's hill turned out very rich looking quartz, and a number of people bought interests in the Parker, Cole and Wile and Annand areas, and put up the Foster mill. McGuire Bros. have opened another lead on their area.

Malepa Barrens is a new district, the first gold being found in June. A very large number of areas were taken up by different parties to prospect on. The outcrops of several lodes showing gold were found on several properties, and regular mining operations were commenced on the properties of Wharton & Co., and McGuire and Smith. A road has been built in to the mining properties. This district lies about four miles easterly from Brookfield, Queen's Co.

Carlton, Yarmouth Co., is a new district, gold being first discovered during the early spring of 1886. Messrs. Hale and Ross acquired the title to the property of Messrs. Crosby and Wyman, and prospected the areas. The outcrop of a good streak of gold was found in the summer, and the work of sinking shafts and drifting was rapidly pushed. At Christmas the shafts were down about 100 feet, with about three hundred feet of drifts and about 50 tons of rich ore taken out. Hale and Ross mine is advantageously situated in the village of Carlton, Yarmouth County, and near to the large water power of the Tacket river that drives the saw mills in that place.

Chezetcook.—On the Oxford property, a small lead running under the battery, and from one-half to three inches thick, was opened in the fall, and proved very rich.

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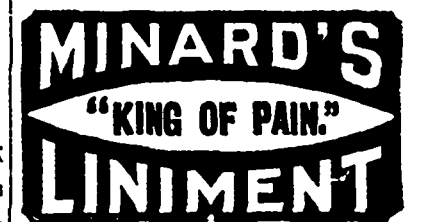
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PASTOR RALPH THATCHER NOWHERE.—John Beauchamp, a big negro of Louisville, but that he could eat sixty eggs in as many minutes. The wager was accepted, and the other evening he appeared with five dozen eggs and a skillet, and the match began. He cooked the eggs himself, and ate twenty-seven in six minutes. The remaining thirty three disappeared more slowly, but none were left when time was called. The ester could hardly speak when he had finished, and had to be helped to his feet.—*Exchange.*

SARAH'S DOUGHNUTS.—One cup milk, one cup of sugar, half teaspoon soda, two eggs, three spoons lard and butter mixed, flour to roll as lightly as possible.

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Brown Bros. & Co.'s Flavoring Extracts are articles of true merit, which cannot be said of many in the market.

DARTMOUTH SPONGE CAKE.—Two cups of flour, one cup cold water with one teaspoon soda, two more cups flour with two teaspoons cream tartar, six eggs beat a minute and a half. Add three cups sugar, heat five minutes, juice and grated rind of lemon, salt, mix thoroughly and bake at once.

NEGLECTED COUGHS AND COLDS.—Few are aware of the importance of checking a Cough or common Cold in its first stages—that which in the beginning would yield to a mild remedy, if neglected, soon pays upon the lungs. Simson's Tolu and Aniseed will afford immediate relief.

Tickling sensation in the throat stopped by using Simson's Tolu and Aniseed. The best preparation before the public for all hoarseness or affections of the throat.

DR. JENKINS, of Montreal, says:—"I prescribe Puttner's Emulsion of Cod Liver Oil with Hypophosphites largely in my practice, with most gratifying results. You may use my opinion in any way you desire: I cannot speak too highly of your preparation.

J. F. T. JENKINS, M. D., C. M., etc.

Children having worms require immediate attention, as neglect of the trouble often causes prolonged sickness. Abbott's Worm Tablets are a simple remedy, and will destroy worms without injuring the child.

A young bride read Mother Shipton's prophecy for the first time the other day. "Just my luck!" she exclaimed, throwing down the paper. "Here I am newly married, and now the world is coming to an end."

Many persons on awakening in the morning have a bad taste in the mouth, and their breath is also offensive. This often arises from bad teeth and gums, which can be prevented by the use of Dr. C. K. Fiske's Lavo dent, which not only cleans the teeth, but also heals the gums and disinfects the breath. Those who are troubled in this way, should use it twice a day, in the morning and again on retiring at night.

HALIFAX CAKE.—One cup butter, one cup sour milk, three and a half cups flour, two cups brown sugar, four eggs, one teaspoonful soda, one glass brandy, raisins, spice, etc. Bake.

Messrs. Brown Brothers & Co. have issued a very neat little book filled with practical cooking receipts, and other valuable information, in case of sickness or accident. They will be pleased to send a copy free to any persons who will send them their addresses.

A lady, who, having complained of being unable to tell her mince pies from her apple pies without testing, was advised to mark them. She did so, and complacently announced: "This I've marked 'T. M.'—'Tis mince; and that I've marked 'T. M.'—'Taint mince."

ALMOST A ROMANCE.

A youth of sad and solemn mien,
With visage long and sunken-rings keen,
Sat down to think his chances o'er
To linger out five years or more.
I'm twenty-one to day, he said,
A few more years I shall be dead,
A heritage of death is ours;
Diseases waste our vital powers,
Our sisters sweet and brothers too,
Ere twenty-six pass from our view.
And though our life is thus so short,
It's not filled up with youthful sport.
The happy joys to children given,
Because of pain are from us driven.
While other children romp and play
We mope in misery all the day.
Our nights are spent with coughs and screams,
Which others pass in pleasant dreams,
I've come thus far through pain and grief
And is there yet for me relief?
Can I my vital powers sustain,
Defy the ravages of pain?
Meet Death and say, begone dread being!
Go show your claims to others, seeing
There are some medicines around
Designed to keep us over ground.
And if those things are moderate even
You'll wait 'till I am eighty-seven.
Old Death was mad as he could be,
And going off, he said, "we'll see,"
"I'll summon cough, consumption too,
Those that stand them are very few;
While dysentery, and then catarrh,
Will show my boy how strong you are.
Of pain and aches you'll have enough,
And nervous shakes you can't rebuff,
I'll weaken down your system so,
From time away you'll gladly go."
Consumption came, sustained by a cough,
Determined now to take him off,
While all the rest by ones and twos,
Did poison through his blood diffuse,
Consumption left without compunction,
Retired before Puttner's Emulsion.

Here the poetry machine burst from over-pressure, but the material had been placed in it to grind out the story, that Dysentery was cured by Abbott's Diarrhoea Cordial, cough by Simson's Tolu and Aniseed, catarrh by Butcher's Antiseptic Inhaler, pains, aches, and rheumatism, by Simson's Liniment, inflamed eyes by Simson's Golden Eye Water, nervous diseases and weakness by Simson's Chemical Food, while Simson's Jamaica Ginger drove away all chills, so that death was completely baffled, and the young man lived to be a fine old man.

ONE EGG CAKE.—Three cups flour, one cup milk, one egg, and half cup sugar, one even teaspoon cream tartar, one half teaspoon soda, piece butter size of an egg, lemon to taste.

A Burlington girl says there is no truth in the saying, "Like father like son." She says she likes the son first-rate, but she can't bear the father.

JELLY CAKE.—Five cups flour, one cup of milk, two and a half cups sugar, one heaping cup butter, one teaspoon soda, four eggs. Beat on plates.

Children suffer more from worms than from any other cause, and are often permanently injured by being forced to swallow vile preparations containing mineral poisons. Recognizing this fact Brown Bros. & Co. have introduced Abbott's Worm Tablets, sure death to worms, and delightful to take, but containing nothing injurious to the system.

A victim of street-car pickpockets determined to get even with them, so he put into his pocket a pocket-book containing only a slip of paper, on which was written the words, "This time, you rascal, you've lost the reward of your labor!" He got into the car and waited, resolved to have the first pickpocket that meddled with him arrested. Twenty minutes passed, and nothing happened, and, tired of waiting, he got out, having first assured himself that his pocket book was safe. He opened it, and in the place of the white piece of paper was a blue one, which he unfolded and read as follows: "What a sly joker you are!"

COFFEE CAKES.—One cup Coffee as prepared for the table, one cup butter, one cup molasses, one cup sugar, one cup raisins, five cups flour, one teaspoonful soda, spice with cloves and cinnamon.

Abbott's Aperient Pills are a standard article, warranted to contain no calomel, and are a first-class anti-bilious medicine.

Why, oh why, will you suffer with sore throat, when Brown's Astringent Gargle, a certain cure, can be had for a mere song?

HOME AND FARM.

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

OUR HOME AND FARM DEPARTMENT—A subscriber in remitting his subscription for THE CRITIC referred to our Home and Farm Department in very flattering terms, and we here republish that portion of his letter:—
 "I have now been a subscriber of THE CRITIC for more than two years, and although I have always found it interesting reading, I must congratulate you upon your new agricultural department, which I could wish occupied double the space it does. My wife and I have often sat during the winter evenings reading aloud from your paper, and our eldest boy never fails to study its contents. With respect to your Home and Farm Department, I hope to see it kept well up to its present standard, and I mean ere long to send you an article on root crops, which I trust may prove of advantage to my fellow farmers. If you could offer our young people some inducements to canvass for THE CRITIC, I feel certain that a large number of subscribers might be secured in the County of Lunenburg, for everybody who takes THE CRITIC likes it." Our Lunenburg friend must not overlook the fact that the popularity of THE CRITIC in his county may be accounted for by the large circulation that we have gained among the fishermen, farmers and miners of that prosperous section of the province. We would willingly double the amount of space devoted to farming matters, if the farmers of this province would second our efforts with the same cordiality that the miners have done; but we know from the experience of the publishers of agricultural journals in the United States, that the space we have allotted for the discussion of agricultural topics, is all that the majority of farmers will deem necessary. Few men have means to enable them to take all the papers they would desire to read, and hence it is necessary in all agricultural journals to give a full synopsis of the news of the week, with such other matter as may be of general interest both to the farmer and his family. Purely agricultural papers, saving such as have a continental reputation, seldom succeed in securing a wide circulation; and this proves conclusively that farmers, in addition to the special matter devoted to agriculture, require that space shall be allotted to those matters in which the general public are interested. Realizing this, we shall continue to conduct THE CRITIC upon its present lines, and hope to eventually have it recognized as the best home and farm journal published in the Maritime Provinces. With respect to our subscriber's suggestion, that we offer the young people an inducement to canvass for new subscribers, we may say we have the matter under consideration. Any persons desiring to take agencies in the localities or counties in which they reside, will be furnished with full information with respect to terms, &c., on application to our business manager. See page 1.

DOES FARMING PAY?—This question is being very generally discussed in the columns of our agricultural exchanges; and according to the experiences of some of the writers, farming, when properly carried on, not only pays, but pays well. There are few farmers who thoroughly understand book-keeping, but there are many who could credit and debit the farm with receipts and expenditures, and thus be able to figure out accurately whether or not the farm yielded a fair return for the capital invested, and the labor expended upon it. In order to do this in a thorough business-like manner, an inventory should be made at the commencement of each year, showing quantity and value of unsold produce; value of stock, implements, &c. Then the farm should be credited during the year with all produce disposed of, and debited with any cash or other outlay that may have been made; not forgetting to make a fair allowance for the labor of the farmer and his family. The interest upon the capital invested in the farm should be charged against the farm, likewise the insurance upon buildings, but the house rent should in like manner be credited to it. Let us illustrate this system of discovering whether farming pays in such a manner as will make our meaning clear to all our readers. On the 1st of January, 1885, suppose that a farmer had taken an inventory of the value of his stock and unsold produce. The value of his stock was \$900, that of his unsold produce, \$320, in all \$1220. His farm of 50 acres with house and barns, he valued at \$7,000. During the year he paid out for seed, for cattle fodder, and for new implements, \$360; for young cattle, \$200; and for outside help, \$90; in all \$650. His produce sold for \$790, and his sale of stock brought him in \$550, in all \$1,340. Now, most farmers would simply subtract the amount expended, \$650, from the amount received, \$1,340, and feel satisfied that \$690 was the net result of the year's labor. But this is not the way a business man would look at it. In addition to the \$650 chargeable against the farm, is the interest on capital invested, \$420, and the value of his own labor, say \$300, making the charge against the farm, \$1,370. On the other hand, the farm should be credited with house-rent, which, deducting insurance, might be placed at \$120. The account would then stand:

Cr.		Dr.	
Produce sold.....	\$790	Seed, cattle fodder and implements.....	\$360
Sale of stock.....	550	Young cattle.....	200
House rent.....	120	Outside help.....	90
		Interest on capital invested.....	420
		Value of his own labor.....	300
	\$1460		
Balance.....	\$90		\$1370

Few farmers would imagine that a balance of \$90 was a fair return for farming; nor would it be if this were all. The true test of his success or

failure cannot be made until an inventory is again taken on the following New Year's day; when, if he discovered that his stock was worth \$1100, and his unsold produce \$600, in all \$1700, he would at once see that the farm should be credited with the increased valuation, equivalent to \$480, which, in addition to the cash balance, makes \$570. The farmer has thus received 6 per cent for his capital outlay, \$300 for his own labor, has paid for his house rent, and has a balance to his credit of \$570. In this calculation we have made no estimate for house expenses, for the minister's salary, the doctor's bill, and the hundred and one expenses which the farmer is called upon to meet. But the domestic and farm accounts should be kept distinct, and so far as is possible, the farm should be credited with the produce consumed by the family, this being too often overlooked. We recommend our readers to think the matter over, and arrange to commence as soon as possible to put down in black and white the farm receipts and farm expenditures. If this be done, each farmer will be able to judge for himself whether he is farming at a loss, or whether farming pays.

SAND IN MEADOWS.—Numerous reports have recently been made showing the good effects from applying sand to meadow lands in grass. If the land is not excessively wet, that is, if it is not overflowed except in the season of spring freshets, a coating of sand with a dressing of fertilizer sown on with a variety of grass seed will often change a poor sward to a valuable English mowing. Just what influence the sand has may not be easily explained, but the effects are very plain to be seen. It should, however, be remembered that sand, or sandy loam, as we find it in many sand hills, is not such poor stuff as many of us have been led to believe. If sandy land can be kept moist it will often surprise the wisest. Moving it to a mucky meadow gives it just the chance to show at its best. We have reports of five tons of hay per acre on muck meadow land upon which sand was spread in winter at the rate of 200 loads per acre, seed and manure being applied at the same time. Sand is considered indispensable for covering cranberry bogs and may yet prove quite as valuable for grass. It gives a warm surface soil for the roots to feed in.

FRUIT GROWING FOR WOMEN.—A Massachusetts woman, having an hour or two each day to spare from housework and wishing to earn a little money, decided to try raising strawberries for market. Her piece of land was fifty-seven feet long, and averaged fifty-seven feet wide. The plants were well taken care of through the season, and the last of October the bed received a fine hoeing, and a little later the plants were mulched about two inches deep with pine needles. Before the picking season commenced, she bargained with a market-man, a mile and a half distant, to take all her berries, by allowing him, as his share, four cents a basket for all berries sold for twenty cents, and over, and three cents for those bringing less. In picking, she was careful to put in only sound fruit, to have as large berries at the bottom of the basket as on top, and to have them heaped as high as the crate would allow. It being a poor year for strawberries, owing to drouth, which did not affect her low ground, she received good prices. None were sold for less than fifteen cents a basket. The entire crop sold was 350 baskets, for which she received fifty-two dollars and eighty cents. Expenses were twenty-one dollars and fifty-five cents, leaving a net profit of thirty-one dollars and twenty-five cents.—*American Agriculturist for May.*

LAWNS AND EVERGREENS.—In making a new lawn, the first point is the proper preparation of the soil. It should be thoroughly and deeply tilled, with an abundance of well composted manure worked into it. Then sow four to six bushels of seed to the acre. In making a new lawn, it is well to lay an edge of turf along the paths or roads, and along the margins of the beds that are to be made in the lawn.....If paths or walks are to be made, whatever the material, secure a good foundation of excavating and filling in broken stone to make a solid bottom.....This is the month usually preferred for transplanting evergreens. The essential point is to prevent the roots from drying. From the minute they are taken from the soil to the time when they go into it again, the roots must not dry. Shelter them from the sun and air, and, if possible, keep them wet.—*American Agriculturist for May.*

Warm food given each morning stimulates the hens to lay eggs. A mess of small potatoes baked in the oven as soon as the breakfast has been prepared, and given hot, will be very acceptable and will cause the hens to sing their morning lays.—*Rural New Yorker.*

It has been calculated that in digging a square rod of ground with spits of the usual dimensions of 7x8 inches, the spade is thrust into the ground 700 times; and that as each spadeful of earth, if the spade penetrate, as it ought to, nine inches, weighs on the average quite seventeen pounds, there are 11,900 pounds of earth in a rod nine inches deep.

ADVICE TO MOTHERS.—Are you disturbed at night and broken of your rest by a sick child suffering and crying with pain of Cutting Teeth? If so send at once and get a bottle of "Mrs. Winslow's Soothing Syrup," for Children Teething. Its value is incalculable. It will relieve the poor little sufferer immediately. Depend upon it, mothers; there is no mistake about it. It cures Dysentery and Diarrhoea, regulates the Stomach and Bowels, cures Wind Colic, softens the Gums, reduces Inflammation, and gives tone and energy to the whole system. "Mrs. Winslow's Soothing Syrup" for children teething is pleasant to the taste and is the prescription of one of the oldest and best female physicians and nurses in the United States, and is for sale by all druggists throughout the world. Price twenty-five cents a bottle. Be sure and ask for "MRS. WINSLOW'S SOOTHING SYRUP," and take no other kind.

A CARD

To all who are suffering from the errors and indiscretions of youth, nervous weakness, early decay, loss of manhood, etc., I will send a recipe that will cure you, FREE OF CHARGE. This great remedy was discovered by a missionary in South America. Send a self-addressed envelope to the Rev. JOSEPH T. INMAN, Station D, New York City.

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 HALIFAX,
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Pork, Butter, &c.
 N. B.—Hams, Bacon and
 Sausages a Specialty.
 Orders from the Country promptly filled.

Piper Heidsieck Champagne.
 50 baskets of Piper Heidsieck's Celebrated
 Champagne, in quarts and pints.

Graham's Port.
 10 bbls. Graham's one diamond and three dia-
 mond Port Just received per S. S. Milanese.

Plymouth Gin.
 25 cases Coates' Celebrated Plymouth Gin. Just
 received per S. S. Milanese from London.

Hennessy's Brandy.
 150 cases Hennessy's * and *** Brandy. Just
 received per S. S. Avlona from Charente.

Lerond's Brandy.
 25 quarter casks and 30 octaves and 200 cases
 Lerond's Brandy Just received per S. S. Avlona
 from Charente.

Martell's Brandy.
 150 cases Martell's * and *** Brandy. Just
 received per S. S. Avlona from Charente.

Bass's Ale.
 100 bbls Bass's Pale Ale Bottled by Patterson
 & Hibben's in quarts and pints Just received
 per S. S. Milanese.

Islay Blend Whiskey.
 150 cases Celtic, Mackie's and Williams' Islay
 Blend Whiskey Just received and for sale by

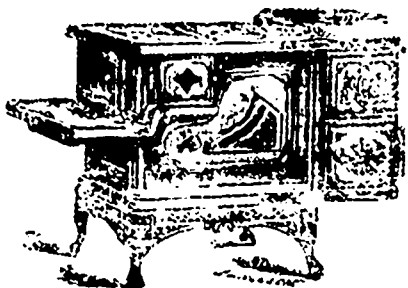
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 EMINENT
 THROAT AND LUNG SURGEON,
 Having Removed from the PROVINCE OF
 NOVA SCOTIA, TEMPORARILY, owing to
 the fact of litigation pending, regarding his right
 to practice in the Province. He will, after a
 while, will learn to treat a Medical CONFRERE as
 Medical ETHIC fully demand in a civilized
 country.
 With the above EXPLANATION, Dr. Wash-
 ington asks all who may desire to consult him, to
 correspond, when a full list of QUESTIONS,
 ESSENTIAL to the case, will be forwarded to fill
 out, and treatment expressed, as the case requires
DISEASES TREATED
 Catarrh, Nose, Head and Throat, Chronic
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 125 Yongo Street, TORONTO.
 Inhalation of Cold Medicated Vapor the principle
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STOVES, RANGES,
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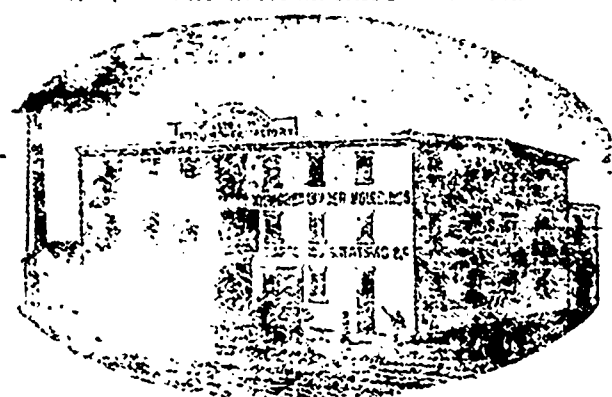
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"Cabinet Trim Finish" for Dwellings, Drug Stores, Offices, etc.
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 BRICKS, LIME, CEMENT, CALCINED PLASTER, etc.,
 Manufacturers of and Dealers in all kinds of Builders' Materials.
 SEND FOR ESTIMATES.

Western Counties Railway.
WINTER ARRANGEMENT.

On and after Monday 21st February, 1887
 Trains will run daily (Sunday excepted), as fol-
 lows:—
 LEAVE YARMOUTH, daily at 7.15 a.m. Arrive
 at Digby 10.45 a.m.
 LEAVE DIGBY, daily at 9.30 p.m. Arrive at
 Yarmouth, 7.00 p.m.
 Trains are run on Eastern Standard Time
 Connections at Digby daily (with Steamer to
 and from Annapolis, Halifax, and Stations on the
 W. & A. Railway, with Steamer "Secret" from
 and for St. John every Monday, Wednesday and
 Saturday.
 At Yarmouth, with Steamer "Pomilion" for
 Boston every Saturday Evening, and from Boston
 every Thursday morning. With Stage daily (Sun-
 day excepted) to and from Barrington, Shelburne
 and Liverpool.
 Through tickets may be obtained at 126 Hollis
 Street, Halifax, and the principal Stations on the
 Windsor & Annapolis Railway.
 J. BRIGSELL,
 General Superintendent.

Yarmouth, N. S.



NOTICE.

SEALED TENDERS addressed to the under-
 signed and endorsed "Tender for Old Custom
 House Property, Newcastle, N. B." will be received
 at this Office until Wednesday the eighteenth
 day of May 1887, for the purchase of the Old
 Custom House Property at Newcastle, N. B.
 The Department does not bind itself to accept
 the highest or any tender.
 By order.

A. GOBEIL,
 Secretary.

Department of Public Works,
 Ottawa, 27th April, 1887.

DURING

The month of March, April and May the system
 undergoes a change. The blood becomes thin and
 requires looking after. To bring about the desired
 result, there is no remedy that has the same power
 to perform the work as

**Estey's Iron & Quinine
 TONIC.**

By its use the blood is purified. It removes that
 low despondent feeling that most people experience
 during the Spring. After using it for a short time
 they will find their appetite improved, their spirits
 become more cheerful, and they feel and know that
 every fibre and tissue of their body is being braced
 and renovated.

PRICE 50 CENTS.

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MONEY to be made. Cut this
 out and return to us, and
 we will send you free,
 something of great value
 and importance to you, that will start you in busi-
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 can do the work and live at home. Either sex;
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 needed. This is one of the genuine, important
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 and enterprising will not delay. Grand outfit free.
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 FLUID BEEF**



Invalids, Convalescents,
 And those in
PERFECT HEALTH
 It is the only preparation of the kind
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 perties for making a nutritious
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 Pleasantly Located at

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 Offers superior Accommodations to Transient &
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ROBERTSON & LONG. Proprietors



Canada and West Indies

TENDERS FOR STEAMSHIP LINES.

The Advertisement of the 7th February, 1887,
 calling for tenders for the performance of the above
 service is hereby cancelled, and the following sub-
 stituted in lieu thereof:—

TENDERS will be received at the Finance
 Department, Ottawa, up to and including the 15th
 day of May next, from persons or companies, for
 the performance of the following steamship ser-
 vices, viz:—

1st, a line of mail steamers sailing from Halifax
 to Havana, thence to Kingston, thence to Santiago
 de Cuba and Genoa, on alternate homeward
 trips, and thence to Halifax. Trips to be made
 every three weeks. Steamers to be not over 1,500
 tons, nor less than 700 tons registered tonnage.
 The contract to be for a period of 5 years.

2nd, a line of mail steamers sailing from Halifax
 to St. Thomas, thence to Ponce, thence to May-
 guez, thence to San Juan in Porto Rico, and thence
 to Halifax, calling at Bermuda going and returning
 Trips to be made every three weeks. Steamers to
 be not over 700 tons, nor less than 500 tons regis-
 tered tonnage. The contract to be for a period of 5 years.

Tenders will be received for the above ser-
 vice either separately or together. Tenders to be made
 on the outside "Tenders for Steamship Service to
 West Indies." The Government of Canada does
 not bind themselves to accept any tender.

By command
 J. M. COURTNEY,
 Deputy Minister of Finance.

Finance Department,
 Ottawa, 16th April, 1887.

JAMES GRANT
 144 Upper Water Street,
 Opposite Jericho Warehouse, Halifax, N. S.
 Importer and Dealer in

Uppers and Shoe Findings

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We are now prepared to furnish all classes of
 employment at home, the whole of the time, or
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 profitable. Persons of either sex easily earn from
 25 cents to \$5.00 per evening, and a proportion-
 able sum by devoting all their time to the business.
 Boys and girls earn nearly as much as men. To
 all who see this may send their address, and we
 will, in the business, we make this offer. To such as
 are not well satisfied we will send one dollar to pay for
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 free Address GEORGE STRASSER & Co, Portland
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A. W. KINNEY, Yarmouth, N. S.

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