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# THE CRITIC:

A Maritime Provincial Journal.

DEVOTED TO

Commercial, Manufacturing, Mining and General News.

\$1.50 PER ANNUM.  
SINGLE COPY 5 CTS. }

HALIFAX, N. S., APRIL 3, 1891.

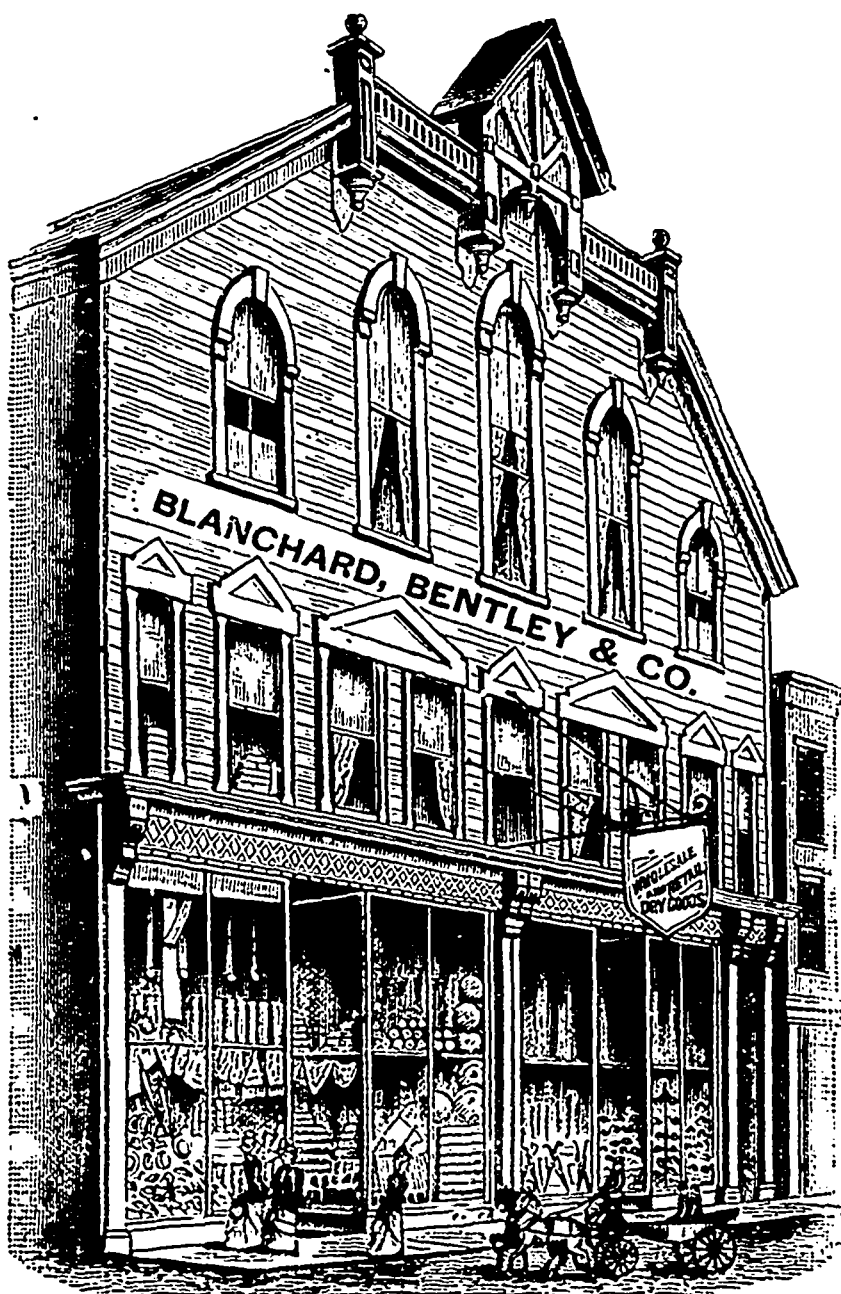
{ VOL. 8  
No. 14 }

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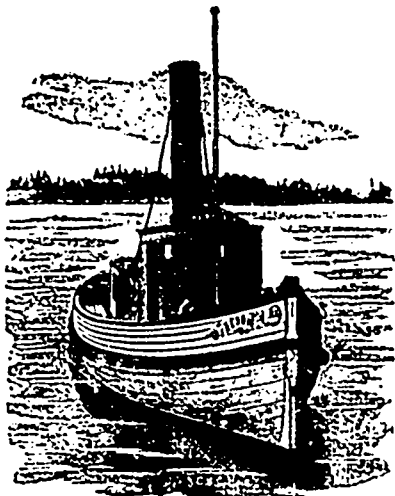
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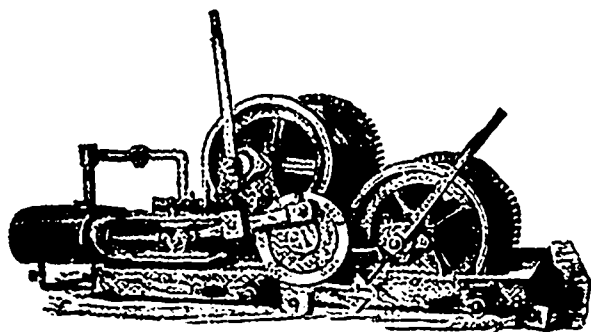
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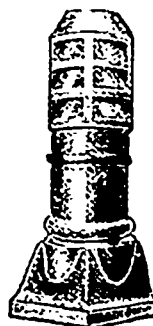
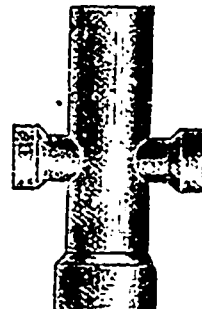
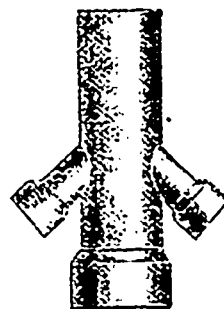
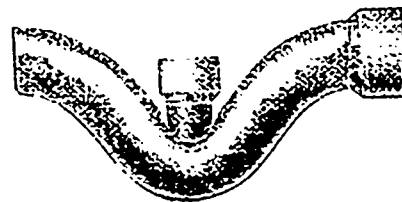
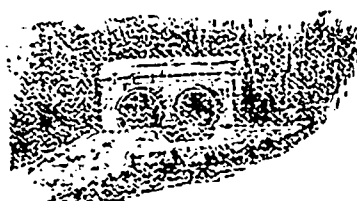
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## THE CRITIC,

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

BY  
CRITIC PUBLISHING COMPANY.

Edited by C. F. FRASER.

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

SAMPLE COPIES SENT FREE.

Remittances should be made to A. M. FRASER, BUSINESS MANAGER.

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

## EDITORIAL NOTES.

The colored paper for our cover has not yet arrived, so we are obliged to appear as usual this week in black and white.

With the advent of steel cars instead of wooden ones for passenger, postal and freight traffic, will probably come a lessening of the horrors of railway accidents by the removal of the fire terror. Among the advantages claimed for the steel car are lightness, superior strength, economy and indestructibility by fire. These qualities have been fairly proved by a mail car in use between Chicago and Louisville which has had an unusual number of accidents fall to its lot—not of course because it was made of steel—and has stood its ground without being smashed or even damaged by more than a few surface scratches. Of all its improvements the fact that it could not burn the passengers to death appears to us the most valuable. Should the car stove upset it might burn the people in its vicinity to death and perhaps suffocate the other passengers with smoke, but the chances would be in favor of escaping the fire fiend. The new steel car is expected to stand wear and tear for twenty years, while the life of a wooden car is only eight years, the repairs do not amount to anything on the steel cars, while on wooden cars they cost 10 per cent. of the annual operating expenses of all railways, and the steel car, on account of its greater strength, will hold twice the weight that a wooden one will convey. Extensive works for the construction of such cars are now being erected near Chicago, which when completed will turn out fifteen cars a day and give employment to 700 men. There is no reason, so far as we know, why Canada should not manufacture steel cars.

The New England manufacturers who are now demanding free coal and free raw materials may as well face the inevitable at once and make up their minds that the time has passed for them to successfully compete with localities where coal, iron and other raw materials are found in close juxtaposition and where manufacturing have been erected on the spot. Should they consult their own best interests they would now turn to Nova Scotia, not with the idea that they will get free coal, but with the determination of removing their works here and of investing their capital in developing our unsurpassed coal, iron, copper and lead deposits. If they do so they will never have cause to regret it, as once give us a local coal market equal to what we would lose in Quebec by placing coal on the free list, and we may be tempted in return to give them the markets of the States for their manufactured products, by a wide measure of reciprocity, even including manufactured goods.

The drillshed where our noble six hundred—or more—undergo their military instruction, is a ramshackle old affair that ought to be marked unfit for duty. Other cities have handsome and commodious drillsheds, and we think the authorities ought to be thinking of providing Halifax with something superior to the present accommodations. The drill ground is also of insufficient extent and should be enlarged. Our citizen soldiers require room to manoeuvre and should have it.

Canadian architects in the Upper Provinces have been aggrieved on several occasions by having the plans of American architects accepted for buildings in Canadian cities. Some of these same plans, however, have proved so defective that the buildings have collapsed—a fact which has of course been satisfactory to the aggrieved Canadian architects. The Board of Trade building at Toronto was built from plans supplied by a New York firm of architects, of, we believe, English training. It collapsed and had to be rebuilt from Canadian plans. The same fate has been suffered by the building of the Young Men's Christian Association in Montreal, causing a great loss. The fact is that the Americans sacrifice solidity to effect, and as they cannot be held responsible for their work as are Canadian architects, they take but little care. A Canadian architect is, if we are rightly informed, held responsible for the safety of his design for a term of years by law, and consequently he takes the greater care that it should be safe. The moral is to employ home talent, but whether these lessons will be taken to heart or not is hard to say.

There is considerable speculation in the city as to the result of the taking of the census which begins on Monday. The official returns at the last census gave Halifax a population of about 36,000, but many usually well informed persons claimed that this figure was lower by about 4,000 than the facts warranted. The estimates now run all the way from 42,000 to 55,000. Those naming the higher figure give as their reasons the assured errors in the census of 1881 and the undeniably large increase in the number of houses, shops, etc., in the northern and western portions of the city. On the other hand it is argued that, though many new buildings have been erected, and are now occupied, in the outlying districts, still many places in the central or what were formerly exclusively the business portions are now unoccupied; also that emigration has about equalized immigration, and that the "natural increase" could not have been more than 52 per cent. in ten years. We regard both estimates to be extreme, and think that the enumeration will show that we have a population of between 45,000 and 47,000. The exact data will be placed before the public in about a month.

The census enumerators will soon be calling upon each and all of us to answer a good many questions. Among those to be answered are: Sex, age, married or not, relation to head of family, place of birth, birth place of father and mother, religion, occupation, an employer or wage earner, unemployed during week preceding census, average number of employed hands in the case of a factory or mill, railway works, etc., able to read, write, deaf dumb, blind, unsound mind, deaths last year, real estate owned and occupied, silos, orchard products, vineyards, market gardens, grains, root crops, other products, live stock, animal products, home-made fabrics, industrial establishments, their capital, employees, material used and products of the forest, lumber, shipping, etc. It behooves everyone to have their information ready so that the work of taking the census will not suffer needless delay. The army required to take our census will be composed of about three thousand enumerators, officered by some two hundred and twenty captains, called county commissioners, and commanded by fifteen colonels, called census chief officers. These have been instructed and drilled in the manual so that on the day appointed within the wide domain of the Dominion, from east to west, from Cape Breton to Victoria, B. C., with all the intervening territory, the questioning shall begin. We shall endeavor to maintain the editorial dignity when we are asked if we can read and write and like questions. We trust that others will also bear the trials of the census season and that the ladies will not give cause for confirming that old slander about their unwillingness to state truthfully the years of their age. It is of importance that every aid should be given the enumerators in their not altogether-gracious task. They are sworn to secrecy and will not divulge any written or verbal statement. There are some items in the schedules for this census that might have, with benefit, been altered, but it is too late now. The enumerating of people who have gone away within a specified time—six months we believe—who may possible return, is a mistake. It is too speculative for the returns to be of value. What we want to know is how many people live in Canada and sail on Canadian vessels. Those who have left Canada to seek employment elsewhere do not make part of this population.

Emperor William is nothing if not energetic. In addition to a book of Norwegian travels, he is at present engaged on a life of his grandfather in two volumes. The edition will be limited to 200 copies for distribution among his relations, the sovereigns of Europe. The public will not be given the opportunity of declining to buy the book.

We observe that many of our contemporaries refer very kindly to the increase in the number of our pages, but some of them speak of THE CRITIC, a mining journal. This, while true, is misleading, because it implies that mining is our only field of usefulness, whereas our readers know that commercial, manufacturing and general news is given a great deal of attention in our columns.

The Toronto *Saturday Night* of March 14th contains a trenchant article on the Hon. Edward Blake's letters to his West Durham constituency by one "Don," who makes Mr. Blake's wordy document rather clearer than before to us. On the whole we agree with "Don" that nothing ever became Mr. Blake so well as his silence. It is difficult to see what good the publication of his manifesto has done or will ever do Canada.

An interesting controversy has been going on between the Toronto *Empire* and *Mail* as to circulation. The *Empire* deposited a cheque for \$8,000 with the President of the Toronto Board of Trade in support of its side of the question, and called upon the *Mail* to do likewise and have the question settled. The *Mail*, in short, made the following assertions:—1. That the circulation of the *Empire* is not one-third that of the *Mail*. 2. That the *Mail* has more than double the circulation of the *Empire*. 3. That the *Empire* has not the largest circulation of any morning paper in the Dominion. 4. That the circulation of the *Empire* does not amount to eight thousand. The *Empire* characterized them each and everyone as false, and called upon the *Mail* to appoint an expert to examine the books of both journals in company with one appointed by itself and one chosen by both of these. The *Mail* has not done so, in which case we suppose the *Empire* may be considered to have gained the day.

A sensible suggestion for the attention of the unemployed is made by M. Salter in the *New England Magazine* for March. "Why," he says, "should not unemployed bakers and tailors, and shoe-makers and masons, and carpenters and tillers of the soil be taken out of the profit making system into which they do not fit, and making themselves into a colony, the bakers bake bread for all, the tailors make clothes for all, the carpenters make houses for all, the tillers of the soil raise corn and wheat for all—each class producing, not to sell to the outside world, but for each other's use, and each class receiving in turn of the benefits of the others' labor?" If this plan could be carried out with as much ease as it is proposed one would think that the days of poverty would soon be over. Co operative colonies of this kind, provided that honesty would be the watchword, ought to do something towards solving the problem of the unemployed. The trouble is, in everything alike, that there are sure to be some blacklegs who, by dishonesty or crime, bring trouble into the community in which they dwell.

The world is not yet quite so small as some people would fain have us believe. The civil war in Chili has now been going on for three months or more, and still the world is very far from knowing what it is all about. True, we are told that the navy rebels against autocratic government as carried on by President Balmaceda, but we do not yet understand why the navy—apparently the whole body—should take up arms in this cause and be pitted against the army, or why, if the government is so objectionable the army does not also revolt. The cause of the trouble has evidently not yet come out. Notwithstanding the fact that steam and electricity has done much to bring all the world together, Chili is still very distant, and we find reliable news is often very old by the time we receive it. A letter takes five or six weeks coming from Chili to Canada, so that letters now arriving give accounts only of the beginning of the war. Telegrams of recent date report the shooting of a number of rebels near Valparaiso by government forces. Some of the reports lead us to believe that the government is gaining ground, but these are contradicted by others, so that the actual state of affairs is almost impossible to ascertain.

*Our Dumb Animals*, the organ of some American humane societies, published in Boston, announces its intention of circulating to the utmost extent of its power a book called "Black Beauty," notwithstanding the fact that the English publishers protest against this piracy of their property. *Our Dumb Animals* has a good purpose, and is working on the principle of "go ye into all the world and preach the gospel to every creature," but the doing of evil that good may come is not commended in the source from which its motto is taken. The promoters of this scheme of distributing cheap copies of "Black Beauty" do not make any money out of it, and they consider themselves justified in their action, because the English publishers refuse to sell them the right to give away in Spain and Italy ten thousand copies translated into Spanish and Italian, and to have cheap editions put on sale in Spanish-speaking countries. They are also informed that the English publishers will not put a cheap edition on sale in their own country, so the proprietors of *Our Dumb Animals* solve the question by simply printing the books at the rate of 100,000 copies, with a prospect of printing 400,000 more, and say that they have the satisfaction of knowing they will be widely distributed to move the hearts of human beings to greater kindness to dumb animals. Surely since the passage of the Copyright Bill some equitable arrangement might be arrived at with the English publishers.

The titles Professor Drummond selects for his books do not appear to have the faculty of being easily remembered. In addition to the story of the lady who inquired of the book seller for "The Biggest Thing on Earth," meaning "The Greatest Thing in the World," it is now related how another lady asked for a copy of the now book "Nux Vomica" instead of "Pax Vobiscum," which was also asked for by a New York lady as "Packs for Biscombe." Professor Drummond's Latin title evidently admitted of quite as much variation as the English one.

It is a sad fact that the sessions of our Local Legislature are made periods of intellectual dearth for the readers of our daily papers by the crowding out of important information by the verbatim reports of even the most stupid speeches. The period of dearth promises to be shorter this spring than it has been in late years, as the session begins late and most of the wind bags of the last House have been elected to stay at home. Yet until verbatim reports of the speeches in the newspapers are discontinued our Legislature will probably consume as much time in its average annual sessions as most States in the American Union occupy in their biennial sessions.

We have received a pamphlet written by F. J. Nolkor, Detroit, Mich., on the nickel savings stamp system, a new feature in the banking system of the United States. The system was introduced in Detroit last June by Mr. Edwin F. Mack of the Citizens' Saving Bank. As far as we can make out the business is managed as follows: A stamp of handsome design is issued and stamp books supplied to children and others who may wish to deposit nickels. A nickel buys a stamp, and a page in the stamp book represents a dollar. This page can be torn out when full or sent to the bank, where a regular deposit book is issued to the owner of the stamps and the dollar begins to draw interest at the rate of four per cent. The method is an attractive one, and the stamps are bought by the thousand by thrifty children and by older people also. Grocers and druggists take agencies because they attract custom, and people often invest their change in stamps. The benefits to the banks adopting the system are numerous. The children are educated to become depositors, and the bank which attracts their young fancy will have the best chance of securing their patronage when they come to handle larger sums. A certain percentage of the stamps are never presented for redemption and that is pure gain for the bank. Besides this, the stamps when purchased do not draw interest until 20 are presented duly attached to the leaf, and hence the banker will always have a certain amount on which no interest accrues. It appears to us that the bankers are the greatest gainers by the system, and that on the whole it is better for children to spend a good many of their nickels and keep them in circulation.

Dr. Koch's tuberculosis remedy has not apparently panned out as well as the preliminary outbursts of exultation led one to hope. But still, even now, only a short time has elapsed since it was discovered, and until the thing has had a fair trial it is well to hold back opinions as to its curative or non curative properties. The microbes and bacilli of modern life are depressing when one thinks seriously of them. An amusing story of future times is told in *La Lecture* by Charles Epeyue. He tells of a certain Prof. Bakerman who by the skilful use of negative electricity constructed a microbe, which while itself possessed of almost unextinguishable vitality, was so terribly, so rapidly, so irresistibly destructive that in only two hours it would kill three thousand rabbits. He called it the *Kills like lightning Bacillus*. Unfortunately this Professor had an inquisitive wife who neither comprehended nor liked microbes, and who in the absence of Professor Bakerman and in defiance of his warnings entered the infernal chamber and accidentally broke the phial that was the prison of the dreadful bacillus. In a few hours the rash lady breathed her last. Dr. Rothbein, a great physician, who had not yet heard of the new microbe, but was celebrated for his skill in diagnosis, expressed the opinion that the disease of which she died was an African pestilence which, among the natives of Dshomey, was known as the *Koussmi Koussmi*. The physician himself and other inhabitants of Brunnwald died soon after, but the physician's opinion was adopted by the local press, and the *Koussmi Koussmi* became the subject of leading articles. It was Professor Bakerman alone who knew that the ravages of the supposed epidemic were in reality due to the *Kills like lightning* which had escaped from the phial broken by his poor Josepha. He contemplated with scientific pride his conquering microbe which was marching victoriously through peaceful Brunnwald and would soon devastate all the countries of the globe; but he was conscience-stricken, and yet he felt that to divulge his guilty secret would be to become his own executioner. He foresaw, too, that if he confessed, his confession would either not be believed, because it contradicted the diagnosis of the celebrated Dr. Rothbein, or, if believed, would make him an object of execration to future generations. And here he repeated to himself with an ironical smile:—"Future generations! Thanks to my bacillus, there will be no future generations." But he finally confessed to his rival in microbes, and was in consequence deemed insane. All at once an idea struck him, and he set to work by the use of positive electricity to make a cure for *Koussmi-Koussmi*. As his bacillus had spread death and destruction all over the world, his new and certain cure—which he advertised—soon made him famous. He was recognized by sovereigns and by nations as a Genius who had saved the human race from extermination, and had once more proved that rebellious nature is under the control of human science and sagacity. This is a French satire upon German discoveries, but it gives the credit of discovering microbes to Pasteur, who first invented a process by which it was possible to recognize, collect and cultivate them. In the course of years, however, Pasteur's discoveries were left far behind. It is amusing reading but calculated to make us ask whither are we tending?

CHIT-CHAT AND CHUCKLES.

A MEMORIA.

How fair she was! 'Tis years ago—  
But I behold her yet.  
She sat within the firelight's glow  
The night that first we met.  
How fair she was! Her very dress  
Was all of snowy fur,  
It was no wonder, I confess,  
I fell in love with her.

How beautiful she seemed to me!  
Her voice—I hear it still—  
Flowed softer than the melody  
Of any summer rill;  
I saw her eyes all golden shine,  
As in the glow we sat,  
She was—ah, would she now were mine—  
A perfect Persian cat!

GOD BLESS HER

A woman may weep in a palace,  
That her marriage did occur,  
But she will rejoice in a hovel  
With the fellow who's good to her.

WOMAN.

They talk about a woman's sphere  
As though it had a limit,  
There's not a whispered yes or no,  
There's not a blessing or a woe,  
There's not a life, or death, or birth,  
There's not a thing in heaven or earth,  
That has a penny's weight of worth,  
Without a woman in it.

The British Museum received recently a Chinese bank note issued from the Imperial mint 300 years before the first use of paper money in England.

THE PROPORTION OF SCENTED FLOWERS.—Of the 4,200 species of flowers now cultivated in Europe, only 10 per cent. give forth any odor. Therefore it cannot be said that most flowers are fragrant.

AN OLD CUSTOM.—Uncle Ted—Jones hasn't any more friends than he can shake a stick at, Tom.  
Tom—No; but he manages to beat them, all the same.

SHE SUPPLIED IT.—Sappy—Then, can you give me no hope? Is there a yawning gulf between us?  
Amy—I'm afraid so, Mr. Sappy. You certainly make me yawn.

TERIBLY IN EARNEST—"I would kneel forever at your shrine," said he.  
"Would you?" she questioned sweetly.  
"Yes," he answered wildly, "bring on your shrine and I'll prove it."

"This tirade against wearing tights on the stage seems to be an immensely popular move," said Mr. Slumps.  
"Oh! horrors!" said Mrs. Slumps; "I hadn't heard of it. You don't mean to say that those girls are brazen enough to appear without oven tights, do you?"

ENGLISH AS SHE IS SPOKE—A gentleman, well known as a maker of recording gauges, has a little son of an enquiring turn of mind. The other evening the boy said to his father, "Papa, where is Atoms?"  
Father—"Athens, you mean; don't you, my dear?"  
Inquiring Son—"No, Atoms, the place where people go when the boiler explodes; because it always says they were blown to Atoms."

Mother—"Well, did you get that situation as office boy?"  
Little Son—"Nops."  
Mother—"What was the matter?"  
Little Son—"Don't know. The gent is a lawyer, and he asked me if I was a good whistler, and I told him I was the best whistler on our street, and he said I wouldn't do. Guess he must want a regular professional."

DID THE DOCTOR EARN HIS FEE?—Defendant—Now, docthor, by vartue of your oath, didn't I say; "Kill or cure, docthor, I'll give you a guinea?" and didn't you say; "Kill or cure, I'll take it?"  
Doctor—You did; and I agreed to the bargain, and I want the guinea accordingly.

Defendant—Now, docthor, by vartue of your oath, answer this; Did you cure my wife?  
Doctor—No; she's dead. You know that.

Defendant—Then, docthor, by vartue of your oath, answer this: Did you kill my wife?  
Doctor—No; she died of her illness.

Defendant—(triumphantly to the bench)—Your worship, hear this. You heard him tell our bargain: it was to kill or cure. By vartue of his oath, he done neither, and he axos his fee!

Talk's cheap, but when it's backed up by a pledge of the hard cash of a financially responsible firm, or company, of world-wide reputation for fair and honorable dealing, it means business!  
Now, there are scores of arsenic pills and other blood purifiers, all cracked up to be the best, purest, most peculiar and wonderful, but bear in mind (for your own sake), there's only one guaranteed blood purifier and remedy for torpid liver and all diseases that come from bad blood.

That one standing solitary and alone sold on trust, is Dr. Pierce's Golden Medical Discovery.  
If it doesn't do good to the skin, scalp, and scrofulous diseases—and pulmonary consumption is only lung-scrofula—just let its makers know and get your money back.  
Talk's cheap, but to back a poor medicine, or a common one, by selling it on trust, as "Golden Medical Discovery" is sold, would bankrupt the largest fortune.  
Talk's cheap, but only "Discovery" is guaranteed.

SPRING IMPORTATIONS NOW COMPLETE!  
IMMENSE ASSORTMENT  
SCOTCH TWEEDS

Suitings and Trouserings, Worsted and Fancy Coatings.

BEST VALUE FOR MONEY.

Look at our range of SUITS to order, \$12, \$15, and \$18.  
PANTS, \$3, \$3.75, \$4.75.

CLAYTON & SONS.

Harness, Horse Boots, Halters, Whips, Horse Covers, Carriage Wraps, Dog Collars, Oils, Soaps, Blacking, Horse Rugs, Harness Mountings, Harness Leather, Patent Leathers,  
AND EVERYTHING FOUND IN A WELL STOCKED

Harness and Saddlery Hardware Store, at

KELLY'S, 33 and 35 Buckingham Street,

SELLING AT PRICES THAT DEFY COMPETITION.

P. S.—A trial order solicited, and I feel satisfied that I will then have your trade. I. F. K.

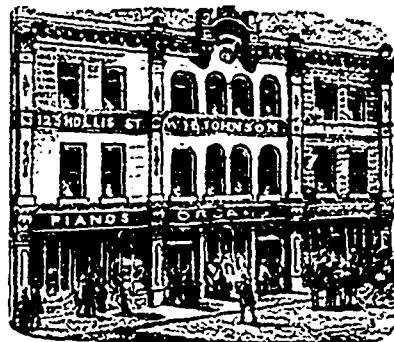
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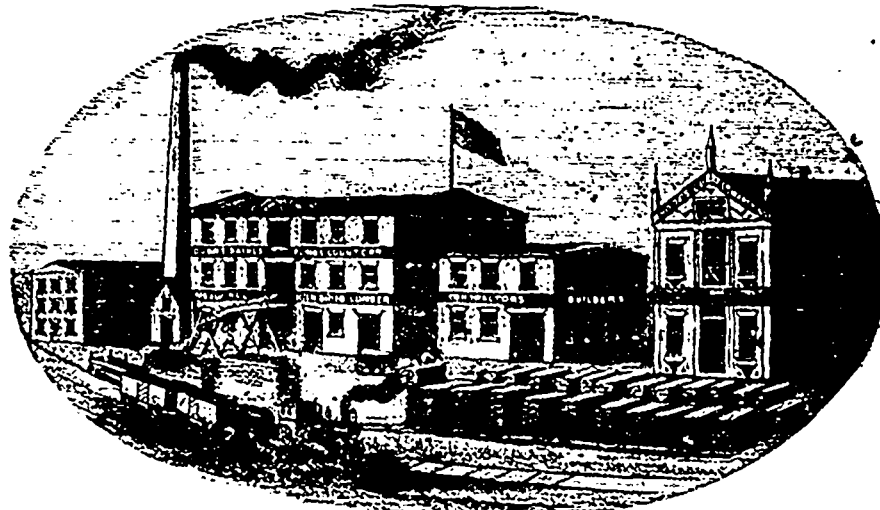
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121 AND 123 HOLLIS STREET, HALIFAX, N. S.

RHODES, CURRY & CO. | AMHERST, N. S.  
Manufacturers and Builders. | 1,000,000 FEET LUMBER KEPT IN STOCK.



Walnut, Cherry, Ash, Birch, Beech, Pine and Whitewood House Finish, Doors, Sashes, Blinds, Wood Mantels, Mouldings, &c. "CABINET TRIM FINISH" for Dwellings, Drug Stores, Offices, &c. SCHOOL, OFFICE, CHURCH and HOUSE FURNITURE, &c. Bricks, Lime, Cement, Colored Plaster, &c. Manufacturers of and Dealers in all kinds of Builders' Materials.  
Send for Estimates.

## NEWS OF THE WEEK.

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

Truant officer Webster entered upon his duties on Wednesday.

Four new typesetting machines are now in operation in the Government Printing Bureau.

A man named Savage was drowned at the deep water terminus on Thursday of last week.

*Canada* for March comes in a toned cover. The contents of the magazine are well selected.

*The Warden*, published at Arichat, is the latest addition to our exchange list. It is small and printed on pink paper.

St. John *Progress* is going to give an illustrated article on Amherst, one of our most thriving and enterprising towns.

The Liberal nominees for the local bye-elections are, Drysdale in Hants, Chisholm in Antigonish and McPherson in Cape Breton.

The steamer *Halifax* arrived at Boston from Havana at 3 o'clock on Thursday morning. She resumes her regular summer trips on Saturday.

James Kane, accused of murdering his wife, Elizabeth Kane, at Belleville, Ont., on March 23rd, has been committed for trial. It was a brutal murder.

Sir Charles Tupper left Ottawa on Tuesday for England via New York. He will probably go to Washington to consult with Sir Julian Pauncefote.

A mad man with a knife made things lively on a C. P. R. train between Renfrew and Ottawa on Saturday last. He was overpowered after a terrible struggle.

Mayor Birkett of Ottawa, who was recently unseated by the courts on the ground of having a contract with the corporation, has been re-elected by acclamation.

*Our Homes* is one of the best of recent Canadian magazines. The March number is quite up to the mark. Published by Our Homes Pub. Co., Brockville, Ont.

The Fruit Growers Association has been in session in Wolfville during the past week. A plan for organizing an association for exporting and shipping fruit was adopted.

When results of medical examinations, in Bishop's college, Montreal, were posted on Saturday, it was found the graduating class was headed by a lady, Miss Gracie Ritchie, of Montreal.

The imported Clydesdales and Cleveland Bays consigned to J. E. Chipman, were exhibited in front of the Provincial building on Saturday morning last. They are handsome animals.

A Robb & Sons' boiler and engine factory, with their temporary moulding shops at Amherst, were destroyed by fire at 2.30 o'clock on Friday morning last. Both the Messrs. Robb were about.

Dr. J. J. Cameron has been nominated liberal-conservative candidate in Antigonish. In Cape Breton, John McCormick is the liberal-conservative candidate, and in Hants Adam McDougall is the standard bearer for the same party.

Advices received at Ottawa indicate that the people of Dakota are becoming seriously alarmed at the Canadian repatriation movement now in progress, and the government of North Dakota is holding meetings and imploring the settlers to remain in the state.

Blanchard, Bentley & Co's. millinery opening at Truro last week was very successful. Milliners from all parts of the province pronounced it by far the best display they had seen, and several who had ordered from Montreal were regretting that they had done so.

Armorer-Sergt. Pepper of the Leicestershire regiment, lost his life by falling into a latrine at the Wellington barracks on Friday last. His body was not found until Saturday, when something being discovered wrong with the flushing apparatus a search was made.

Reports from Winnipeg, state that wolves have been more than usually wild and ravenous this winter, and narrow escapes of numerous persons who have been attacked by them are recorded. In one instance two hunters were kept up a tree by a pack of wolves for two days.

The Y. M. C. A. building at Montreal, which recently collapsed, was commenced in the fall of 1889 and was to have been ready by September of this year. Its cost, including \$25,000 for the land, was \$145,000, of which \$80,000 had already been subscribed. The building was very flimsy, and it is a good thing it collapsed before being filled with people.

The local legislature was opened yesterday with usual ceremonies. It is a new house with a new governor, and the band of the new regiment was in attendance. A guard of honor, commanded by Captain Peacock, was furnished by the Leicestershire regiment, also one from the 63rd Rifles, commanded by Captain Cunningham. The band of the Rifles was also present.

Fish dealers in St. John are protesting strongly against brush weirs, which they affirm are killing off all young herring in the Bay of Fundy. Hundreds of these weirs are set along the New Brunswick coast and the coast of Maine, with the result that the herring is getting smaller every year. This season was a dead failure. The petition will be sent to Parliament, praying for a law against brush weirs, for the loss of herring means the loss of cod as well, and the scarcity of the former is now attributed directly to the fact that the weirs have killed off millions of young herring during the past few years.

In his speech to the Bahamas legislature Governor Shea said: "A contract has been entered into with Messrs. Pickford & Black, of Halifax, for a mail and general fortnightly steam service between Nassau and the leading places in the out islands. This contract is for seven years at an annual subsidy of £2,500, of which, with the assent of the secretary of state for the colonies, £1,500 per annum will be contributed from crown funds."

The Fisheries Department has been advised of a big deal in connection with the salmon canneries of British Columbia. Nine packing establishments on the Fraser river and two on the Skeena have been sold to an English Syndicate for the sum of \$60,000. Some of the principal canners, however, declined to take part in the deal. With so many canneries changing hands just now, this would appear to be a favorable opportunity for the department to put in force its new regulations, based on Mr. Wilmot's report of last autumn, before further complications arise.

There was an exciting time in the Newfoundland House of Assembly on Monday, 24th. When the governor came to the council chamber to give assent to the masters' and servants' bill, the usher of the black rod summoned the members of the house of assembly to attend him. Mr. Murphy, a St. John's member, moved that the house of assembly decline to wait on the representative of the Imperial power, in order thus to show their resentment at the tyrannical treatment of the colony. Speaker Emerson, Sir William Whitway, the premier; Mr. Bond, the colonial secretary; and six others went; but fifteen members kept their seats. The galleries hissed those that went, calling them traitors, and wildly cheered those who remained in their seats. Speeches were made to justify what was done.

It has been our pleasure to examine the "Practical Home Physician and Encyclopedia of Medicine," Published by the World Publishing Co., of Guelph, Ont, and we have no hesitation in giving it our hearty endorsement. It is a book that should be in the hands of every family and especially mothers, who have the care and nursing of the sick. It is endorsed by the highest authority in the world and is the only popular work on medicine that has received such endorsement; although many have been written and circulated more or less, none have met the approbation of all classes as this book. It is without doubt the best one of the kind now published; and its presence will be hailed with delight by an appreciating public. So great was the demand for it, that over 160,000 copies were ordered before the first one was completed and off of the press, and over 400,000 copies have been sold now, and still there is a continued demand for it. The authors are four of the best in America, Drs. Lepauce, Fenger, Jones and Belfield, all of whom are professors and specialists in their respective departments, and all regularly in the profession. There are other medical works now being circulated, which are claimed to be "just as good" or sometimes as "the same book" which are not worthy the name, so don't be deceived by any of them but be sure you get the latest and best, *The Practical Home Physician and Encyclopedia of Medicine.* The agent for this admirable work is located at Halifax, and will give all an opportunity to procure a copy, as none can afford to be without it. Doctors Campbell, Stoddard, Chisholm, Farrell and others have highly approved of the book.

Dr. Howard Crosby, the well known Presbyterian, died in New York on Sunday.

A fourth re-union of province people is to be held in Tremont Temple, Boston, on April 14th.

Miss Zoe Gayton has completed her walk from San Francisco to New York, and wins \$12,000 in bets.

The *Sayward* case will probably be called in the Supreme Court at Washington about the second Monday of this month.

Margaret A. Lynn, aged 113 years, died in Cambridge, Mass., on Saturday. She was born in county Derry, Ireland, in 1778.

The number of immigrants landed at New York on Saturday was 3,200, the largest number for one day, with one exception, for the year.

The gripe is causing alarm in many cities in the United States. In Pittsburg, Pa., the death rate has been increased 50 per cent. and great numbers of people are ill.

The Italian Government has recalled its minister at Washington on account of the massacre of Italians at New Orleans. The United States did not give any assurance that the lynchers would be brought to justice. Harvard University is very fully described and information given as to how it may be entered and its degrees obtained in a pamphlet just published at Cambridge, Mass., by the University.

The Allan Steamship line company has finally decided to include New York in its list of North American ports to which it has service. Commencing May 1st the Allans will operate a weekly line between Glasgow and New York, a steamer leaving Glasgow every Friday and New York every Tuesday.

*The Floral Guide* issued by James Vick, seedsman, of Rochester, N.Y., is a work of art and cannot fail to be of untold assistance to all lovers of flowers and other plants. It is beautifully illustrated, and full of instruction in the art of raising flowers and the more prosaic, but none the less necessary, industry of producing vegetables. The list of seeds, bulbs and plants are most complete, and suggest naturally that it would be to the benefit of the subscriber to procure them from the publisher. The price of the *Guide* is only ten cents, which may be deducted from the first order. The seeds we had from Vick last year were most satisfactory, and the flowers grown from them were an unailing source of pleasure.

We call special attention to the quality of Flower and Vegetable Seeds advertised in another column by Buckley Bros. As they import their Seeds direct from the best Seed men in the world, they are sure to give satisfaction.

The Republic of Mexico, it is stated, will make a novel display at the World's Fair. It will consist of an artificial hill of iron, covered with terraced soil, surmounted by a fac-simile of the Castle of Chapultepec, and it will show the progress of Mexico from the time of the Aztecs. Temples, images and like scenes will be a feature of the exhibits at the base of the hill.

There is all the sunshine of spring and the fragrance of flowers in *The Ladies' Home Journal* for April; the exquisite Easter cover, designed by W. Hamilton Gibson, is a fair index to the charm of the whole number. An attractive feature is the clever sketch by Mrs. T. DeWitt Talmage, which is accompanied by a fine wood-cut portrait. The number is complete in every part, and richly illustrated throughout. Issued at ten cents per copy, one dollar a year, by the Curtis Publishing Company, 435 Arch street, Philadelphia.

One of the secretaries of the treasury at Washington has informed the secretary of state in regard to a question raised by the United States consul-general at Halifax, N. S., that the provisions of the tariff law in regard to marking goods and packages will be complied with if packages and goods produced in and shipped from Nova Scotia and New Brunswick to the United States are marked 'Nova Scotia' and 'New Brunswick' respectively, or 'Canada.' He says both outside and inside packages, such as cans, cartons, boxes, etc., should be marked with the name of the country of the origin of the goods, in order to meet the requirements of the statute.

Herbert Spencer's views on socialism, published in the April Popular Science Monthly, are sure to attract wide attention. His essay is entitled from "Freedom to Bondage," and its aim is to save the working classes from the governmental tyranny with which they seem to be infatuated. "Street-cleaning in Large Cities," is another timely subject treated in this issue. There is an article by the Duke of Argyll, entitled "Professor Huxley on the War-path," which aims to convict the professor of treating the theological questions inconsistently with his treatment of scientific subjects. "Training for Character," by Prof. Henri Marion, gives valuable hints on the care of young children. "Social Changes in California," by Charles H. Shinn, sketches the development of a community such as the world will never see again. There is a brief account of Dr. Schliemann, with a portrait, in addition to the regular sketch and frontispiece portrait, the subject of the latter being Prof. Daniel G. Brinton, of Philadelphia. The Editor's Table contains a conservative view of Koch's Consumption-cure, and some remarks on "Intellectual Liberty" suggested by the MacQueary heresy case. The Index for the past six months, in this number, shows that the high character of this magazine is being well sustained. New York: D. Appleton & Company. Fifty cents a number, \$5 a year.

The Queen will remain at Grasse for a month.

Earl Granville, one of the great leaders of the British liberal party, died on Monday.

Rumors of a war between Hayti and San Domingo over the old boundary dispute are current.

It is reported that a formal treaty of alliance has been concluded between France and Russia.

It has been reported that large quantities of diamonds have been discovered in North Lapland.

The Parnellites and McCarthyites have had a royal set to in Sligo. Blackthorns were freely used.

Yesterday was polling day in North Sligo. Valentine B. Dillon was the Parnellite, and Bernard the McCarthy candidate.

It is now rumored here that the declaring of a state of siege in Manicland by the Portuguese authorities was due to the fresh English invasion of the country.

The Prince of Wales will probably be made Chairman and the Marquis of Lorne Vice-President of the Royal Commission having in charge England's interest at the Chicago fair.

A very much married woman has been arrested at Paris. She had succeeded in getting forty-three men to marry her by advertising herself as a rich widow. It is money that tells.

The British and Venezuelans are reported to be in conflict over territory south-east of the Orinoco. The British are in possession of the disputed territory, which is said to be very valuable.

The Queen of England firmly believes that objects made by blind people bring luck, and she has had the cradle for the young Princess of Battenburg entirely made by blind men and women.

There will be a brilliant period of court festivities in June during the stay of Emperor William at Buckingham Palace. The programme will include receptions, balls, concerts and other entertainments.

A woman who worked in a laundry in Kingston, England, died suddenly. The jury brought in a verdict of death from sudden failure of the heart's action, brought about by tight lacing. Girls, take warning.

Mr. Baltcheff, Minister of Finance of Bulgaria was assassinated on Friday last. It is presumed the conspirators sought to take the life of Premier Stambuloff and mistook Baltcheff for their intended victim. Thirty persons have been arrested.

Friends of Earl Russell, whose wife has brought action against him for divorce, alleging cruel treatment, have succeeded in hushing the scandal which a trial of the case would have provoked by bringing about a settlement of the matter out of Court. By the terms of the settlement, to which both parties agreed, the Countess is to receive an allowance of £5,000 a year and will nominally live with her husband.

The court house at Cork was set fire to and completely destroyed while the judge was summing up in the Tipperary trials. Michael O'Brien, Dalton and others charged with assaulting the police and rioting at Tipperary were adjudged not guilty.

News has been brought to Kohima, on the Assam frontier, of a massacre which originated in a feud between the Rajah of Manfui and a leading tribute chief. It is estimated that 470 were killed. Two regiments have been dispatched to the scene.

The head quarters of the Imperial forces in the West Indies will henceforth be at Jamaica. A bill has been introduced in the Jamaica Legislature to increase the militia force to 1500 men, make the service compulsory and provide for its efficiency at a cost of £5,000 per annum.

A new law just promulgated empowers French Criminal Courts in dealing with certain transgressions, to postpone sentences for first offences five years, in hope of the offender's reformation, and if there is no second offence the sentence is then void. Second offences are to be visited with severity.

The little Princess Kalulai, who has been designated by Queen Lilluokalani as heiress to the throne of Hawaii is pursuing her education some where in England, but it is not given to the public to know just where. The princess must be kept in hiding lest some rival candidate for the throne assassinate her.

Walter Besant, William Black and others are discussing the formation of a society of English authors and copyright owners with the view of establishing or securing control of a printing house in the United States. The *Athenaeum* refers to the scheme as an indispensable preliminary to any attempt to derive advantage from the American Copyright Act.

It is announced that Capt. O'Shea has brought suit against the Catholic bishop of the united dioceses of Galway and Kilmacduag, the most Rev. Francis J. MacCormick, D. D., and against Canon John O'Mahoney, of the Catholic diocese of Cork. O'Shea sues the two reverend gentlemen mentioned for alleged libelous utterances in regard to his relations with Mr. Parnell, which have been attributed to the bishop of Galway and to Canon O'Mahoney in the public press.

Hon. Messrs. Mercier and Scheyn have taken apartments in Paris for three months, and it is argued from this that they chiefly rely upon the Paris market to float the new Quebec loan, but do not expect to make the necessary arrangements very easily. While British financiers are not particularly anxious to treat with the Quebec Ministers, the City houses predict that they will be unsuccessful in their negotiations with the French bankers, and will eventually have to come to London for the money.

The Paris *Gaulois* has announced the betrothal of Prince Roland Bonaparte to Princess Letitia, only daughter of Prince Napoleon, who died in Rome a few days ago, and says that the marriage will take place immediately upon the expiration of the period of mourning for Prince Napoleon. Prince Napoleon, the *Gaulois* says, gave his consent to the betrothal a short time prior to his death. Princess Letitia is about 26 years old. She was married on Sept. 11, 1889, to her uncle, Prince Amadeo, Duke of Aosta, who was formerly King of Spain, who died on Jan. 17, 1890.

## CHILDREN

Are always liable to sudden and severe colds, to croup, sore throat, lung fever, etc. Remedies, to be effective, must be administered without delay. Nothing is better adapted for such emergencies than Ayer's Cherry Pectoral. It soothes the inflamed membrane, promotes expectoration, relieves coughing, and induces sleep. The prompt use of this medicine has saved innumerable lives, both of young and old.

"One of my children had croup. The case was attended by our physician, and was supposed to be well under control. One night I was startled by the child's hard breathing, and on going to it found it

### Strangling.

It had nearly ceased to breathe. Realizing that the child's alarming condition had become possible in spite of the medicine it had taken, I reasoned that such remedies would be of no avail. Having a part of a bottle of Ayer's Cherry Pectoral in the house, I gave the child three doses, at short intervals, and anxiously waited results. From the moment the Pectoral was given, the child's breathing grew easier, and in a short time it was sleeping quietly and breathing naturally. The child is alive and well to-day, and I do not hesitate to say that Ayer's Cherry Pectoral saved its life."—C. J. Wooldridge, Wortham, Texas.

For colds, coughs, bronchitis, asthma, and the early stages of consumption, take

## Ayer's Cherry Pectoral,

PREPARED BY  
DR. J. C. AYER & CO., Lowell, Mass.  
Sold by all Druggists. Price 41; six bottles, \$5.

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Book and Job Printers,  
125 HOLLIS STREET,  
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ORDER YOUR  
**Bill Heads and Statements**

now of JAMES BOWES & SONS.  
A FULL LINE OF  
**Fancy Cards**

of the LATEST DESIGNS, may be seen at our office. We will supply and print for you.

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(Established in Halifax 1871.) Importer and dealer in WATCHES, CLOCKS, JEWELLERY, OPTICAL GOODS, SILVER PLATED WARE & SEWING MACHINES; THE WHITE, NEW HOME, AND FAVORITE KINGS OF AMERICAN SEWING MACHINES. Which we will sell very cheap, wholesale and retail, on the most favorable terms. Also ORGANS, from Fort Wayne, Indiana. A few gold-headed WALKING CANES, which will be sold cheap. Repairing in all branches promptly attended to by first-class workmen.



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Established 1818.

**KELLEY & GLASSEY,**

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**Wine and Spirit Merchants,**

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**American Hotel, Shubenacadie,**  
**THOS. COX, Proprietor.**

Boarding and Livery Stables in connection. Stages leave daily for Gay's River, Musquodoboit, Sheet Harbour, and Maitland, on arrival of Train from Halifax.

THE MOST CENTRAL HOTEL IN THE CITY

**Albion Hotel,**

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22 SACKVILLE ST., HALIFAX.

Terms Moderate.

**LYONS' HOTEL,**

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(Directly Opposite Railway Station.)

Extensive Improvements have just been completed in this house, which is conducted on first class principles, and will be found, outside of the Queen or Halifax Hotels, equal to any in the Province. Good Sample Rooms and Livery Stables in connection. Also, Billiard Rooms.

**D. McLEOD, Proprietor,**

KENTVILLE, N. S.

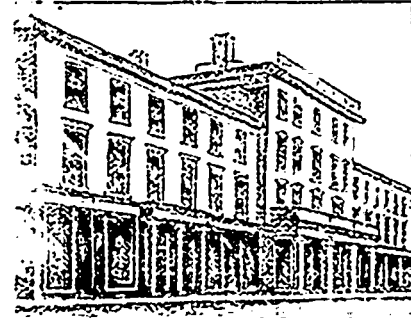
**BRITISH AMERICAN HOTEL.**

Within Two Minutes Walk of Post Office.

**DUNCAN BROUSSARD, - Proprietor,**

HALIFAX, N. S.

ICI ON PARLE FRANCAISE.

**"HOTEL DUFFERIN,"**

Formerly the "Clifton Hotel," has lately been purchased by Mr. John Cox, proprietor of the "Avon Hotel," who has had the building remodelled in style of beauty and convenience equal to any hotel in the Maritime Provinces, putting in all modern improvements in the way of Electric Light, Electric Bells, heated throughout by Hot Water; Hot and Cold Water Bath-rooms, elegant Parlors, beautiful Bed-rooms, in which, fine Sitting and Reading Rooms, nice and Handsome Dining room, and every convenience to make it pleasant for its guests. The cuisine will be a prominent feature of the house. Commercial men will find large and well fitted-up Sample Rooms. Also, elegant Billiard and Pool Rooms.

Carrriages to and from Hotel free.

WINDSOR, N. S.

**EUREKA REMEDIES.**

TRY THEM.

If you have any Pains or Aches, such as Rheumatism, Neuralgia, Head or Tooth Ache, Stiff Joints, Sprains, Bruises, Chillsains, Lame Back, Swellings, Corns, etc., use EUREKA OIL. It will cure you.

If you have Dyspepsia, Liver Complaint, Kidney Disease, Rheumatism, Erysipelas, Constipation, Loss of Appetite, General Weakness and Debility, Biliousness, Head Ache, Nervousness, any Disease arising from Impure Blood, use EUREKA BLOOD PURIFIER.

If you have Sores of any kind, Salt Rheum, Pimples, Scald Head, Eczema, Sores and Burns, or Scalds, use the EUREKA SALVE.

Diseases of Women, arising from a low state of vitality, Weak Nerves and Impure Blood, use the BLOOD PURIFIER.

Manufactured by The Eureka Remedies Co., Port Hillford, Guysboro Co., N. S.

**Nova Scotia Dye Works,**

9 BLOWERS ST. HALIFAX, N. S.

**B. G. STREET,****Dyer and Cleanser.**

**Gentlemen's Garments Cleansed, Steamed & Pressed at Lowest Prices**

**All Goods for Mourning Dyed at shortest notice**

REPAIRING DONE ON THE PREMISES.

Parcels sent for and delivered

**THE PROVINCE OF QUEBEC LOTTERY.**

AUTHORIZED BY THE LEGISLATURE. For public purposes, such as Educational Establishment and large Hall for the St. John Baptist Society of Montreal.

MONTHLY DRAWINGS FOR THE YEAR 1891.

January 14, February 11, March 11, April 8, May 13, June 10, July 8, August 12, September 9, October 14, November 17, December 9.

TENTH MONTHLY DRAWING APRIL 8, 1891

**3134 Prizes Worth \$52,740.**  
**Capital Prize worth \$15,000.**

TICKET, - - - \$1.00

11 TICKETS FOR - - \$10.00

ASK FOR CIRCULARS

**List of Prizes.**

1 Prize worth \$15,000.....	\$15,000 00
1 " " " 5,000.....	5,000 00
1 " " " 2,500.....	2,500 00
1 " " " 1,250.....	1,250 00
2 Prizes " " 500.....	1,000 00
5 " " " 250.....	1,250 00
25 " " " 50.....	1,250 00
100 " " " 25.....	2,500 00
200 " " " 15.....	3,000 00
500 " " " 10.....	5,000 00
APPROXIMATION PRIZES.	
100 " " " 25.....	2,500 00
100 " " " 15.....	1,500 00
100 " " " 10.....	1,000 00
200 " " " 5.....	4,993 00
200 " " " 5.....	4,993 00

3134 Prize worth.....\$52,740 00  
 S. E. LEBEVRE, Manager,  
 81 St. James St., Montreal Canada.

[FOR THE CRITIC.]

**FISHING.**

A fountain-spring fell down and leaped away,  
 And heeded not our love, along the brook ;  
 The stream no swifter swept into the bay,  
 For all my soul bent to her look.  
 All things of days and hours go by ;  
 My love beside all else may die.

And Beauty gave its grace to my love's arm  
 Making it firm and full to cast the thread,  
 The golden trout is heedless of the harm  
 As she, whose lip might lay me dead.  
 " Ah I see how fair he seized the fly,"  
 Unconscious that the thing will die.

My lady and my love hath laughing hours  
 To-day as any other, with the sport.  
 Unlearned as childhood with the bleeding flowers,  
 She dare not say : " My life be short."  
 So is her smile a single touch  
 Of little balm, and yet so much.

A fish to grasp unseen of her kind eyes  
 Had shuddered to my hand that drew the hook ;  
 Why will she sigh, though all my day hath sighs ;  
 A golden trout is in the brook ?  
 Ah, tender is the hand to throw  
 The barb of pain, the tinted woe.

And she is potent who cannot defend  
 Her instep from the brier, or cleave the bush ;  
 The tangle of the line she cannot mend ;  
 Without this arm leap dry the rush  
 Of waters—she whose gentle breath  
 Gave birth to love, nor fears its death.

WOLFVILLE, N. S.

J. F. Herbin.

**NOTES AND COMMENTS FROM THE CAPITAL.**

When the days of the present gubernatorial *regime* are ended, Lady Stanley will leave behind her a lasting memorial of her philanthropy and her interest in the welfare of our fair Capital in the shape of "the Lady Stanley Institute for Trained Nurses," which will be formally opened at an early date in April. This institution owes its promotion entirely to Lady Stanley, who not only originated the movement to found it, but gave very liberally to the funds required for its erection. It is intended to be a school for the education of women as nurses, and will afford a home not only for those in course of training, but for many who will devote themselves, when trained, to the nursing of the sick. The good that similar schools have done in the centres of population in the United States is incalculable, so far as the sick are concerned, and in placing a means of independent livelihood within the reach of young women who have especial gifts and inclination for the noble work of nursing, they proved most useful. No doubt many Canadian girls who would have otherwise gone to New York or Boston to train for their life-work will now come to Ottawa for that purpose. The building is spacious, handsome in appearance, and fitted with all requirements for the purpose for which it has been erected.

Lady Stanley will give an "At Home" in the parlors of the Institute after the formal ceremonies of dedication are gone through with. Enthusiastic preparations for the event are now being made at Rideau Hall.

Santley, the famous English baritone, supported by a number of musical stars including Wilzeck, the Austrian violinist, will appear at our alleged *Grand Opera House* on Friday evening, April 3rd. This is one of the compensations "Society" is looking forward to for its Lenten self-denials.

Referring again to our alleged *Grand Opera House*, it was with pleasure that I learned to-day that a company of well-to-do and persistent play-goers have at length been induced by the miseries they are forced to undergo in worshipping at the small and wretchedly appointed shrine of the Muses in Ottawa to promote the building of a theatre worthy of the Capital and the excellent artists who delight audiences here from time to time under such great disadvantages. The proposed edifice will be built upon the most improved plans in a central part of the city, and its probable cost is estimated in the vicinity of \$100,000.

The United Empire Trade League, which was formed in England a short time ago, and to the materialization of which the recent crisis in Canadian politics is said to have given a powerful stimulus, has found enthusiastic advocates in this city. A branch of the League is to be started here at once, and an attempt will be made to promote a solid organization of the movement throughout Canada during the coming session of Parliament. Your readers are doubtless aware that the object of the League is to secure a British commercial union by means of preferential trade relations between Great Britain and her Colonial possessions.

Some little friction between the St. Joseph's Society (R.C.) and the local council of the Knights of Labor was occasioned by some remarks recently made by President Ratley of the former organization condemnatory of the aims and methods of the latter order. At the last meeting of the K. of L. council a resolution was passed strongly censuring the utterances of Mr. Ratley, and when the same came up for discussion before the St. Joseph's Society, two members thereof made a violent attack upon the President and he was forced to retract the more objectionable features of his strictures. Labor organization is strong in this city, and is making itself a factor in politics and temporizing ecclesiasticism.

It is feared that the present ice jam on the Rideau river will make things wet for the residents of New Edinburgh before the river fully opens. McKay street is already impassable, and if the water rises much more, ferry boats will be wanted as a means of access between different parts of the village. The breaking up of the Rideau ice was always one of the "sights" for our legislators in the spring, but this year their acquaintance with the

ice will have to be made through the medium of that cheerful and diligent attendant upon summer sessions,—“John Collins.”

Of all the Canadian men of letters it has been my privilege to meet, there is no one whom I revere so much as I do the memory of that gentle soul John Lesperance, who has just passed over to the silent majority. I met him for the first time, in Ottawa during the Parliamentary session of 1888, and he had then begun to show outwardly, by his stooping gait and the wearied expression of his face when in repose, the blighting effect of many years of trouble and grief upon a mind so finely wrought as his. This was just before the crowning sorrow of his life befell him in the death of his favourite daughter; which, following in the train of many minor afflictions, proved too much for his sensitive nature and shattered his reason. I was introduced to him by a friend in the library of the Supreme Court, where we found him turning over the pages of a rare old copy of *Fitcherbert's Abridgement* published in London in 1565. The apparent reverence with which he handled the book struck me as quaint and charming to a degree, and I recognized at once that here was a true disciple of literary culture who looked upon books as

“Eubalmed minds,  
Or seed-plots sown with Immortality.”

I had read and admired his writings so much—particularly those delicious little prose lyrics published weekly in the *Montreal Gazette* under the title of “Ephemrides”—that I would have greatly enjoyed a conversation with him at some length, but circumstances prevented me from improving the opportunity then, and occasion never again presented itself. During the few moments' talk I had with him the tired look I have spoken of left his face, and his wonderfully beautiful eyes lighted up with pleasure as he told me how glad he was to stray upon the old volume he had in his hand, and that he contemplated making it a theme for an item in his next batch of “Ephemrides.”

I think no better specimen of the truly poetic character of his literary gifts or the innate sweetness of his disposition can be presented than is afforded by the closing paragraph of his paper (read before the Royal Society of Canada in May, 1883) on the *Literature of French Canada*. He is portraying a scene familiar to the Canadian mind:

“A hunter is out in pursuit of the wily moose; he tramps over miles of untrodden snow, from the first streak of dawn till the last gloam of sun-light lingers in the western sky. The beast is weary: he is weary. But the weaker yields to the stronger—*la raison du plus fort est toujours la meilleure*—and the broad antlers are bowed in the submission of death. Dragging his trophy behind him, in a last effort of exhausted nature, the hunter turns his face homeward. The way is long and the snow is deep, but the faint heart buoys itself in the hope of a reward from wife and children. A turn in the road, and from afar the squares of yellow light beam from the well-known window panes. The slender bridge is crossed, the path-way to the familiar threshold is traversed, the welcome door is opened and—all is over. Here is my Canadian picture,—a hard day's work in the cold, cold world and, at night, rest in the arms of love, beside the warm fireside of Home.”

I observe in the Editorial comments upon Lesperance's death contained in your last issue of the 20th March, you mention that after his mind gave way (some two years ago) he suffered “months of mental torture.” That is a mistake. In a beautifully written monograph upon the dead author and poet, published in the *Dominion Illustrated* of March 21st, Mr. W. D. Lighthol (a personal friend and brother poet of the deceased) says:

“It is pleasant to think that during his illness all his illusions, which were constant, were happy, and were mainly concerned with unbounded hospitalities and with gifts and cheques for his friends, for all of whom he retained an affectionate memory.

Ottawa.

DIXIE.

### BOOK GOSSIP.

One of the most entertaining books we have read for a good while is Miss Sara Jeannette Duncan's latest, “An American Girl in London.” Miss Duncan's first book, “A Social Departure,” relating how she and a friend went around the world together, was widely read and a decided success, and we welcome with pleasure this second volume by our talented young Canadian authoress. In this book we are given the story of an imaginary Chicago girl, Miss Mamie Wick, who goes to London alone, something having interfered to prevent Col. and Mrs. Wick from accompanying her. She sees everything from an American standpoint, and her experiences are all interesting, oft-times amusing and exceedingly well recounted. Miss Wick's experience with her distant relation, Miss Fortheris, on whom she called at once on her arrival in London, is one of the gems of the story. The old lady was horrified at Miss Wick's independence and washed her hands of her. Miss Wick was not at all cast down by this treatment, but falling in with Lady Torquillin, whom she had become acquainted with on the voyage and made the mistake of calling Mrs. Torquillin, she was taken up by her and introduced into London society. She went through the usual functions, paid a visit to the Stacey's—an incident most beautifully told—and was finally presented to the Queen. The last mentioned is the best description of this ceremony we have ever read, and we need scarcely say that every lady will read it with deep interest. The *Illustrated London News* brought out the story first, and now it is published in book form in England, Canada and the United States. Our copy comes from the last mentioned, being published by D. Appleton & Co., in a very attractive size, green binding. It is generously illustrated by F. H. Townsend and makes a beautiful gift book for birthdays or other occasions. Price \$1.50.

“The Inverted Torch,” a poem by Edith M. Thomas, is published by

Houghton, Mifflin & Co., Boston. It is graceful verse full of loving memory of a lost mother, or rather not lost, but gone before, for our poetess says:

“If still they live, whom touch nor sight  
Nor any subtle sense can prove,  
Though dwelling past our day and night,  
At farthest star's remove,—

Oh, not because these skies they change  
For upper deeps of sky unknown,  
Shall that which made them ours grow strange,  
For spirit holds its own;

Whether it pace this earth around,  
Or cross, with printless, buoyant feet,  
The unroverberant profound  
That hath no name nor mete!”

We heartily recommend it, especially to all who mourn, for its strong comfort.

### INDUSTRIAL NOTES.

The Fertilizers manufactured by the Provincial Chemical Fertilizer Company of New Brunswick are of the greatest value to farmers. The importance of supplying to plants the especial food they need is pretty well understood by our intelligent farmers, who know that unless this is done, loss and not gain will be the result of their labors. In the products of this company farmers will find just what they need. The fertilizers are composed entirely of animal matter, and contain only the elements necessary for plant food. A trial of them will convince that they enrich the soil and cause it to bring forth abundant harvests. Under ordinary circumstances the soil becomes exhausted of the elements that feed plants and the crops are smaller year by year. This depletion must be prevented by adding, either from the manure heap or chemical fertilizers, the necessary constituents—Ammonia, Phosphoric Acid and Potash—which are essential to plant life. These fertilizers do not, as some people think, injure the soil, but the use of so-called fertilizers, of no value whatever, may have led to this erroneous idea. The guaranteed analysis of this company's Imperial Superphosphate is as follows:

Ammonia	3.00 to 3.50.
Phosphoric Acid	10.00 to 12.00.
Potash	1.50 to 2.00.

Thorough tests have been made of this brand, it being especially adapted for Buckwheat, Oats, Corn, Turnips, Carrots, etc. The use of from 250 to 500 lbs, an acre is recommended.

The Nova Scotia Furnishing Co., Limited, have been incorporated under a special act, with a capital of \$150,000, to carry on the house furnishing business upon an extensive scale. The great feature of their charter is the right to carry on business on the instalment plan, by which household goods may be purchased on monthly or other proportionate payments, a great boon to those commencing house keeping on scanty means. They have purchased the old established and well-known business of A. Stephen & Son and intend to add largely to the establishment. Their carpet and furniture department will be supplied with the best material obtainable, and their prices will be so moderate as to command the attention of buyers. A. Stephen & Son retain the management, and the show rooms are at the old stand, 101 and 103 Barrington street.

The well-known firm of W. W. Howell & Co. have just made a sale of one of their patent hoisting machines to the managers of the Mooseland Gold Mining Co. This machine is being used by many of our Nova Scotia miners, and is giving every satisfaction.

One of the busy, thriving and flourishing industries of Stellarton is the Foundry & Machine shop of Weir & Morrison. These shops are conveniently situated near the station house, and are exceedingly well fitted up with all the latest and best improved machinery for turning out first class work of every description in their lines. The machine shops present a busy hive of industry. There you will see four lathes, planer, milling machine, drill, cutting-out machine and several smaller and indispensable articles of machinery. The firm manufactures portable mills, stationary and portable engines, shingle mills, wood working machinery. They have just built a magnificent double service planer and matcher and have orders for three more. They are the only firm in the Maritime Provinces who make this machinery. Besides building such a large amount of new machines, the firm do a large business in jobbing of all kinds. They also expect to put in and fit up a lot more machinery this summer and will probably go into boiler making and blacksmith work. The foundry department is full and complete, the patterns modern and the work turned out of a superior quality. Their hot air furnaces are among the best in the Maritime Provinces and they expect a large trade.—*New Glasgow Enterprise*.

PORT GREVILLE.—Capt. Eben. Merriam and Capt. James Pettis have laid the keels of their new schooners.

EATONVILLE.—Messrs. C. F. & F. R. Eaton have a schooner of about 300 tons burden nearly finished and expect to launch her about the first of April.—*Cumberland Leader*.

Messrs Davison & Sons are preparing for an extensive cut at their mill on the Nietaux river; probably 5,000,000 feet or more.

The steam-mill of Mr. Rufus Merry, situated between Inglesville and Nietaux, is in active operation, and has been running since the first of February. It is thought there is sufficient timber at the mill to keep it busy all summer.—*Bridgetown Monitor*.

## COMMERCIAL.

Of the general trade situation little can be said, for conditions as a rule have undergone no appreciable change. Still the advance of spring has brought about somewhat of an increase in the volume of business accomplished, and it seems now certain that the earlier expectations of a brisk and profitable season will be fully realized.

Payments are, as a rule, fairly good, and less accommodation in the way of extensions is asked for than was expected, and than is usual at this season of the year.

Weekly Financial Review of Henry Clows & Co., New York, March 28, 1891.—The situation in the Stock Market has been materially improved this week by the declaration of the usual one per cent. quarterly dividend by the Rock Island Company. The enemies of the road and of the various Directors, who appear to be quite numerous in Wall Street, have been confident for some time past that the dividend would either be cut in two or else passed altogether. Upon this theory a large short interest in that stock had gradually accumulated. The result of the regular meeting of the Directors held on Monday last was, therefore, a great disappointment to the bears, but a cause of rejoicing on the part of the bona-fide holders of Rock Island shares, who have been powerless to stem its heretofore downward current. Rock Island stock, in consequence, instead of being almost the weakest on the list, as of late, has now become not only active but one of the important leaders of the general market, and has caused by sympathy other kindred properties to advance also; in fact, the whole situation at the Exchange has undergone a change for the better, resulting from the declaration of the Rock Island dividend. The continued increased earnings of the St. Paul Road have also added their part to strengthen confidence. It is conjectured that the President of the St. Paul Company, who took his departure on Wednesday last for Europe, will, while in London, by both word and action, help to improve the securities of his road in that market. St. Paul was one of the most favored stocks dealt in at the London Exchange. There is no denying the fact that the prospects of the Grangers and Southwestern roads are being materially benefited by the reforms and greater economies in their management, as well as by the good prospect of much better crops for the coming year than the last. The Winter wheat prospects certainly make a cheerful outlook for all the Western roads, and if that crop, together with the corn crop, should approximate to anything near what they were in 1889, the Stock Market will surely have an old-fashioned boom before the end of the present year, which Wall Street operators and commission firms would welcome as a great blessing. The present surplus bank reserve is ample to stand the drain that is likely to be made upon the banks for the April settlements without the prospect of their going below the 25 per cent. required by the national banking law, as has been the case for the past several years. The effort to create uneasiness in the matter of gold shipments was too transparent to be of long duration. The official statement of January 1st, issued by the Treasury, showed that the stock of coin and bullion held by the Department was \$293,000,000, and on March 1st was \$3,378,374 additional. There is in the hands of the public at least \$350,000,000 of gold, so that the shipments of \$2,750,000 last week, which was not much more than one-half the amount drawn from London during the November and December money disturbance here, was not in itself of vital importance, nor should it be significant of a prolonged drain of the precious metal from this centre. It is not unusual to make shipments of gold at this period of the year, as there is usually but little else left in the way of our products that Europe has need of, their wants having been supplied. Our exports of merchandise during the twelve months to date over imports—while I have not the figures at my hand at the moment—I am quite sure will show a very large balance in our favor. It is not unlikely, however, that the return of American securities to this side will necessitate more gold going forward during the early spring. This certainly will be the case unless a change comes in favor of buying back some of the stocks that have been sold for London account. This is not at all unlikely, as the condition of all the money markets of Europe is reported as being stagnant and without any particular or unusual demand. It must be remembered also that the exports of silver for the past year have only been about \$2,500,000, as against nearly \$22,000,000 the previous year.

Bradstreet's report of the week's failures:—

	Week Prof.		Weeks corresponding to			Failures for the year to date.			
	March 27.	week.	1890	1889	1888	1891	1890	1889	1888
United States.....	200	179	189	161	239	3332	3556	3546	2033
Canada.....	41	29	29	20	20	560	545	534	528

**Dry Goods.**—During the past week the weather has constituted an encouraging feature of the dry goods trade, the condition of the country roads being better than customary at this season, facilitating the movement of goods. A considerable number of sorting orders have been received both from customers direct and from travellers. As to the retail trade the spring weather has had the effect of bringing out the ladies in large numbers to inspect the spring offerings of the city stores, and the result was very satisfactorily purchasing. Some of the largest retail stores report doing an excellent week's business, the cash receipts being the largest since the beginning of the present year. City collections show quite an improvement.

**IRON, HARDWARE AND METALS.**—Business in this line has not commenced as yet and there has, therefore, been little or no change since our last report. In regard to pig iron the spot market is unchanged, only small transactions ex store passing, and nothing doing for future delivery. Values in the latter connection being more or less unsettled. Some enquiries have been made in the past few days for both pig and bar iron for spring delivery, but nothing worthy of note has transpired as yet. Tin plates and terno plates continue to be scarce and very firm. A fair trade in general hardware

is in progress, and orders for shelf goods have increased somewhat. There has been no change in metals generally except that, owing to the shutting down of the Anaconda mine, copper is more firmly held and is expected to advance in the near future. In England during the week tin declined 10s. Scotch warrants 6d. and No. 3 Middlesboro 9d. while copper advanced 2s. and soft Spanish lead 2s. 6d.

**BREADSTUFFS.**—The flour market works along on a firm basis and, though business can hardly be termed active, there is a good, steady trade doing and values are fully maintained. The tendency appears to incline upwards, though no actual change can be noted. Beerbohm's cable reports wheat and corn quiet, but firmly held. Weather in England colder. The *Winnipeg Commercial* says:—"In Manitoba prices seem to continue upward regardless of the situation abroad. The steady export movement, which has been going from Manitoba since the beginning of the wheat movement, has made a favorable basis for the advance of prices, and this, taken with the good demand from home millers, both here and in the east, has made the situation very firm. Prices may again this week be quoted up 3c. to 5c. per bushel on an average in the figures to Manitoba farmers as compared with a week or ten days ago." The Chicago grain market continues weak. Wheat lost another ½c. to 1c. Corn also declined 1½c. to 1½c. and oats ¾c. to 1c. At Toledo the wheat market was active but weak, and prices declined 1½c. to 2c. Corn and oats were nominal. The decline in wheat at New York was ½c. to 1c.; in St. Louis ½c.

**PROVISIONS.**—The local demand for pork continues of small compass, but jobbers hold their prices very firmly and some of them claim to expect an advance, which we do not think that present visible indications warrant. Lard is very firm and, owing to the strong advance in other markets of lard and cotton seed oil, the price of compound refined has been marked up. The demand for hams and bacon continues good and prices are firm. The only change in the Liverpool provision market was a decline of 3d. in lard. Pork, bacon and tallow were firm at previous quotations. The Chicago provision market was weak. Pork declines 15c. to 17½c. Lard lost 5c. and ribs 10c. The hog market there was also weak and declined 10c. to 15c. For choice cattle the market was steady, but it was weak for inferior grades. The sheep market was dull and slower.

**BUTTER.**—The butter market remains steady and there is a constant demand for the best description of stock and, as we said before, this is improving the position of other grades, for they are sympathetic. Briefly, the butter market is in a good healthy position at present and, although no boom is expected, holders have every reason to expect good prices from now on. A London, England, letter says:—"The heavy falls of snow, with consequent disorganization of navigation and transit, have caused a scarcity of butter, which is maintained to the close of the week, though meteorological conditions are considerably improved, and prices have hardened appreciably. Danish have advanced 2 kroner, and arrivals for next week have been sold at higher prices, all grades participating in the advance. At Liverpool, Danish is quoted 132s. to 138s; Irish of different qualities, 100s to 126s; States creameries, 90s to 95s; new arrivals of Canadian dairies, 90s to 95s; ladles, 70s to 78s, with inferior descriptions down to 38s." Now that the butter season of 1891 is about to open the following instructions should be carefully observed by shippers:—A practice that should be abolished by county shippers is that of working low grades of packed into roll, and packing them in with fresh-made roll, with the intention of pawning it all off as fresh-made. The deception is always detected, and such lots are invariably sold at same prices as low grades of packed command. Regarding packages, small flat baskets, holding from 30 to 50 lbs., are the most desirable, and boxes or half-barrels will do equally as well, but packages 100 lbs. nett, or under, meet with a quicker sale than larger packages. Care should also be taken before putting the butter in packages, that all the sides and ends of the package be lined with new white muslin, thus keeping the butter from defacement by touching the wood. A bad practice is in putting the butter up in paper; this should not be done as the paper sticks to the butter and damages the appearance. Each roll should be separately placed in a piece of new muslin cloth, washed in warm water to take out the starch, and thoroughly wet in good brine. The rolls should be of moderate size and not too large. Then again, the rolls should be of uniform color, not packing light and fresh made with other that has been colored. The gross weight and correct tares should be marked on each package.

**CHEESE.**—The market remains as last reported and there has been nothing particular to note. The cable is unchanged as to prices. A London correspondent writes:—"Cheese exhibits increased activity, and there is more enquiry for English descriptions, which have gone up a trifle, the demand centering around those parcels which can be obtained below the quotation for Canadian. There is a fair demand for Colonial, and New Zealand ranges from 40s to 56s. Choice Canadian cheese is difficult to get between 55s. to 56s, and there is every indication of better prices, dealers reporting a continuance of the strong feeling, to a greater extent, and a further rise of 2s. per cwt., quoting 60s. as the top price for Septembers, with August, 56s.; American August, 50s."

**APPLES IN ENGLAND.**—"There has been a pretty fair show of apples on the market this week, and a number of Nova Scotian have been disposed of, but many of them were of poor quality, and fetched about 8s. to 12s. per barrel, the pick of consignments, however, going at prices ranging from 25s. to 31s."

**FRUIT.**—The fruit market has not presented any particularly notable features since our last report, but there has been quite an active business in staple lines of green fruit—especially oranges and lemons. Business in dried fruit has been of a small, quiet nature not calculated to induce any new features. Valencia raisins rule about the same here, but are easier in New York, and it is probable that some concession would be made here also in the case of a round lot. Currants show no change here, but are



## A PASSION IN THE DESERT.

The *Strand Magazine* gives a capital translation of a story of Balzac's.

During the expedition in Upper Egypt, under General Dessaix, a Provençal soldier was taken prisoner by the Maugrabin Arabs. He effects his escape, however, during the night, and, seizing a horse, gallops into the desert till the animal, falling dead of fatigue, leaves him helpless in the wilderness.

Finding a convenient cave, he takes refuge there and falls asleep. In the middle of the night he was disturbed by a strange noise. He sat up; in the profound silence he could hear a creature breathing—a savage respiration which resembled nothing human. Terror, intensified by darkness, silence, and the fancies of one suddenly awakened, froze his blood. He felt the sharp contraction of his scalp, when, as the pupils of his eyes dilated, he saw in the shadow two faint and yellow lights. At first he thought these lights were some reflection of his eyeballs, but soon, the clear brightness of the night helping him to distinguish objects in the grotto, he saw lying at two paces from him an enormous beast! Was it a lion?—a tiger?—a crocodile? The Provençal was not sufficiently educated to know the species of his enemy, but his terror was all the greater since his ignorance assisted his imagination.

He bore the cruel torture of listening, of marking the caprices of this awful breathing, without losing a sound of it, or venturing to make the slightest movement. A smell as pungent as a fox's, but more penetrating, filled the grotto, and when it entered his nostrils his terror passed all bounds; he could no longer doubt the presence of the terrible companion whose royal den was serving him for bivouac.

Presently the moon, now sinking, lighted up the den, and in the moon rays gradually shone out a panther's spotted skin. The lion of Egypt was sleeping, curled up like a great dog who is the peaceable possessor of a sumptuous kennel at a mansion door; its eyes, which had been opened for one moment, were now closed again. Its face was turned towards the Frenchman. A thousand troubled thoughts passed through the mind of the panther's prisoner. At first he thought of shooting it; but there was not enough room between them to adjust his gun; the barrel would have reached beyond the animal. And what if he awoke it! This supposition made him motionless. Listening in the silence to the beating of his heart, he cursed the loud pulsations, fearing to disturb the sleep that gave him time to seek some means of safety. Twice he placed his hand upon his scimitar, with the intention of cutting off the head of his enemy; but the difficulty of cutting through the short, strong fur compelled him to abandon the idea.

To fail was certain death. He preferred the odds of conflict, and determined to await the daybreak. And daylight was not long in coming.

The Frenchman was able to examine the panther. Its muzzle was stained with blood. "It has eaten plenty," he reflected, without conjecturing that the feast might have been composed of human flesh; "it will not be hungry when it wakes."

It was a female. The fur upon her breast and thighs shone with whiteness. A number of little spots like velvet looked like charming bracelets around her paws. The muscular tail was also white, but tipped with black rings. The upper part of her coat, yellow as old gold, but very soft and smooth, bore those characteristic marks, shaded into the form of roses, which serve to distinguish the panther from the other species of the genus *Felis*. This fearful visitor was snoring tranquilly in an attitude as graceful as that of a kitten lying on the cushions of an ottoman. Her sinewy, blood-stained paws, with powerful claws, were spread beyond her head, which rested on them, and from which stood out the thin, straight whiskers with a gleam like silver wire. If she had been imprisoned in a cage, the Provençal would assuredly have admired the creature's grace, and the vivid contrasts of colour that gave her garment an imperial lustre; but at this moment he felt his sight grow dim at her sinister aspect. The presence of the panther, even sleeping, made him experience the effect which the magnetic eyes of the serpent are said to exercise upon the nighingale.

In the presence of this danger the courage of the soldier faltered, although without doubt it would have risen at the cannon's mouth. A desperate thought, however, filled his mind, and dried up at its source the chilly moisture which was rolling down his forehead. Acting as men do who, driven to extremities, at last defy their fate, and serve themselves to meet their doom, he saw a tragedy in this adventure, and resolved to play his part in it with honor to the last. "Two days ago," he argued with himself, "the Arabs might have killed me." Considering himself as good as dead, he waited bravely, yet with restless curiosity, for the awaking of his enemy.

When the sun shone out, the panther opened her eyes suddenly; then she spread out her paws forcibly, as if to stretch them and get rid of cramp. Then she yawned, showing an alarming set of teeth and an indented rasp-like tongue. "She is like a dainty lady!" thought the Frenchman, as he saw her rolling over with a gentle and coquettish movement. She licked off the blood that stained her paws and mouth, and rubbed her head with movements full of charm. "That's it! Just beautify yourself a little!" the Frenchman said, his gaiety returning with his courage. "Then we must say good-morning." And he took up the short dagger of which he had relieved the Maugrabin.

At this moment the panther turned her head towards the Frenchman, and looked at him fixedly, without advancing. The rigidity of those metallic eyes, and their insupportable brightness, made the Provençal shudder. The beast began to move towards him. He looked at her caressingly, and fixing her eyes as if to magnetise her, he let her come close up to him; then, with a soft and gentle gesture, he passed his hand along her body,

from head to tail, scratching with his nails the flexible vertebræ that divide a panther's yellow back.

The beast put up her tail with pleasure; her eyes grew softer; and when for the third time the Frenchman accomplished this self-interested piece of flattery, she broke into a purring like a cat. But this purr proceeded from a throat so deep and powerful that it re-echoed through the grotto like the peals of a cathedral organ.

The Provençal, realising the success of his caresses, redoubled them, until the imperious beauty was completely soothed and lulled. When he felt sure that he had perfectly subdued the ferocity of his capricious companion, whose hunger had been satisfied so cruelly the night before, he got up to leave the grotto. The panther let him go; but when he had climbed the hill, she came bounding after him with the lightness of a sparrow hopping from branch to branch, and rubbed herself against the soldier's leg, arching her back after the fashion of a cat. Then looking at her guest with eyes whose brightness had grown less inflexible, she uttered that savage cry which naturalists have compared to the sound of a saw.

"What an exacting beauty!" cried the Frenchman, smiling. He set himself to play with her ears, to caress her body, and to scratch her head hard with his nails. Then, growing bolder with success, he tickled her skull with the point of his dagger, watching for the spot to strike her. But the hardness of the bones made him afraid of failing.

The poor Provençal, with his back against a palm tree, ate his dates, while he cast inquiring glances, now towards the desert for deliverers, now upon his terrible companion, to keep an eye upon her dubious clemency. Every time he threw away a date-stone, the panther fixed her eyes upon the spot with inconceivable mistrust. She scrutinised the Frenchman with a business-like attention; but the examination seemed favourable, for when he finished his poor meal she licked his boots, and with her rough, strong tongue removed the dust incrustated in their creases.

"But when she becomes hungry?" thought the Provençal. Despite the shudder this idea caused him, the soldier began examining with curiosity the proportions of the panther, certainly one of the most beautiful specimens of her kind. She was three feet high and four feet long, without the tail. This powerful weapon, as round as a club, was nearly three feet long. The head—large as that of a lioness—was distinguished by an expression of rare delicacy; true, the cold cruelty of the tiger dominated, but there was also a resemblance to the features of a wily woman. In a word, the countenance of the solitary queen wore at this moment an expression of fierce gaiety, like that of Nero flushed with wine; she had quenched her thirst in blood, and now desired to play.

The soldier tried to come and go, and the panther let him, content to follow him with her eyes, but less after the manner of a faithful dog than of a great Angora cat, suspicious even of the movements of its master. When he turned round he saw beside the fountain the carcass of his horse; the panther had dragged the body all that distance. About two-thirds had been devoured. This sight reassured the Frenchman. He was thus easily able to explain the absence of the panther, and the respect which she had shown for him while he was sleeping. This first piece of luck emboldened him about the future.

He conceived the mad idea of setting up a pleasant household life, together with the panther, neglecting no means of pacifying her and of conciliating her good graces. Involuntarily he called to mind a woman whom he once had loved, whom he sarcastically had nicknamed "Mignonne," from her jealousy, which was so fierce that during the whole time of their acquaintance he was in fear that she would stab him. This memory of his youth suggested the idea of calling the young panther by this name, whose lithe agility and grace he now admired with less terror. Towards evening he had become so far accustomed to his perilous position, that he almost liked the hazard of it.

At last his companion had got into the habit of looking at him when he called in a falsetto voice "Mignonne." At sun-down Mignonne uttered several times a deep and melancholy cry. "She has been properly brought up," thought the light-hearted soldier; "she says her prayers!" But it was, no doubt, her peaceful attitude which brought the jest into his mind. "All right, my little pet; I will let you get to sleep first," he said, relying on his legs to get away as soon as she was sleeping, and to seek some other shelter for the night.

The soldier waited with patience for the hour of flight, and when it came, set out full speed in the direction of the Nile. But he had only gone a quarter of a league across the sand when he heard the panther bounding after him, uttering at intervals that saw-like cry, more terrible even than the thudding of her leaps.

"Well!" he said to himself, "she must have taken a fancy to me. Perhaps she has never yet met anyone. It is flattering to be her first love!" At this moment the Frenchman fell into a shifting quicksand, so dangerous to the traveller in the desert, escape from which is hopeless. He felt that he was sinking; he gave a cry of terror. The panther seized him by the collar with her teeth, and springing backwards with stupendous vigor drew him from the gulf as if by magic. "Ah! Mignonne!" cried the soldier, enthusiastically caressing her, "we are friends now for life and death. But no tricks, eh?" and he retraced his steps.

Henceforth the desert was as though it had been peopled. It contained a being with whom he could converse, and whose ferocity had been softened for him, without his being able to explain so strange a friendship. However, great as was his desire to keep awake and on his guard, he fell asleep. On awakening, Mignonne was no longer to be seen. He climbed the hill, and then perceived her afar off, coming along by leaps and bounds, according to the nature of these creatures, the extreme flexibility of whose vertebræ prevents their running. Mignonne came up, her jaws besmeared with blood. She received the caresses of her companion with deep purr

of satisfaction. Her eyes, now full of softness, were turned, with even greater tenderness than the night before, to the Provençal who spoke to her as to a pet. "Ah! Beauty! you are a respectable young woman, are you not? You like petting, don't you? Are you not ashamed of yourself? You have been eating a Maugrabin! Well! they're animals, as you are. But don't you go and gobble up a Frenchman. If you do, I shall not love you!" She played as a young pup plays with its master, letting him roll her over, beat and pet her; and sometimes she would coax him to caress her with a movement of entreaty.

A few days passed thus. This companionship revealed to the Provençal the sublime beauties of the desert. From the moment when he found within it hours of fear and yet of calm, a sufficiency of food, and a living creature who absorbed his thoughts, his soul was stirred by new emotions. It was a life of contrasts. Solitude revealed to him her secrets, and involved him in her charm. He spent a great part of his time in sleeping, but ever like a spider in his web, with mind alert, that he might not let deliverance escape him, should any chance to pass within the sphere described by the horizon. He had sacrificed his shirt to make a flag, which he had hoisted to the summit of a palm tree stripped of leaves. Taught by necessity, he had found the means to keep it spread by stretching it with sticks, lest the wind should fail to wave it at the moment when the hoped-for traveller might be travelling the waste of sand.

One day, in the most dazzling sunshine, an enormous bird was hovering in the air. The Provençal left his panther to examine this new visitor; but after waiting for a moment the deserted sultana uttered a hoarse growl. "Blessed if I don't believe that she is jealous!" he exclaimed, perceiving that her eyes were once more hard and rigid. "A woman's soul has passed into her body, that is certain!" The eagle disappeared in the air, while he admired afresh the rounded back and graceful outlines of the panther. She was as pretty as a woman. The blonde fur blended in its delicate gradations into the dull white colour of the thighs. The brilliant sunshine made this vivid gold, with spots of brown, take on a lustre indescribable. The Provençal and the panther looked at one another understandingly; the beauty of the desert quivered when she felt the nails of her admirer on her skull. Her eyes gave forth a flash like lightning, and then she closed them hard. "She has a soul," he cried, as he beheld the desert queen in her repose, golden as the sands, white as their blending lustre, and, like them, fiery and alone.

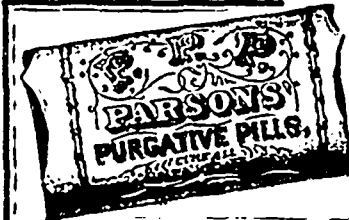
[Here the lady to whom the narrator tells this story inquires the end.]

"Ah!" he said. "They ended as all great passions end—through a misunderstanding. Each thinks the other guilty of a falsity, each is too proud for explanation, and obstinacy brings about a rupture." "And sometimes in the happiest moments," he said, "a look, an exclamation, is enough! Well, what was the end of the story?" "That is difficult to tell, but you will understand what the old fellow had confided to me, when finishing his bottle of champagne, he exclaimed, 'I don't know how I hurt her, but she turned on me like mad, and with her sharp teeth seized my thigh. The action was not savage; but fancying that she meant to kill me I plunged my dagger into her neck. She rolled over with a cry that froze my blood: she looked at me in her last struggles without anger. I would have given everything on earth, even my cross—which then I had not won—to bring her back to life. It was as if I had slain a human being.

And the soldiers who had seen my flag, and who were hastening to my succour, found me bathed in tears. 'Well, sir,' he went on, after a moment's silence, 'since then I have been through the wars in Germany, Spain, Russia, France; and I have dragged my carcass round the world; but there is nothing like the desert in my eyes! Ah! it is beautiful—superb.' 'What did you feel there?' I inquired of him. 'Oh! that I cannot tell you. Besides, I do not always regret my panther, and my clump of palm trees. I must be sad at heart for that. But mark my words. In the desert there is everything and there is nothing.' 'Explain yourself.' 'Well!' he continued, with a gesture of impatience, 'it is God without man.'"

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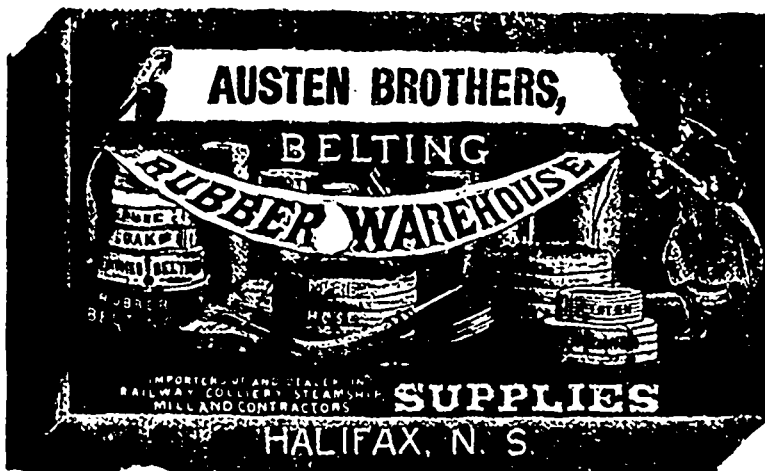
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## MINING.

**ISAAC'S HARBOUR.**—The strike on the property of the North Star Company is a very valuable one, to judge from a quantity of the quartz that we had the pleasure of examining through the courtesy of Mr. H. K. Fisher, the manager. Every piece fairly bristled with coarse gold, not the general rule at Isaac's Harbour, where most of the quartz crushed contains fine gold almost invisible to the naked eye. The lead is a small one some  $2\frac{1}{2}$  inches thick, but it makes up for its small size in its great richness.

**DISCOVERY OF NICKEL ORE IN ONTARIO.**—Nickel ore has been discovered near Plevna, in the County of Frontenac, which compares favorably with the Sudbury ore. The mine is owned by Mr. D. W. Allison, M.P., and Mr. Platt, of Adolphustown. This is the first discovery of nickel ore in this county.

**MOLEGA.**—All the men wounded by the recent explosion at Molega are rapidly improving. Alex McInnis, whose foot was removed, is doing remarkably well, the stump healing with unusual rapidity.

The different mills are all at work, and as an improvement is noticeable in the richness of the quartz now being crushed, we expect the forces on the different mines will be increased, and Molega will experience a revival of the good old times.

President Parker, of the Parker & Douglas mine, is making quite a lengthy stay. His many friends are always glad to see his smiling face.

Mr. John McGuire, formerly of the Malaga Mining Co., is expected to arrive this week, which indicates the development of another mine this season on some of his areas, for Mac is always to be found where business is brisk. We extend him a hearty welcome, and success in his undertaking.

Mr. Shaughnessy, amalgamator at the Boston Co's Mine, slipped and fell in the mill on Thursday, and fractured his leg at the ankle joint. He is getting along nicely.

The Parker & Douglas Company is looming up, and may be a "dark horse" yet. The heavy mineral seems to be coming in and the gold increasing at 140 feet. Old miners say that this will be one of the best mines in our country. Mr. Parker may feel proud that he "stuck to the ship," and put in so good a plant. We hear from those who know that this is the most complete plant for producing ore in Canada. He has shown by so doing that he can live and make ore pay in Mines that have been abandoned on account of non-pay ore.

The Queen County Mining Company at Whiteburn is now doing fine work. The mill is running day and night, with plenty of ore, and good ore at that. Mr. P. is looking for a large brick when they clean up. We don't think he will be disappointed, as we have seen some fine ore going to the mill this week. Their plant can produce ore as cheaply as any in the world, taking the size of the leads into consideration, as five air drills will do as much as fifty drills by hand. One year ago Mr. Parker had all the Miners against him for using them; and all kinds of excuses were made to discourage their use; but instead of taking them out he doubled his plant, and now is doing all his work by air drills both at Molega and Whiteburn.—*Gold Hunter.*

The Stellerton *Journal* desires the *Critic* to state the amount of duty it would be necessary to put on bituminous coal in order to secure to Nova Scotia the coal trade of Ontario.

With the present duty of 60 cents, Nova Scotia coals now compete successfully in Montreal with importations from the States, but we do not hear of sales further west, if we except orders from the Government for use at Ottawa.

In order to push our coal sales in Ontario or to secure the markets of Hamilton and Toronto and ports on Lake Ontario, the duty should be increased to meet the cost of transportation from Montreal to Lake Ontario.

At present as bulk has to be broken at Montreal, and the coal reshipped, the expense evidently prevents us shipping to Ontario, with the duty as it is. When the canals are sufficiently enlarged to permit of through shipments from the mines to the wharves at Toronto and Hamilton without brooking bulk, we are of the opinion that a duty of 75 cents per ton will be sufficient to give us the markets of Eastern Ontario, and should the duty be increased to \$1.00 a ton, a concession to which we are justly entitled by the increased flour tax and the removal of the duty on anthracite coal, we believe we could at once compete in Toronto and Hamilton with American coal, and that when the canals are enlarged and the cost of transportation greatly reduced that that duty would give us the whole or a large share of the bituminous coal trade of Ontario.

We are led to this opinion from our knowledge of the Western United States coal markets. In Chicago, Pennsylvania bituminous coal shipped by rail to Erie and from there by water to Chicago, has a large sale in spite of the fact that Ohio and Illinois coals have the advantage of the short haul. This is simply due to the superiority of the Pennsylvania coal. It is generally admitted that Pictou coal and some from Cape Breton is equal in quality to the best Pennsylvania, so that the protection needed to give us the coal trade of Ontario, is an increase of duty sufficient to overcome the advantage that Pennsylvania now enjoys on account of its proximity to the Ontario markets.

Another point is that the tariff should be rigorously enforced, and coal dust which is now admitted at 20 cents per ton, and which must compete most seriously with our present sales, should be struck out, as we understand that screenings largely used by manufacturers in Quebec and Ontario are admitted under this head.

Then too, the special concessions given certain large mining and smelting

companies, operating at or near Sudbury, of importing coal for their works free of duty, will have to be cancelled or the duty will prove of no value.

With the canals enlarged and the duty properly enforced, the present sum of 60 cents per ton might be sufficient to give us a share of the Ontario markets, provided our coal shippers should grasp the situation and provide the most improved methods of handling and transporting coal, but for the present we think that a duty of one dollar per ton should be imposed, to be reduced to seventy-five cents on the completion of the enlargement of the canals.

**HEAVY BITUMINOUS COAL SHIPMENTS.**—"Since the first of the year," says the Philadelphia Press, "shipments of bituminous coal from this city have exceeded that of any other period in the history of the country. The coal has not only been shipped to eastern ports, but a number of cargoes have been sent to South America, and the trade with the West Indies has been enormous, and it is expected that this year's shipments will amount to over 2,500,000 tons. It is something strange for the bituminous coal trade to be large at this time of the year, as the river is generally frozen and for some reason the coal is not required." Could we not manage to secure a share of this enormous West India trade.

The McArthur-Forrest process as an ore treatment is not a success in the west. Much has been expected in Boulder from the McArthur-Forrest process, but so far nothing satisfactory has resulted. The same is true of the Cechrano process. This mill, erected at considerable expense in Boulder canon, at the mouth of Black Tiger gulch, was dedicated with prayer some time ago, but since that time nothing has been heard of it. The ore was to be treated by a secret process in which crude petroleum played an important part.

The Mining Exchange Journal of Denver "hits the nail on the head" in the following: "Mining is a branch of business as well defined and distinct as any in the catalogue of occupations. The men who are successful miners are those who have made it a life long study. They know all about surface indications, and though oftentimes not scientifically educated, they are well posted in geology, in the character of ores, and what may be expected from the contact of different formations.

**THE WEST PROCESS.**—*Treating Zinc and other Complex Ores.*—There are in many parts of this country, especially in the West and South, large bodies of mineral composed of Zinc and Lead sulphides carrying Gold and Silver, which are almost valueless owing to the presence of the Zinc. The smelting for gold and silver is difficult in case of this combination, and the presence of the lead is an obstacle in the way of smelting for zinc alone. Many schemes have been devised for saving all of the metals—gold, silver, lead and zinc—but so far without success.

In most instances, the zinc has been the objectionable element, and has seriously interfered with the profits of the individual mine owner. At times it has rendered the operations of large companies, with capital, futile, so far as the realization of dividends has been concerned. When found in the ore in quantities exceeding 10 per cent, it has proved a serious obstacle in smelting operations, and a consequent heavy charge on the ore producer.

The standard charge for smelting this class of ore, prior to the recent advance, was fifty cents for each per cent of zinc over 10 per cent. in the ore, in addition to the regular rates. At the present time (in Colorado) fifty cents per unit is charged on all zinc contents.

(This charge is always made, though it is sometimes covered up by including it under the head of "Smelting Charges.")

Many schemes have also been devised for removing this obstacle in the way of smelting, but until recently without practical results. Perhaps the most successful has been in cases of lead and zinc combination where the two have been separated by water dressing, and the lead in this manner rendered comparatively clean. Where the principal value is in the precious metals, and these are carried by the zinc, of course a heavy loss is entailed. In most of the Colorado camps this is the case.

Mr. William West, who has had a long and successful experience as a metallurgist, has worked on this problem for years, and has finally perfected a scheme whereby the objectionable element (zinc) can be removed from the ore, and one of two results attained:

(A) The ore freed from the zinc and placed in the most desirable condition for subsequent smelting operations, the zinc being thrown away, or—

(B) The ore freed from zinc, and the latter converted into a merchantable product.

This is accomplished by a system of roasting in a furnace of peculiar construction, and by a subsequent process of gassing and leaching roasted ore.

The process in detail may be briefly described as follows:

First—The raw ore is pulverized to a degree of fineness which will permit of a very perfect roast, preferably to pass a forty-mesh screen; its composition is then determined with a view to securing a proper proportion of sulphur and zinc, and lead—if the latter be present in the ore.

Second—The charge is then roasted until thoroughly oxidized, the sulphur being carried off in the form of sulphurous acid gas, and, in connection with steam, used in further treatment of the ore.

Third—The ore is then placed in tanks and subjected to the action of the gas and steam, under pressure and at a given temperature, resulting in the conversion of the zinc contents to a sulphite, soluble in water.

Fourth—The ore is then leached in warm water, the zinc contents precipitated, and the ore removed for treatment by the smelters, when the gold, silver and lead contents are recovered.

Two results have now been accomplished;

First—The objectionable element has been removed from the ore and the latter put in a most desirable condition for future operations.

Second—The bulk of weight of the ore has been reduced by the large

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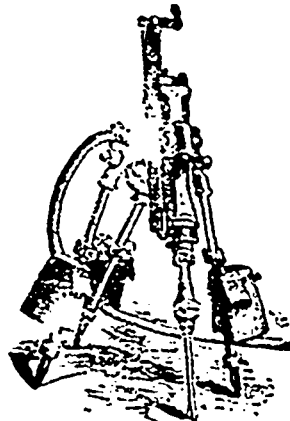
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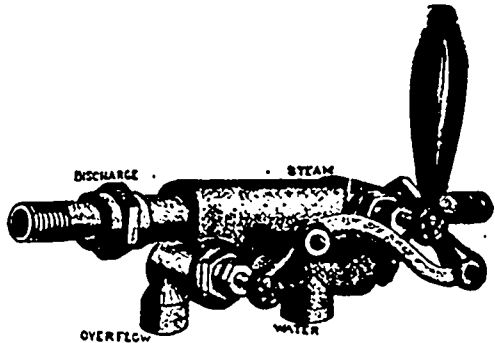
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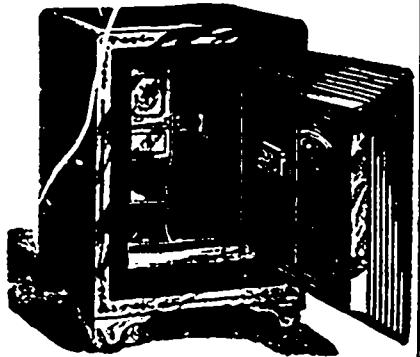
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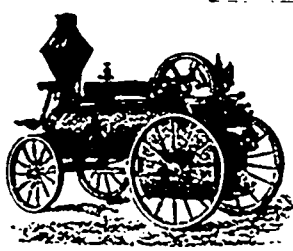
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amount of zinc and sulphur removed, and subsequent charges for saving the gold, silver and lead contents reduced in like proportion.

Now, if it be desired to derive a profit from this hitherto objectionable element (the operator being near enough to market to make this movement practical), it is converted into zinc oxide or metallic zinc by the following additional manipulation.

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The cost of plant and treatment is small, considering the results to be attained: A ten-ton plant, excluding cost of buildings, power and pulverizer can be erected for about \$7,500.

THE DEVONIAN OF CAPE BRETON, BY E. GILPIN, JR., A. M.,  
F. G. S., INSPECTOR OF MINES.

(Concluded.)

The minerals of the Devonian of Cape Breton are limited in number. I am not aware of any quarries having been opened in them for building purposes, although the surface blocks are locally used for foundations, bridges, etc. Limestone is met at several places. That of St. Peter's inlet has been quarried and burnt to a small extent, and was utilized during the construction of the canal. The bed of limestone between Pirate's Cove and Mulgrave was quarried on quite an extensive scale some years ago, and exported chiefly to Prince Edward Island. Behind the chapel at Arichat there is a quarry in a dark grey compact limestone, veined with calc spar. The limestone at Pirate's Cove is said to be somewhat hydraulic, and contains fluor spar.

The occurrence of fluor spar in these measures leads to a hope that this mineral, which is of considerable value, may be found in amounts of economic importance. In 1887, 3,000 tons were mined in the United States and valued at the mines at \$20,000. About two-thirds was used in iron, brass and steel works; the remainder in glass works, and for the production of fluoric acid and other chemicals. In the States fluoric acid to the extent of 6,000 tons, valued at \$3 00 per ton, is produced as a by-product from the manufacture of cryolite into various sodium salts, alum, aluminium, etc.

Galena occurs in limestone near the head of Arichat harbor, and has been prospected several times. The ore carries small amounts of gold and, I am informed, up to ten ounces of silver.

Barytes occur in small quantities near McMillan's Point on the Strait of Canso.

So far, the Devonian rocks of Cape Breton have shown the greatest mineral value in iron ore, and inferentially it may be expected that future valuable discoveries will be made. In strata of this age in Annapolis County are known the valuable bedded hematites, sometimes altered into magnetite, of Clementsport and the Nictaux districts. So far, similar deposits have not been met in the counterpart of these rocks in Cape Breton. In Guysboro' County, however, important deposits have been opened, and their mode of occurrence has a direct bearing upon the probable ore-yielding localities on the opposite side of the Strait of Canso. At Erinville is a large and important deposit of specular ore. Some years ago a test was made of the extent of this deposit. A shaft was sunk in the ore fifty feet, and a tunnel driven, exposing a body of ore sixty five feet wide; another bed in the vicinity was twelve feet wide. The ore is fairly compact, running from 55 to 62 per cent. of metallic iron, and very low in phosphorus, and not holding above the amount of sulphur usually found in ore of this character. The walls of the veins are composed of greenish, dioritic, felspathic, trappean, brecciated rock. About a mile further west, promising indications of ore have been found in altered slates, and shales with quartz. In the vicinity are large masses of dark gray trap, in contact with conglomerate. On the seashore, near the east side of the mouth of Milford Haven, are large beds of altered clay slates, veined with calc spar and quartz, and penetrated by dioritic rocks. Veins of ore up to two feet in thickness, of the compact specular variety, have been opened here and worked to a small extent. The ore, which was of excellent quality, was not carefully mined, and the admixture of stone which was sent away caused the Londonderry works to stop buying it.

At the Indian Reserve, near Robinson's Cove in Richmond County, similar deposits of specular iron ore are met, cutting the shales and sandstones. Some explorations have shown the presence of deposits of workable size. As in Guysboro' County they are in the immediate vicinity of igneous rocks. The ore is of good quality, and not excessively sulphurous. The fact of the connection between the igneous rocks and the iron ore veins is of value to the prospector, as by bearing it in mind, he is able to contract the area in which he may be searching. It is true that deposits of this character, owing their existence to irregular masses of intrusive rocks, have not the uniformity of bedded deposits, but they are not necessarily more irregular than the normal vein deposits of specular ore.

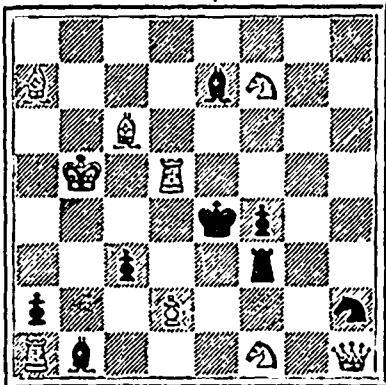
Some attention has been given during the past year to the iron ores of St. Peter's mountain, some miles south of McNab's Cove, but I am not acquainted with the ore or its surroundings. The ores of this district are favorably situated for shipment, and of fair quality, and it appears, so far as our present stock of information goes, any future mining activity of the localities we have been considering will be found in their extraction and transportation.

Mr. Fletcher's reports, as issued by the Geological Survey of Canada, give fuller details about the Devonian of Cape Breton, and I am indebted to him for much of the information I included in this paper.

CHESS.

Solution of problems Nos. 59 & 60, B to K4, and Q to R2. Solved by C. W. L.

PROBLEM No. 61. By C. A. Gilberg. From The Week. BLACK 8 pieces.



WHITE 9 pieces.

White to play and mate in two moves.

GAME No. 62. THE CABLE CHESS MATCH. From New York Sun.

Tschigorin's Latest Moves and the Run of the Games.

Tschigorin yesterday cabled his thirtieth moves in both games of his match with Steinitz.

The moves are: Evans Gambit 30, R to Q2; Two Knights Defence, 30, Kt to Q5.

In the former game the Russian champion, who had the option of concentrating his forces to an attack upon either the hostile QKt's P or QP, has decided upon the latter course.

In the Two Knights Defence Tschigorin makes a diversion with his Kt, at the same time again attacking the Bishop. An unfavorable continuation for White would be: 31, Q to Q3 ch, B to K5; 32, Q takes Kt, R takes B.

THE GAMES. Evans Gambit.

- WHITE. Tschigorin. 1 P to K4, 2 Kt to KB3, 3 B to B4, 4 P to QKt4, 5 P to QB3, 6 Castles, 7 P to Q4, 8 B to KK15, 9 P to Q5, 10 Q to R4, 11 Kt to QR3, 12 B to K2, 13 Kt to B4, 14 P to Q6, 15 Kt to QKt6, 16 Q takes RP, 17 B to B sq, 18 B to R3, 19 QR to Q sq, 20 B to B4, 21 Kt to Q5, 22 Kt to R4, 23 Kt to B5, 24 Kt takes B, 25 B takes Kt, 26 B takes Kt, 27 B takes P, 28 Q takes R, 29 Q to R4, 30 K to Q2. BLACK. Steinitz. P to K4, Kt to QB3, B to B4, B takes KtP, B to R4, Q to B3, Kt to KR3, Q to Q3, Kt to Q sq, B to Kt3, P to QB3, B to B2, Q to KB sq, B takes P, QR to Kt sq, Kt to K3, Kt to Kt sq, P to B4, Kt to KB3, B to B2, B to Q3, Kt takes Kt, P to KK13, Q takes Kt, Q to B2, R to R sq, Q takes B, K to Q sq.

Two Knights Defence.

- WHITE. Steinitz. 1 P to K4. BLACK. Tschigorin. P to K4.

- 2 KKt to B3, 3 B to B4, 4 Kt to Kt5, 5 P takes P, 6 B to Kt5 ch, 7 P takes P, 8 B to K2, 9 KKt to R3, 10 P to Q3, 11 Kt to B3, 12 Kt to R4, 13 KKt to Kt sq, 14 P to QB6, 15 P to Q4, 16 P to QB4, 17 QKt to B3, 18 P to QKt3, 19 B to Kt2, 20 Q to B2, 21 K to B sq, 22 P takes P, 23 B takes P, 24 Kt to K4, 25 Q to K2, 26 Q to K6 ch, 27 B takes Q, 28 Q to R3, 29 B to K5, 30 B to B4. QKt to B3, Kt to B3, P to Q4, QKt to R4, P to B3, P takes P, P to KR3, KB to QB4, Castles, Kt to Q4, B to Q3, P to KB4, B to Q2, P to K5, Kt to K2, B to K3, B to Kt5, P to B5, Q takes P, P to B6, P takes P, B to KB4, B takes Kt, B takes B, K to R2, B takes R, Kt to B4, QR to K sq, Kt to Q5.

DRAUGHTS-CHECKERS

All communications to this department should be addressed directly to the Checker Editor, W. Forsyth, 36 Grafton Street,

About the first of the coming year, in order to ascertain the amount of interest taken by our readers in the checker column, we requested all who wished it kept up to intimate their desires in writing. We received numerous favorable responses from all parts of the country, and, thus encouraged, have continued it. Among those from whom we heard were Captain McDougall, Maitland; Mr. Humphris, Tinton; Mr. Oliver McGill, Yarmouth; several from Shubenacadie and Dartmouth; Joseph F. Cox, Montreal; and a number of others in various places. We should be much pleased to hear occasionally from each of our readers who peruse, study and profit by this department of THE CRITIC.

TO CORRESPONDENTS.

JOSEPH E. Cox, Montreal.—Your favor is received with thanks. We are glad the little prize reached you in good condition. Shall be happy to see Mr. Miller when he comes.

SERGR. MUIR, Preston, E. G. B.—That unique letter of yours and latest Glasgow Herald's received with thanks. Will try to write to you soon.

CHECKER NEWS.

Wyllie, the champion, sails on March 14 from Sydney, N.S.W., for Scotland. As he is ready and willing to come from there to America at Mr. Reed's notice to commence a match, all the talk about Mr. Wyllie's avoiding a match is false.—New York Clipper.

Wyllie has lost only 24 games out of 11,000 played by him in Australia.

SOLUTION.

PROBLEM 212.—The position was: black men 9, 10, 11, 14, 17, 20; white men 23, 25, 28, 29, 30; king 4; white to play and win.

23 18 30 26 4 8 8 22, 14-23 23-30 30-21 w. wins.

GAME 98—"SOUTER."

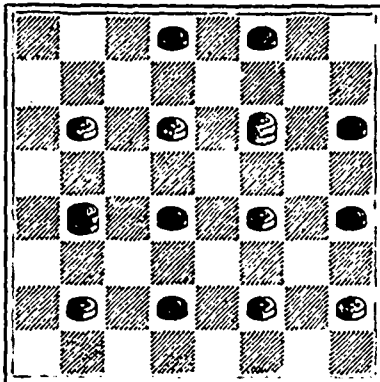
Played between Messrs. S. Granville and F. H. Hamilton.

11-15 4-8 11-25 7-30

- 23 19 25 22 21 17 28 24, 9-14 12-16 25-29 9-14, 22 17 19 12 27 23 24 19, 6-9 14-18 5-9 30-25, 27 23 23 14 23 18 31 26, 8-11 9-25 29-25 25-22, 17 13 29 22 30 21 26 10, 2-6 15-19 10-14 6-24, 32 27 24 15 17 10 b. wins.

PROBLEM 214

From the West Lothian Courier. Black men 2, 3, 12, 18, 20, 26, kg 17.



White men 9, 10, 19, 25, 27, 28, kg. 11.

White to play and win.

This, though a stroke problem, will be found interesting.

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## CITY CHIMES.

Easter Sunday was as fine a day as the oldest inhabitant can remember on the 29th of March. The churches were well attended, and in nearly all of them sermons appropriate to the occasion were preached, and Easter music told of a risen Lord.

Now that Lent is over, festivities of the usual kind are again lawful for good church people. Easter week has been lively with opera and dancing, and people have been having a good time generally. Spring's "dowry fingers cold" are scarcely perceptible as yet, unless by the coldness, but having got safely through March, we live in hopes of warmer days in April—month of sunshine and showers, smiles and tears. Last Saturday we must except the charge of coldness. It was almost hot in the middle of the day, and just perfect for going out for a stroll. Good Friday was too gusty to be pleasant, and walking was tiresome. The day was spent very quietly, and many people found the three hours' service at St. Luke's Cathedral quite enough exertion for one day.

Messrs. Gordon & Keith's ball on Tuesday evening at their re-constructed warerooms was attended by about 400 guests, who appeared to enjoy themselves thoroughly. The rooms were handsomely draped and decorated, and splendid music was provided for dancing by the string band of the Leicestershire Regiment. The programme consisted of seventeen dances, the still-as-popular-as-ever militaire occurring three times. An excellent supper was served by Street, without whom, we fancy, no brilliant event of this kind can take place. Dancing was kept up until after one o'clock. Among the guests present were Lieut.-Governor Daly, Hon. S. W. Fielding, the Spanish Consul, and Dr. and Mrs. Wickwire. The warerooms were universally admired by the guests, who had every opportunity of inspecting the building, which was illuminated throughout.

The splendid new building of St. Mary's Young Men's Total Abstinence and Benevolent Society on Barrington St. was formally opened on Monday evening, when a large gathering of ladies and gentlemen was present. Archbishop O'Brien, Governor Daly, Mr. T. E. Kenny, Mr. Fielding and others gave addresses, after which the building was inspected and admired by all present. A number of prominent men occupied seats on the platform. This building will be to the Catholics of the city what the Y. M. C. A. is to the Protestants. With the Church of England Institute on one side and St. Mary's T. A. & B. Society on the other, the City Club should find itself so girt about with temperance that the very champagne corkers will be afraid to pop.

The first of April was bright enough to fool any body into donning a light overcoat, but only the fools did it, for the wind had a cold back bone in it, and winter garments were and are still quite as necessary as ever for comfort. With regard to April fools, it is well to remember that Bismarck was born on the first of this month, and that he is now 86 years old. He is not generally regarded as a fool, although Emperor William does not appreciate his services to the state.

In our younger days we can faintly remember we looked forward to the first of April with pleasure for some days, and laid traps for the unwary. Small parcels of trash done up as groceries tempted the passer-by, and sometimes an envelope, addressed to a neighbor, would lie on the sidewalk, just outside the gate, behind which lurked a boy holding the other end of the string to which said envelope was attached. It is needless to say that no one picked up that letter, as the boy with the string took care that it disappeared just as a hand was stretched forth to take it.

We often read "Iris'" talks about Halifax in *St. John Progress*, sometimes greatly to our amusement, and we are now led to believe that that lady must have a little Irish blood in her veins, since in her last article she produced a bull of the true Irish breed. This is what she says:—"As we lift the sombre linden curtain and emerge into the bright world, the greeting we would fain utter is checked, for hark! Do you not hear the Easter Chimes? And that sweet perfume! Is it not the breath of the Easter lillies? O joyful bells, and spotless flowers! They speak far more eloquently than any other language, and so, in silence, we join in the grand hallelujah." Now this is very pretty, but we would like to know how we are to join in the grand hallelujah in *silence*. Perhaps our townswoman has discovered a new method of singing, but our idea of a hallelujah is something of the joyful noise description spoken of by the Psalmist.

The unusual came to pass this week. We have been treated to an operatic performance of considerable merit, and Halifaxians have shown their appreciation by going to see and hear, so that the cheering spectacle of a full house has met the eyes of the performers every evening. "The Gondoliers" is not unlike other Gilbertian operas and is full of humor, the music is very pretty, although there are no decidedly strong parts, and the company gave a very good all round performance. Miss Marie Laurens as Casilda, daughter of the Duke of Plaza Toro, is deserving of the highest praise. In the first act she had but small scope, and no one guessed the power, flexibility and sweetness of her voice, but in the second act she soared away, and took her high notes with remarkable ease and clearness, giving the audience a feeling of confidence in her powers. As the Grand Inquisitor Maurice Hageman was exceedingly amusing, and his dancing was a feature of the programme alone well worth going to see. The Duke of

Plaza Toro was irresistibly comical and kept the audience in a ripple of laughter. The two Gondoliers, Marco and Guiseppe, were well presented by Robert Dunbar and Seth M. Crane, and their wives, Gianetta and Tessa, were favorites from the first. Miss Marie Bell (Gianetta) has a charming voice and acts and sings in a spritely, lively manner. The over painting of the face was a mistake all the ladies made. We have seldom seen an opera in which the ladies were better looking in reality or more disfigured in the make up. Their dresses were very fetching, but the "dead loads"—to make use of slang—of paint and powder used on their faces was apparent even without the use of a lorgnette. The Duchess of Plaza Toro may have been intentionally disfigured thus—she was crimsoned up to the eyebrows—but we think it would be pleasanter for the spectators not to have it overdone to such a degree. We hope the ladies of the company will be less lavish with their rouge next week. The scenery was new and an agreeable relief from the old familiar "scenes of our childhood," as viewed in the Academy of Music. Last evening "Amorita" was given. The music of this opera is said to be very pretty, but as we have not yet heard it we cannot speak from experience. On Monday "Fra Diavola," an old favorite, will be presented. The Grau Company is well worthy the patronage it has been receiving, and the long dearth of such entertainment makes it doubly acceptable.

The W. C. T. U. held an Olio in Orpheus Hall on Thursday evening. A large audience was present to enjoy the fine programme presented.

The vagaries of fashion are peculiar, as every one knows, but the latest agony, we are told by an English paper, transcends them all. "There was a time when cobwebs were remorselessly dragged from their lurking places by the mandates of careful housewives, while a spider provoked as much scampering and shrieking as a mouse. Imagine, therefore, the horror of seeing a damsel of the *haute monde* whose head and face were enveloped in a mass of cobwebs, whilst spiders meandered unchecked over eyes, brow, nose and mouth. "My dear, what is it?" quoth the spectator. "Is it for a wager you wear these unseemly and horrid insects?" Her answer was enthusiastic and discursive. We condense its most interesting facts. Cobwebs and spiders are the latest "agony" in veils. Put loosely over a large hat and drawn under the chin, they are announced by Bond-street's most expensive and best milliners to be the very latest "caper," and quite too "swagger." That lovely womankind should submit to such vagaries! Another noisome veil was also encountered. This was more awful than the first, for the cobwebs were realistically gray, and the spiders were terribly black. Well may this be called the latest agony! Veils are frequently charged with serious offenses, such as injuring the eyes, etc., but when selected with good taste and judgment, they are not only a useful, but an ornamental adjunct to a lady's toilet. People talk of them as vanities and denounce them as fads, but the majority of women kind have an especial affection for the gauzy, expensive, dear, delightful things. Their virtues outnumber their faults. In the first place, they are a protection against the cutting winds of winter. They keep at least one-half the dust from finding a lodging in the pores. They hold rebellious bangs in leash, and defy the March winds or the swiftly alternating rain and snow to "take out the curl." They hide worn hat brims. They shade weak eyes. They give a feeling of retirement to a woman who goes about alone, and they add dignity to her personality and grace to her appearance. Some one has said a veil is a coquetry to a pretty woman, and a boon to an ugly one—or something to that effect. Veils are more the rage than ever now, and every woman loves to have a choice selection of them. The thin fish net patterns are as pretty as any, and very becoming.

The new hats are of most fantastic shapes, but on the whole they promise to be becoming. They are "airy nothings" almost, and if they do not look pretty their usefulness is doubtful. Flowers promise to replace the "smashed birds" that have been worn all winter, and the relief is something to be thankful for. The weather must hurry up and get warmer, so we can see how the tiny flower crowned affairs will look on our belles. Bonnet shops, in all their array, have a drawing power, which is apparently irresistible to the fair sex, and even some of the brave may be seen to gaze, lost in wonder, at the "creations" in the windows of best millinery establishments.

Mr. James Shand, the well-known Auctioneer, says: "Had considerable expectation and disagreeable cough. Physician recommended *Pultner's Emulsion*. Took six bottles—cough vanished. Am convinced your preparation brought about my speedy convalescence."

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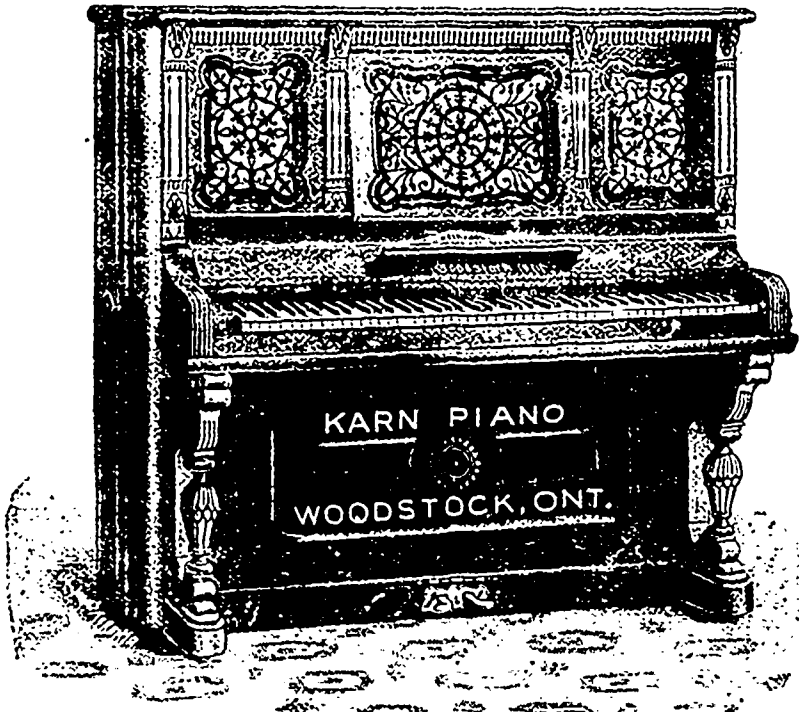
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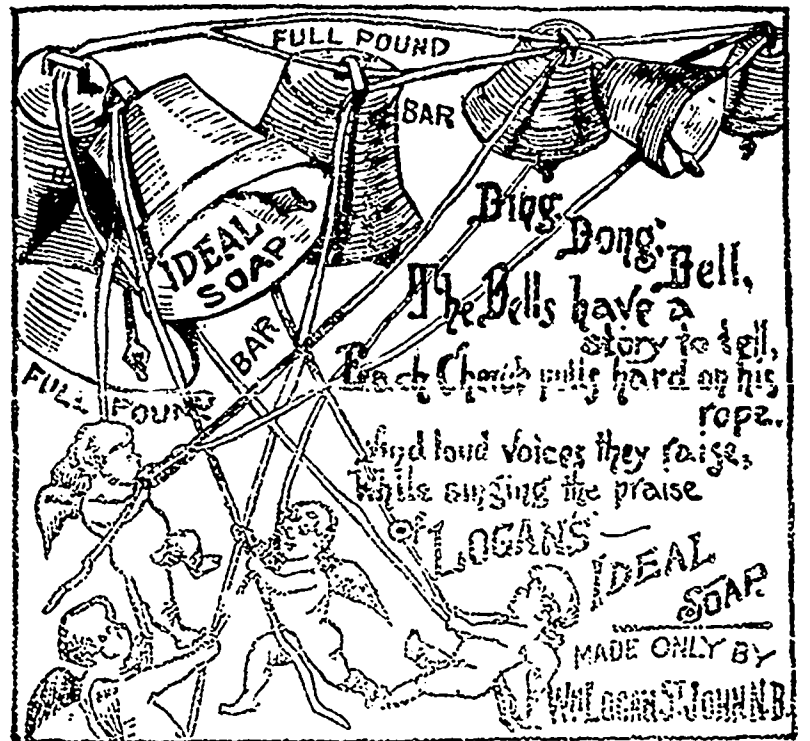
Hitherto all mining operations, however carefully managed, have been attended with frightful loss of life and damage to property, owing to the treacherously dangerous nature of the explosives used, which, being composed principally of nitro-glycerine, are liable to premature explosion from any simple causes, but the NEW EXPLOSIVE, ROBURITE, contains no nitro-glycerine, and cannot possibly be exploded under any circumstances, except by insertion into the cartridges of a specially strong detonator made for the purpose. Neither in England, Germany, Australia, South Africa, Spain, nor in any other country, has a single explosion been reported as having occurred in mixing, cartidging or packing ROBURITE. It may be handled and transported as ordinary goods with perfect safety. IT DOES NOT FREEZE, and is not affected by changes of temperature. It gives off no noxious fumes, and miners may enter their works immediately after shots are fired without any injury to health. It is of less specific gravity than Dynamite, but is twenty-five per cent. more powerful, besides infinitely safer, and is four times more powerful than Gunpowder. It can be transported as freight by Railways and Steamships.

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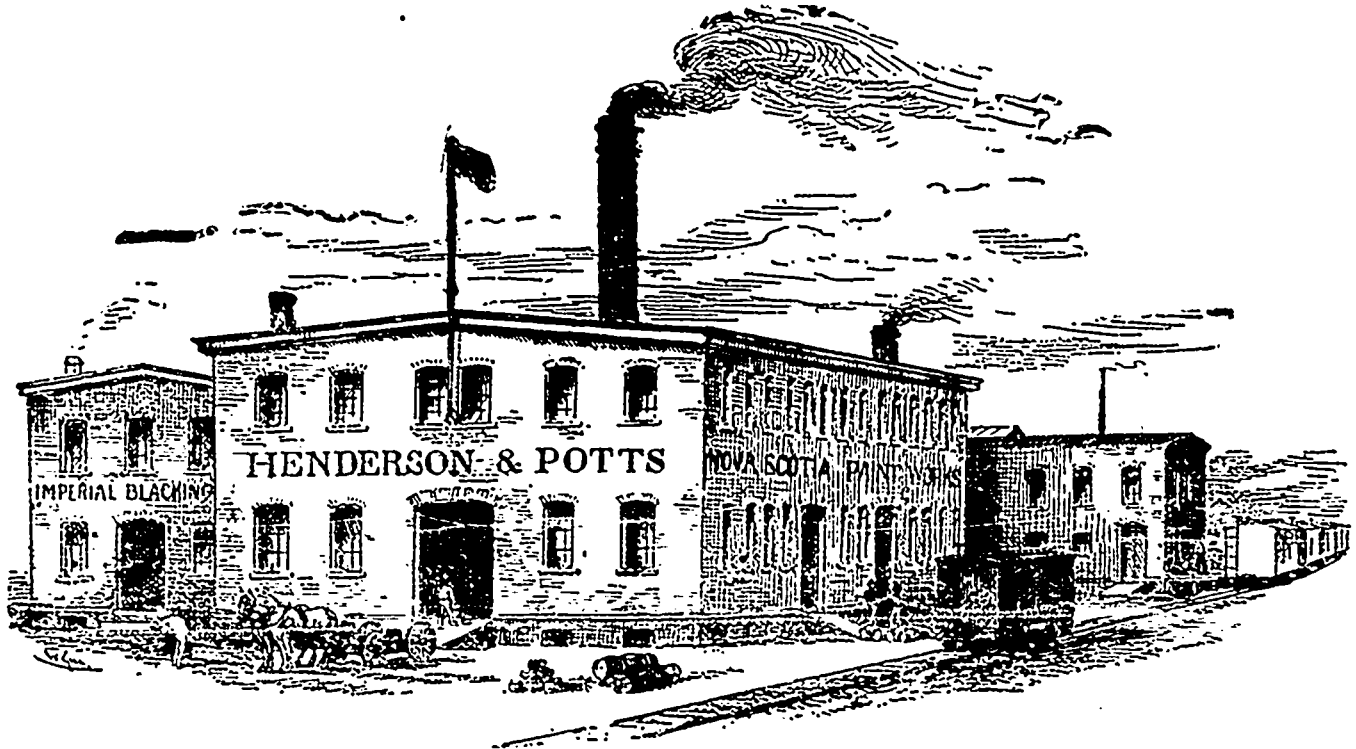
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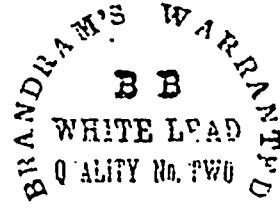
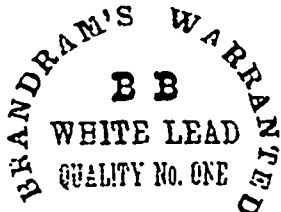
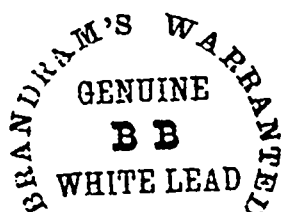
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