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A Maritime Provincial Journal.

DEVOTED TO

Commercial, Manufacturing, Mining and General News.

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

HALIFAX, N. S., FEBRUARY 5, 1892.

{ VOL. 9
No. 6 }

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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.

Politics are very exciting, and we always thought they were too much for weak minds, and it now transpires that this presumption was not far wrong. For an eminent French physician, Dr. Bal, professor of lunacy at the St. Anne Asylum, has devoted an evening to delivering a discourse on the effects of political discussions on the development of mental disease. He advises all individuals of weak brain power to avoid politicians and political meetings. Halifax is bursting with politics just now, so weak-minded individuals who desire to remain outside Mount Hope had better beware.

We cannot and do not wish to trace the whole course of Mercier's malfeasance in office for our readers; it is not in our line to give the evidence brought out before the Royal Commission, and as it appears pretty fully in the daily press it is unnecessary. Despite the arbitrary change from Liberal to Conservative government, and the party objections to the personelle of the new commission, all honest Liberals have to confess that enough and more than enough has been proved against Mr. Mercier and his colleagues to shut them out of politics for the rest of their lives. The evidence shows shameful robbery of the Province, and the division of the spoil for party purposes as well as personal use. Under such circumstances it is only right that Mr. Mercier should, as *Grip* suggests in a cartoon, depart for the limbo of boodle-statesmen, but he should also receive the severest punishment the law provides for his thefts. The situation in Quebec is deplorable, and down here by the sea we cannot but breathe the wish that Canada was all English.

Few people will deny that books are one of the greatest means of enjoyment, of keeping ourselves in touch with the minds of great men and women; of increasing our knowledge, of helping us to live intellectually and not merely physically; and that they are a solace at all times when we need something to occupy us. We do not refer, of course, to literary trash, but a sound reading. An excellent paper published in Toronto, *Wives and Daughters*, recently contained some very strong opinions on the subject, and stated that the woman who does not take a short time every day for reading, no matter how much she has to do, is sinning against herself and her family. This may be true—we do not wish to dispute it—but we have known of exceptions. There are some women in this weary world whose time is so occupied with making things comfortable for others that they cannot find time for themselves; their names will not go down in story, but the faithful work done in the home circle, which few know of, will be rewarded in that

happy future time, when the "weary are at rest." Those who say that such women are sinning had better see to it that their own lives are as useful. The value of reading is great, but that of work and love may be even greater.

The citizens of a town not a hundred miles from Halifax must have been highly edified by the opinions of a reverend lecturer on the subject of dancing, who "gave his sorrow words" a short time ago. He is reported to have denounced all forms of dancing with one notable exception—that form practiced as a religious ceremony in bible times! If dancing before the Lord was expedient then, why not now, pray, and why do not the ministers of the present day encourage it? The frequenters of the ball-room came in for a sound drubbing from the lecturer, who drew the most unflattering comparisons between ball-room young ladies and artificial flies and such things, saying they were good enough for the foolish fish that bit. The town in which this remarkable wise lecture was delivered has the reputation of being a gay and festive place, a good deal given to having a pleasant time, and to think of the crushed feelings of so many young people is sad. When, oh when, will clergymen give up trying to reform society and live sensible, ordinary lives, taking the good things of the world, dancing included, as blessings from the Creator. Their efforts are useless, for those who dance are not aware of the sinfulness of their ways, and are not likely to take the opinions of those who do not dance and therefore know practically nothing of the matter.

The *Illustrated News of the World* for January 23rd contains a portrait of General Sir Frederick Sleigh Roberts, one of the three distinguished men upon whom her Gracious Majesty recently conferred peerages. This distinguished soldier is justly renowned for his achievements in the Afghan war of 1880, and in the African campaigns, the Egyptian and Sudan expeditions, which occupied public attention for a long time. He passed through the Indian mutiny, and his horse was shot under him at the capture of Delhi; he assisted in the relief of Lucknow, the operations at Cawnpore, the final capture of Lucknow, and took part in numerous minor engagements. He was repeatedly mentioned in dispatches and received the Victoria Cross, the thanks of the Governor-General and the brevet of Major. The Northwest Frontier campaign of 1863 was also participated in by Major Roberts, and he superintended the embarkation of the entire army in the Abyssinian campaign of 1868, and obtained the brevet of Lieut.-Colonel for his services. As commander of the Kuram Field Force in the Afghan war Sir Frederick first attracted public attention, and for his notable exploits received the thanks of parliament and of the Governor-General and Government of India in Council, and was created a K. C. B., G. C. B., and a baronet. Since then Sir Frederick Roberts has had the command in Madras, in Burmah, and the whole of India. His promotion to the peerage, and the fact that the active service of the army will henceforth be represented in the House of Lords, not only by Lord Wolseley, but by another excellent soldier, is gratifying to the majority of British subjects.

Canada has now a magazine that stands a fair chance of surviving the shocks of time. It is not large, but it starts well with sixty-four pages, and is thoroughly Canadian in tone. By Canadian work it will stand or fall; and we are safe in predicting a successful future for it if the standard of the first number is maintained throughout those to come. The contributors to the February part are Charles G. D. Roberts, who has the first instalment of a story, "The Raid from Beauséjour," and also conducts a department, "Modern Instances," which we anticipate will be one of the most interesting and entertaining features of the magazine; Helon Fairbairn, R. Tait McKenzie, Douglas Brymner, A. M. MacLeod, Arthur Weir, Duncan Campbell Scott, J. T. Burgess, Arthur J. Lockhart, Samuel M. Baylis and Marjory MacMurphy. There is, unfortunately, no humor—nothing in a lighter vein—in the first numbers, but we hope this will be remedied next month, and a somewhat warmer tone pervade the coming numbers. The cover is pleasing in design, and the maple leaves are not too obtrusive; but they are there all the same. The illustrations are generous and very creditably done, while the whole arrangement of the magazine is satisfactory to the reader. No one in Canada who takes the slightest interest in the affairs of the country, its literature, history, science and progress generally, can afford to go without the *Dominion Illustrated Monthly*, for besides being national in tone it offers quite as good a bill of fare as many of the magazines whose subscription prices are twice as high. It is to be hoped that having a good monthly of our own will stimulate the literary endeavors of young Canadians, and that heretofore hidden talent may be brought to light. "The least literary of the British colonies" is looking up, and perhaps before long Mr. James Payne will have to withdraw his sneer at us.

The present dynasty of China lacks stability, and the revolutions which have occurred during recent years only serve to emphasize its unpopularity. Through the Chinese official sources the civilized world is led to believe that these uprisings have been due to the fanatical opposition of the people to the missionaries and their converts, but it is pretty clear that the real trouble lies in the present Chinese Government which is bitterly disliked by the educated classes of China, and which finds its greatest strength in the lack of organization and united purpose upon the part of its opponents.

Sometime ago we penned a short article on the protection of our big game, and last Friday we were pleased to see in the *Morning Chronicle* a letter from Mr. D. W. Archibald, Sheet Harbor, covering exactly the same ground and presenting the same argument as our own. Something should really be done to protect the moose and cariboo of the Province, and the Legislature could not possibly make a mistake in dealing liberally with the subject. As we have before pointed out there is no reason why the big game should die out, because this Province will always afford shelter that is useful for no other purpose than a retreat for moose and cariboo. The Game Society should receive more assistance than it does in enforcing the laws, and we think our brethren of the Press all over the Province would do well to agitate the subject. We will only be sorry once, and that will be always, when the last of the moose are destroyed.

It sometimes occurs to people to ask why no trees grow on the prairies, and the question has been answered by Mr. Miller Christy, a member of the British Association, who attributes the fact mainly to the fires which so frequently sweep over the prairies, killing everything in their path. It is but natural that trees could not grow under such circumstances, but Mr. Christy thinks there is no reason why they should not flourish like the green bay of Scripture if the devouring element were kept away. The Indians, according to this gentleman, originally started the fires in order to diminish the area of the feeding grounds of the buffalo, and so reduce the labor of hunting, but this cause has been long removed, and the fires now result from the carelessness of settlers or travellers. There are stringent laws against firing the prairies, but despite them fires are of annual occurrence. Once started, no one can tell where a fire will end, for on the level prairie where the grass is dead and dry, a few sparks fanned by the wind rapidly develop into an uncontrollable conflagration that goes on its roaring way for hundreds of miles. To these fires Mr. Christy attributes the fine black soot-like texture of the prairie soil and its extraordinary fertility. The practical deduction is that trees will grow on the prairies so soon as they are planted and protected from fire. It is a wonder that strenuous efforts have not ere this been made to produce such a growth, for a land without trees is, to our mind, dreary in the extreme.

The spread of education, which has been a marked feature of the progress of the last half century, is still going on, and gathering force as it goes. University extension has been only a name on this side of the Atlantic until of late years this excellent idea for giving all classes of people an opportunity to pursue higher studies than those of the common schools, has found its way from England to America. The plan was first put into execution about twenty years ago in connection with the Universities of Oxford and Cambridge, and many prominent men of science, literature and political economy identified themselves with the movement. As a means giving an opportunity for acquiring knowledge to thousands who are unable to attend the universities, nothing could be better. In England the movement has grown to enormous proportions; the classes numbering about 45,000 people. Since its introduction to America the work has grown with wonderful rapidity, and is still growing. The way in which the plan is managed is for classes to be formed in various places, and Professors from the Universities undertaking the task go and lecture to them on the various subjects in the curriculum. One lecture a week is given and the course usually lasts three months. Those who pass the "exams" are recognized as affiliated students by the Universities. The University of New Brunswick and the University of Mount Allison are, we believe, the pioneers of this work in the Provinces, and classes have recently been organized in St. John, where Professors of the University of New Brunswick have been delivering lectures in various branches. Moncton has also come into line with the new movement, Mount Allison supplying the lecturers. The expense connected with this means of education is comparatively small, and all classes of people can profit by it. This means that in the near future very few people, no matter what their station in life, or how far they are obliged to live away from educational centres, will be unable to gratify the thirst for knowledge that is inherent in the greater part of humanity. From a social aspect also there is reason for gratulation over this trend. Nothing can be more enjoyable than through the winter season for people to have something settled to absorb their interest, and regular meeting for a purpose of this sort is one of the most pleasurable ways in which to dispose of this spare time. People who reside in University towns scarcely realize their privileges, and the attendance of many young people of both sexes at classes is not much noticed, but if they were removed from these advantages and had no opportunities for carrying on their education with such valuable assistance and guidance they would feel it severely. It is therefore much to be rejoiced in that these privileges are being taken to those who are unable to take themselves to the privileges—a sort of mountain going to Mohammed. It is easier in practice, as in theory, for one Professor to go to fifty people, than for fifty people to go to the Professor.

K. D. C. Restores the Stomach to Healthy Action.
K. D. C. Acts Like Magic on the Stomach.

We are all more or less impressed with the world worldly stamp of the age, and why should we not be. Not many months since several church edifices in Japan were supplied with bells by an enterprising American firm. When these bells first rang out on Sunday the heathen Japs were loud in condemning them as noisy nuisances, and public opinion was so strong in its opposition to church bell-ringing that it seemed at one time advisable to let the bells remain silent. A shrewd Missionary who was equal to the emergency proposed that the bells should be rung daily at noon on the receipt of a daily telegram from Tokio; and since this idea has been adopted the bells have become as popular as the twelve o'clock gun which is daily heard from the citadel in Halifax.

A bright lady contributor to the *Chicago Graphic* made some sensible remarks recently about a form of extravagance which is very common in these days. She refers to the practice of sending for the family doctor upon every occasion when the little ones are ailing, ever so slightly. Doctors are an institution we value highly, and we would not for a moment have any of our medical friends suppose that we do not duly appreciate what they do for suffering humanity, but we do not hesitate to endorse "Olive Ohnet's" remarks. People are far too ready to call in a medical man in ordinary cases, and many of our best practitioners would be glad not to be disturbed so often because Johnnie has a cold, or the baby a pain in its poor little stummy-wummy. In the "good old times" our grandmothers, many of them, succeeded in bringing to splendid maturity large families without ever calling in a doctor. In those days, we fancy, the mothers did not coddle their children to the same extent the mothers of the present are doing, and the youngsters were better able to withstand disease. It is generally supposed that some knowledge of the human body and the functions of its various parts is acquired in school, but the fact is that the things most important to be known are passed over because of the fear of treading upon delicate ground. Thus many mothers, and fathers too, are ignorant of matters that for the welfare of their children they ought to be familiar with. A somewhat shadowy notion of the position of the lungs, stomach, liver and kidneys is often all that many adult people possess in the way of self-knowledge. It is generally admitted that the constant taking of medicine is injurious, and yet when the doctor goes to a house, it is not much satisfaction to those who sent for him unless he prescribes—and he usually does so. Every sensible physician will admit that his province is the treatment of serious ailments, and not assiduous attention to minor ills that a little pluck and the exercise of common sense on the part of the afflicted or the nurse will easily overcome. In these days of books it is simple enough for any person of ordinary ability to study from a reliable medical book, and render himself or herself capable of keeping a household in good health. Such study could be supplemented by the advice of a competent physician on difficult points, and a great deal of expense would be saved the breadwinner. We are far from advocating a disregard of medical advice, but the evils of running to the doctor for every trivial ill are too apparent to escape notice, and we advise our readers to exercise care in such matters.

An interesting controversy on the subject of crime and drink has been going on in the *London Times* between Sir Lyon Playfair and Sir Henry James. The latter has apparently got very much mixed in his ideas of the responsibility of drunkards for crimes they may commit. He begins with the proposition that "it is repugnant to all right reason that drunkenness should confer immunity upon anyone"; but further on he seems to throw over this principle altogether and decides that constant drunkenness, indulged in until it has produced *delirium tremens*, is excuse enough for anything, and should confer every immunity. The general principle of treating first offenders lightly would be thus reversed, and according to Sir Henry James those who only sin a little should catch it, and those who sin very much, and go on in sin, should pass unscathed. It is certainly difficult to decide the exact relation of drunkenness to crime, and Sir Henry James has not helped much in the elucidation of the question. Education appears to be the only genuine remedy for the former and perhaps also for the latter. Years ago the nobility and gentry of England were not at all sensitive on the subject of drunkenness, and indulged to an astonishing extent in intoxicating liquors, but such is not the case now. The reproach of drunkenness has been almost entirely removed from the upper strata of society, and the change is to be attributed not to repressive measures, but to the growth and spread of a higher tone of society. If this great intelligence on the subject has worked a reform in the higher classes it certainly may be expected to do the same in the so-called lower classes. Depraved natures are the cause of both drunkenness and crime, and the question is how best to treat such natures. At present we have found out no better way than to punish offenders by shutting them up in jails and penitentiaries, and so keeping them from troubling peaceable citizens for a time. Drunkards are also fined, but this form of punishment is only for "ordinary drunks" and not for criminals. Our methods we know are far from perfect, and are costly to the law-abiding and respectable portion of the community, but so far we have nothing better to take their place. Looking at the matter impartially it appears just that a man who commits a crime while under the influence of liquor—whether occasional or habitual drinking be his fault—should suffer the punishment usually inflicted for such crime, but it is a good deal easier to say this than to apply it when a complicated case arises. The German Emperor's efforts to conquer drunkenness in Germany, referred to in a former issue, will be watched with interest, and their result will probably show whether the present treatment of habitual drunkards is sufficiently severe in our own and other countries.

K. D. C. The Greatest Cure of the Age.
K. D. C. The Dyspeptic's Hope.

CHIT-CHAT AND CHUCKLES.

SHE GOT IT.

I know a merry little maid,
Whose name is Lottie Lee;
She always gives a funny name
To every one she sees.

So my little, P. K. M.,
Made her so wild with glee;
"I've given you the nicest name,
Canst guess it?" queried she.

"Well if your head's so very thick,
I'll whisper it to thee;"
She gaily whispered in my ear:
"Now listen! Please kiss me!"
PHILIP K. MINDIT.

TWO LITTLE FEET.

Oh, life, so prudish of life!
Oh, love and destiny at strife!
Oh, earth, so full of busy feet!
Oh, woods and hills and all things sweet!
Was there no room amidst you all
For two more feet, so soft and small?
Didst envy me, where thousands long,
The one bird that made all my spring,
My dove, that had so many ways
Of making beautiful life's days?
No room! Or rather it may be
Earth was too small 't'impish thee,
God only knows. I know I miss
Thy sweet caress, thy loving kiss,
The patter of thy dear small feet,
Thy hand in mine through lane and street;
'Tis little all that now remains to me
Is just a precious memory.
Two little feet 'neath earth's brown sod,
Two white wings somewhere safe with God.

TAUGHT BY EXPERIENCE—"Are any of the colours discernible to the touch?" asked the school teacher.

"I have often felt blue" replied the boy at the head of the class.

WE HAVE ALL SEEN IT.—Intruder—I would like to show you this "Ode to Winter."

Editor—I don't want to see it. I know already what's owed to winter. It's a plumber's bill.

"Awful Lonesome."—A six-year-old little fellow was forced to wear a shirt three sizes too large for him. After strutting around for a little while he burst out with:—

"Ma, I feel awful lonesome in this shirt."

Edna's Idea.—Edna was looking at the sunset one evening. It was very beautiful; above the golden glow hung a heavy, purplish cloud. The little girl's brown eyes shone with wondering delight.

"O auntie," she whispered, "hasn't God got prettier lambrequins?"

A CORRECTION FOR A CANT PHRASE.—The wife of Professor Robson, who disliked the cant expressions of the religious tongue, had invited a gentleman to dinner and he had accepted with the reservation, "If I am spared." "Weel, weel," said Mrs. Robson, "if ye're dead I'll na expect ye."

FRANKLIN'S SERVANT.—Franklin had a servant who was always late, but never without some specious excuse. At length he dismissed him with the words:

"I have generally found that the man who is good at an excuse is good for nothing else!"

Our Servants.—Mrs. Vernon de Court—Bridget, who rang just now?

Biddy O'G'lawy—Mrs. Lowlofty

Mrs. Vernon de Court—Why didn't she come in?

Biddy O'G'lawy—Sure, ma'am. She axed me if you were out this time. I told her "no," an' I shut the door. It wasn't in she was askin' for you.

Went One Better.—Young Mother (in ecstasy)—"Yes, my little niece this is your own-weeny little baby cousin. Isn't he a darning, bless his itty tootay wootsies! He can talk, too. Sit up, Biby, and talk to your ittie cousin." Baby—"Goo, goo, goo, woo, mawoy, wow, goo, goo."

Little Nicco (in disgust)—"I've dot a new doll at home, 'at talks better zan either of you."

She Was Forgiveness.—Young Husband—Why, my dear, this pudding is burnt black! How did that happen?

Young Wife—I'm sure I don't know, I looked at it just before you came home and it was all right.

"But I have been home two hours."

"Dear me! I thought it was only a few minutes."

Wilkins and Watkins were college chums and close friends. They had been hard students and had taken little out-door exercise. When they shook hands and said good-bye, at the end of their college career, they were in impaired health. Both had dyspepsia, liver troubles and troublesome coughs.

Wilkins had plenty of money, and decided to travel for his health. Watkins was poor. "I must go to work for my living," said he, "but I'll try the remedy that Robinson talks so much about—Dr. Pierce's Golden Medical Discovery."

In less than two years, Wilkins came home in the coffin. Watkins, now in the prime of life, is a bank president, rich and respected, and weighs 200 pounds. "The 'Golden Medical Discovery' saved my life at a critical time," he often says. "Oh, if poor Wilkins had only tried it!" For weak lungs, spitting of blood, all lingering coughs, and consumption in its early stages, it is an unequalled remedy.

VERY MANY SUCH.



RHEUMATISM.—COL. DAVID WYLIE, Brockville, Ont., says: "I suffered intensely with rheumatism in my ankles. Could not stand; rubbed them with St. Jacobs Oil. In the morning I walked without pain."

NEURALGIA.—MR. JAMES BONNER, 178 York St., Toronto, Ont., writes: "St. Jacobs Oil is the only remedy that relieved me of neuralgia, and it effectually cured me."

BACKACHE.—"I can highly recommend St. Jacobs Oil as being the best medicine in existence. It promptly cured me of severe lumbago." G. N. BOYER, Carleton, Quebec.

SPRAINS.—"My mother received a very severe sprain and bruise by falling down stairs. St. Jacobs Oil cured her in a couple of days." R. BURNAND, 121 Tecumseth St., Toronto, Ont.

BRUISED.—MR. AITCHISON, Hamilton, Ont., Fire Department, says he met with a serious accident and his back and shoulders were terribly bruised, but by the use of St. Jacobs Oil he was completely restored.



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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.

Sir John Thompson has returned to the capital.

The British Columbian Legislature is in session.

C. R. Bill has received the Conservative nomination in Kings.

The Behring Sea commissioners have left Ottawa for Washington.

The County jail at Amherst was slightly damaged by fire on Friday last. Messrs. Morine and Forbes, Conservative and Liberal respectively, have been nominated in Queens.

Dartmouth's new mayor, J. C. Oland, had a majority of 105 over E. H. Eaton. Polling took place on Tuesday.

Mrs. Foster, wife of the Minister of Finance, has been dangerously ill with the grippe, but is now out of danger.

Judge Jette is engaged with Judges Baby and Davison in completing the report of the Baie des Chaleurs commission.

It is said that Robert H. McGreevy, the hoodler who retreated to New York for several reasons, is anxious to return to Ottawa and stand his trial.

Rev. A. L. Wylie, for forty years a preacher of the gospel in the Presbyterian church, died at Great Village, N. S. on Saturday after an attack of la grippe.

The new town councillors for Dartmouth went in by acclamation, James Anderson for ward 1, J. B. McLean for ward 2 and Wm. H. Stevens for ward 3 being the candidates.

Mr. Saunders, Canadian Commissioner to the World's Fair at Chicago, has returned from that city after having applied for 100,000 square feet of space for the Dominion exhibit.

J. W. Young, collector of customs at Canso, died suddenly of heart disease on Friday last. He was widely known, and his death will create a blank in the social and business life of the place.

Frederick Gray, a young mulatto sentenced to nine months in jail and 40 lashes on his bare back for committing a criminal assault, received the first 20 lashes at St. John on Monday. He bore the punishment without flinching.

The sad effects of influenza on the mind are constantly being illustrated. A few days ago a young farmer in Hull, near Ottawa, crazed from an attack of the disease and the death of a child, threw himself over a cliff into a quarry and was killed.

A collision occurred on the C. P. R. on Friday last at Papineauville, Que., by which two boys who were stealing a ride were killed. There was a dreadful smash up, and the conductor of the special freight was badly scalded by escaping steam.

It is stated in Ottawa that trade relations negotiations between Canada and the United States are to be resumed and that Ministers Inompsion, Bowell and Foster will leave for Washington next week. The rumor has not been officially confirmed.

Mrs. Blackwell, of Wolltown, Rehfron County, poisoned tea with intent to take the life of her family. Her husband detected something wrong, but Mrs. Blackwell denied the accusation and drank a cupful. She was taken ill and died before the doctor reached her.

A lot of dynamite which was undergoing the process of thawing on the site of the Amherst waterworks about three miles out of town on Friday last, exploded and blew the building to pieces. Fortunately the workmen had all left the building and no one was injured.

The choir of Charles Street Church gave a very enjoyable recital on Monday evening in their schoolroom. The programme, which consisted of vocal and instrumental music, recitations, etc., showed careful preparation, and was well carried out by the young people of the church.

While passing between two large dynamos on Monday night, Fred. W. Martin, electrician of the Toronto Electric Light company, completed the circuit between the two and was knocked insensible by the shock. When he recovered consciousness it was found that he had been blinded. His recovery is doubtful.

Sir John Ross sailed by the SS. *Lahn* from Southampton on Jan. 23th to take command of the troops in Canada, accompanied by his aides, Major Ferguson and Lieut. White. Mr. Charles Coghlan, the actor, the Count de Lensburg and Prince Leopold Isenburg de Bellstein, with his suite, were also passengers by the *Lahn*.

The opera house at Annapolis has been almost completed and is a credit to the town and the company which undertook the enterprise. It has a seating capacity of seven hundred, and the stage will be supplied with a variety of suitable scenery, sixty incandescent electric lights supply the illumination, and altogether the opera house will be well fitted.

Moncton has a musician who if he succeeds in his latest venture will certainly merit distinction. He has already learned to play at one time a mouth organ and a violin, and he is now practising so as to be able to play a harp with his feet. He claims that his toes are becoming quite supple. The three instruments, he says, will sound well together.

RODGER MILLER, Esq., manager of the Evans Bros. Piano Company, Ingersoll, Ontario, writes:—"I cannot just understand why you have not brought K. P. C. before our Western people ere this. I am fully convinced that you have the best medicine for dyspepsia ever offered to the public and that it will do all that is claimed for it. Last week when on my way from the East, I was approached by two different parties who wanted some as they were more than astonished at the result of a trial package. It seems to me any smart level-headed man ought to sell this medicine like hot cakes.

A large number of municipal elections took place on Tuesday. The following have been returned mayors in the various places: New Glasgow; J. Leslie Jamison, Seilarton, Mr. Mitchell; Kentville, Dr. H. B. Webster, Amherst, Thos. Dunlap; Springhill Mines, Ross Cooper; Yarmouth, Mr. Wyman, North Sydney, W. Purvis; Sydney, Colin McKinnon; and Digby, Mr. Shreve.

Another temperance lecture—this time from Truro. Joseph J. Smith, a commercial traveller of Cleveland, Ohio, hanged himself with a towel to the bed post of the room in which he was sleeping on Sunday night last, and the jury returned a verdict that the deceased came to his death through suicide while suffering from the effects of alcoholic drinks. Comment is unnecessary.

The huge lobster recently caught at Digby, the largest crustacean of the lobster variety that has ever been discovered, has been divided into sections and its remains will be distributed among museums in different places. The provincial museum has been fortunate enough to secure one claw, about the size of an ordinary valise, and another claw will go to the World's Fair at Chicago.

The Shelburne *Budget* says there is a good opening in that town for a bright young Baptist minister. The churches in Shelburne, Jordan Falls, Jordan Bay and Sandy Point have been without a supply for several months. There is an opening here for a minister to enter upon an important field of labor. He would be gladly received by a large number of persons in those localities who are as yet without a shepherd.

An editorial of the *Moniteur de Rome*, the diplomatic organ of the Vatican, on the Quebec crisis, reprinted in the *Montreal Star*, is very severe on Mercier. It says he possesses qualities which make for a time the bantering, diplomatic and dash gambler; that any favors conferred on him by the Pope were rewards for his services to the cause of the church, not testimonials of personal regard; and assumes that the people of Quebec, having destroyed his character, will drive him from public life.

We are pleased to see a rational temperance argument sent out in the form of an open letter to business men and commercial travellers by R. M. Stewart and E. Fielding, President and Secretary of the Commercial Travellers Circle of Canada. It makes a strong plea against the pernicious habit of treating, and points out the evils that cannot but result from such a method of pushing business. We all know that some commercial travellers consider it necessary to assist their arguments on behalf of the superiority of the goods they carry by standing treat, but there is positively nothing to be said in favor of such a method. It is to be hoped that the appeal will meet with the serious consideration of all whom it concerns.

The concert given at the School for the Blind by the pupils of the Institution on Wednesday afternoon drew a large audience, the Assembly Hall being filled with guests. An excellent programme had been prepared for the occasion and was well carried out, proving very entertaining. The new Sloyd benches which have lately been introduced into the carpentering department were on exhibition. These attracted much attention and received very favorable comment from those interested. These monthly entertainments are very enjoyable to the large number who are interested in the school and its work, and give friends of the pupils an opportunity to note the advance that is being made in the various branches of study.

One by one the bye-elections are being disposed of, and the result so far is to place the Government in the same position as before. Mr. Dickie was returned in Cumberland by a majority of 920 over Howard, the Liberal candidate; Hon. Mr. Ouimet has been elected by acclamation in Laval, Que., his Liberal opponent, St. Amour, withdrawing from the contest; James Metcalf, Conservative, has been elected in Kingston—Sir John Macdonald's constituency—by a majority of 97 over Gunn, Liberal; in Halton, Henderson, Conservative, has been re-elected by between 400 and 500 majority over McGregor, and in Lincoln the Liberal candidate, Gibson, won by a majority of 100 votes. The Halifax election takes place next Thursday the 11th; Queens on Tuesday, 9th; and Kings and Digby on the 13th.

The ice at the Exhibition Rink is in excellent condition, and the popular rendezvous is being well patronized. The band of the 66th furnishes good music, and the building presents the same gay appearance at each session that in our younger days proved so irresistibly attractive. Each year new cliques of young people spring up, calmly taking the places of those who in former years were the belles and beaux of the day. 'Twas ever thus, and no where is one more forcibly reminded that he is growing old than at the rink, where memories of former days and former associates are awakened. As Wordsworth expressed it, "these pleasant thoughts bring sad thoughts to the mind." Our Dartmouth friends are also enjoying excellent rink skating, and as on this side of the water, the young people are making the most of present opportunities to indulge in the sport.

Garza, the Mexican revolutionist, is still organizing an army, and it is said the people are with him.

It is said that Chili must humble herself and salute the American flag in order to fully restore peace.

Secretary Blaine has sent to Minister Egan a cablegram accepting Chili's proposition for a settlement of differences between the two governments.

The U. S. Attorney General has appointed George D. Robinson a special attorney for the United States, to assist in the prosecution of the cases against the affairs of the Maverick National Bank of Boston which recently failed.

Write to the proprietors of Puttner's Emulsion for copies of testimonials to the excellence of Puttner's Emulsion from the most skillful physicians and prominent citizens of Nova Scotia.

A Canadian captain created great excitement at Bridgeport, Conn., on January 31st, by sailing the schooner *Glendon*, of St. John, N. B., into that port without flying the Stars and Stripes in company with the Jack, as is the usual custom on entering a U. S. port. An excited crowd gathered and threats of shooting down the British flag were made by the indignant Yankees, but Captain O'Grady, or Trowbridge as the Americans have it, was firm and defied his action. It has since transpired that there is no law to compel the observance of the flag custom, as the Yankees believed, and they have cooled down. The Canadian captain has been presented with a new flag by friends in Montreal who heard of his pluck. So great was the desire to subscribe to it that the amount to be taken from each person had to be placed very low.

The new Khedive of Egypt has opened the Egyptian General Assembly.

The Archbishop of Canterbury has issued a special prayer against influenza.

Another revolution has been attempted in Sao Paulo, Brazil, but the uprising was a failure.

The Emperor of Germany is now undertaking to regulate the religion of his subjects. What next?

The leader of the Anarchists who recently created big disturbances at Xeres, Spain, has been arrested.

Chi's has invested in another war cruiser, which is being built at Armstrong's yard, Newcastle, England.

England is said to be aiming at the control of the Mediterranean, and desires to obtain possession of Tappier.

There has been an alarming increase in the number of influenza cases in Vienna, owing to a rise in temperature.

The death of the Czar's uncle has proved a shock to the Czarina, who was just recovering from a severe attack of influenza.

According to advices from St. Petersburg, the Czar intends to initiate measures for the restoration of serfdom among the peasants.

The mortality in London from influenza is great. The latest fad as a "cure" is eucalyptus oil, but people continue to die all the same.

The Princess of Wales has taken Villa Jaussen, at St. Raphael on the French Riviera, for herself and Prince George, for the month of February.

Rev. C. H. Spurgeon died at Mentone shortly after eleven o'clock on Sunday night. He suffered no pain at the last, and was unconscious for some time.

It is reported that Italy is about to resume full diplomatic relations with the United States, and that Baron Fava will be appointed Minister to Denmark, vice Signor Catalin who will go to Washington.

More serious riots have occurred between the Salvation Army and the people of Eastborne, England. A mob swept down on the army which was meeting on the beach, and injured many of the Salvationists.

The Queen has written a letter to her subjects thanking them for their expressions of sympathy over the death of Prince Albert Victor. It has drawn forth fresh expressions of loyalty and love for her Majesty.

The state of affairs in Russia is getting worse instead of better. Hunger typhus is spreading alarmingly about Odessa, and it is said that the peasants refuse any aid coming through Count Tostoi, as they believe he is Anti-Christ and they will injure their souls.

The celebrated physician, Sir Morell Mackenzie, died on Wednesday from the effects of an attack of bronchitis. He was 55 years of age. It will be remembered that he was in attendance on Emperor Frederick III of Germany during the latter's last illness. He was knighted in 1887.

Mr. Henniker Heaton, the persistent advocate of penny postage, has offered to guarantee the Government against loss if a penny postage be established between the English speaking people of the Empire and the United States, but for reasons of its own the Government does not see its way to accept the offer.

H. M. S. *Victoria*, which went ashore on the Greek coast, is in danger of becoming a complete wreck. She is considered one of the finest armor clad battle ships, and her loss would be a serious blow to the navy. She is the flagship of Vice Admiral Sir Anthony H. Hoskins, of the Mediterranean fleet and is commanded by Capt. J. C. Burnell.

The proposal made by the Portuguese Cortes to sell certain of the Portuguese colonies is said to be seriously entertained. The *St. James Gazette* commenting on this says: The matter is almost as important to England as to Portugal. By acquiring Mozambique we would obtain the one thing necessary to ensure British success in East Africa.

The Spanish minister at Paris has officially entered a protest against the insinuations of bad faith against the Spanish ministry in regard to the commercial treaty negotiations which are attributed to M. Ribot, the French minister of foreign affairs. The answer of the French Government is anxiously awaited in European diplomatic circles.

By the provisions of an old statute any princess who shall be betrothed to an English Prince Royal in the direct line of succession to the throne shall not, in the event of the death of her affianced husband, be allowed to contract another marriage within five years of the demise of the prince. Some papers suggest that this adds still further gloom to the dismal surroundings of Princess May of Teck, but she is young and will, if she cared for Prince "Eddie," as is generally supposed, want to wait for some time before she thinks of marriage again. It is said the Queen will raise Princess May to the rank of "Royal Highness."

A terrible story of crime comes from Vienna, where a man and his wife have been on trial for murdering eight servant girls. Frank Schneider and his wife together put an end to the unfortunate struggling girls, the wife holding their hands while the man choked them to death. Exciting scenes were witnessed in court owing to violent exchange of accusations between the prisoners. They have been sentenced to death for their fearful crimes.

It is reported that Lord Tolmache, who died recently, bequeathed to the Duke and Duchess of Teck, the parents of Princess Victoria Mary of Teck, the fiancée of the late Duke of Clarence and Avondale, the greater part of his fortune amounting to nearly \$70,000 a year. Lord Tolmache was a neighbor of the Duke and Duchess. If this report is true, the fortune will be a godsend to the Duke and Duchess of Teck. They are not blessed with a superabundance of this world's goods, in fact some years ago they were "sold up" by their creditors. At that time they occupied apartments in St. James' Palace, but the Queen was so annoyed by the fact that the creditors of the Duke and Duchess had invaded the Palace precincts, that they had to seek a residence elsewhere. Since that time they have lived quietly in White Lodge, in Richmond Park, on the Surrey side of the Thames, close to the historical town of Richmond.

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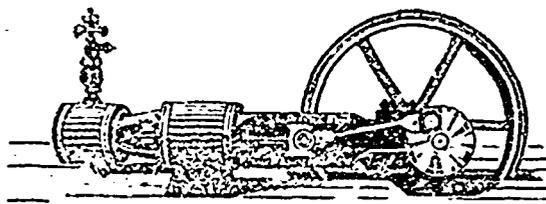
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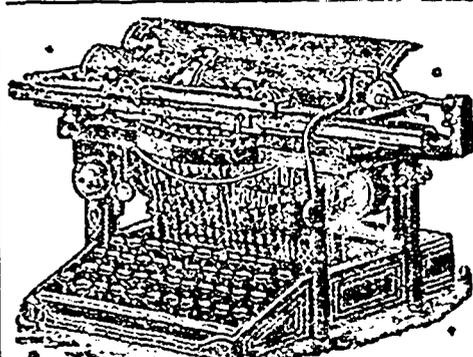
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JAMES JACK, St. John, N. B.

latest volume of poems by Mr. William P. McKenzie. A critical examination of the "got up" and a comparison with volumes of verse published in the United States leaves one fully satisfied with the result. It is a pretty book; follows of course the fashion of the day in binding, which at present is chiefly in two colors—this book is sage green and white—and presents an appearance at once tasteful and neat. The sketch illustrating "In Didcot Meadows," which adorns the title page, is a most fetching little bit, but we cannot admire the frontispiece. Of course the contents are the important part of a book, and although there is room for considerable criticism of the expression, all who read Mr. McKenzie's poems will feel that he speaks from the heart, and really has something to say. We happened to take up this new volume at the same time with Professor Roberts' "In Divers Tones," and could not avoid observing that in both volumes first place is given to "Canada"—Roberts' poem being a cry for national independence for the "Child of nations, giant limbed," and McKenzie's, much in the same strain, concludes:—

"Great, rough and strong this land is like some Viking,
Whose sons all feel they are of kingly line;
When will some bard, the silent harp rough-striking,
Praise to all times the land of Shaken Pine!"

It is a pity Mr. McKenzie allowed this short poem to be marred in the second verse by a scarce allowable rhyme—"seas" and "vintages"—and also repeated the same rhyme in the third verse; but it is hard to carp where the sentiment is so pure.

"The Great West" is one of the most pleasing and withal one of the most originally expressed poems in the book. "The fierce-joyful storm-winds;" the "clear skies where-through the sun swings;" "the peak-gathered clouds;" "the royalist purple the sun's loom can weave;" and the mountains "whose gateways are valleys the west winds rush through," are all expressions full of poetical effect.

To the aged and failing Walt Whitman, our poet pays a high tribute, and addresses America as follows:—

Lo, he proclaims thy foremost place and mission
For all the earth love's triumph to display—
Wilt thou pass him who sings the Universal,
To crown some "singer of an empty day?"
Then bid thy children praise him ere he goeth
Beyond the sound of praise that is his part;
They flaunt their carven eagle o'er their banners
While yet thy Seer waits tribute from the heart."

How will this suit those who can see no poetry in Whitman's work?

In "A Friend Indeed" there is much to admire. The poet leads up skilfully from hope, to belief, knowledge and sight, and many may learn with advantage the lesson of this verse:—

"Hope is the seed, Belief the sprout," he said,
"Knowledge the promise of the leaf and flower,
But Sight the fruit whereby the soul is fed,
Who seeth God hath gained his manhood's power."

"A Closed Book" is a sweet, mournful reverie, and is one of the gems of the collection. Space forbids our giving the whole of it, and it will not bear clipping.

We should have mentioned that there are several sub-headings to the poems, and that those we have referred to come under "Places and Men," except the last, which belongs to "Loving." We now come to "Loving," where we find in "Epistles unto a Maid" much tenderness and passion expressed in a stately measure that is rather exacting. It is difficult to select with any degree of success short passages from such a poem that will give an idea of its scope, but there are quaint expressions of fancies here and there which are worth noticing. This, for instance, is quite charming:—

"Like straggling vines near to the window set,
That seek the light, I turn to thee, for yet
Thou art my sunlight and my out-of-doors."

Further on he says:—

"The best is to be known,
When unto love the inmost soul is bared;
There is no value but in treasure shared,
And no life is complete that is alone."

And—

"Earth hath but one way, dearest, leave the rest
To be discovered in the circling years
Marked by some sun that now a star appears—
Earth's way is love, for this life love is best."

"Like a Dead Tree" is a strong piece, but sorrowful.

"And sternly I too withstand
The storm of hatred and scorn,
But the joy of living is fled;
I dwell in a desolate land,
No longer I welcome the morn,
It only shows me my dead!"

On page 93 we meet something we cannot understand, which may be because of our stupidity or it may be an error in the text. This is the passage which puzzles us:—

"But welcome the ocean, I fight not flee,"

What can it mean? Perhaps a comma would settle the difficulty.

Mr. McKenzie, we fear, does not approve of being criticized, if we are to take one of his poems in all seriousness. No one would wish to "destroy ere the beauty be scanned," or ask for a "rose-bloom in winter's cold," but we do take the liberty of sometimes saying what we think of the thoughts our poets express, and we do not see many chances to find fault with Mr. McKenzie's thoughts, which are always elevating and pure in those of his poems we have read. Faults in construction and expression cannot be expected to be absent from the work of a young man, and indeed they are found in many of those of the greatest writers. We would like to draw attention to the use of the word world in four places in the book, where to make the metre smooth we would have to adopt a regular brogue for the

occasion and make two syllables of it thus, "wur-ruld." The first instance will be found in the sonnet "Out of Nazareth," page 13:—

"What music still the world's walling sound;"

and the others are on page 105, where the same fault in two cases will be noticed, and in the other, the first on the page, there is a fault in the accent. It is certainly peculiar that it should occur so frequently with the same word.

The ambitious attempt of the book is of course "The Yielding of Pilate," a drama, but the shorter poems and simpler will be found the most attractive to nearly all readers. We will give as a conclusion to this very imperfect review a restful strain, which is entitled:

CONCLUSION.

I am only a child who is lying
On the bosom of infinite love;
I speak not of living or dying,
I know not of sorrow and crying
My thoughts are all dwelling above.

The spring of the life that is flowing
Is hidden with Christ in God;
Nor yet the mystery knowing,
I feel that the peace is growing
As a river grows deep and broad.

All I need without price I am buying
By my trust in the goodness above;
There's an end to my yearning and sighing
For just like a child I am lying
On the bosom of Infinite Love

Messrs. Hart & Co., Toronto.

As one looks over the pages of the February St. Nicholas, at every moment the eye is attracted by some bright thought in text or drawing. At the very front door comes J. H. Dolph's clever dog and cat picture, showing a plump puppy evidently fed to repletion graciously consenting to the disposal of his dinner by his friends the kittens. Whoever gives away what he doesn't want may read the parable with the thought "*de te fabula narratur.*"

Then there is the picture of Sir Jeffrey Hudson, the dwarf of eighteen inches stature, who figures so prominently in the history of the times of Henrietta Maria of England. How he was vanquished by a turkey-cock, and how in turn he overcame an opponent in a serious duel; how he was teased by the King's giant, and how he was captured by pirates—is told in the text of the first of these articles on "Historic Dwarfs" so carefully prepared by Mary Shears Roberts. Our minds are diverted from these thoughts by Mr. Taber's spirited drawing showing a company of Dutch soldiers charging over the ice on skates, and we eagerly read of "The Battle on Skates," and therein learn how the Duke of Alva commanded his Spanish warriors to skate in order that they might meet the Dutch upon more equal terms. What a fortnight of bruises and of pigeon's wings that must have been for the unhappy Spaniards!

Malcolm Douglas finds something to say in rollicking mood concerning "The Little Man in the Orchestra," him of the cymbals, drum, zylophone, and sleigh-bells; and whatever Mr. Douglas can say, Mr. Birch will body forth for us in good black lines, as he has done here.

Oliver Herford, single-headed, sets at rest any question as to the invention of the umbrella. Ignoring Dr. Hanway, conqueror of Mrs. Grundy, Mr. Herford gives the credit to an ingenious elf who robs a dormouse of the toadstool that shelters him from the storm. The surprise of the dormouse must be seen to be appreciated.

But what is this? Here is, of all things, "A strike in the Nursery!" The children are drawn as in revolt, with banners, declaring their ultimatum. It is a procession calculated to strike terror to a home tyrant, for even the goat—and a toy-goat at that—bears upon his back the legend "Brown paper for me!"

Of solid fibre are the serials and continued articles, quite weighty enough to redeem the number from frivolity: "Tom Paulding," Brander Matthew's boys' story; "The Admiral's Caravan," by Charles Carryl, of "Davy and the Goblin" fame; "Strange Corners of our Country," the needed lessons in patriotism by Mr. Charles F. Lummis; Laura E. Richard's account of "When I was Your Age," the home-history of the celebrated family of Dr. S. G. Howe; and "Two Girls and a Boy," the serial that proves so triumphantly Lieutenant Fletcher's ability to write for older children than those he charmed with "Marjorie and her Papa." All of these are illustrated by the unequalled artists who work for St. Nicholas.

How the children of a quarter of century ago would have revelled in such a magazine! No doubt they enjoy it to-day, but their palates must be somewhat cloyed, for, like the princes and princesses of the fairy-tales, children are now fed on sweetmeats daily.

INDUSTRIAL NOTES.

A SPLENDID INVENTION.—W. B. Moore, Esq., of New Glasgow, late manager of Vale Colliery, has invented a card holder for use on railway freight cars. It is a most ingenious device, made of coiled spring wire, under which the address card is placed, where it is securely held by the pressure of the springs. We are sure station masters and railway officials generally will welcome the holder, as the old inconvenient way that hitherto prevailed of attaching the card to the car by use of tacks was a humbug.

Its merits are, the rapidity with which cards can now be attached to a whole train of cars, and the firmness with which they are held there. It is especially useful on coal cars, from the fact that hundreds of them have to be ticketed daily. The holders are being manufactured by Munro Bros, wire workers of New Glasgow, for use on the Government railways.

COMMERCIAL.

A fair fall of snow in the early part of the week has made the country roads more passable, and has tended to stimulate trade, which is waking up in some leading lines, and if colder weather holds with a few more downfalls of "the beautiful" business will doubtless be brisk from this time forward. Produce of various kinds which has hitherto been kept back will come forward rapidly and an impetus be given that will put money in circulation.

The Dominion Parliament is to meet in a few days and it is to be sincerely hoped that the coming session will not be permitted to pass away without some effort being made to enact a general bankruptcy law for Canada. Our legislators could not probably do better than to take the law now in force in England as the basis or model of the much needed Canadian bankruptcy law. Honest trades should be protected against the monstrous irregularities that have recently come to light in connection with certain firms that have failed here and in other cities in this country. Goods have been purchased on time and sold for cash at prices below those for which they were bought. Other goods have been obtained possession of and immediately turned over to banks as security. And these transactions have occurred just before the failing parties went into bankruptcy. It is all very well to say that sellers should exercise more discretion in parting with their goods, but this is in many instances impossible. Goods are sold and bought in the ordinary course of business and apparently in good faith. The seller cannot follow the goods and ascertain what disposal his customer makes of them. The law should, however, step in and define that goods purchased within a reasonable period before a bankrupt's failure, and either sold below the purchase value or hypothecated to cover other indebtedness, should be recoverable by the seller just as they can be if they are stolen articles, and the so obtaining of merchandise should be made a penal offence punishable with fine or imprisonment or both as the nature of each case may appear to require. This seems to be the only way to check the increasing tendency to fraudulent failures that are observable on every hand throughout Canada.

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

	Week previous		Weeks corresponding to			Failures for year to date.			
	Jan. 29.	week.	1891	1890	1889	1892	1891	1890	1889
United States	349	405	271	286	294	1367	1531	1623	1606
Canada	44	72	59	50	53	213	235	210	182

DRY GOODS.—Wholesalers report that business is looking a little brighter this week, and that orders from travellers, which have hitherto been very unsatisfactory, are beginning to improve both in number and size. Prices for all classes of goods are very firm with a decided tendency upwards. The cotton syndicate now feels able to advance prices, as it has obtained control of all the mills except Gibson's, whose production it has bought up, and Parks', whose mills are being run by the courts. Already this advance is being made upon certain lines of colored goods for the fall trade. The advance which will be made on general lines is expected to be about 10 per cent. Though this arrangement will raise prices, it is contended that as it will put a stop to the ruinous cutting to which rival mills have resorted, it will be really much better in the long run for all interested. We may add—except the consumer.

IRON, HARDWARE AND METALS.—The iron market does not improve, and pig iron remains very dull. Nothing is doing in the way of securing spring supplies, for the conditions at primary markets do not invite any hurry. Mail advices state that the consumptive demand for pig iron continues slow in the absence of improvement in the manufactured iron trade, and although there are a few changes in prices of makers' brands, the demand is still flat. The speculative branch has developed pronounced weakness within the past few days, warrants dropping from 47s. to 43s. 3d., the presumption being that the London syndicate, which has been holding up the market, is somewhat tired on account of the continued dullness of the regular market. Warrant stocks showed a further increase last week to 503,000 tons Scotch and 157,000 tons Cleveland. There were in blast last week 76 Scotch, 88 Cleveland and 43 hematite furnaces. There is no change in bar iron, business ruling quiet but prices firm. Tin, Terne and Canada plates continue very quiet and prices are unchanged. In copper there is nothing doing and values are easy. Pig lead is also soft.

BREADSTUFFS.—The local flour market remains quiet and dull with only an actual consumptive demand. Prices are steady, but the supply is fully ample for all present requirements. The movement in oatmeal continues very slow, and buyers are scarce and indifferent. The feed market is quiet with prices unaltered. Beerbohm's cable reports wheat slow and heavy; corn nil but firmly held. French country markets very quiet. In Chicago the wheat market has fluctuated considerably, but may be generally said to have an upward tendency; the more peaceable news from Chili and a more active demand from Europe reacting against each other. The actual gain appears to have been about $\frac{1}{2}$ c. during the week. Corn has shown considerable activity, and though no well-defined advance was made, the feeling has been confident and prices very firm. Oats have been firm in sympathy with wheat and corn. Large shipments for Europe from New York, amounting to about 700,000 bushels within two days, have strengthened the market there, and also at western points, such as St. Louis, Toledo, etc.

PROVISIONS.—The local demand for pork is very fair at steady prices, and dealers look forward to see a further advance as soon as the demand improves, as it must if the snow continues. The demand for lard is dull and there is little enquiry for smoked meats. At Liverpool there has been no change in provisions except lard dropped 3d. In Chicago the provision market ruled dull, but firm. Hogs were quiet, but steady; cattle strong, the best grades realising better prices; the sheep market was dull.

BUTTER.—No material change has occurred in the status of butter in this market since our last report. Really first-class butter is scarce and

what is received is readily bought at full figures. Other grades are not in over abundant supply and a very fair movement in them is in progress. The great want of the market is good culinary butter worth 14c. to 16c. but it is hard to obtain. What little comes to hand of this meets an expectant market. A Montreal report says:—"Butter does not show much activity, but values are firmly held under the steady jobbing call." From Liverpool, G. B., we learn that:—"The demand for butter has been fairly active, but the market has ruled irregular with a firmer tone at the last." A London letter says:—"Butter still keeps a decidedly firm market, and prices still maintain the uneven tenor of their way. Danish, as usual, is cock of the walk so far as standing at the head of the price list is concerned; but the volume of business is so small that it is far from being the department most is being done in. Farmers in the Itine provinces have been selling their cattle in consequence of the difficulty in procuring fodder, and this has had a marked effect in lessening supplies, with the inevitable attendant result of, at any rate, keeping prices up, even though they be not further advanced. Some holders have accepted 135s. in order to be quit, but the general rate has been 142s., and a division of opinion exists as to whether there will be a further rise next week or whether a drop will follow the extreme high tension of recent weeks. In any case, stock of all descriptions is extremely light, and markets all over the Kingdom respond to the strength displayed here; the North, indeed, being chiefly responsible for the lofty ideas of the Danes by their willingness to give in to the most extravagant notions as to values. Antipodean is as strong a feature as ever, and the eagerness with which it is bought might lead one to suppose that famine was in the land and that each consignment was the last on which our hands could be laid. Values for the numerous parcels landed this week have had a long range—from 80s. up to 128s. for finest, and as we shall probably be relieved from Australian or New Zealand landings from next Wednesday for a fortnight buyers have hastened to fill their wants and have thus contributed to give an additionally firm aspect to a strong market, and to impart confidence to agents advised forward. Rumors reporting the shutting up of factories in Holland also had their effect on values, and holders of Dutch who could not get 120s. to 122s. for their stock decided to keep it till next week when a rise at the points of production will strengthen them in their demands. The necessity of a cheap butter to supply the poorer customers, with has driven retailers to the necessity of recovering the market to fill their wants, and a great run on American and Canadian is the result, anything in the vicinity of 100s. clearing rapidly. Above that price, however, there has been some difficulty in moving the goods. Finest Canadian creameries are well up in the list, selling in Bristol at 120s., with little obtainable thereat."

CHEESE.—In our local market cheese maintains its quiet tone and, although nothing transpires in the way of business, stocks are so limited that holders are quietly biding their time. The *New York Commercial Bulletin* says:—"Private advices from the other side lead to the impression that a portion of the sustaining power on the Liverpool cheese market is due to the fact that one of the large operators is still 'short' and unable to get stock forward to meet his engagements. It is understood that a couple of weeks ago he offered to settle at 3s per cwt., but could not obtain a better offer than 5s., and that the market has strengthened since then." A London correspondent writes:—"Cheese is quite an open market. Buyers and sellers are wide apart in their views, and holders themselves are anything but of one mind; for though many houses are claiming to hold Canadian Septembers for 58s, pointing to the low stocks here and the unquestionable shortage on the other side, others are offering freely between 54s to 56s, there being also plenty of good stuff to be had between 51s and 54. Both buyer and seller are, however, acting with caution, for though the former is purchasing sparingly and apparently contenting himself with the satisfaction of immediate desires, the latter is in no hurry to get quit at ruling rates and fails to press, looking for better things in the near future. The 60s limit, I think, is not far off. Dutch has advanced 2s per cwt., and English is beginning to move in sympathy with the, if slow, still steady progress of American and Canadian on the up line."

EGGS.—We have nothing new to report respecting eggs in this market. The supply still more than keeps pace with the demand. Prices are nominally unchanged but holders would, and in fact do, shade considerably if there is a chance to effect sales. In Montreal the egg market holds steady and unchanged, dealers there reporting a very fair demand for Montreal limed at 15c to 16c. A London report says:—"Eggs have been very slow of disposition both here and at the provincial centres and at the seaport towns. In London lightness of arrivals has kept prices up, and old rates have been maintained, with stocks well cleared, but at Liverpool there has been a drop, though bad weather on the continent has also exercised a restraining influence on the arrivals thence. Irish are quoted from 9s to 10s for Continentals; Irish, 10s to 10s 6d; Canadians are there fetching up to 9s 6d per long hundred. In the North things are very quiet, there is no change in prices, and strangely enough even the pickles, despised of London and Liverpool, go off freely at Newcastle and Glasgow. Of course one can never tell what is going to happen, but, pending the duty into the full spring-tide of shipments across the channel of Hibernia, I do not look for any lower rates for Canadians before the new season opens, as many receivers have closed their engagements for the season and cabled to their shippers to stop consignments. This will relieve the congestion and assist prices."

APPLES.—The local apple market is quiet, but prices have undergone no variation. In London "apples have been a fair trade and very good prices indeed have been realised, especially when note is taken of the fact that there is a dead run on oranges just now, the popular favor in which this luscious fruit is held being enhanced by the *pronunciamento* of the faculty that it is efficacious as a preventive in the terrible malady which is scourging Europe, and which has cut off, in the bloom of youthful man-

hood, the hope of the royal family and open the way for a possible George the Fifth. Sales have been satisfactory both here and at Liverpool, and shippers have no cause to grumble. At Monument Buildings on Tuesday, Keeling & Hunt offered 100 lbs. Canadian, the following being some of the prices under the hammer. — 17 lbs. half moon golden russets at 26s. per bbl., 9 at 23s., 1 at 18s.; 10 spitz at 18s. 6d., 3 g. russets at 16s. 6d.; 42 greening at 13s., 26 at 12s. 6d., 130 at 12s., 5 r. russets at 15s. 6d.; 28 Ben Davis at 14s.; 37 spics at 13s. 6d., various brands running down to 8s., damaged and worthless, 2s. 6d. to 6s. 6d. Nova Scotians to the number of 231 bbls. were also offered and sold at fair prices; 17s for king pippins; 15s. for spitz; up to 10s. Baldwins, and 15s. nonpareil. Arrivals in Liverpool to the 9th inst., 631,701 bbls., against 194,000 bbls. corresponding period last year."

FRUIT.—Business in green fruit is of a steady, jobbing kind with nothing particular to mention. In oranges Florida are perhaps the most active while Valencias are quiet and steady. Nothing worth mentioning is doing in dried fruits. Stocks are small, it is true, but there is really no demand.

SUGAR.—Our local market continues very quiet and prices at the refineries are unchanged, but a better feeling appears to be gaining ground and the demand is expected to spring up shortly as stocks in retailers' hands have worked down to very small quantities. The excitement in foreign sugar markets has eased off considerably although prices fluctuate frequently and considerably. In London beet firsts are quoted at 14 7/8d. In New York granulated was advanced to 4 1/2c but the price fell off again to 4c.

MOLASSES.—The demand for molasses is reported to be pretty good, but very little is doing owing to the divergence between the views of holders and buyers.

TEA.—There is very little activity in the local market and the situation in this city is little changed from that at our last report. On the other hand there is a much better feeling for low grade Japans in New York and the improvement there has been such as to lead to the shipment from Montreal of some of the heavy stocks held in store there. Such tea as is held in bond there can easily be shipped to New York, as there is no duty on tea entering the States, so that freight and handling only have to be added to the price in Montreal.

COFFEE.—The coffee market is fairly steady with little or no change to note. Stocks are not heavy and prices are firm. "In the New York market Brazils are steady and firm; mild coffees are still scarce, Maracabos having advanced 1/2c to 3/4c for the coffee which came on last Saturday's steamers over prices for previous steamer's cargo. This advance may be due partly to the high price of Java coffee and partly in anticipation of the imposition of a duty on 1st March as foreshadowed in the President's proclamation. Whatever the cause may be, the fact remains that coffees are at present about 3/4c per pound higher than they were in September last. Costa Ricans and Guatemalas are not to be had in London, except at famine prices. Mocha has again stiffened in England according to a cable received from London."

FISH.—This business remains about as before. A few lots go forward—chiefly by steamers—to the West Indies, but there is no life in the trade. The section of our fish merchants who of recent years have been in the habit of sending schooners to Newfoundland laden with assorted goods, which were traded off with the natives of the ancient colony for frozen herring, are now prevented by the restrictive laws of that island from continuing that business, thus shutting up to that extent the capital and labor hitherto employed therein. The deprivation of these fish also hampers our deep-sea operations very considerably, and though cod and halibut are reported abundant on the banks, the absence of proper bait deters our people from going for them. Perhaps this is a matter that will right itself or be rectified in some way after a time, but meanwhile it certainly adds materially to the prevailing depression in our fish market. Our outside advices are as follows:—Montreal, 3rd February—"No. 1 green cod remains unchanged at \$5.50 per bbl., with \$5.75 for small lots. Large is about \$6 to \$6.25. Very strangely, prices of green cod in Halifax are about 25c. higher than they are here. Dry cod is quiet at \$5.50. Newfoundland salmon is steady at last week's figures, \$19 to \$20 per tierce and \$13.50 to \$14 per bbl. Labrador herring are steady at \$6 for choice. French shore herrings are scarce at \$5.50, as the Newfoundland export duty keeps them from coming in. The market for smoked fish is quiet and without any change. We quote: Yarmouth bloaters \$1.25 to \$2 per 100; St. John bloaters \$1.55; boneless cod, large boxes 6c., do. small boxes 7c." Gloucester, Mass., Feb. 3—"Trade is beginning to improve, orders coming in freely for the season, but with the present light stock it is not easy to fill all orders promptly. Georges codfish are scarce and the supply of prime Bank fish not large. Receipts have been light in all departments the past week. We quote: Herring bait from cold storage \$4 per cwt.; faro sales of Georges cod \$5 and \$3.75; last faro sale of Bank halibut 12c. and 8 1/2c. per lb. for white and gray. Salt herring \$2.50 per lb. in bulk. Mackerel, jobbing; small 3's \$8.50 and \$9; medium 3's \$10.50 and \$11; large 3's \$14; medium 2's \$13 and \$14; large 2's \$17 and \$18; bay 1's \$21; shore 1's \$24; extra shore 1's \$26; extra bloaters \$30. New Georges codfish at \$7.50 per qtl. for large, and small at \$5.50; Bank \$6.87 to \$7.25 for large, and \$4.50 to \$5.00 for small; Shore \$7.25, and \$5.25 for large and small; dry Bank \$7.25, medium \$5.50. Cured ousk at \$5.50 per qtl.; hake \$3; haddock \$4.13 to \$4.50; heavy salted pollock \$3, and English-cured do. \$3.75 per qtl. Labrador herring \$6.50 per bbl.; Newfoundland do. \$7; Nova Scotia do. \$7.50; Eastport \$3.50; split shore \$4; round do. \$4; round Eastport \$4; pickled codfish \$6; haddock \$5; halibut heads \$3.50; sounds \$13; tongues and sounds \$12; tongues \$11; alewives \$3.50; trout \$14; Halifax salmon \$23; Newfoundland do. \$16." Port of Spain, Trinidad, Jan. 13—"Although the Garnet from Lockeport is the only direct arrival during the fortnight, there is no material improvement in

the position of our market. We have stored this cargo and are holding it for \$18 tierces, \$20 drums, \$5.50 per box, and \$12 to \$10 haddock, hake and pollock, but so far we have succeeded in making but little progress. Dealers at, however, only moderately supplied with a good article, and we look for some appreciable improvement when the present stock of old Lunenburg fish has been closed out. Good large mackerel are the only description of pickled fish enquired for at present, and herring are very slow of sale at \$3 to \$2.75 per barrel."

AFTER DANGERS OF THE "GRIP."

Boston papers facetiously remark that "La Grippe is seldom fatal unless you use all the remedies recommended for it." They are correct. The writer fully believes that the end of the poor "grip" victim, if he tried all the patent medicines that have adorned (?) the pages of our leading newspapers as "sure cures for La Grippe," would be like Mark Twain, who for his famous cold tried every remedy advised by friends, until his stomach became so weak he began to vomit and continued until, as he says, "he was like to throw up his immortal soul." We notice one of the leading advertisers of the day has been conspicuous at this opportune time by the absence of any claim to cure the "grip." They certainly deserve a "censure" and we feel like giving them a free "ad" for their compassion upon our readers. The more so for the reason that probably more people have used their remedy, that good old family medicine, Johnson's Anodyne Lintment for this foreign influenza, than all others combined. And why not? Certainly no other will relieve catarrhal colds, coughs, bronchial troubles, or neuralgic pains, as promptly as that same old Anodyne Lintment, and the above are all symptoms or results of La Grippe. Herein lies the real after dangers from this epidemic of influenza, it leaves the mucous membrane linings of the nose, throat and bronchial tubes tender and very susceptible to the catarrh, bronchial troubles and pneumonia, which come with February and March in our northern climate. We shall still pin our faith to a remedy for this after danger which acts promptly to allay inflammation; for therein lies the chief danger from throat and lung troubles. And surely a remedy that has the friends that Johnson's Anodyne Lintment has, after eighty years' trial by a critical public, and has been used for the "grip" more extensively than all the advertised remedies de visis as we said, a medal and has before it we hope a prosperous year as an octogenarian. I. S. Johnson & Co., Boston, Mass., the manufacturers, will send a valuable pamphlet free.

MARKET QUOTATIONS.—WHOLESALE SELLING RATES.

Our Price Lists are corrected for us each week by reliable merchants.

GROCERIES.

Table listing various grocery items such as Sugars, Tea, Molasses, Biscuits, and their respective prices.

BREADSTUFFS

We have but little to add to our remarks of last week, concerning the trade which still continues very quiet although somewhat improved. Quotations remain the same.

Table listing breadstuffs such as Flour, Oatmeal, and other grains with their prices.

HOME AND FOREIGN FRUITS.

Table listing various fruits like Apples, Oranges, Lemons, and their prices.

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

PROVISIONS.

Table listing various provisions such as Beef, Pork, and other meats with their prices.

BUTTER AND CHEESE

Table listing butter and cheese products and their prices.

SALT.

Table listing various salt products and their prices.

FISH.

Table listing various fish products like Mackerel, Salmon, and other seafood with their prices.

JOSEPHINE'S MOTHER.

(Continued.)

"Jest's as you please. But I ain't goin' to hurt my health and my hull look-out for years by goin' to work while I'm a sick man. We don't hev but one life, an' there ain't no sense in spillin' that. You'd ruther hev a house, I s'pose, than save your husband's life."

"Oh, Charley!"

"You ain't a mite o' feelin' in you, Priscilla. Ef I'd a married Nancy Hall, she wouldn't a' ben sendin' me to work, lame an' sore as I be."

"Oh, Charley!" she exclaimed again, coming round and standing with the baby in her arms, as she put her hand on his arm. "I don't want you to go to work—I'll see what I can do myself."

"Take care! You'd hurt my arm!" he exclaimed. "You'll see what you can do! I should like to know what you can do. The best thing you can do is to go down to the store an' tell 'em to send up what you want, an' they needn't fear no loss 'ith this house to fall back on that's worth a hull stock o' goods!" And then he sauntered down to Barney's.

But on his way he stopped at the store and told them to send up the needed flour and meal, and sugar and tea, a ham, a keg of pigs' feet and a kit of mackerel, a strip of pork, some eggs, and some maple syrup,—a goodly quantity, that he might not have to renew the subject with Priscilla too soon. "I guess you ain't no need to be afraid of loosin', so long as folks own their own house," said he, observing Mr. Newman's hesitation; and the things were sent up.

But while he was gone, Priscilla had bethought herself and questioned whether or not she would ever need her little hoard in the savings bank more than she needed it now, and went to get her book. It was nowhere to be found. In a panic she threw on her shawl and hood, and taking the baby in her arms hurried down the road to the savings bank. "The book!" they said. "Her husband had brought it in some weeks since and drawn the balance." "Oh, then, it is all right," she replied with a smiling face. And she went home as if the ground were on fire beneath her feet. What if it were only her name that had been forged, her money that had been stolen—the thing was the same. The whole world was whirling round her; there was no fixed point in heaven or earth; her husband—her Charley—a forger! a thief!

And this was the man of whom she had said that she didn't know what the world would be to her without him in it, to whom she had looked up, on whom she had leaned, whom she had loved with all her heart—Josephine's father! Oh, why was Josephine ever born! And then she bugged her babe till it rebelled; and she held it away from her to see if she traced in the tiny face one feature of the father's face, for which before she had sought so often and so eagerly, and which now she thought would be to her as baleful as any glance of the evil eye. "No, no, no, you're my own baby!" and she clasped her and kissed her, and cried over her till the frightened baby put up a quivering lip and cried in company.

It was not a great many months after this that Mr. Newman surprised her with a call. Perhaps, as a once discarded suitor, it was not unpleasant to him to let her mark the difference between what was, and what might have been. He had come to see about the house.

"Debt? What debt? Let the house go for debt? Oh, never!" she said.

"But you have had the goods," said Mr. Newman.

"I didn't know—I didn't understand," she faltered. "My husband will go to work soon. They offered him the job of driving the stage to Farley, and oh, Mr. Newman," the great brown eyes pathetic as a dumb creature's, "I will go to work myself! You shall be paid the whole! Indeed you shall!" And a great pile of garments to be made on her sewing machine came up from the shop which was the center of the wide rural district, and Priscilla, who had been Charley's slave, became Mr. Newman's from that night.

Charley had taken the job of stage-driving; it was just what he liked; the money he got for it was just what all the Barneys on the road liked. Not a penny came into the house. He had gay companions beside him on the road—sometimes a man as shiftless as himself, sometimes a woman as reckless.

"I declar' for it!" said Miss Elvira, pushing back her spectacles as the coach whirled by. "It does gird me mor'n a little to see Priscilla's husband with that Rodney hussey sitting up beside him. She's put bitter salt in her broth. I think I'll hev to eat my words an' go up an' see the child."

But when Miss Elvira, having been driven over by a neighbor, reached the house, and going round to the side-door glanced in and saw the pile of work beside Priscilla, and heard the low thunder of the sewing-machine, and saw the little Josephine on the floor close to the barricade of a string of tape, across which she understood she was not to go, but reaching her pretty arms imploringly to her mother, the sun gilding all her gold-red curls, and shining in the great tears with which her eyes were wet, and saw Priscilla push back her chair and run to the child and catch her up and kiss her and caress her, and walk with her a moment in her arms, murmuring a broken tune, and put her back in her place and hasten to her work again—then, "I won't go in," said Miss Elvira to herself, "she'll think I'm crowing over her. Yes, I will too!" she said again. "Ef she ever needed anybody on this created 'arth, she needs me now!"

"Here!" said Miss Elvira, presently, walking in very exactly, but throwing off her cloak at once. "You let me take that machine awhile, an' you take that child—the little lamb. It's a dear, that's what it is; a pretty dear. Don't its father tend it none? I shouldn't think he could keep his

arms off'n it. Priscilla! what does all this mean! Has it come to your supporting Charley Dane? Ain't you hed about enough of it? Because ef you hev you can bring the baby right down to my house the moment you want to leave him. I'd like nothing better. I allus did wish somebody'd tie a baby in a basket on m, door-handle, ef it hadn't a'ben for the speech of people. An' tho' I a'int much, what I do hev you're welcome to."

"Leave my husband!" lifting her weary eyes, amazed.

"Husband? What's husband mean? I've hear'n the minister tell,—an' how much of a husband is Charley Dane? It'll be the best day's work you ever done w'en you do leave him!"

"Oh no, no," cried Priscilla. "Josephine's father! Oh no, no, no!"

"That for Josephine's father!" cried Miss Elvira, snapping her finger and thumb. "I seen him with that Rodney girl beside him on the box, an' there ain't a soul round here that don't know just the way he's carryin' on!"

"Oh, Aunt Elvira, hush! You musn't!"

"I will, then, an' more too. Now I'm going to give you a rest,—you look all tuckered out. But I shan't do it agin, for I ain't goin' ter help support Charley Dane-doin' nothin', though I do no' any harder work there is. But the moment you come down to me with Josephine, for good, then all I've got is yours. An' thank goodness, my house is across the line, an' he can't fetch you back from another state.

Miss Elvira might as well have tried to move the rock-ribbed and ancient earth. Yet although she went home defeated, it was with a sense of only temporary defeat. "Time ain't ripe; that's all," she said.

But when Charley came sauntering in at sunset, and took down his fiddle, Priscilla pushed her machine into a corner and took Josephine in her arms. "Charley," she said, in the first pause of the melody, "that's a pretty tune. Did the Rodney girl learn it to you?"

He looked at her a moment, all the devil in him laughing out of his eyes. "There ain't no Rodney girl," he said.

"Do you suppose I'm blind and deaf, too, that I don't know that Rodney girl goes ridin' with you on the stage to Farley?"

"There ain' no Rodney girl," he maintained, and with his ear bent down to his fiddle. And not another word did her vouchsafe.

But by and by he put the fiddle down, and with his legs stretched a full length, sat looking at the floor. "I'd leave that stage-drivin'," said he, "ef I had a hundred dollars to go to Busted with. There's lots of my sort of work afoot there, they say. But I'd want all that ter git started."

To go to Busted! Away from the low companions, away from the Rodney girl—hope flushed her once again, as if it had not betrayed her scores of times before. "And should you take Josephine and me?" she asked, her voice like a wild, glad cry.

"Wal, I might send for ye," he said. "But what's the use? I ain't got no hundred dollars, and I might as well henker for a bank."

How could she have had an evil thought of him she asked herself. She was full of humanity, and repentance, and love, as she gazed on his handsome, downcast face.

"Charley!" she cried radiantly in a minute, with a new thought. "I can get you a hundred dollars."

"You!"

"Yes. A pedler was here this morning while I was combing out my hair, and he said he'd give me a hundred dollars for it any day I'd take it."

"Your hair?"

She fancied there was love for her hair in his tone. If he loved it, if it cost him a pang, it was easy for her to part with it, in spite of her indignant refusal in the morning. "He's coming back to-morrow," she said. "I'll git the shears and you cut it now while your here, Charley. Tain't as ef it wouldn't grow again, you know." And she loosened the long braids in a cloud of gold and sat down in the chair before him, directly in the path of the last red sunset rays, and as every one of the long locks fell, flashing out a red splendor, the child in her arms caught at them with exclamations of joy, and was presently half hidden in a fleece of gold.

"Oh, how queer it is!" laughed Priscilla, when it was over. "And how small my head feels!"

"Put something round it quick!" said Charley. "For you're a sight to see." And she tied a handkerchief on, and the next day gave him the money that the pedler eagerly paid her.

When Charley came back a fortnight afterword and told her it was all lies and there was no work at all at Busted, he did not tell her who went with him and shared his riotous living with the hundred dollars while it lasted.

But Priscilla only redoubled her efforts, growing paler and thinner every day over her tasks, and kept her sorrow to herself, adding a fresh sorrow to all the rest in feeling that Josephine suffered from her preoccupation—Josephine, the darling, the only joy she had, the laughing, carolling, little tripping child, for whom all the village people had a word of wonder and love. The only pleasure left the mother now was in making Josephine happy; she stole the time from her work to make the little clothes that dressed Josephine out like a picture, and she caressed them in making them as if they were a part of Josephine. And the child had such enticing ways, dancing tip-toe like a butterfly, taking her father's fiddle and holding it under her ear as he did, and listening as if she already heard there the strains she should some day call forth, loving every one and everything she saw, from the lean cat to Mr. Newman himself. "Dear wainbow!" she said. "Dear t'ower! Dear marmar!"

At last, one midnight, while Priscilla was still bending over her machine, Charley came in whistling. "Come, get me a bit of supper!" he said.

Priscilla put away her work slowly. "There ain't any supper to 'git'

said she quietly. "You can hev what Josephine and me had—crackers and milk. There ain't nothing else to eat."

"Ain't nothing else? Why, where in thunder's the store?"

"The bill o'yourn for liquors, and cigars, and candies, and clo'es, and neckties, is jest what the house is assessed for. Mr. Newman's been up ter day and he's done trusting."

"Blisret his eyes!" was the reply, as Charley began to walk up and down the room. "I should like to know what kind of a wife you be!" he said.

"I've done my best!" said she angrily. "I've turned night into day working to pay for jest what's been brought inter the house. But that bill, ef its paid, takes the house over our heads."

"Blame it all! I shouldn't think there was another house in town."

"It's a little hard that Josephine and me should lose our home so'st you and your lot down to the tavern and over to Farley—"

"Wall! So'st me and my lot—what?" and pausing before her in his excited walk, goaded perhaps by the look in her great dark eyes, or her pinched wan face, he struck her on the mouth.

She did not utter a sound, but cowered in a little heap like something from which the life had departed, till long after he was asleep. Of course the next morning he was abject and in a passion of penitence, and as she forgave him and soothed him he never knew how nearly love was dead in her heart.

And so the house went. Miss Elvira came up to expostulate. But there was the bill and it must be paid, as Priscilla felt in every fibre of her honest being. And after that Mr. Newman, in some compunction, suffered her to live on in the house at a small rent, that was never paid by Charley. But Priscilla still had Josephine, a little wild rose in the sun, a singing bird, a sunbeam, a joy that paid for all her pain, that made it almost impossible for her to regret anything, the love of her a wall between herself and outer darkness.

"That child's no end of trouble to you," said her husband one day, seeing Priscilla pause in the hurry of her sewing to brush Josephine's curls, till they stood out in a halo round the little head.

"Trouble!" said Priscilla, kissing her. "Sweet trouble."

"Yes, and you ain't any less than a slave to her."

"Not to her," said Priscilla, "oh, not to her."

"I do'no' how we're ever going to bring her up," he said presently. "No clo'es, no schoolin'. 'Twould be a mercy ef some rich folks 'ud take her for their own."

"Not to me," said Priscilla absently, giving the lovely locks a final wave.

'Twould to her. She'd never know no want and be fetched up like a lady.

'What are you talking about?' said Priscilla, looking at him now, and blanching with a sudden unnamed fear.

'About Josephine. There's a rich lady put up down to the tavern, and she see her when you went to the store, and was taken by her so't she followed you in—'

'Yes—I see her. She giv' Josephine some peppermint.'

'Wal, as I was sayin', she spoke to Barney about the child, and he told her how 'twas, and she got possessed for it,—she ain't none of her own. And she staid over night, and Barney sent for me, and the long and the short of it is, that she'll take the child and bring her up like rich folks children, and give her piany lessons and silk dresses and all that, and allow us w'atever we say for lettin' of her go—a thousand dollars down, good money, ef we say so.'

'I guess she won't,' said Priscilla, taking up her basting.

'Oh, yes, she will, then.'

'I guess she won't,' repeated Priscilla, and as she turned her face toward him, biting off her thread, there was something in that showing of her teeth, like a wild beast at bay.

'You don't mean to say you'd stand in the child's light like that, do ye?'

'I ain't fell so low as to sell my own flesh and blood yet.'

'But it's fur Josephine's good. She ain't but one life to live, and it's a pity ter spile that in the beginnin'. Fur my part, I couldn't rest easy and think I'd kept her out of all that luck.'

'I could. And I shell.'

'Now you look her, Miss Dane! That child's mine. You ain't no say about it. I've been willing to reason with you—but ef you wont hear to reason, you may to fac'. I've got a right according ter lor to sell or give her or do what I've a mind ter 'ith. Mothers don't count in lor, d'ye hear? The lor says she's my child. I've been to see Squire Hall, and he says—them's his own words—'Your will's supreme as to that child.' You see my will's the lor. And my will is that she will go!'

'Charley! Charley!' cried Priscilla, springing to her feet. 'You ain't—you ain't in earnest!'

'Dead earnest.'

'Oh, Charley! she cried, clasping her hands as if she were praying to him. 'Ain't you no pity on me?'

'I've pity on Josephine,' he said. 'I've ast about that lady, and I'm satisfied, and you may just git the child ready. I didn't expect you'd make a fuss where the child's good—'

'Oh, Charley!' she cried again. 'She's my baby! She's all I've got! It'll break my heart. I can't let her go. It'll break her heart, too. She's never been out o' my sight. Oh, Charley, have mercy, have mercy, don't take her, don't kill me—my darling, my little girl, my baby—'

(To be continued.)



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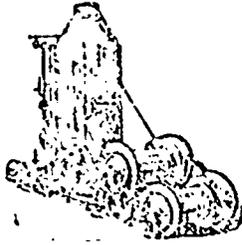
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MINING.

There are one or two matters of vital interest to gold miners which have been time and time again called to the attention of the Local Government by petition and otherwise, but so far without result.

The most important question is the establishment of an official assay office, for which there is a most decided demand. The arguments in favor of the appointment of such an official are unanimous, and have been so often used by us that they have been worn almost thread-bare, so there is no necessity of repeating them here. What is now wanted is determined action on the part of miners and those interested in mines, and the appointment of an influential delegation to wait upon the Premier and Commissioner of Mines with a well digested plan of operation.

We have little doubt if speedy action is taken and the matter properly laid before the Premier, that his co-operation may be secured and an act introduced at the coming session of the Legislature for the appointment of an official assayer. If it is introduced as a government measure it will be certain to pass and its beneficial results will soon be apparent.

Mining news is difficult to obtain, the truth being that very little is now being done outside of the regular work on the old properties. The North Star Company has had its regular annual meeting and re-elected the old board as follows.—R. O. Bayer, Roderick MacDonald, Dr. Cameron, W. H. Johnson, H. K. Fisher, J. L. Jennison and W. H. Brookfield. At a subsequent meeting of directors Mr. Johnson was appointed secretary and treasurer.

Attachments have been issued against two properties, one of which it was reported was about being sold, while good reports continue to arrive of the prospects at Country Harbor and Wine Harbor. This is of course the dull season in mining and nothing new or interesting is to be expected for a month or two or until the opening of spring.

MOUNT UNIACKE.—The work on the West Lake property is progressing favorably and a quantity of ore is now being crushed at the company's mill. They are drifting on the lode east of the shaft and the ore is steadily increasing in richness as the work advances. The mill has also been crushing ore from the McCallum property.

LAKE CAIHA. The lessees of the east block of the Cogswell area continue to encounter rich ore in their work on the Coleman lead which is now being crushed at the Anderson mill. The Cambridge mill is being put in good order and when ready the ore will be treated there.

Mr. J. M. Reid, the manager of the Oxford, has returned from a long and well earned vacation spent in the States and will now devote some time to preliminary work preparatory to the beginning of extensive mining operations.

The Anderson mine is being steadily worked with good results.

OLD IRON INDUSTRY.—Capitalists to develop the iron mines of Pictou County.—American capitalists are interested in one of the largest enterprises ever undertaken in N. S., the development of the iron mines that have long been known in Springville, Pictou County. It is the intention of this company to build a line of railway from New Glasgow to Country Harbor. The latter port to be thoroughly provided with wharves and shipping facilities for handling iron ore, coal, coke and general freight which would come through New Glasgow by the eastern extension. The company has secured large mining areas and proposes erecting blast furnaces and rolling mills for the production of steel rails. Some nine miles of this line have already been built between New Glasgow and Springville. A surveying party will start from Country Harbor to locate through towards Sunnybrae.—Herald.

An eminent mining engineer states: "After a full and careful examination of the different proportions made on the ground, and a minute inspection of the whole field, I am fully persuaded that nowhere in the world are there better facilities for the production of iron than on the East River, and that nowhere on the American continent can iron be produced at so low a cost."—Colonial Standard.

A NEW METHOD OF SINKING DEEP SHAFTS WHICH DISPOSES OF ALL WATER ENCOUNTERED.—An English engineer, Henry D. Avery, is the originator of a new idea in shaft sinking, by which it is made possible to keep the excavation free from water. To do this a large bore hole is first sunk on the site of the proposed shaft, and a pump is placed at the bottom of this hole. Whatever water may be encountered in sinking the shaft about this hole flows into the hole and is pumped to the surface. While this does not obviate the necessity of pumping, it keeps the excavation drained and free from water.

DR. RAE AGAIN HEARD FROM.—"The Rae dredging machine, which is intended to clean up the bed of the Carson River near Dayton, is to be put in operation very soon, it is said. The Boston people who have been putting up for this scheme for years deserve to be rewarded, but we cannot help remarking that for a small portion of the money expended the river might have been flumed and the bed rock polished."—Virginia City Chronicle, Jan. 1, 1891.

Eastern people habitually tumble headlong into all sorts of inconsiderate ventures connected to some extent with the industry of mining. In all such more or less visionary ventures they squander their money in considerable sums and then condemn the industry of mining with which, in point of fact, their foolish "cast of the net for fortune" has had no real connection at all.—The Financial and Mining Record.

The Retail and Wholesale Marble Dealers' Association of New England and the Provinces held their annual meeting at Boston on the 27th January. Officers were elected for the ensuing year as follows: President, William G. Garmon, of Manchester; treasurer and secretary, James F. Brennan, of New Hampshire; vice-presidents, Jonathan Henna, Connecticut, James E. Stanton, New Brunswick; O. M. Wentworth, Massachusetts; Johnathan S. Neat, New Hampshire; Charles H. Glidden, Vermont; A. F. Barnum, Rhode Island; Samuel Bryant, Maine. Five directors from each New England State and the provinces were elected. It was voted to hold the semi-annual meeting in Boston in July next.

E. H. Hargraves, the first practical discoverer of gold in Australia, died recently at Sydney, Australia, at the age of 75 years. Gold was found both in New South Wales and Victoria long before Mr. Hargraves's discovery, but the latter was the real beginning of the search for gold. Mr. Hargraves had gone from Australia to California to try his luck at the gold diggings there, and it struck him while there that the contour and character of the gold-bearing areas bore a remarkable resemblance to those of a locality well known to him in the Bathurst district, New South Wales. Filled with the idea he returned to Sydney, and in February, 1851, proceeded to the spot he had in mind and found that his surmise was quite correct. Within a few weeks men from all parts of the colony were flocking to the Bathurst diggings. Diligent search was at the same time made in Virginia for gold deposits, and discoveries were made in rapid succession.

A DIRECT PROCESS FOR SMELTING IRON, ETC.—*Chemiker Zeitung* gives an abstract of a paper by N. Lebedieff on a direct process for producing iron and other metals from their ores. According to this method the metallic oxides are brought in contact with a strong base (potash, soda, lime or dolomite) by either melting the two in a finely divided state or by roasting such mixture in furnaces provided with a powerful air blast, stirring the mass frequently. To hasten the process common salt or urea may be added to the roasted mixture. Some combinations of metallic oxides with alkalies may be produced by the wet process; for example, alkaline aluminates. Abstracting the pure metals may then proceed in cupolas, open hearths, or in crucibles in reverberatory furnaces. To the mixtures prepared as above are added charcoal, coke, etc., as well as a proper amount of silicious materials to produce slag upon the reduction of the metals. In order that furnace walls be not attacked the inner lining is best made of neutral material. In the reduction of iron and other metals easily separated by coal, etc., gas, under proper pressure, containing a sufficient amount of CO_2 , H, or C_2H_6 may be used instead of coal, etc. Smelting is then carried on in open hearths or reverberatory furnaces. The reducing gases are brought into the molten mass by pipes discharging at a proper height, or by tuyeres issuing from chambers in the furnace walls, and connected with pressure generators or gasometers. After properly heating the furnace the carefully mixed oxides and bases, or the oxides previously treated with bases, are introduced and heated until thoroughly melted, when the reducing gases are allowed to penetrate the mass. In proportion to the relative reduction of the metal and separation of the bases a further thin layer of oxides is added. These latter combine readily with the free base and melt, and the gas then again reduces the metal, the base is again separated and thus the process continues. In case the oxides combine readily with the bases by simple melting the operations can all be carried on in one furnace. Metals melting easily are tapped from time to time as they are produced. Metals which are refractory, such as iron, chromium, etc., can be dosed with materials which lower their melting point (high carbon pig in the case of iron), or else they are treated after a sufficient quantity has been produced and removed from the furnace, with water or acids after cooling, thereby dissolving the alkaline salts, the insoluble metal remaining undisturbed in the shape of small plates.

The Malaga mining company produced a brick of gold weighing 218 ounces last month.

SILVER IN VOLCANIC ASHES.—The existence of silver in volcanic ashes is of rare occurrence. Only in two cases have argentiferous ashes been met with. The sample was obtained during the eruption of Cotopaxi in July, 1885, in the ashes of which Mr. J. W. Malot proved the existence of one part of silver in 83,000 parts of ashes. In the following year the same investigator was able to add a second instance. In January, 1886, a violent eruption of Tunguragua, in the Andes of Ecuador, between 50 and 55 miles from Cotopaxi, took place, the eruption continuing at longer or shorter intervals up to November of the same year. The ashes thrown by this volcano contained silver to the extent of one part in 108,200 parts of ashes.

PROFIT IN CINDER PIG.—The common class of crude iron known in South Staffordshire, Eng., as "cinder pig," says the *American Manufacturer*, is made principally out of the slag or cinder from the puddling furnaces of the district, which is supposed to contain an average of something like 40 per cent. of metal. It is not a little singular that, until quite recently, this slag or cinder was counted of so little value in the market, that the owners were not only willing to make a present of it to anyone who would take it away, but in some cases they would even pay a trifle per load for its removal. The result is that enterprising pig iron makers have been able to sell cinder pigs at prices which although astonishingly low have, considering the nominal cost of raw materials, yielded a very fair profit.

The Workmans Hell Company declared a dividend of 8 per cent. this year. I think that is a fair percentage.
The weather keeps remarkably fine in Cape Breton. The oldest

residents of the place have no remembrance over experiencing such weather at this season of the year.

The work at Gowrie Mines this winter is as usual. The first men to work last year during the winter were the first this year.

Pay day always happens on the 15th, but this month it seems it is put off till the 20th, we have not heard what the reason is. I think the time for fortnightly payments has arrived, and I think the best way is to keep strictly to the law in the beginning.

The 'iron man' that was hired to work at Gowrie this winter was tried a few days ago and proved a failure. In other words we have men at Gowrie who stated they could lick 'him' all hollow, and they did it. They started with him and did the same amount of work that he did in one hour's less time. Now his peeks led for the man that was going to do such an amount of work. I think, as the old woman thought, that the old way is the best yet.

The new manager, Mr. Hudson, is going to change things at the Gowrie, to some extent. The rule at Gowrie was a pair who worked a level during the summer months, claimed all the work that was done in that place during the year. This Mr. Hudson considers not fair play, and we agree with him every time, as a certain number of men were always kept in the levels, and got a year's work, while others walked about all winter. The reason always given for this was, the men stated that if they did not get the winter's work in the levels, they would not go into them in the summer. We would suggest, "let the men take their chance like the rest of us," and let the levels and such other places be paid, and they won't stand summer nor winter. As it has been these men could well afford to work those places at a low price when they were promised a year's work for so doing. This change will likely do considerable good at Gowrie Mines. It will do away with considerable grumbling which has always prevailed here.—*Journal and News*.

CHIESS.

Solution of Problem 101: K to QR6 Solved by C. W. L.

26 Kt to K6 ch K to B2
27 QR to Q sq Q to B3
28 B to K's2 Q takes Kt e
White announced mate in 4 moves.

NOTES.

a It is good play to take the P, but Showalter's idea is to capture it (see move 20) with increased, not retarded, impetus to the attack.

b A first-class continuation.

c This costs a piece, the 3 pawns ahead being only a temporary offset.

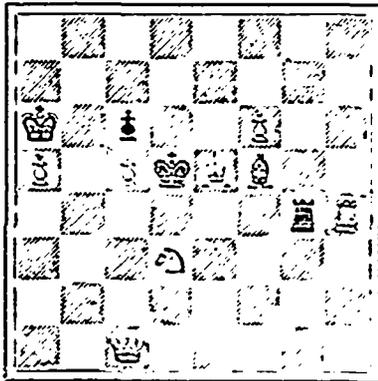
d Threatening R takes Kt ch with R to K1.

e Leaving open a mate in 5, not 4, moves, commencing R takes Kt ch.—*Baltimore Sunday News*.

PROBLEM 103.

(Selected.)

By J. Burger, Graz.
Black 3 pieces.



White: 9 pieces.

White to play and mate in two moves.

GAME No. 104.

A beautiful game played in the U. S. C. A. Tourney between J. W. Showalter and W. H. Ripley.

Evans Gambit.

- | WHITES. | BLACK. |
|---------------------|--------------|
| Showalter. | Ripley. |
| 1 P to K4 | P to K4 |
| 2 Kt to KB3 | Kt to QB3 |
| 3 B to B4 | B to B4 |
| 4 P to QKt4 | B takes P |
| 5 P to B3 | B to B4 |
| 6 P to Q4 | P takes P |
| 7 Castles | P to Q6 |
| 8 P to K5 a | P to Q1 |
| 9 P takes P en pass | Q takes P |
| 10 QKt to Q2 b | P to KB4 |
| 11 Kt to Kt3 b | B to Q2 |
| 12 Kt to K5 | Kt to Q sq |
| 13 P to QR4 | P to KB3 |
| 14 R to K sq ch | Kt to K2 |
| 15 Kt to R3 | Kt to K3 c |
| 16 B takes Kt | B takes P ch |
| 17 Kt takes B | B takes B |
| 18 Kt to Q2 | R to Q3 |
| 19 B to R3 | P to B4 |
| 20 Kt takes QP | P to QK3 |
| 21 Q to R5 ch | P to K3 |
| 22 Q to R4 d | K to B sq |
| 23 Kt to K5 | Kt to Q1 |
| 24 P to B4 | Kt to B3 |
| 25 Kt takes R ch | Kt takes Kt |

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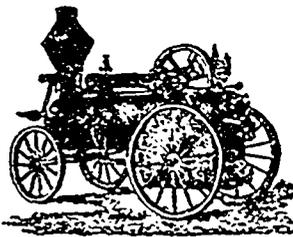
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Fellow of the Institute of Chemistry of
Great Britain and Ireland.

MINING.

CANADA.

From Annual Statistical Number of The Engineering and Mining Journal.
By JOHN STEWART, M. E.
(Continued.)

COPPER.—Owing to the high price of brimstone in the early part of the year the entire output of the Capelton mines was shipped and the smelting plant of the Eustic Mining Company was not operated. The production of matte from the lower grade of pyrites has been of small amount. Messrs G. H. Nichols & Co. have operated their sulphuric acid plant and superphosphate works, besides shipping ore to the United States. A syndicate of Cleveland, O., acid manufacturers has done an extensive development work in the district north of the St. Francis River on the Howard and Moulton Hill mines and shipped ore to their works in the West, but operations were discontinued during the fall. About 80,000 tons of pyrites have been produced in the Capelton district during the year. The Leeds Copper Company, Limited (capital £450,000), was formed in May, being a reorganization of the late Excelsior Copper Company, and has worked the Leeds copper mine, (the old Harvey Hill mine). A crushing and concentrating plant and blast furnace have been erected and operated during the year, but some difficulty has been experienced in obtaining the proper flux for the blast furnace. How the small output from this mine is to bring dividends on the large capital is as yet an unsolved problem for the new directors of this undertaking.

GOLD.—In the Chaudiere district no alluvial washing has been done this summer, as parties interested are waiting until next year, when the old seignioral rights expire. Some prospecting was done in this district during the autumn and also in the Ditton district near Sherbrooke. At Campbell's Bay, in Litchfield Township, Ottawa Valley, quartz veins holding free gold are reported to have been found during the last season and have been prospected. The occurrence is said to be similar to the Malene ore in Marmora, Ont.

SLATE.—The New Rockland slate quarries and mill in the Richmond district have been operated throughout the year with a force of about 200 men, and it is proposed still further to extend operations and open that part of the property to the south of the present workings, known as the Prince Albert quarry. The Bedford quarry has been closed for want of sufficient capital to continue development. A vein of purple slate has been opened near Brompton Lake during the season. It is soft and well adapted for mill stock for mantles, etc. The market supply of slate and slate materials is not equal to the demand.

APATITE.—Some activity was manifest in the Templeton district during the early part of 1891, as the product of these mines can be more easily hauled on sleighs in winter than during the summer season. Among the properties operated are those of the East Templeton District Phosphate Syndicate, which has opened two shafts on a 4-ft. vein. The MacLaurin Phosphate Mining Syndicate, working 40 men, has produced 150 tons a month. The North American Company, with a force of 15 men, has averaged 150 tons a month. The largest output has been from the old Blackburn mine, which is now owned by Messrs Lorner, Rohr and Co., a force of 100 men produced about 150 tons a month in the early part of the season, which was increased to 700 tons in the fall. The old Jackson Rao Mine on west half of lot 9, in 10th range, was operated by Foe & McDunald, of Ottawa, and 8 cars of No. 1 phosphate were sent to Liverpool in July. Messrs MacLaurin purchased the Charlotte lots, in the 11th range Templeton, 300 acres, for \$5000. Mr. James MacLaurin, with 30 men is working the north half of lot 8 on the 12th range. Messrs Hector, McRie and Co., of Ottawa, have used a diamond drill on their property, lot 11, in the 5th range Templeton, and a plant of Ingersol steam drills, hoists, boilers, pumps, derricks, etc., was erected. Three hundred tons of phosphate were mined in July, and an electric plant for lighting and operating hoist and drills was installed. This company worked the old Fidelity mine on lot 12 in range 11, and prospected other lots in this and adjoining townships. Mr. James Cooper, president of the Ingersol Rock Drill Company of Montreal, organized the MacGregor Lake Phosphate and Mining Company, Limited, in Glasgow, Scotland, to work the Beneon property, but work was suspended in July. The General Phosphate Corporation Limited, worked the Murphy property and shipped 300 tons by barge to Montreal, and 80 tons in August. Mr. C. B. Falardean has worked the old Canada Industrial Company's property (the old Post mine on the east half of lot 9 in range 10) with a force of 25 men. Several hundred tons have been shipped, and 50 tons a month have been mined during late months of the year. The Flemming Phosphate Company has done development work on lots 26, 27, 28, 29 and 30 in range 4, Portland West, and discovered large deposits of red and green phosphate of high grade. This property is capable of extensive operations and large output, when the market warrants the construction of the necessary plant and tramroad to shipping points. The Netherlands Company worked two pits on lots purchased from the Templeton & Blanche River Company during the year with a force of 40 men, and made a satisfactory output. Messrs Fissault & Lapage, on their lots in range 4, employed about 22 men. A. F. McIntyre, of Ottawa, prospected lots 4, 5, 6 and 7 in the second range, Masham Township, near the Pêche village and one mile from the Cstineau Valley Railway, which is now constructed to this point. A deposit of workable extent has been developed in the property although it was given up by a prior prospector. At the old Gow mine in Hull Township a workable deposit of phosphate was discovered in working the aruber mica on this lot. It will be developed next season. Twelve companies and individual operators were at work in this district during the year, and considerable prospecting has been done in this and adjoining townships.

(To be continued.)

DRAUGHTS-CHECKERS

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

NEWS.

The Champion's (Wylie) total score from the 15th of June last, when he commenced play in England on his present tour, till 9th January is as follows:—Played 2603; won 2277; drawn 307, lost 19.

SOLUTION.

PROBLEM 259.—The position was: black men 4, 10, king 26; white men 12, 18, king 20; White to play and draw.

20	16	23—14	14—9	4—11
26—23	12	8	11	7
16	11			7

drawn

PROBLEM 260.—The position was: Back men 3, 5, 15, king 31; White men 20, 23, kings 2, 21.

White to play and draw. We copied this problem from the Liverpool Mercury which presented it as similar in idea to that in Problem 259. We failed to find the solution and none of our checkerists have favored us with it as yet. Will the Mercury kindly enlighten us. We are always willing to learn and grateful for being taught.

GAME No. 156—"Switcher."
From the West Lothian Courier.

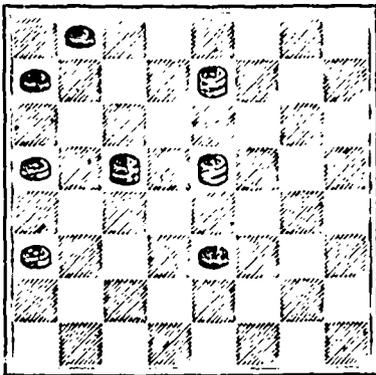
Our contemporary remarks on this game:—"One of those strange coincidences that suggest to one's mind the truth of the trite saying that it is the province of great minds to think alike, has happened in connection with the following game. Recently Mr. P. Reed, the American ex-champion, met at Pittsburg, Penn., Mr. H. F. McAteer, a cross-board player of no mean ability. The result of the play was a creditable one to the amateur, being Reed 13, McAteer 1, drawn 10. One of the games played was the following, and it formed one of six that Reed played simultaneously and blindfold. In publishing the game McAteer says: "This game seemed to attract our attention as one we had seen at some time or other and, upon consulting our Switcher collection we found Game No. 943, West Lothian Courier, printed several years ago, to be identical. The win is pretty. On referring to game 943, which appeared in the Courier two years ago, we find that it was a game played between Messrs. Manchan and Montgomery at Dumbarton. The game which is identical with that played by the American experts, without a single move of variation, is as follows:—"

11—15	8—11	2—6	30—26
21	17	25	21
9—13	18—22	3—10	26—23
25	21	17	13
8—11	10—17	10—15	23—18
17	14	21	14
10—17	15—18	22—25	6—10
21	14	19	15
6—10	11—16	23—26	10—15
22	17	24	20
13—22	16—19	18—25	15—19
26	17	23	16
15—18	12—19	25—30	13—14
24	19	15	11
11—15	7—16	15—18	*19—23
28	24	20	11
4—8	19—23	18—27	
29	25	14	10

*This brings us to the following very neat position which we present

PROBLEM 262.

Black men 1, 5, 23, king 14.



White men 13, 21, kings 7, 15.
White to play and win.

We commend the above as one really worthy the attention of our checker friends.

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LINIMENT

UNLIKE ANY OTHER.
As much
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In 1810

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PUREST, STRONGEST, BEST. Ready for use in any quantity. For making Soft Saponaceous Water, Disinfecting, and a hundred other uses. A can equals 20 pounds Sal Soda. Sold by All Grocers and Druggists. W. GILLETT, Toronto

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Cylinder Stave Mills,
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AND ALL KINDS OF SAW MILL AND MINING MACHINERY

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Synopsis of "The General Mining Act," Chapter 18, 64th Victoria.
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GOLD AND SILVER.
PROSPECTING LICENSES up to 100 areas (each 150 feet by 250 feet), issued at 50 cts. an area up to 10 areas, and 25 cts. afterwards per area, good for one year. These Licenses can be renewed for second year, by payment of one-half above amount.
LEASES for 20 years to work and mine, on payment of \$2 an area of 150 feet by 250 feet. Renewable annually at 50 cts. an area in advance.
Royalty on Gold and Silver, 2 1/2 per cent.
MINES, OTHER THAN GOLD AND SILVER.

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— OPEN AFTER —
XMAS HOLIDAYS, JAN. 4, 1892.
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Secretary,
or
J. C. P. FRAZEE,
PRINCIPAL.

LICENSSES TO SEARCH, good for one year, \$20 for 5 square miles. Lards applied for must not be more than 2 1/2 miles long, and the tract so selected may be surveyed on the Surveyor General's order at expense of Licensee, if exact bounds cannot be established on maps in Crown Land Office. Renewals for second year may be made by consent of Surveyor General, on payment of \$20.
Second Rights to Search can be given over same ground, subject to party holding first Rights, on payment of \$20.
LICENSE TO WORK.—On payment of \$50 for one square mile, good for two years, and extended to three years by further payment of \$25. The lands selected must be surveyed and returned to Crown Land Office.
LEASES are given for 20 years, and renewable to 80 years, at annual rental of \$50 for 1 square mile. The Surveyor General, if special circumstances warrant, may grant a Lease larger than one square mile, but not larger than two square miles.
ROYALTIES.
Coal, 10 cts. per ton of 2,240 lbs.
Copper, 4 cts. on every 1 per cent. in a ton of 2,352 lbs.
Lead, 2 cts. on every 1 per cent. in a ton of 2,240 lbs.
Iron, 5 cts. per ton of 2,240 lbs.
And other Minerals in proportion.
APPLICATIONS can be filed at the Crown Land Office each week, day from 9.0 a.m. to 4.30 p.m., except Saturday, when Office closes at 1 p.m.
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IS THE MONTH WE SET APART FOR
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Cragg Bros. & Co.
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Cutlery, Household Hardware,
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Novelties, &c., &c.

CITY CHIMES.

The glimpse the ladies got of the new quarters of the City Club last week was the cause of many serious reflections on the subject of clubs in general versus the home in particular. There seems to be a tendency just now in several widely separated quarters to talk and write up the home and how to make it beautiful and attractive, and as a matter of course the business of home-making is supposed to belong solely to the tender sex, and there appears to be no idea abroad that husbands and brothers have a right to do with the matter. This is a great mistake, and there are few men who will admit when they really consider it that they are not important factors in the home life. Many ladies, after inspecting the luxurious "home" of the Club, came to the conclusion that men who talk so much of the beauties of home and the necessity for having it attractive are easily satisfied if they can forsake their families very frequently for the empty luxury of this masculine meeting-place. True, there is every provision for bodily comfort, and good-fellowship between the members makes it very sociable; but how is it that men can forego the *love* at home for the *luxury* of the club? Perhaps after all the idea of affectionateness on the part of the male sex is an error, and that the true state of affairs is that some of them experience sentimental periods during their youth, which when once got over, like the measles, do not usually occur again. Or perhaps the wives and sisters do not prove successful in their efforts to make home the best place on earth, and the club is a necessity for the sterner sex on this account; or it may be that men do not see the point of filling their homes with the costly articles with which the club is furnished; or mayhap they prefer lunching or dining with a trained waiter's obsequious attention rather than at home, where the one "help" has too much to do to be thoroughly neat when she appears in the dining-room to assist at meals. Whatever it is, there seems to be something—some little rift in the lute,—which makes the club somewhat out of harmony with the ideas of the ladies, who however are so kind in their comments that they hide the slightly hurt feeling over the fact that their men could like any place better than home, and say they are so glad the boys have a comfortable place to go to in town, where they will be out of mischief; and it is so convenient for those who live out of town and must go somewhere for lunch—in fine that the club house is a creditable addition to the institutions of Halifax, and they wish the members all enjoyment in it. Where such kindly and unselfish feelings are expressed, it would be well for the clubites to spare an occasional evening at home so that the ladies will not have cause to reverse their words.

The Kickapoo Indian Company has been holding its entertainments and sale of Indian medicines in St. Patrick's Hall for some weeks and reports business flourishing. The Kickapoos are going to remain in the city for another week and offer great inducements in the way of concerts and general fun-creating to all who attend their novel show. The members of the company present a very formidable appearance as they stroll through the streets of our city in full war paint, but we believe they are fair-dealing fellows and give their patrons full worth of their money.

The entertainment of the Y. M. C. A. course which was announced to come off this week has been indefinitely postponed, and the friends of the Association will be treated to a medical talk by Dr. M. Chisholm on Tuesday evening next. The subject chosen by Dr. Chisholm is "Know Thyself," a very appropriate topic in this season of universal sickness. Perchance did we know ourselves a little more intimately we might take better care of ourselves and thus prevent many of the numerous ills which now meet us at every turn.

"Everything comes to those who wait," so they say, and accordingly the many pleasure seekers who have been awaiting a bountiful fall of snow have been rewarded this week with good sleighing and charming weather for their annual outings. Among the numerous large parties which have betaken themselves from the din of the busy city to the quiet of the suburbs was a merry crowd from the establishment of Muddock's Nephews, on Saturday. Leaving at one o'clock in one of Robinson's four horse teams the party arrived at Bedford about half past two, and adjourning to Wilson's Hotel passed the time in various ways until six o'clock when they sat down to one of the sumptuous dinners for which host Wilson is noted, and after speeches, songs etc. had helped to speed a pleasant evening the company started for home in high spirits, having thoroughly enjoyed the day. The Non-Commissioned Officers of the H. G. A. on Tuesday started for Bedford in first-class style, the procession being headed by a team carrying the band which discoursed sweet strains. The "boys" looked very gay in their bright uniform and all went merrily, the drive proving but a repetition of former delightful gatherings of these "hail follows well met." On Wednesday the messenger boys of the Western Union, the boys of the Provincial House, a merry party of bank clerks, a large number of the 63rd Rifles, and several other parties took advantage of the good sleighing. On Thursday the Union Protection Company took its annual sleigh drive to Bedford. The typical winter days have been duly appreciated by several private parties as well, who have eagerly seized the opportunity for a "jolly time," and the merry sleigh-bells mingled with the music of happy voices have made the city appear quite gay.

Extensive preparations are being made to ensure the success of the carnival to be given at the Exhibition Rink on Tuesday evening, 16th inst., under the auspices of the Private Afternoon Parties. One of the many attractions offered is the grand *Competition*, which will be danced by forty ladies and gentlemen in fancy costumes. This dance consists of three figures, the first with ribbons gives a very pretty effect, after many graceful

manoeuvres in winding and unwinding the ribbons, the whole at one time forms a ribbon arch across the rink under which part of the dancers pass and then all break into the mazas of the waltz which lasts for a few bars. Figure two is with whip and reins and is novel and pretty. The third and last figure is called the Japanese, at the beginning of which the dancers pass over to the Master of Cotillion the whips and reins of the previous figure and receive instead Japanese fans and parasols which they manipulate with the most charming ease, and later on each couple exchanges these for Chinese lanterns on sticks and thus armed the dance is finished. This merry dance bids fair to rival the minuet which was so generally admired at the skating carnival of last year. Our young people are eagerly looking forward to this event of the rink season, and if the cold weather continues there is little doubt of abundant success rewarding the efforts that are being put forth to render the first carnival of the winter a truly enjoyable affair.

We are glad to notice that St. Patrick's Minstrels are to give another performance with a slight change of programme, at the Academy of Music on Monday evening, February 15th. There is no doubt of the liberal patronage of Halifaxians being extended to this entertainment, as the excellent performances given by the Company last week warrant anticipations of an enjoyable evening when the bright and original members of the organization again appear on the Academy stage. The proceeds of this entertainment will be devoted to the building fund of St. Mary's new Globe house, Barrington Street, which is now rapidly nearing completion and presents a most attractive appearance.

Professor Zera Semon, the popular showman, gave a good entertainment last evening and will again appear this evening at the Academy of Music. These entertainments are under the auspices of the Wanderers Amateur Athletic Association and will doubtless be highly appreciated by the many friends of the Club in the city. The programme includes most marvellous sleight of hand performances, magical tricks, amusing feats of ventriloquism, etc. etc. The Royal Marionettes form one of the many attractions of an excellent programme, and we feel sure that many who have never been present at the shows presented by the inimitable Professor Semon will gladly avail themselves of this opportunity to see for themselves the wonders whereof they have oftentimes heard.

The dates of the Leicestershire concerts to be given at the Academy of Music have been changed from 11th and 12th to the 12th and 13th of February on account of Thursday, 11th inst., being the day appointed for our worthy citizens to cast their votes, for which event all social engagements must be put aside.

Whispers of the good time coming in the sweet by and by when the Grand National Fair to be given by the Wanderers A. A. Club materializes are gladly heard by the pleasure loving portion of the community. This popular organization has wisely called its lady friends into council, and many bright and original plans will no doubt be devised and ably carried out. Pleasant recollections of the World's Fair and the Nautical warrant us in entertaining great expectations.

The Christ Church Young Men's Society of Dartmouth gave a successful entertainment in Dartmouth last evening, the proceeds from which will go to swell the building fund of the Society.

The second lecture of the Church of England Institute winter course which was announced to take place last evening in the Institute Hall, was unavoidably postponed owing to the serious illness of Professor Robert's brother. The subject of this lecture was "Notes on the Threshold." Much curiosity has been felt among those who have not heard this lecture as to what these "Notes on the Threshold" might be. One of our friends aptly suggested that possibly the plaintive refrain of Tennyson's song *Too Late that ruts the ly,* "On let us in, On let us in," might be suited to the occasion. We regret that this event has been postponed, but we hope that we may ere long have the opportunity of listening to Professor Roberts' address on this subject.

Tobogganing parties are the order of the day and much genuine and exhilarating fun has been derived from this enjoyable sport during the past week. Collins' field is a favorite resort for those who enjoy the coasting, and the excellent toboggan slide here afforded has been fully appreciated. The citadel hill also has been utilized by the young people for this purpose, but we think the "grown ups" would wisely leave this slope for the small boys, as the danger, while it may add zest to the sport, is too imminent for young ladies to brave, and several serious accidents as well as sundry hair breadth escapes have occurred to coasters on the hill this week. The boys while coming down the hill at break-neck speed avoid all danger of running into the fence by simply tumbling off their sleds into the snow, but this mode of procedure is not so easy for dignified young ladies and gentlemen.

The Christian Endeavor Societies of the city have this week been celebrating the eleventh anniversary of the founding of the Christian Endeavor movement. The first Society was founded in Portland, Maine, by Dr. Clarke, now of Boston, in 1881, and to day there are 18,500 Societies with a membership of 1,160,000. The growth has been marvellously rapid and all churches that have in connection a society of this order testify loudly to the service it has done. The members of the Y. P. S. C. E. of St. John's Church are holding a social this evening to which they have extended invitations to the sister societies in the city and Dartmouth.