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

EDITORIAL NOTES.

Owing to the length of the *Week* articles on "The Future of Canada," and to a press of other matter, we regret that we shall be unable to reproduce any of them in this issue, as we announced our intention of doing last week.

It is not easy to discern the importance which Mr. Balfour seems to attach to his proposal to establish a Roman Catholic University for Ireland. The measure will certainly not satisfy the Home Rule party, and will displease both the men of Ulster and many other Conservatives.

We give in another column a brief account of the excursion of the Press Association through Cape Breton, which we trust will be taken as a small recognition of the hospitality experienced by the party. While on this trip we were everywhere reminded by what we saw that Cape Breton was well in line with the prosperity observable in other parts of the Province, that her people were alive and determined, and that her great natural resources were now being largely developed. Cape Breton is Nova Scotia's jewelled crown.

Another of our captious and irritable contemporaries, the *Trades Journal*, of Stellarton, is very much exercised at our having called Mr. Sharp an "English" poet, and is kindly concerned for our reputation "as a critic." Our polite and grammatical contemporary may set his mind at rest. We will cheerfully promise to be very particular in future as to the nationalities, for fear of further shocking the acute sensibilities of some of our good country friends. Moreover, this is the last time we shall waste space in noticing petty cavillings. Our reputation can take care of itself without our specially vindicating it.

The shooting season is here, and with it we may expect to hear of many sad shooting accidents, most of which are directly attributable to carelessness. Sportsmen have no right to take chances which may imperil human life. Mr. Fawcett, the Postmaster-General of Britain, lost his sight through a friend who, seeing a bush move, supposed he saw a bird, and firing was surprised to hear a cry from Mr. Fawcett, the load of shot having lodged in his hat, while two of them, with diabolical certainty, penetrated either eye, leaving him totally blind. The recent terrible shooting accident near Ship Harbor is another illustration of the same criminal carelessness, and it should be a warning to sportsmen of the risk of taking anything on chance.

Dr. Rand, the Mic-Mac Missionary, is one of our truly great men. He has during a long life devoted his best energies to the amelioration of the condition of the Indians. In season and out of season he has labored to improve their moral and spiritual state, and with marked success. Such a record of self-sacrificing devotion merits the gratitude of every Nova Scotian who is stirred with the feeling of humanity, and should the Missionary still survive when this recognition of his noble work appears in print, we trust that not a few will be found ready to give him the material aid that he now so much requires. Helping to smooth the pillow of such a man should be counted as a privilege by those whom God has blessed with means.

The splendid work now being accomplished by the Industrial Schools of Halifax is very little known to the people of this Province, and it deserves a far wider recognition than it has yet received. Instead of exposing the erring youth of the city to the contaminating atmosphere of prison life, the lads are sent to these Reformatory Institutions where, under excellent training, they are prepared to fight the battle of life as honest, God-fearing men. The first crime committed by a boy is frequently the result of thoughtlessness or wretched home-training, and should not condemn him to be associated with men of the Bill Sikes ilk, and with this in view the benevolent people in Halifax have established and are conducting on the broadest possible lines two excellent reformatories, from which have already been sent forth many worthy young men. These Institutions should be made provincial in their scope, and thus prevent the jailing of many poor boys in our growing centres of population. Punishment seldom reforms an individual.

Some one of note is said to have pronounced that it takes a very clever man to write nonsense, and that the nonsense that is written every day is one was Baron Munchausen in the last century, and such a one is Mr. Blake Crofton to-day. Everyone knows that Mr. Crofton's ability is not limited to facetiae, as he writes, whenever he chooses, one of the ablest pens in the Dominion, but his fun and the audacity of his invention in laughable books for boys are pre-eminent. His admirable "Tall Talk Stories of the Major" are widely known, and have received numberless favorable notices; and he has now published a new series, the "Hair Breadth Escapes of Major Mendax," which are equally clever and ludicrous. The new volume is very handsomely got up by its publishers, Messrs. Hubbard Brothers, of Philadelphia, and the fun of the Major's yarns is admirably illustrated by numerous engravings. We predict a great popularity among boys (though older people may well afford a laugh too) and a large sale for Mr. Crofton's new work.

The winners of the Montreal *Witness* "Dominion Prize Competition" have been announced. The competition, concerning which we notice some writers request that it should be made annual, or at least repeated, was a capital device for stimulating patriotism and native literature at the same time. Tales and sketches were asked for from all school children, illustrative of pioneer life in Canada. Macaulay's history in five volumes was sent to the writer of the best tale in each county, and a set of Parkman's works was the reward of the best in each Province. The Dominion prize has very curiously been taken by a young lady outside the Dominion, the *Witness* having, in view of its numerous readers in Newfoundland, counted that Province, for the purposes of this competition, as though it had been a part of Canada. No one will be jealous that our little Sister Province has carried off this honor. The winner is Miss May Selby Holden, of St. John's. The second honor is awarded by Lord Lorne to Norman L. Cook, of Gay's River, N. S. Miss Blanchard E. Hiltchey, Tangier, took the County Prize for the County of Halifax.

Two or three months ago the editor of *Truth* expressed the opinion that "Imperial Federation is a myth, and will remain a myth until we are ready to give up all species of claim to supremacy over our Colonies, and enter into a sort of federal treaty with them. Are we prepared to do this? I suspect we are not." Commenting on this utterance, the *Halifax Morning Herald* observed:—"A position of mere colonial dependence will not satisfy the national aspirations of the Canadian people. We will federate or enter an alliance with the Empire on equal terms, or we will become the peers of the British people by setting up national housekeeping on our own account as an independent Canadian confederacy." The official organ of the Imperial Federation League has devoted the first leading article of its September issue to endorsing the position taken by our Halifax contemporary, with which it further agrees in doubting that *Truth* is right in supposing that Englishmen generally are opposed to taking the colonies into full partnership. The *Herald* can congratulate itself for having induced "Imperial Federation" to assume a bold and clear attitude upon a crucial question.

Color-blindness is becoming so prevalent in the United States that the authorities of leading American railways have caused the most rigid tests to be made. The chief difficulty appears to be the distinguishing of red from blue at any great distance, experiments proving that at least twenty per cent of the locomotive engineers are unable to distinguish these colors one hundred yards distant. Have any tests been made of the employes of our provincial railways?

It is said that there are literally thousands of American tourists now travelling in Great Britain and on the continent. American travellers are ever interested sight-seers, and the systematic way in which they set about it astonishes the phlegmatic people beyond the ocean. Next to home culture travelling does more to broaden the mind and refine the manners than many terms spent within the walls of the school room. Before seeing other lands we should first travel, so as not to be strangers to the beauties of our own fair land.

We all know that the various forms of preserved milk ordinarily sold, though not altogether bad substitutes for milk, are more or less artificial and unsatisfactory. A Swiss company seems to have hit upon a process which, we should judge, will go far to produce a preparation that will furnish actual milk. The process is one of pure dessication, and is in the form of a powder which contains all the essential properties of the milk, and will of course resolve itself, when remoistened, into the nearest approach possible to fresh lacteal fluid.

We understand that during the late discussion of the sawdust question at Bridgewater considerable matter of value bearing on the subject was forwarded to the Department of Marine and Fisheries, with which the whole matter rests. We would suggest to the Bridgewater parties interested, to appoint a committee to confer with the Dominion Government in the first place, and to urge the appointment of a Parliamentary committee, for whose investigation a question involving such opposite opinions is an eminently fit subject.

There are some people in this Province with souls no larger than peanuts. A few days since we were informed that a promising enterprise had been seriously crippled through the misrepresentation of meddlesome persons who could have no possible object in decrying the undertaking excepting that of mischief-making. Such miserable specimens of humanity are beneath contempt, but as they oftentimes do irreparable injury, they deserve public exposure, and the obliquy which would follow. If Nova Scotia is to take the leading place destiny intended her to take, the backbiters and misanthropes must be locked up or turned under the sod.

There is as yet no indication that the Province of New Brunswick would favor a Maritime Union, but there are not wanting intelligent New Brunswickers who agree that such an union would greatly strengthen our position in the Dominion. The chief argument against such an union seems to arise from a fear that it might destroy the prestige of Fredericton as the capital of the Province. This is, after all, but a sectional objection, and could the main principle of union but be generally accepted, such details as the fixing upon a convenient capital might well be left to solve themselves. Would not the alternate meetings of the Maritime Provincial Legislature in Fredericton and Halifax meet the objection in a way satisfactory to the people of both Provinces?

It is with pleasure that we quote the following from a letter of His Grace Archbishop O'Brien, recently published in *L'Evangeline* of Digby:—"Whilst on this subject I would wish to correct some false notions and dissipate some prejudices and misapprehensions. I cannot for one moment admit that less provision has been made in the Maritime Provinces for the education of our Acadian fellow Catholics than for that of any other class. All the schools of higher education in these Provinces, established by the bishops, have been equally open to all Catholics. We cannot, so far as spiritual affairs go, admit race distinctions. We are simply Catholics; not Irish, nor Scotch, nor Acadians." His Grace's utterances always patriotic in the best and highest sense speak for themselves, and call for no comment, but that the sense in which the remark is made implies that his co-religionists, while none of these sectionalisms, are simply Canadians.

Some of our country contemporaries are abnormally thin-skinned and touchy about trifles, and wonderfully ingenious in the imagination of offence when none is even dreamed of. The week before last we published a note altogether complimentary and laudatory on the Springhill Band. But we happened to use the words "but there is no sign about them of the roughness usually associated with a mining community." We did not say or intend to imply that our opinion of mining communities was a low one, but our very innocent remark brings down upon us the wrath of the *Springhill News*, which vents itself in the following somewhat captious and unnecessary tirade:—"It is not unusual for many persons otherwise well informed to hold erroneous opinions concerning the miners, such as appear to have prejudiced THE CRITIC writer against an intelligent, industrious class of men. Some even find it hard to conceive of the men who labor in the coal pits being altogether human. Such gross ignorance is inexcusable in a Nova Scotian. It may be pardonable in a conceited immigrant, who judges of Nova Scotian colliers from his observations in other countries. To us THE CRITIC's surprised tone seems rather comical. A visit to Springhill would do much to dispel the mists of prejudice that apparently befog others as well as the Halifax editor."

It is estimated that the losses by fire in the woods in New Brunswick will reach several thousands of dollars. The timber lands of our sister province constitute the chief natural source of wealth, and hence the destruction of vast forests is a calamity much to be regretted. The mineral wealth of New Brunswick, although supposed to be great, is as yet comparatively undeveloped, and cannot be regarded as a certain source of wealth to the people, but we trust that the buried treasure may prove in every respect equal in value to the mining resources of Nova Scotia.

Among the remarkable crank ideas of the day, one of the most curious is that of a Mr. J. Algernon Thompson, who has conceived the notion of freezing the dead and transporting the corpses to the arctic regions, where they will remain in *statu quo* until the day of Judgment. Mr. Thompson asserts that his fad has made some encouraging progress (he does not say among what sort of persons) and that an English syndicate is considering the establishment of an international cemetery on the shore of Baffin's Bay, which prospective city of the dead the St. John *Sun* aptly designates an arctic "City of Kor."

It is satisfactory to note that the unworthy and backbiting rivalry of city against city, of which we see so far too much, is not absolutely universal throughout Canada. The two British Columbia cities of New Westminster and Vancouver dwell, it appears in unity, in proximity to each other. They find that the prosperity of the one acts beneficially on the other, and that New Westminster has been incited to increased energy by the rapid growth of its younger neighbor, and the mutual benefit has been signally promoted by the C. P. R. having reduced the freight rates over its road connecting the two places. This is all round as it should be, and we trust to see all narrow-minded bickerings between one part of the Dominion and another become a thing of the past.

While the revelations in the Cronin murder-case as to the atrociously ingenious plot to procure and disfigure in London a body which should bear some resemblance to Cronin, to dress it in his clothes, and place about its person forged letters to indicate its identity, displays the utter profligacy of some of the Irish Secret Associations, it is not satisfactory to find Mr Chamberlain determined on scouting the idea of Home Rule, and still less so to hear the Marquis of Londonderry, if he is correctly reported, express his belief that twenty years of coercion will extinguish the agitation. There has been altogether too much of coercion, and, especially in view of the modified attitude of Mr. Parnell, it would seem to be high time to begin a regime of prudent conciliation. On the other hand such terse eloquence in behalf of Ireland as that of Lady Sandhurst, nee of an influential deputation sent there to encourage the Home Rule party, is far more likely to bear the fruit of future success than all the coercion of the short-sighted conservative element.

If a beneficial general interest be not awakened among the cultivated and studious in the Maritime Provinces in the noble and exalting science of Astronomy, the St. John *Educational Review* will not be to blame. Its astronomical articles are full of interest, and so couched as to incite original thought and investigation. Among many others we select the following from its August and September (combined) number:—"Have you ever seen *Mira*? If not you may this month. But perhaps you have forgotten who *Mira* is? '*Mira*' means 'wonderful.' The star of that name is in the constellation of the Whale—Omicron *Ceti*. The wonderful thing about her is that for about eight months out of eleven she is invisible to the naked eye; and during the other three months she increases from bare visibility up to sometimes second magnitude, sometimes only third, and sometimes not more than fourth, and then fades again out of sight. Thus she is a variable star, and one of the three most remarkable of that class. She is not regular in her variations, and so it is not possible to predict exactly the time of her maximum brightness. A French astronomical periodical (*L'Astronomie*) gives August 6th as the date of her maximum this year. As a general rule she is visible for a couple of months after May. If, then, the Frenchman's date is correct, *Mira* should be visible until the first week in October. But you had better look her up the first fine night."

It cannot but be matter of regret to Canadians to see the mania for speculative investments at present raging in Great Britain direct itself so extensively to the United States. The various syndicates which have been buying up American breweries have from the first seemed to us of doubtful security. We find our opinion borne out by one of the editors of the London *Stock Exchange Times*, who says:—"I have persistently recommended British investors to avoid American breweries, and I have generally been met with the exclamation, 'See what a price they bring, and there must therefore be something in them, for the buyers are men who know what they are about.' How the price has been run up so high it is easy to explain. The intervening buyers persuaded themselves that these brewery concerns were just the things to palm off on 'the Brits,' in their mood to turn all things into public companies.' So they bid eagerly against each other, with the natural effect that sellers improved the occasion and meekly allowed themselves to raise their terms. Fortunately for investors the bargains in question are left to the middlemen. Embarrassed syndicates now hold carloads of brewery shares, and wait for a favorable opportunity to 'unload' them on the public. Forwarned is, or ought to be, equivalent to being forearmed." Why is not some of this excessive capital which some British appear to be anxious to throw away upon precarious and over-estimated schemes directed to legitimate Canadian channels, of which there are so many?

CHIT-CHAT AND CHUCKLES.

FIRST LOVE.

The moon rose slow in silver splendour
One great star glowed alone above
As, murmuring in accents tender,
I wandered with my little love.

We two alone. The restless ocean
Broke billowy on the glistening shore
"Tell me," I whispered with emotion,
"Tell me you never loved before."

Her azure eyes thro' tear drops glisten
And stillings heart-throbs half o'ercome her,
While wind and wave stand still to listen—
Soft falls her answer, "Not this summer."

Judge.

No REAL LOSS.—Would-be-purchaser—"These cigars are smaller than usual." Tobacconist—"Yes; you see the cigar manufacturer noticed that the last two inches of the cigar are always thrown away, so he makes them now that much shorter."

"These stockings are all wool I presume," she said, as she requested the clerk to wrap up half a dozen pairs. "Oh, yes miss," he answered in thoughtlessness. "They're all wool and a yard wide." "Sir!" she exclaimed indignantly, and before he had fully realized what he had said she whisked out of the store.

"Grand Trunk" is a phrase which has perhaps puzzled more than our French translator of English. It has not, however, been so literally rendered, so far as appears, as it was the other day in a Parisian periodical in an article on Mr. Edison. The Grand Trunk was metamorphosed into "Grande Valise du chemin de fer," or "big railroad valise."

A young man and maiden were seated together on one of our beautiful lawns the other evening, says an exchange, when the young man proposed the following conundrum:—"From the word enough, compose a word or sentence meaning not enough." The young lady softly whispered, "one hug." The proposer of the problem gasped for breath and would no doubt have fallen had not the arm of his fair companion encircled his waist and carried into execution her solution of the problem.

"Ah!" said Mrs. Slick, "the good old days are a thing of the past. Why now they say as their agoin' to give us water-gas, whatever that is, to light our houses, and that the horse cus are to be pulled by electricity. Well all I can say is that I am not accountable to posterity for the freaks of our people, and I am oblivious to these new fangled idears. I'm sure on it, that water is a deal more likly to put out a gas light than to make it, and as to apullin' of horse cars by electricity, its all well enough down hill but agoin' uphill I don't believe in it, and if they try it why I'll just get out and walk. I'm agin this ago which wants a body to be upsottin' of your ideas and a'changin' of things so that you feel uncomfortable all the time."

"Well," said Mrs. Slick, "my nerves is all shook up. I went to Moncton to see some of the critters and hooked mats as they were a'displayin' of to their exherbition. Well, first night I got there I put right up to one of their swellest hotels, got me supper and went to bed. You'll not believe it, I never closed an eye for the noises inside and out. There must have been at least one screechin', bell'in' engine go rattlin' by my window every three minutes with lumberin' trains of all kinds. Inside, the horse men had possession, and the way they rollicked round you might have thought it was a picnic. What with swearin', kickin' of doors, a'throwin' of boots about the halls and a'disturbin' of everyone, they deserved to be shut up in the lockup, but they were horse men and the rest of us folks had to suffer."

TO THE EDITOR OF THE CRITIC.—Dear Sir,—Just observe I've left my envelop unstuck, because I know that it is stylish to write open letters in the papers. What I want to say is addressed to the Mayor and his aldermen.

Respectable Sirs,—The sooner you jig up the brick sidewalks and give us something decent to tread upon the better. The sooner you transact a law a'debbarin' of folks from leaving their gratins and coal dumps open for folks to tumble into the better. The sooner you create a statue makin' it a crime for truckmen and teamsters to drive their empty trucks and coal carts poll-moll through the streets the better. The sooner you exact fines from drivers that think they possess the street crossings the better. I have a heap more to say but will leave it for my next unshut letter, so I will shut up for the present.

Yours, in earnest, Mrs. SAMUEL SLICK.

A teacher was giving a natural history lesson. "Children," she said "you all have seen the paw of a cat. It is as soft as velvet, isn't it?"

"Yes mum."

"And you have seen the paw of a dog?"

"Yes mum."

"Well, although the cat's paw seems like velvet, there is, nevertheless, concealed in it something that hurts. What is it?"

No answer.

"The dog bites," said the teacher, "when he is in anger, but what does the cat do?"

"Scratches," replied the boy.

"Quite right," said the teacher, nodding her head approvingly; "now what has the cat got that the dog hasn't?"

"Kittens!" exclaimed the boy in the back row.

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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 enclosed in their next paper. All remittances should be made payable to A. Milne Fraser.

3000 people visited the Amherst Exhibition on Wednesday.

Ottawa is becoming agitated on the question of a Winter Carnival.

An agency of the People's Bank of Halifax has been opened in Shediac.

Herbert Harris' collection of flowers at the Moncton Exhibition was awarded a diploma.

Quite a large number of Halifaxians have gone to St. John to witness the sports to-morrow.

The eight year old son of John H. Barnstead was drowned while bathing in the North-West Arm last Friday.

The pupils of the Halifax Academy carried off five of the Munroe bursaries offered to Dalhousie College matriculants this year.

About 2000 bbls. of dulse were shipped last year from New Brunswick to the American markets, from which the shippers realized \$10,000.

Wallace Graham, Q. C., has been appointed Judge in Equity and Judge of the Supreme Court of Nova Scotia, *vice* Judge James deceased.

At the New Glasgow Sports on Tuesday, H. D. Creighton won the 440 and 880 yards races, and H. Mackintosh the one mile run. The latter was also second in the half mile.

The corner stone of the first Jewish Synagogue in Manitoba and the North-West has been laid at Winnipeg by Canon O'Meara, Grand Master of the Masons, and other Masonic Grand officers.

Says the *Acadian*:—"Dr. Chapman, of Grand Pre, has laid on our table a mammoth tomato, raised by A. McN. Patterson, in his garden at Horton Landing, which measures 17 inches in circumference and weighs 1 $\frac{3}{4}$ lbs."

The traffic earnings of the Canadian Pacific Railway for the week ending September 14 amounted to \$347,000, as against \$266,000 for the same period last year, an increase of \$81,000. This does not include the earnings on the South-Eastern Railway.

Samuel Johnston, the Toronto safe burglar, who was one of a gang of professionals who created a reign of terror in Nova Scotia last spring, and was captured after robbing the Shubenacadie Post Office, has been sentenced to nine years in the penitentiary.

We hope our readers will not fail to patronize the Bazaar and Concert, to take place next Thursday in the Sailors Home, in aid of the Building Fund, for which many skilful fingers have been working during the last few weeks preparing articles to suit all tastes both useful and decorative.

There is trouble in Truro between the railway authorities and the citizens residing on the street running parallel with the track to the west of the station. The railway claims ownership, and has laid tracks along the street a few feet from the fronts of the houses. The owners are indignant.

H. M. Sloop *Lily* was totally wrecked in Armour Bay, Newfoundland, last week. The *Emerald* arrived in port on Wednesday with the wrecked crew. Seven seamen were drowned in the catastrophe, and much money and valuables went down. There will of course be the usual Court Martial on the loss of a Man-of-War.

Prof. Alonzo Tripp, of Boston, the well known lecturer on Europe, may be expected to favor Halifax soon with a short course of his historic portraiture of recent European events and celebrities. Prof. Tripp's testimonials as to his grasp of European politics, and the lucidity of his style are of a very high character and give promise of a literary treat to our citizens.

It is now proposed to build a line of railway from the International and Lake Metapedia, through Rimouski and Gaspé counties, to the port of Gaspé, so as to have the mails and passengers to and from Europe embarked and landed at that point. This it is claimed would shorten the water voyage between Quebec and Liverpool *via* Cape Race 362 miles and *via* Belle Isle 562 miles.

The second Cumberland agricultural and industrial exhibition was opened on Tuesday by Col. Blair, Superintendent of the Experimental Farm. The exhibits compare favorably with those of last year, and a marked improvement is visible in stock, especially horses and thorough-bred cattle. The exhibition of the Experimental Farm, although not in competition, is remarkably fine.

It has been reported that the accident which occurred in the woods back of Musquodoboit has some doubtful circumstances connected with it. The rifles of both of the parties having been emptied it would lead one to suppose that they had both fired. It was reported at first that only one rifle was discharged. If the latest rumor is correct the circumstances should be investigated.

The new and handsome wing of the Convent of the Sacred Heart has been completed, and is a credit alike to the institution and to the contractors. With increased accommodation there is no doubt that this excellent educational institution will have a corresponding increase in the number of pupils. M. E. Keefe was the contractor for the building, and the hot water heating apparatus was put in by Macdonald & Co.

Sir John Macdonald has received a handsome present from Lord Lansdowne, Viceroy of India, consisting of two silver bowls of native Hindoo workmanship. The present sent to the Premier is to "remind him of an absent friend who does not forget Canada." Figures are carved on the bowls representing hundreds of specimens of the animal and vegetable kingdom, and are elegantly and beautifully delineated.

The tri-county exhibition at Kentville was opened by Lieutenant-Governor McLelan on Tuesday. The weather was all that could be desired, and the building and grounds presented a busy scene. Articles from all quarters and of every description were exhibited. The show of apples was wonderfully fine. The idea of holding a district exhibition has evidently been a good one, and will no doubt result in a pronounced success.

An interesting event in Manitoba was the recent visit of Lady Selkirk, daughter-in-law of the Earl of Selkirk who, in 1811, purchased a large tract of land on the Red River from the Hudson's Bay Company and settled a considerable colony of Scotchmen there, principally from the county of Sutherland. Lady Selkirk's visit to Kildonan Church was looked upon as an event of much interest. Five or six persons who came out with Lord Selkirk are still living.

The Hon. Alexander James, Judge in Equity of the Supreme Court of Nova Scotia, who had been ill for a long time, died on Thursday of last week in the 74th year of his age. The funeral took place from his late residence in Dartmouth on Saturday, and was very largely attended. The bench and bar society of this city met at the Court House on Saturday afternoon, and passed a resolution of regret for the judge's death, and of sympathy for his family and friends.

Prince County, P. E. Island, has suffered greatly from fires. Last Thursday and Friday the high winds caused the flames to spread, and several buildings were destroyed. Between O'Leary and West Devon the fires burned so close to the railway track that the express train had to be stopped several times in order to examine the track before proceeding. The fire culminated on Friday when the town of Kensington was destroyed. The loss is placed at \$50,000 to \$75,000, and the insurance is probably not more than one-third of this amount.

The Dry Dock is now open for business. The first vessel to go in for actual repairs was the *Noel*, of Maidland, which entered on Wednesday, and several other vessels will follow immediately. As ours is the largest dock in America it will doubtless command a large and constantly increasing business. With the Civic, Dominion, and Imperial subsidies and franchises it cannot fail to be a financial success. Even without these adjuncts we believe that as a purely private enterprise the Dry Dock would pay a handsome dividend on the investment.

THE CRITIC correspondent who sent us the notice of the Aldershot Camp which appeared in our last week's issue desires to express his regret that he inadvertently omitted allusion to the good work and influence of the Y. M. C. A., whose marquee, supplied with papers and writing materials, exercises a most beneficial effect in every camp, and is very highly appreciated by the Deputy-Adjutant General as well as by every officer in the militia of the Province. It is felt that much of the general good conduct of the militia is due to this association.

About 7.30 o'clock on the evening of the 19th inst. the city of Quebec was startled by the report that a great cliff slide had occurred in Champlain Street. Several thousand tons of solid rock crushed down with terrific force almost under the King's bastion on the citadel, and a little distance west of the end of Dufferin Terrace, and completely demolished stone and brick dwelling houses on Champlain Street some three hundred feet below. The scene was heart-rending, fire adding to the horror. The work of rescue was begun at once, and many lives were saved. The dead number at least 35, with many missing and wounded. Much sympathy is expressed for the sufferers from the disaster. Another portion of the cliff is in a dangerous condition, and threatens to fall before long, but several prominent engineer officers have been summoned to examine and report upon it.

Both New York and Chicago seem anxious to have the World's Fair. How are they going to settle it?

Notwithstanding the Exclusion Act, the importation of Chinamen is increasing, says a San Francisco despatch.

The freshman class in the academic department of Yale college is the largest which ever entered the college, numbering 220 men.

W. R. Shadman, of Glynn county, Ga., has three acres of olives. His is believed to be the only grove east of the Rocky Mountains.

The United States is supplying electrical machinery to Japan in larger quantities. The light is growing in popularity throughout the Empire.

North Dakota will be the first State, as a State, to make provision for a system of manual training. Forty thousand acres of land are set apart for that purpose.

The wine crop of California is estimated by the San Francisco *Merchant* at 12,000,000 gallons. This is a reduction of 8,000,000 gallons from early estimates of this year's vintage.

The largest paid subscription of any American periodicals is claimed by *The Ladies' Home Journal*, of Philadelphia, which now has on its books 422,645 yearly paid-up subscribers.

The Ladies' Home Journal, of Philadelphia, has donned a cover, and will hereafter be published in that form, lending to it more of the appearance of a modern magazine than it has hitherto enjoyed.

A steer weighing 1,200 pounds is worth \$18 to \$20 in Chicago before he is killed. After he is killed his killer sells him—beef, hide, hoofs, tallow, etc.—for \$82. The farmer gets half as much for his steer as he did eight or ten years ago, the butcher charges to the consumer as much now as he did eight or ten years ago, and claims that he makes no more money. There is somebody standing between the man who raises the beef to sell and the man who buys beef to eat that is making an inordinate profit.

The Chicago *Canadian American* says:—"If Uncle Sam doesn't look sharp he will be compelled to give away all his naves in prize crews."

Wilkie Collins, the novelist, died on the 23rd inst., in his sixty-fifth year.

It is officially stated that the independence of Bulgaria is to be proclaimed to-day.

Reports from the Rhine wine-growing districts indicate that this year's vintage will be the best of the century.

The Freedom of the City of Dublin was conferred upon Lady Sandhurst and Right Hon. James Stansfeld on the 20th inst.

In August 10,000 people lost their lives by a flood in Japan. The number of people receiving relief is placed at 20,000.

The new Imperial Palace at Strasburg, just finished, cost \$600,000, and is reckoned among the finest built by the Imperial family of Prussia.

The Grand Corridor at Windsor Castle, which is the most notable feature in the private apartments, is being elaborately re-decorated at a cost of some \$25,000.

Over 3,000 French deserters who have been living in Geneva have been benefitted by the late amnesty law, and have left with their families to return to their country.

An important despatch has been received at Simla from Major-General Sir G. S. White, containing the satisfactory information that British rule is firmly established in Burmah.

Rosa Bonheur, who works as indefatigably as ever, is making some studies of the Indians and the animals of Buffalo Bill's troupe for a large painting she intends to execute.

The first section of the railway from Pekin to Chinkiang has progressed as far as having tenders made for its construction. The sum estimated for rails and plant on this line is \$70,000,000.

In the French elections last Sunday Boulanger was elected at Mont-Martre. The Government's majority is, however, considered assured. Re-ballots will be necessary in 150 divisions.

The Prince of Wales has succeeded while at Hamburg in getting his gouty leg down to its natural size, and can walk fairly well. Absolute rest and freedom from excitement are, however, necessary for a long time to come.

The Emperor William of Germany has subscribed 10,000 francs to the fund for the relief of the sufferers by the recent Antwerp explosion and fire. The fund will soon be large enough to pension all the sufferers, and rebuild their houses.

The tan shoe may have a permanent future after all. One of the results of the recent manoeuvres of the British fleet has been the suggestion that the marines should wear tan or brown shoes henceforth instead of black ones, and brown gloves instead of white.

According to advices received by Correspondence DeLest, there has recently been an alarming outbreak of brigandage in Macenonia. Two hundred persons are reported to have been murdered and robbed by brigands during the past two months.

A London financial paper says that commercially and politically Russia is again taking a back seat. The revenues are disappointing, the crops are bad, and all branches of trade are depressed. Persecution of Germans in the Baltic Provinces has excited angry feelings in Berlin, and the abolition of trial by jury, just announced, has struck a fresh blow to Russian credit, as it shows that her Government is going backward instead of forward.

The successful floating of the *Sullan* is rather a blow to the Admiralty officials. They had never any belief that the raising of the vessel could be accomplished, and rather discouraged any attempt to do so. They could not, however, refuse to allow the effort to be made, and it has been crowned with success. The operators will net £50,000, and it will take another £50,000 to repair the vessel. As her original cost was about £400,000 the public will still save £300,000.

By cable it is seriously reported that a young man at Dublin, Ireland, recently drank a pint of paraffine oil, under the impression it was some new kind of whiskey. He is now reported as doing well, but it is wonderful how he could have made such a mistake, for the oil must have been very mellow for such an experienced toper. It is not true that instead of using the stomach pump in the hospital, they put a wick down his throat and used him as a lamp until the oil was exhausted.

The coming season at Berlin bids fair to be very lively. The Kaiser wants to make his court brilliant socially, and will give handsome entertainments of various kinds. Says a correspondent: "He will dazzle Europe with the spectacle of the youngest great Emperor since the time of the first Napoleon, who, like him, professed to want peace, but carried his hand on his sword-hilt, swift to follow a provocation with a terrible blow. The Germans are reported to mix some uneasiness with their enthusiasm over this prospect."

One of the oldest engineering projects in the world is now gradually approaching completion, and the work will probably be finished during the present year. This is the canal through the Isthmus of Corinth, in Greece. Work was actually begun on the canal under the Emperor Nero, so that over seventeen hundred years will have passed between its beginning and its final completion. As finally excavated, the canal will be 4 miles long, with a depth of 8 meters, or sufficient for the largest vessels which usually navigate the adjacent seas.

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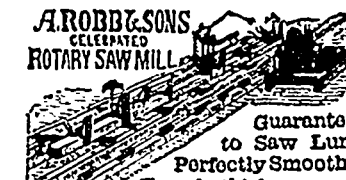
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200 fine old Port, Sherry and Marsala WINES choice brands and vintage.
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SPEAK CAREFULLY.

Shadow lives are all about us,
Mortals with deep, tear-saddened eyes,
Mortals in whom all light is deadened,
Caused by vile, ghoul-hunting lies.
Speak, oh, then, my dearest brother,
That your speech may bring a smile;
No'er a word with hidden meaning,
No'er a word with any guile.

Speak then gently of the erring,
Even those who do you harm;
For at best we are in weakness,
And in weakness rests a charm.
God alone shall judge the slamer,
He alone knows what is best;
He has given you commandments
He alone can give you rest.

J. W. Van Kirk, in American.

CONTENT.

Happy the man that, when his day is done,
Lies down to sleep with nothing of regret;
The battle he has fought may not be won,
The fame he sought be just as fleeting yet.
Folking at last his hands upon his breast,
Happy is he, if, weary and forspent,
He sinks into the last, eternal rest,
Breathing these only words: "I am content."

But happier he that, while his blood is warm,
Sees hopes and friendships dead about him lie,
Bares his brave breast to envy's bitter storm,
Nor shuns the poison bars of calumny;
And 'mid it all, stands sturdy and elate,
Girt only in the armor God hath meant
For him who 'neath the buffetings of fate
Can say to God and man: "I am content."

[FOR THE CRITIC.]

LETTER TO COUSIN CARYL.

Dear Cousin Caryl:—Somebody has said "only old maids' children are paragons, and they have no existence. It is easy to laugh at the people who preach what they "would do," and then practice pretty much what everybody else does, but if we cannot have example, I suppose it is better to have precept than nothing. There is room, surely, for improvement in the average child, who is, though we confess it only *sub rosa*, a pretty faithful copy of his family, colored with the environment that has been put about him, and our genial autocrat, you know, says to correct some shortcomings and long-goings, treatment should have been begun with the patient's grandparents, and proclivities of long standing can hardly be eradicated in one generation. But there is no escaping that it is one's duty to do what her hands find to do, is there? And hands are limp and lifeless unless brain and soul buoy them up, so we are under obligation to keep gleaming here a thought and there a suggestion to keep us, if not better perfect at least spirit-whole in our *role* of teacher.

The position of woman in private and in public life has changed astonishingly in the last seventy-five years, but the education of woman grows out of the old ruts very slowly. There, for example, is the matter of finance. Is there anyone not in one or another way obliged to handle money? Yet how very, very few women there are who ever had a single lesson bearing upon the proper keeping of accounts, without which rudder money affairs are like unballasted balloons. So long as one has only household buying to do, or her small personal expenses to look after, she may stumble along without much discomfort, and, through not knowing any different, never realize how even a "little knowledge," which is by no means always a dangerous thing, would lighten her task. But women are coming more and more, through inheritance, their own labors, in one or another way, to have large properties to take care of, and pitiable is the case of such a one who does not know a bank check from a bond coupon, or the first, last, or any other law of business.

If one lives a Robinson Crusoe existence that is one thing, but if she is part and parcel of this complicated 19th century life, then she must needs equip herself to look after her own interests and those depending upon her.

A boy or girl will learn the simplest financial processes without a conscious effort, if given a little allowance very early in life, and shown how to enter and keep the trifling account, and little by little is let into the mysteries of banking by being given a bank account, be it big or little, and shown the use and the abuse of it.

We shall truly be doing something more than preaching about the rising generation if we shape the young lives with a lively regard for the possibilities in each one. More children than Topsy have "grewed" in as hazardous a fashion as if the laws of living were all suspended.

From children to houses—not a great step; at least they react upon each other, literally and metaphorically. And, a propos of your little study, here is a pretty idea of Charlotte Robinson's, who is home art decorator, by special appointment, to Her Majesty. Have a high dado of red matting, with a shelf 4 inches wide, for your photographs, &c., running all around the room. Put a fitted seat, with large cushions, in the bay window, and move your desk so that the light will fall over your left shoulder upon your paper. Put a dark red felt on the floor, with a couple of Oriental rugs in good colors. Hang your engravings on the walls, wheel the luxurious sofa into the best space for it, and prepare to enjoy the sanctity of your own growlery. A spot of one's very own to howl or to rejoice in, apart from all intruders, I firmly believe to have a good influence that nothing else can bestow or atone for.

Try this method of preparing rice, called Riz à l'Impératrice: Boil 1

tablespoonfuls of rice, washed clean, in a pint of milk, with sugar to taste. When kernels are soft, but before they "mush," as Bridget says, flavor with vanilla and set to cool. Make custard with a half pint of milk, and yolks of four eggs; when cold mix it with rice. Beat a half pint of cream to a froth, with a little sugar and a pinch of isinglass dissolved in water; mix in lightly with rice and custard, fill a mould and set on ice. When iced through, turn out on a pretty dish and serve.

A decorative and nice-tasting cake is known as the Neapolitan. Make rich, plain, light-colored cake, and bake in shallow pan; when cold cut in horizontal slices half an inch thick; spread half the slices with apricot jam, the other half with chocolate icing; arrange the slices one over the other, ice the entire cake over again, and trim with bonbons in fanciful design. To make the icing, stir $\frac{1}{2}$ lb. powdered loaf sugar, 2 oz. granulated chocolate, and about a half pint of water together over a fire until the mixture has the consistency of thick cream. This frosting sets quickly, so should be kept hot by being set in a dish of boiling water while it is being used.

But one does not eat forever. When Charles Sumner, in the early sixties, was searching out the burial places of Washington's immediate ancestors in England, he made the acquaintance of Earl Spencer. After Mr. Sumner came home Earl Spencer sent him fac-similes of the stone slabs that mark the graves of the early Washingtons, being exact reproductions of the inscriptions, brass plates, coat of arms, and all the stones even being quarried from the very quarry whence the originals were taken. These most interesting gifts were presented by Mr. Sumner to the State of Massachusetts, and are preserved at the Doric Hall of the State House here in Boston. And now comes the intelligence from England that the brass plates on the original stones have been recently stolen by some miscreants. But it takes a power of faith to believe that in ages to come the vandal, along with others of his ilk, will have been evolved out of existence.

Yours faithfully,

Boston.

DINAH STURGIS.

THE MARITIME PRESS ASSOCIATION.

The above Association met at New Glasgow on Wednesday, the 11th inst., and here began an uninterrupted series of courtesies and hospitalities. We were received by Mayor Sutherland, R. McGregor, and Town Clerk A. M. Fraser, and were driven to the top of Fraser's Mountain, from which an admirable view of New Glasgow, Pictou, and the winding East River may be obtained. On our return we visited the Water Works Reservoir, and then drove on to the N. S. Glass Works, where the Manager took us in charge and exhibited the many different glass articles which they manufacture and also the processes of blowing and moulding. We were then driven to the N. S. Steel and Forge Works, and through the kindness of Manager Fraser made a thorough tour of the works, seeing so much to interest us, that we were loath to return to our hotel, the Vendome.

The thanks of the whole party are due to the New Glasgow Board of Trade and citizens for their kindly attention. A river excursion had also been arranged, but owing to our lack of time it was thought better to abandon it.

At 9.30 p.m., the Association went into session, and after transacting a large volume of business elected the following officers for the ensuing year:

President—W. B. Alley, Truro.

Vice-Pres.—J. T. Hawke, Moncton; V. A. Landry, Digby; H. D. Blackadar, Halifax; B. D. Higgs, and James McIsaac, Charlottetown.

Secretary—J. Burgoyno, Halifax.

Treasurer—A. Milne Fraser, Halifax.

Executive—R. Drummond, Stellarton; Rev. R. Murray, Halifax; R. J. Gilbert, Sackville; J. W. D. Stearns, Sydney; J. A. Black, Amherst; J. McCready, St. John; L. C. McNutt, Fredericton.

Auditing—C. H. Cahan, Halifax; W. F. McCurdy, Halifax; J. J. Anslor, Windsor.

At 10.30 next morning the members of the Association, with their ladies, whose members the morning train had considerably augmented, boarded the train for Cape Breton, occupying a special car kindly placed at their disposal by New Glasgow's popular station-master.

At 2 p.m., we boarded the fine ship of the Bras d'Or S. N. Co., the *S.S. Marion*, and soon the joyful sound of "dinner is ready," cheered the hearts (or rather stomachs) of our party. Arriving at St. Peter's Canal about 5 p.m., we were detained there some little time while the Canal was being cleared of schooners; and just here let us say that we think some arrangement should be made by which the Canal should be kept clear for the passage of steamers carrying mails and passengers when the steamers are on time.

Leaving St. Peters, and while enjoying the beautiful scenery, we were again interrupted by the "white-headed boy" of our party shouting "tea is now ready," and this continued throughout the whole trip, so much so that not one of our party ever inquired when we might expect to get a meal, but our "white-headed boy" kept us in mind of it, and immediately after one meal was finished he would announce when we might expect the next. This got rather monotonous towards the close of the trip; however we all managed to do full justice to the viands provided.

We arrived at Grand Narrows about 8.30 p.m., and while there were entertained by Messrs. McDougall & McNeil, Proprietors of the Grand Narrows Hotel, in a most royal manner. The hotel itself is quite equal to the best in Halifax or St. John, and is far superior to those of many of our provincial towns. It is situated on the shore of the Grand Narrows, is sumptuously furnished throughout, and the table—well, we think that our appetites must have shown that we fully appreciated the cuisine of our hostess, Mrs. McNeil (who the ladies all say openly they have fallen in love with), while the gentlemen had their wives with them, and therefore kept a discreet silence.) The hotel has been filled during the last few months,

and as shooting and fishing are both to be had in the immediate vicinity, it will, we hope, receive many visitors on sporting bent. Our one wish is that this hotel will meet with such a large patronage that some hotel proprietors in other parts of the Province may be brought to see that it is to their advantage to run good hotels.

On Friday our party was treated to an excursion on the new C. B. Railway, and rode for 13 miles on flat cars along the shore of the Bras d'Or Lake.

Immediately after dinner we were photographed on the steps of the Grand Narrows Hotel by Mr. Jas. Stubbart, North Sydney's artist, who accompanied us throughout the trip, and obtained some admirable views.

At 3 p.m. we boarded the *S. S. Nellie Reid* for Baddeck, and on our way inspected the building of the piers of the long bridge over the Grand Narrows, which is being constructed by R. G. Reid & Co. The work was certainly very interesting, and was fully explained to us by Mr. Reid, to whose courtesy we were indebted for the use of his steamer. We arrived at Baddeck about 4 p.m., and while there were entertained by the Baddeckers at the Telegraph House, the reputation of which is too well known to require further mention.

We made an early start on Saturday morning on the *S. S. Magnolia* and sailed through St. Patrick's Channel to Whycomagh, where we were met by Jacob S. Hart and others, who drove us to Mr. Hart's farm to see his splendid herd of Jersey cattle. This was really a grand sight, 55 thorough bred Jerseys being gathered in front of us; and it so delighted us that many of our party broke the 10th commandment by coveting the fine animals. However, the price (\$200 each) was too large for newspaper men, so we all adjourned to Mr. Hart's house and consoled ourselves by drinking numerous pitchers of creamy Jersey milk. We then drove back to the Seaview Hotel where Mrs. Mitchell, (who, like her husband the steward of the *S. S. Marion*, is very popular with the travelling public,) entertained us at dinner. Leaving Whycomagh at 1 p.m. we steamed down to Baddeck, across the Bras d'Or, up the Little Bras d'Or to Christie's, where teams were in waiting to convey us to N. Sydney, a beautiful drive of about 3 miles, but somewhat marred by the dustiness of the road. When we arrived at N. Sydney clothes brushes were in demand, and after an hour's rest the ladies went to dine with Mrs. A. C. Bertram, wife of our ex-president, who has a magnificent residence about a mile from the town; while the gentlemen were entertained at a banquet at the Presto House by the town and citizens of N. Sydney. Speech-making followed, and "Auld Lang Syne" was sung, not at the "wee sma' hours," but strictly within the limits of Saturday.

On Monday morning the *S. S. Marion* made a special trip to N. Sydney to take our party across the harbor; and here we divided, some going to visit the coal mines, others the famous Coxheath copper mines, and yet others drove round and about Sydney, each party being taken charge of by some of the citizens of Sydney.

At 1 p.m. we all gathered together in the town hall, where a table had been spread loaded with good things, which the excursionists did ample justice to. The ladies of Sydney (reference to whom was omitted in the speech-making because none of our party felt themselves able to do justice to their charms,) also met here to entertain our lady friends, and the Sydney band played several selections very acceptably.

At 4 p.m. we boarded the *S. S. Marion* homeward bound, and just here let us say that our party will ever feel indebted to Mr. A. C. Bertram for the splendid programme he prepared, and to all those who so willingly and ably assisted him, but especially to Capt. Burcholl, of the Bras d'Or Steam Navigation Co., who spared no effort to make our trip enjoyable.

Your representative in this hasty sketch (which was written while seated on a log near the the Malagawatch, while on a side trip to the works of the Bras d'Or Lime Co. L'td at Marble Mountain) has perhaps laid too much stress on the pleasures of the excursion and too little on the great natural mineral resources of Cape Breton, but these (as well as the scenery) it would be impossible to describe in this letter; so THE CRITIC is arranging to send a representative to Cape Breton to visit its mines and write a series of letters on them.

Next year the association will visit P. E. I., it being in order that newspaper men should be intimately acquainted with the country about which they have to write.

INDUSTRIAL NOTES.

A BUSY ESTABLISHMENT.—Rhodes, Curry & Co. are now so rushed with work that they are working sufficient overtime in the evenings to make an extra day per week.

Among their contracts for shop work is a \$5,000 one for the Convent of the Sacred Heart, Halifax, consisting of chancel and gallery fitting. The work is very intricate, necessitating a good deal of carving, and is being turned out in capital finish under the direction of G. M. Doull.

They have just entered upon a contract for the erection of the immense building at the Fort Lawrence dock, to contain the engine, boiler and machinery for the hydraulic lifts for the Ship Railway. It is to have a concrete foundation of five to ten feet in height, and the superstructure will be brick with stone trimmings. The ground size is 96x56 feet. The contract price is about \$20,000. The cement for the foundation alone will cost \$6,000.

The position of foreman of the factory, so long and faithfully filled by Mr. Pelton, has been given to George M. Doull, who for three years has been foreman of the cabinet department. The firm has paid a high compliment to Mr. D. in thus giving evidence of their high confidence in one who, although well experienced, is comparatively young. Mr. Doull was engaged in the cabinet-making business at Summerside for 10 years. — *Amherst Record*.

There is quite a boom in the quarrying business at Wallace this season, and the output of stone promises to be much larger than in any previous year. The old quarries are in full blast, and a new quarry has been opened by a New York Company. The Dorchester Union Freestone Co. employs about 24 men, and has already shipped 4,000 tons of stone this season. The Stevenson Quarry employs about 30 men, and has shipped about 600 tons. The same quantity has been shipped from the Batty Quarry, which employs about 10 men. The new quarry, which has been opened up the river beyond the Batty Quarry, gives employment to about 40 men, but the output of stone has not been large, as much work has been expended in stripping the seam. This season the greater part of the stone quarried has been shipped to Cape Breton, where it is used in the construction of the Grand Narrows bridge, and the remainder finds a ready market in the United States. Large quantities of stone are also being quarried this season on the Gulf Shore, from whence it is shipped by scows to Tidnish, to be used in the construction of the dock and culverts at that end of the Ship Railway.—*Exchange*.

The managers of the Londonderry Iron Company are rushing the different departments to their utmost, new men are arriving almost daily, and everyone is jubilant over the good time. The west mine is turning out large quantities of excellent ore, some of which yields ninety per cent. of iron.

A Yarmouth enterprise is the formation of a National Construction Company for the purpose of acquiring railways, canals, mines, wharves, &c., and also for the construction of houses and other buildings. The capital is to be \$5,000,000, and the promoters are now obtaining letters patent from Ottawa.

CITY CHIMES.

There is always a sort of rivalry going on between blonde and brunette beauties, and fashion sometimes pronounces one and sometimes the other to be the better style. No doubt there is some fun in this, and as both are likely to get their fair share of admiration, no harm is done. Our opinion is like that of the squaw who when asked which she preferred, boots or moccasins, replied that when she had boots she liked boots, and when she had moccasins she liked moccasins.

The items which have appeared in some of our contemporaries announcing certain engagements in the city, have caused no small comment. An engagement, when it is an engagement, may in a way be public property, and newspapers may have a shade of justification in publishing the same, but when a newspaper has to draw upon its imagination for its facts, and gives publicity to a statement in which there is not the shadow of truth, it should be made responsible for the same. When such a false announcement is made the young lady is subjected to much discomfort, and if she be high-spirited, is naturally indignant at the presumption of dame rumor who has dared to spread such a report, and still more indignant with the newsmonger who has given it such undue publicity. For the sake of the good name of our newspapers it is to be hoped that there will be no repetition of such unreliable engagement notices.

The Lorne House, so pleasantly situated on Morris Street, has been entirely refitted by Mr. Lomas, lately the popular steward of the Halifax Hotel. The table is, under Mr. Lomas' management, exceptionally good, and no hotel or boarding establishment in the city is better adapted for ladies visiting Halifax unattended. Mr. Lomas' long experience at the Halifax is in itself sufficient guarantee that his guests will lack no comfort, attention or convenience. We wish him every success.

The steam-launch *Lenora*, formerly owned by Lord Alexander Russell, has been purchased by Rev. Dr. Bowman of Herring Cove, who purposes using it as a ferry between the latter place and the city, and letting it out for excursion parties. The launch is beautifully fitted throughout and is admirably adapted to picnic purposes.

In the yacht race for the Archibald Cup last Saturday, the *Lenore* was victor, and the *Daphne* took the second prize. This was the last of the Royal Nova Scotia Yacht Squadron races for the season of 1889.

Mr. Robert L. Borden, barrister, of Halifax, was married to Miss Laura Bond at Three Mile House Church on Wednesday afternoon.

The marriage of Miss Helen Maud Lithgow, daughter of Mr. J. R. Lithgow, to Dr. Arthur W. Cogswell, took place at the residence of the bride's father on Wednesday afternoon. The ceremony was performed by the Rev. R. Laing. The wedding presents were numerous, costly and handsome.

Our good house-keepers should see to it that their housemaids do not sweep the dust from the stairs and hall way out of the front door into the street. It is hardly safe to walk into town early in the morning for fear of having a sudden shower of this obnoxious stuff thrown over one, while the careless maid, seeing what she has done, makes a hasty retreat from the scene of action, taking that offensive weapon, the broom, with her. Why cannot the dust be taken up in a dust pan and carried away to the kitchen stove, or if that is not convenient, to the ash barrel? The practice of sweeping it out of the front door into the street is a most untidy one, and no lady who allows it to be done in her house can be called a good house-keeper. It seems to be the usual way of doing things though, and more

than once we have been greeted with a dusting when out early in the morning. The first step towards keeping our streets clean is to be careful not to make them dirty, and sweepings from a house cannot fail to make them so, especially when it is taken into account that nearly every house contributes its share towards that result.

Mrs. West's dance on the 20th was one of the pleasantest of this season. The flower decorations were abundant and very tastefully arranged. Dancing was kept up with spirit to the last dance, and the guests generally appeared to find it a very enjoyable evening. The garden was very pleasantly illuminated with Chinese lights, the walks being laid with matting. In short, everything that kind hosts could devise for the comfort and entertainment of their guests was done, and the evening proved a successful one.

The opening convocation of Dalhousie College took place on Tuesday afternoon, when convocation hall was well filled with ladies and students. Principal Forrest opened the proceedings with prayer and after a short address, in which he spoke of the success which is attending the graduates of Dalhousie abroad, he called on Professor MacMechan to deliver the opening address. Professor MacMechan's paper was entitled "Concerning the Earliest English Literature." It was listened to with great attention, and the Professor was warmly applauded at the close. He was followed by Attorney-General Longley who advocated educating men in a more, practical way and so fit them to build up the country. He did not believe in classical education. The president then made a few remarks and the convocation meeting was closed with prayer.

It is often advisable to "take time by the fore-lock," and in the case of rapidly approaching cold weather, it is certainly wise to be prepared in time. We can advise our lady friends to pay the store of G. M. Smith & Co. a visit before purchasing their winter wraps, for after inspecting their large and varied stock we feel convinced that there must be something in it to please all comers. They have all styles of jackets, ulsters, mantles and Russian cloaks, as well as fur-lined cloaks in many different sizes, and all of them moderate in price, as well as of excellent quality. The dress department also is fully stocked with all the latest novelties. A lady selecting a dress can have all trimmings, etc., matched to a nicety. One of the greatest inducements to a lady to buy from any particular firm, is to know that the clerks are polite and obliging, and the firm who combine this feature with a reputation for keeping a high class stock of goods will certainly take the cream of the custom. The universal opinion of those who buy from Messrs. G. M. Smith & Co. is that they have the most obliging staff of clerks in the city, and any lady who enters their store is sure to receive attentive waiting on. This fact will always insure them a liberal share of the patronage of our best citizens.

COMMERCIAL.

The tone of trade is healthy and business can be said to be generally in a sound condition. A fair volume of trade has been transacted—sufficient to keep the machinery of business in motion, and the different lines have each drawn their proportionate shares thereof. The jobbing trade is generally characterised by a firm feeling, and in those lines which are affected by the state of the markets abroad this feeling is strengthened, as advices from Great Britain and "the continent" speak of confident holders. The cold snap in the early part of the week had the effect to stimulate buyers, and orders have come in rather more freely than during the warm weather experienced in the early half of the current month.

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

	Week Prev.		Weeks corresponding to			Failures for the year to date.			
	Sept. 20,	1889	1888	1887	1886	1889	1888	1887	1886
United States..	190	190	178	145	156	8126	7180	6820	7343
Canada.....	24	11	33	20	31	1136	1246	922	900

The following are the Assignments and Business Changes in this Province during the past week:—Williams & Ryerson, grocers, Annapolis, succeeded by A. H. Riordan; Wm. H. Crosby, picture framer, Marshalltown, assigned to Frank Jones; Chute, Hall & Co., organ manufacturers, Yarmouth, Hiram E. Chute, Thos. Hall and Wm. F. Shaw registered partners.

DRY GOODS.—The change to cooler weather has had a beneficial effect upon country trade, although there has been scarcely time to create any great increase of business. The trade is on the whole in that quiet state which characterises it at this period of the year, and most houses are at present engaged in sorting-up orders and preparing stock for the fall trade. Travelers are making fully satisfactory reports of their operations, and a large fall and winter trade seems to be assured. The present outlook is decidedly assuring. Fall cotton and woollen goods are steady, and some lines have an upward tendency in values.

IRON, HARDWARE AND METALS.—The market for pig iron continues very strong. Cable advices from Glasgow are very firm at a further advance on makers' brands. Warrants are also excited and higher. There is a fair trade in bar iron at fully sustained prices. Terno plates are firmer. In Canada plates and tin plates a good business is reported with an upward tendency in prices. Tin, copper, and spelter are steady. In general hardware a good demand exists for both shelf and heavy goods at steady values.

BREADSTUFFS.—The flour market is unchanged, but the tone continues to be firmer and more hopeful, as it becomes more certain that wheat must advance. English operators are reported to be bidding for wheat at advanced prices in the Upper Provinces and the Western States, and should this expected improvement in wheat be realized, it must have its effect upon the

flour market. Boerholm cables:—"Wheat a turn dearer, corn nil. Liverpool spot corn and wheat firmer. Weather in England unsettled. French country markets steady." The general feeling in English and European markets is that an advance is certain, and this belief strengthens the markets on this side of the water. Considerable activity exists in the Chicago wheat market, and a large volume of trading has been transacted. The feeling is strong and prices have advanced $\frac{1}{8}$ c. to $\frac{1}{4}$ c. At the seaboard wheat was strong and advanced $\frac{1}{8}$ c. to $\frac{1}{4}$ c. Corn was weaker and declined $\frac{1}{8}$ c. to $\frac{1}{4}$ c. Oats were steady. At St. Louis wheat was strong and moved up $\frac{1}{8}$ c. to $\frac{1}{4}$ c. At Toledo wheat was stronger and advanced $\frac{1}{8}$ c. to $\frac{1}{4}$ c.

Provisions.—No important change has transpired in the local provision market, but the feeling has continued steady with unchanged prices all round. There has been a fair demand for pork in small lots, and a number of sales have been effected, chiefly on a cash basis. There has been a fair demand for smoked meats, especially for sugar-cured hams. No change worthy of note has occurred in the Liverpool, G. B., provision market, where prices have remained steady. In Chicago the provision market has been quiet and but little business was done. Pork was steady at unchanged prices. Lard was weaker and eased off $\frac{1}{8}$ c. Short ribs were about steady. There has been no change in the hog market.

BUTTER.—The market continues easy with no material variation. Though stocks are large holders do not press sales and buyers are indifferent. A good feeling prevails in finest grades of both creamery and dairy, which are scarce and are wanted for local consumption. A good city demand exists for fine to finest grades in a jobbing way.

CHEESE.—The cheese market has been firm but quiet, and on spot there was but little animation. Cables have been uncertain, but quote considerably higher than the public for fall goods. Goods now arriving show some traces of the recent hot weather, and in some instances the quality has not been satisfactory. Reports from the country concerning the make are conflicting, but, so far as can be ascertained at present, the make is, if anything, falling off, and the recent change to cooler weather is not likely to prove of a beneficial character. Latest cables quote 47s. 6d.

FRUIT.—Though the crop of apples this season was small relatively, the quality, especially of Gravensteins, has been better than usual, and those offered at auction have averaged in price fully 50 per cent. higher than last year. The market for green fruit generally has been active under a good demand, and a large volume of business in this line is transacting. For dried fruit business on spot has been quiet and appears likely to continue so until the arrival of new season's supplies, which will be in a week or ten days.

SUGAR.—Since our last report the feeling among the trade has been decidedly better and prices in the sugar market have ruled steady—in fact they have slightly advanced. The demand for all kinds of sugar has been good at the refineries, and the market has been more active with a larger volume of business, owing to the fact that all outside lots of granulated have been picked up and there is none now offering by speculators under refiners' figures. Consequently the tone of the market is healthy, and dealers are looking forward to a steady improvement in business from this out. Private cables from London on raw sugar report the market quiet and easier, but there was no change in prices, prompt beet being quoted at 14s. 6d. and Java at 17s.

MOLASSES.—There has been no special change in molasses, the market having continued quiet and steady. Molders and buyers do not agree upon figures, and, consequently little or no movement occurs.

TEA.—There has been no alteration during the past week in the situation of the tea market, which has ruled strong in sympathy with continued strong advices from abroad and New York and the great scarcity of low grade Japans and the few consignments that are coming forward. All Japan teas ranging from 14c. to 18c. are in active demand, and any lots offering are readily taken at those figures. The demand has been good and the market has ruled active with a large volume of business.

FISH OILS.—Our Montreal correspondent says:—"In steam refined seal oil last sales were reported at 47c., and we quote 47c. to 48c. In cod oil the sale is reported of 100 bbls. at 35c., but it is said the sale would not be repeated, and we quote 36c. to 38c., and Halifax 33c. to 34c. A lot of cod liver oil was sold at 57 $\frac{1}{2}$ c., and we quote 57 $\frac{1}{2}$ c. to 60c.

FISH.—We cannot speak at all encouragingly of the fish situation. Since our last report the weather has been clearer and colder and the prevailing winds have been Northerly, which fishermen say enhances the probabilities of their making catches. Receipts of dry fish continue to be exceedingly small. A lot of about 250 barrels of mackerel arrived from St. Margarets Bay during the week. Also several cargoes of herring from the Labrador coast. The tone of the market is unusually quiet. There is a total absence of any speculative element. The mackerel that have come to hand have been taken up on American account as fast as received. Codfish and herring are but slow taken, outfitting dealers being almost the only purchasers. Our outside advices are as follows:—"Montreal, September 24.—"New Labrador herrings are quoted at \$4.75 to \$5, and Cape Breton at \$5.50 to \$6, Newfoundland salmon \$14 for No. 1, and \$13 for No. 2. Dry cod quiet at \$4.50 to \$4.75 per qtl. Green cod are expected to rule at \$5 for large and \$4.50 for No. 1." Gloucester, Mass., September 24.—"Receipts have been improving somewhat during the past two weeks, but still aggregate far below the average for all kinds of fish. Prices are, however, as high as the consumers will pay. Therefore no advance can be expected at present." Havana, September 24 (per cable via New York).—"We quote codfish at \$7; haddock at \$4.75; hake \$4.25. Hake figures are nominal as stocks are large and this fish is neglected." Georgetown, Demorara, August 30.—"Market depressed. Best Halifax codfish \$17 to \$18; Newfoundland \$14 to \$16; haddock \$16 to \$18; hake \$15; herrings \$2 to \$3 according to quality."

MARKET QUOTATIONS.

WHOLESALE RATES.

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

GROCERIES.

SUGARS.	
Cut Leaf.....	8 1/2 to 9 1/2
Granulated.....	8 1/2 to 9 1/2
Circle A.....	8
White Extra C.....	8
Extra Yellow C.....	7 to 7 1/2
Yellow C.....	7 1/2
TEA.	
Congou, Common.....	17 to 19
" Fair.....	20 to 23
" Good.....	25 to 29
" Choice.....	31 to 33
" Extra Choice.....	35 to 36
Oolong, Choice.....	37 to 39
MOLASSES.	
Barbadees.....	45
Demerara.....	42 to 45
Diamond N.....	48 to 50
Porto Rico.....	43 to 45
Cienfuegos.....	40 to 42
Trinidad.....	40 to 42
Antigua.....	40 to 41
Tobacco, Black.....	38 to 44
" Bright.....	42 to 58
BISCUITS.	
Pilot Bread.....	3.25
Boston and Thin Family.....	7
Soda.....	7
do. in lb. boxes, 50 to case.....	7 1/2
Fancy.....	8 to 15

BREADSTUFFS.

The demand is quite equal to the supply. Farmers' deliveries in Ontario have been slack, not fair as reported in a former issue. Many mills are shut down for want of water. Prices of wheat have advanced in the United States. We have very probably soon the lowest quotations on wheat for the current crop year. Western Canadian oats are coming on to this market, under-selling Prince Edward Island. Oatmeal and rolled oatmeal were never so cheap. It certainly ought to be a good time to buy winter stocks. Provisions of all kinds are also very cheap; "plato beef" exceptionally low. Cornmeal—The tendency seems to be even lower; but in flour prices will not go much lower.

FLOUR.	
High Grade Patents.....	5.30 to 5.50
Good 90 cent. Patents.....	5.10 to 5.25
Straight Grade.....	4.90 to 5.00
Superior Extras.....	4.75 to 4.95
Good Seconds.....	4.22 to 4.40
Graham Flour.....	4.90 to 5.10
American Supr. Extras, in bond.....	4.15 to 4.25
American 90 cent. in bond.....	4.65 to 4.85
American Patents.....	5.15
Oatmeal.....	4.20 to 4.30
" Rolled.....	4.25 to 4.35
Cornmeal, duty paid.....	2.70 to 2.80
Cornmeal, in bond, Boston.....	2.15 to 2.20
Roll'd Wheat.....	5.20
Wheat Bran, per ton.....	16.00 to 16.25
Shorts.....	19.00 to 20.00
Middlings.....	20.00 to 22.00
Cracked Corn including bags.....	25.50
Ground Oil Cake, per ton.....	35.00
Moulce.....	25.50
Split Peas.....	3.75 to 4.00
White Beans, per bushel.....	1.75 to 1.85
Pot Barley, per barrel.....	4.85
Canadian Oats, choice quality.....	43 to 45
P. E. I. Oats.....	40 to 41
Hay per ton.....	12.00 to 12.50
J. A. CHIPMAN & Co., Head of Central Wharf, Halifax, N. S.	

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

PROVISIONS.

Beef, Am. Ex. Mess, duty paid.....	10.25 to 10.50
" Am. Plate.....	10.75 to 11.25
" Ex. Plate.....	11.50 to 11.75
Pork, Mess, American.....	15.10 to 15.50
" American, clear.....	16.50 to 17.00
" P. E. I. Mess.....	16.00 to 16.50
" P. E. I. Thin Mess.....	14.50 to 15.00
" Prime Mess.....	13.00 to 13.50
Lard, Tubs and Pails, P. E. Island.....	11 to 12
" American.....	12 to 13
" Cases.....	13.50 to 14.00
Hams, P. E. I., green.....	8 to 9
Duty on Am. Pork and Beef \$2.20 per bbl.	
Prices are for wholesale lots only, and are liable to change daily.	

These quotations are prepared by a reliable wholesale house.

FISH FROM VESSELS.

MACKEREL—	
Extra.....	20.00
No. 1.....	19.00
" 2 large.....	16.00
" 2.....	none
" 3 large.....	14.00
" 3.....	14.00
HERRING.	
No. 1 Shore, July.....	4.50 to 5.00
No. 1 August, Round.....	3.50 to 3.75
" September.....	3.50 to 3.75
Labrador, in cargo lots, per bl.....	4.00 to 4.50
Bay of Islands, Split.....	2.00
" Round.....	1.75
ALEWIVES, per bbl.....	2.50 to 3.00
CODFISH.	
Hard Shore.....	3.50 to 3.75
Bank.....	3.25 to 3.50
Bay.....	3.50 to 3.75
SALMON, No. 1.....	18.00 to 19.00
HADDOCK, per qtl.....	2.25
HAKE.....	2.00
CUSK.....	1.50
POLLOCK.....	1.50
HAKE SOUNDS, per lb.....	12 1/2
COD OIL A.....	28 to 30

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

POULTRY.

Turkeys, per pound.....	15 to 16
Geese, each.....	none
Ducks, per pair.....	70 to 80
Chickens, ".....	50 to 70

The above are corrected by a reliable victualer.

LIVE STOCK—at Richmond Depot. Steers best quality, per 100 lbs. alive..... 4.25 to 4.50
Oxen..... 3.50 to 4.00
Fat Steers, Heifers, light weights..... 3.00 to 3.50
Weathers, best quality, per 100 lbs..... 4.00 to 4.50
Lambs..... 3.50 to 4.00

These quotations are prepared by a reliable victualer

LOBSTERS.

Per case 4 doz. 1 lb cans.	
Nova Scotia (Atlantic Coast Packing).....	5.25 to 6.00
Tail Cans.....	4.80 to 5.00
Flat.....	6.50 to 7.00
Newfoundland Flat Cans.....	6.50 to 7.00

HOME AND FOREIGN FRUITS.

Apples, Gravensteins.....	3.00
Apples, No. 1, per bbl.....	1.75 to 2.50
Oranges, Jamaica, per bbl., repacked.....	7.00
Lemons, per case.....	9.25
Cocoanuts, per 100.....	3.50 to 4.00
Onions, New American, per lb.....	2 1/2 c.
Dates, boxes, new.....	5 1/2 to 6
Raisins, Valencia, new.....	8 1/2
Figs, Eleme, 5 lb boxes per lb.....	11
" small boxes.....	13
Prunes, Stewing, boxes and bags, new.....	5 1/2 to 6
Bananas, per bunch.....	1.75 to 2.50
Pine Apples, per doz.....	2.50 to 3.00
The above quotations are furnished by C. H. Harvey, 10 & 12 Sackville St	

BUTTER AND CHEESE.

Nova Scotia Choice Fresh Prints.....	25
" in Small Tubs.....	22 to 25
" Good, in large tubs.....	20
" Store Packed & oversalted.....	14
Canadian Township.....	10 to 20
" Western.....	17
Cheese, Canadian.....	10
" Antigonish.....	10 1/2

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

WOOL, WOOL SKINS & HIDES.

Wool—clean washed, per pound.....	15 to 22
" unwashed.....	12 to 15
Salted Hides, No 1.....	5
Ox Hides, over 60 lbs., No 1.....	5 1/2
" under 60 lbs., No 1.....	5
" over 60 lbs., No 2.....	4 1/2
" under 60 lbs., No 2.....	4
Cow Hides, No 1.....	5
No 3 Hides, each.....	3
Calf Skins.....	25
" Deacons, each.....	10 to 15
Lambskins.....	15 to 20
Tallow.....	3

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

LUMBER.

Pine, clear, No. 1, per m.....	25.00 to 28.00
" Merchantable, do do.....	14.00 to 17.00
" No 2, do.....	10.00 to 12.00
" Small, per m.....	8.00 to 11.00
Spruce, demension, good, per m.....	9.50 to 10.00
" Merchantable, do do.....	8.00 to 9.00
" Small, do do.....	6.50 to 7.00
Hemlock, merchantable.....	7.00
Shingles, No 1, sawed, pine.....	3.00 to 3.50
" No 2, do do.....	1.00 to 1.20
" spruce, No 1.....	1.10 to 1.35
Laths, per m.....	2.00
Hard wood, per cord.....	4.00 to 4.25
Soft wood.....	2.25 to 2.50

THE TWO STRANGERS.

A STORY OF MARSEILLES.

I.—THE YOUNG SOLDIER.

It was a rough winter's night. A slight sou'-wester had been blowing all day long; but since the sun had gone down and it had grown dark, heavy gusts fled boisterously up and down the narrow old streets of Marseilles as though they had lost their way. Many of the principal thoroughfares appeared comparatively deserted, as if the storm had driven most people home. Those who yet remained out of doors seemed to be bent upon reaching their domiciles with all possible speed. There was one solitary exception—a tall, powerfully built man; and upon him a gust of wind had little more effect than upon a solid rock. Enveloped in a thick black cloak, with a military cap drawn down tightly over his forehead, he walked along at a slow, measured step. He never once turned his head, even when the wind cast a stinging splash of rain full in his face. He was so erect and strode forward in such a steady manner that one would have supposed the weather absent from his thoughts. When he reached the quay he crossed the road and stepped along the gangway, so close to the edge of the basin that by stretching out his hand he could have touched the rigging of large vessels as he passed. The danger, even in broad daylight, when walking so close to the edge would have been great; but upon this pitch-dark, windy night a false step meant certain death in the dock below.

Presently a small boat, dimly visible by the light from a lantern attached to the bow, came slowly towards a landing-place several yards ahead. When the boat touched the wall of the basin the man quickened his pace, and on reaching the spot looked down and demanded: "Who goes there?"

"Prosper Cornillon," replied a voice. The voice appeared to come from a figure in the boat, which resembled a black shadow in the darkness.

"Is your boat for hire?"

"Yes, monsieur."

There was a short pause. Then the stranger with a *soupcou* of command in his tone, said: "I shall want you to-night; but not yet."

The boatman, having meanwhile made fast his boat, took the lantern out of the bow and climbed slowly up the steep wooden steps.

"Does the Café Cornillon on this quay belong to you?"

"It is mine and my sister's," Prosper replied.

"That is lucky," said the stranger, in a more cheerful voice. "I will sup at your café before we start."

Prosper Cornillon led the way, holding the lantern so that the light was thrown directly in their path.

The Café Cornillon stood in the centre of a row of houses facing the quay. The frontage was one large window with small panes of glass, like a conservatory. Through the clean, white muslin curtains a light was shining, which illuminated a limited space of the roadway. Stepping forward, Prosper held open the door of the café for the stranger to enter. It was a snug, unpretending little café; long, narrow and low-pitched, like a cabin on board ship, with small wooden tables and chairs arranged against the walls. Some half-dozen persons, who looked like fishermen, were seated near the window drinking coffee and cognac and playing at dominoes. They glanced up for a moment and returned the stranger's salute, and then continued their game. At the further end of the café was an open hearth with a fire burning brightly in the centre, near this hearth, engaged in some culinary operations, stood a young girl. She turned when the door opened, and an expression of surprise, mixed with curiosity, gathered in her face as the stranger advanced and politely raised his cap.

"Nina," said Prosper Cornillon, looking from the girl towards the customer, "this gentleman has hired the boat; but he wishes for a little supper before starting."

The stranger nodded approvingly. "Before sunrise I must be on board."

"The name of that ship, monseieur?" asked Prosper, stroking his dark beard and looking with keen eyes into the stranger's face.

"The *Livadia*."

The girl looked up with a distant, dreamy expression in her eyes. "That ship," said she, as though speaking her thoughts aloud rather than addressing herself to any one—"that ship is bound for some Greek port."

"For Syra," said the stranger promptly, while at the same time he removed his cloak and sat down at a table near the hearth.

Prosper Cornillon turned away and joined the fishermen at the other end of the café. Like a true *cafetier* he was soon laughing with the customers, taking a hand at dominoes, and calling to his sister Nina to serve him as though he were a customer too.

Meanwhile, the stranger sat in silence waiting for his supper with his back leaning against the wall and his legs stretched out towards the fire. He was dressed in the uniform of a French colonel, though only a man of twenty-eight or thirty at the utmost. He had a handsome expressive face, his eyes frequently brightening with some passing thought. But when he turned his glance upon Nina his look grew serious and sympathetic.

Few could have resisted studying the face of Nina Cornillon, not merely on account of its beauty, but because some trouble, sustained with brave resolution, was portrayed in every feature. That dreaminess in the eyes already referred to, which seemed to indicate that her thoughts were wandering far beyond the port of Marseilles, was seldom suppressed except when she was spoken to, and when the conversation ceased he looked appeared to sink away again into the distance, while a smile would break pensively upon her lips, and tears glisten upon her long black lashes.

Scarcely a word passed between the stranger and Nina Cornillon until the supper was cleared away, when "monsieur" lit his cigar and drew his chair closer towards the hearth. But when the girl had served the customary cup of coffee, and was pouring out the *petit verre*, the gentleman remarked: "Shall I tell you, mademoiselle, where your thoughts are travelling?"

The girl looked with a puzzled expression into the stranger's face. "You would indeed be a magician," said she, "if you could."

"Your thoughts," said he, "are travelling along the shores of Greece."

Nina started and changed color. For a while she seemed too troubled to speak. Seating herself in front of the hearth, she looked thoughtfully into the fire.

"If mademoiselle will trust me," the stranger presently remarked in a soft tone, "even though she might wish a message taken to a lover, I will promise to execute any errand faithfully."

The girl glanced up with a touch of indignation in her face. But suddenly dropping her eyes she said, with a deep flush on her cheeks: "I have no lover."

The stranger looked grave; and as though conscious of having made a blunder he hastened to change the subject. "I will not try any further to read your thoughts. But tell me," he added, "why does your brother keep a boat for hire in the harbor when he has such an excellent little café to attend to? It seems to me that the work is too severe for you all by yourself."

"Ah, monsieur, you would not say that," exclaimed Nina, "if you only knew how anxious we both are to make money!"

The stranger could not conceal a look of surprise. Such sentiments uttered in such an avaricious tone by a homely girl like Nina appeared inconsistent. "You mean, perhaps," he hinted, "that you do not find it congenial work to keep a café, and that you will be glad when you can afford to retire from business?"

"O no, monsieur! That is not what I meant. When we have accumulated ten thousand francs we shall part with the money; and then"—

"Then, mademoiselle?"

"We shall begin again," continued Nina, "with light hearts; for if we ever save that sum we can purchase our father's liberty."

"What!" cried the stranger, greatly moved. "Is it possible that?"

"Hush!" Nina whispered, with her finger to her lip, as she glanced round at the table where her brother and his companions were seated over their game. "Whenever Prosper hears this subject mentioned he is like a madman. If it interests you, monsieur, this terrible disaster that has befallen us, draw your chair closer, and I will tell you in a few words how it all happened."

The stranger came nearer to Nina's side and leaned forward in a listening attitude. His face assumed an expression of intense concern as she proceeded.

In a low voice, frequently choked by tears, the girl confided to the sympathetic stranger her sad story. "Always anxious to assist his family," Nina began, "it one day occurred to father to buy a vessel for the purpose of trading along the coast of the Adriatic. So he collected together all that he was worth, made a capital bargain, and set sail in his little ship, confident that his venture would be successful. He had traded in the Adriatic for others for many years, and was well known as a brave and honest captain in these seas. But not many weeks passed before news reached us that all was lost." Her utterance became thick with sobs. But speedily overcoming her emotion, she continued: "A letter came from father; it told us only too plainly what misfortune had overtaken him. One morning, when least expecting such a mishap, he was attacked by pirates. He made a desperate resistance, but was eventually overpowered and taken prisoner. They carried him to Tripoli. The sum which is demanded for his ransom is so exorbitant that it will be impossible for him ever to raise it. In his letter he adds that we must therefore relinquish all hope of ever seeing him again." The girl's eyes were blinded with tears, and for some moments she could not speak; but by a painful effort she succeeded at last. "We are striving by every honest means in our power to collect the money. It is a hard fight. This is only a modest little café, and our profits are very small. Prosper gains a few extra francs every week with his boat in the harbor. But many more years must pass before we can hope to accomplish this trying task."

"How long," the stranger asked, "has your father been a prisoner?"

"Ten years."

"Is it possible?"

"I was fifteen when he went away. At parting he kissed me on both cheeks," continued Nina, smiling thoughtfully. "Now, I am twenty-five."

"Poor child!" said the stranger, with great tenderness.

"During these years we have managed to save nearly three thousand francs. Perhaps, in ten more years, if we are very fortunate, we shall be able to complete the sum; and father will be sitting in the old corner where you are seated now, as I remember seeing him when I was a child." While she was still speaking, that dreamy look which the stranger had observed already began to reappear in her dark eyes, and she seemed gradually to lose herself in thought.

The stranger, who felt that his presence at her side was forgotten, rose from his seat with a suppressed sigh, and crossing to where Nina's brother and the fishermen still played at dominoes, he placed his hand upon the boatman's shoulder. "Monsieur Prosper," said he, "it is almost time to start. But before we go let us drink a glass together. If," he added, looking round—"if your friends will join us, so much the better."

The fishermen expressed themselves agreeable. So Prosper filled glasses all round. Every one rose and "clinked" with the stranger, at the same time wishing him *bon voyage*.

Then Prosper Cornillon assisted "monsieur" to envelop himself once

more in his cloak; while Nina came timidly forward to take his proffered hand and to bid him adieu. And then out they stepped into the wind and rain, followed by the fishermen, leaving Nina all alone in the café with her hands clasped, and a wistful look in her eyes.

II.—THE OLD SAILOR.

It was still stormy at Marseilles. For some weeks, owing to the gales which had visited the Mediterranean, the port had been crowded with vessels driven in by stress of weather. In times like these, Prosper Cornillon reaped a harvest; for his boat was in demand from morning till night. It was tiring work; but a generous impulse gave him energy. He was toiling with the direct object of obtaining his father's freedom.

One evening, worn out with his unremitting labors, Prosper had thrown himself down with his elbows on the table in a corner of the café near the hearth; and soon his head had sunk upon his arm, and he had fallen asleep. In front of the fire was seated his sister Nina, with a weary look too upon her face; but her great dreamy eyes were wide open; for although late in the evening, it was not yet the hour for closing the Café Cornillon. At any moment a customer might enter; and some customers, if Nina was not very wakeful and attentive, were apt to grow impatient; indeed, she had scarcely less peace and quietness during the twenty-four hours than her brother Prosper. At the moment when it became so late that Nina was on the point of rising to turn out the lamps and lock up for the night, the door was slowly opened. An old sailor in a rough coat, the collar of which was turned up about his neck, mysteriously entered the café. He touched his slouching hat with his sunburnt, horny hand in a feeble hesitating manner; then choosing a table near the hearth, opposite to the one upon which Prosper's head was resting, he sat down and began stroking his long white beard thoughtfully without raising his eyes.

"With what, monsieur, can I serve you?"

The old man answered in a low voice, with head still bent: "Café noir."

Nina hastened to place a cup of coffee before him; and when she had filled a little glass with cognac she resumed her seat before the hearth. The girl's chair was placed with the back towards the door. On one side of her was the table at which the old man sat sipping his coffee; and on the other side was Prosper still fast asleep. Looking dreamily into the fire, Nina seemed to have forgotten the presence of both these men, so deeply was she absorbed in her thoughts.

"This is the Café Cornillon—is it not?" asked the old man.

Nina started as though the voice had awakened her. "Yes, monsieur," answered the girl, recollecting herself and looking up quickly—"the Café Cornillon."

"Kept by Prosper Cornillon?"

"Sleeping there," continued Nina, with a little jerk of her head.

"Ah," said the old sailor, "I am the bearer of a message."

"To him?"

"Yes—to Prosper Cornillon."

"Shall I rouse him?"

"No. I will deliver the message to you."

"It is the same thing," said the girl, with a pretty shrug of her shoulders.

"I am his sister."

"Nina Cornillon?"

"Yes; that is my name."

The old man leaned forward, but still without raising his eyes, and said in a hoarse, indistinct voice: "You may remember, perhaps, a few weeks ago, entertaining a young soldier who passed through this port on his way to Greece. Your brother conveyed him in his boat on board the *Livadia*, a ship bound for Syria."

"I remember the gentleman well," said Nina, in a faltering voice. "He gave Prosper a piece of gold before parting to sustain us in our efforts to collect the large sum of money which is demanded by a Greek pirate as a ransom for our father's liberty."

"It is from this young soldier, Colonel Lafont," continued the old sailor, "that I bring the message."

Nina looked round quickly with sparkling, eager eyes. "What is the message, monsieur?"

"Well," answered the old man, speaking slowly, "his words to you—I mean to Prosper Cornillon—were words of encouragement. You must never despair! That was how the young colonel expressed it. Because, as he argued, the day might not be far distant when your father would be set free."

With her eyes bent thoughtfully upon the fire, Nina said: "A very kind message. How good of him to think of me!"

"The message was to Prosper Cornillon."

"To think, I should say, of my brother Prosper. But"—

"But," continued the old man, "I have not finished yet."

"What more, monsieur?"

The old sailor, lowering his tone, and speaking as though he had difficulty in not betraying some agitation, continued: "It was the colonel's hope that neither of you would be despondent—that you would rather indulge the fancy that you had heard that the ransom demanded by this Greek pirate had been paid—that your father had regained his liberty—that he had even started on his voyage home, and was nearing the port of Marseilles"—

Nina clasped her hands and cried in a trembling voice: "That is what I dream of night and day!"

"Imagine, then, even imagine that the ship has reached Marseilles—that it has entered the harbor. Nay! figure to yourself—though it may make your heart beat painfully—figure to yourself a weather-beaten sailor entering your café late one evening—a man with a grey beard and a shaky voice"—

But at this point the old sailor was interrupted. Looking round, Nina uttered a cry of joy, and sprang up with outstretched arms, and with the word "Father!" upon her lips.

It was Captain Cornillon who had come thus as a terribly trying surprise. Yet he was so changed that even Nina had not recognized him. But the recognition was complete now. So, taking his daughter in his embrace, the old sailor kissed her as he had kissed her at their parting ten long years ago.

Not many weeks elapsed before Colonel Lafont again made his appearance at Marseilles. Prosper, who happened to be in the harbor at the moment of his arrival, accompanied him in triumph to the Café Cornillon as soon as he landed.

Nothing could exceed the gratitude which was shown by the captain and his two children towards this young soldier, who, on reaching Greece, had taken active steps to obtain the old sailor's release. Years passed before Nina knew under what difficulties Colonel Lafont formed the resolution of restoring Captain Cornillon to his family. For he was not a rich man; he had gained promotion in the ranks as a reward for bravery; and when he had paid the ransom he had parted with nearly all the money he possessed in the world. But he loved Nina Cornillon. From the moment when, upon that stormy winter's night, Colonel Lafont entered the café and saw the girl standing by the hearth, he had never ceased to think of the dreamy face, nor of the low passionate voice in which she had told to him the sad episode in her life.

These events happened many years ago; and Nina and her husband Colonel Alphonse Lafont—who became a general before he was forty—should be old people now, if they are still living. But one thing is certain—on the quay at Marseilles there still stands the little café, in appearance unchanged, except that it is called the Café Cornillon no longer.

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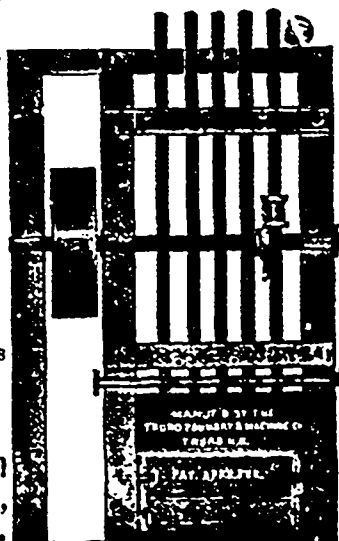
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MINING.

There is great activity in gold mining, many new properties being opened up while the old ones are turning out quantities of gold. A number of capitalists have been paying visits to several noted districts, and there are rumors of sales concluded and under negotiation. The Cap. Breton collieries are turning out a larger quantity of coal than ever before, and the coal mines in Cumberland County, including the Spring Hill and Joggins mines, are reported as increasing their production. From Pictou county the returns are not quite so satisfactory, but the starting up of iron smelters in that locality should increase the local demand and eventually cause the opening up of new mines. Several new finds of manganese have been reported but the output of this valuable mineral is on the decrease and it is not being as vigorously sought for as formerly.

KILLAG DISTRICT.—We have sometimes in this department made reference to the rich drift boulders found in the Killag district, and the extensive prospecting done there in search of the lode from which all this rich gold quartz came from. Twenty-two years ago Leopold Burkner became so much exercised over the rich pieces of drift found there, and so sanguine of finding the lode, that he, at great expense, had all the material for a ten stamp crusher portaged in over a rough broken country, and kept a large crew of men at work for many months looking for the rich treasure, which he failed to find, eventually giving up the search. He afterwards dragged his crusher out again and erected it in the Caribou district. Between eight and nine years ago Peter Dunbrack and John McCallum found some very rich boulders in this district, and about the same time a crew of Sheet Harbor "river drivers" found a number of fine rocks, one boulder from a 9 inch lode giving in small nuggets, pounded out with a hammer, between two and three ounces of gold. Excitement ran high, and a grand rush for the Mines Office was made. Mr. Dunbrack and his associates, however, secured 95 areas, covering all the ground supposed to be valuable. For three years this Company prospected, during which time they found much rich drift, some of which was exhibited at the last Provincial exhibition held in Halifax. So sanguine were they of success that they built a 5 stamp mill on the ground, but they also failed to find the coveted treasure. Four years ago this Company's property was purchased by G. W. Stuart, who sometime after associated with him John H. Anderson and others. Mr. Stuart has personally for four years managed the prospecting, which, owing to the character of the ground, has been expensive and intricate. Finally determining that the rich lode was in the centre of a large swamp, and proving it to be impossible to contend with water and quick sand, he erected steam machinery, sunk through 25 feet of quick sand, 20 feet in the rock, and drove a rock tunnel 60 feet north, and has succeeded in cutting the long-looked-for lead. It is about 10 inches thick, well mineralized, and well studded with the precious metal, and is pronounced by all who have seen it to be the same that all the rich drift came from. This is not the first time that Mr. Stuart by pluck and perseverance has won success, in fact his discovery of the Rose Lead at Montague was the main cause of the revival of the gold industry, which at that time had dwindled into insignificance.

LAKE CATCHA DISTRICT.—The Oxford mine is looking well, and two good leads have lately been struck on the west end of the property. The crusher has been stopped on account of the want of water occasioned by the dry weather of the past few months. As soon as the water comes the crusher will be started up and worked to its full capacity.

As an evidence of the great interest that is being taken in our gold mines abroad we may mention that the *Evening Telegram* and other leading papers of New York contain frequent quotations from THE CRITIC.

We desire to receive the latest mining news from every mining camp in the Province, and should feel greatly obliged to our subscribers if they would send us any news items that may come to their attention.

The *British American Citizen of Boston* publishes a most valuable article on the mineral resources of Nova Scotia from the pen of P. S. Hamilton, than whom there is not a more competent authority. The paper was considered the best of a number written on the subject in response to a request of the publishers, who seem to leave no stone unturned in their efforts to make the *British American Citizen* a thoroughly reliable medium for the spreading of information in regard to the great natural resources of the Maritime Provinces.

The following are the complete official gold returns so far received at the Mines Office for the month of August:

District.	Mill.	Oz. crushed	Oz. G. & S.
Salmon River.....	Dufferin.....	800	219
Oldham.....	Oldham G. M. Co.....	95	173
Caribou.....	M. R. G. M. Co.....	163	51
S. Uniacke.....	Withdraw.....	30	164
Whiteburn.....	Whiteburn. Co.....	131	101
15 Mile Stream.....	Egerton G. M. Co.....	168	77
Stormont.....	Rockland Mill.....	191	94
*Central Rawdon...	Northrup.....	85	189
Montague.....	Kaye.....	15	23
Ecum Secum.....	Eureka.....	65	33
Uniacke.....	Phenix.....	200	21

*July 352 ozs. from 100 tons of quartz.

MOLEGA.—A brick of gold weighing 371 ozs. 17 dwts., 12 grs., was the result of the work of the Molega Mining Co. for the month ending September 15th, the same being taken from 200 tons of ore, a yield of nearly 1½ ozs. per ton.

The following is a statement of the ore and quantity of gold extracted from this mine for the past four months, or from May 15th to Sept. 15th:—

	oz.	dwt.	gr.
May, 211 tons ore	264	5	0
June, 151 tons ore.....	241	0	0
July, 200 tons ore.....	342	9	18
Aug, 200 tons ore.....	371	17	12

—Gold Hunter.

Findlay, Ohio, is cited as an illustration of what the incipient development of natural gas has done for the localities that have been able to use it. Findlay has in less than three years grown from a population of 5,000 to 25,000, and there are thirty-five factories there, against two before gas was introduced. The reason is found in the fact that enough natural gas to run a glass factory of thirty-three pots can be had at a cost of thirty five cents a day. Other towns have enjoyed similar prosperity.—*St. John Globe.*

MOOSELANDS.—The Mooselands section of the Tangier gold district is an inviting field to the prospector, as the former gold production and the rich boulders lately found there point to the fact that there are some valuable leads yet to be unearthed. It would now appear that Mr. Stomshoru, who has done a large amount of prospecting in the district, has made a rich strike. We should like the latest particulars in regard to it.

PRINCE'S LODGE.—There are no new developments from this district.

A nugget weighing 461 ounces was lately found in Victoria, Australia.

GOLD.—Demerara, August 30—Exports steadily increasing. From 13th to 28th August 2,257 ozs., 17 dwts., 10 grs., valued at \$23,154.50, making a total to date this year of 16,634 ozs., 10 dwts., 10 grs., valued at \$310,125.43. Exports to same date last year were 9,437 ozs., 5 dwts., 22 grs., valued at \$174,003.14.

CENTRAL RAWDON.—A fuller account of the sale of the Northrup-Dimock Mine:—"About 12 months ago an Indian discovered a gold mine in the Rawdon district, N. S. After making the matter known, the affairs were taken up by Mr. Northrup from the Government of Nova Scotia. Mr. Northrup then tried to associate a few friends with him in the venture and thus form a joint stock company to develop the mine, but found it impossible to do so. Failing in this experiment he succeeded in inducing Mr. Clarence Dimock and Mr. Joshua Smith, of the Windsor Foundry Co., to put up the machinery for the working of the mine, giving them a two-thirds interest in the property. Since that period these gentlemen have succeeded in taking \$100,000 in gold out of the mine, yielding a net profit, after paying for all the machinery and running expenses, of about \$65,000. Last week, however, they sold the mine to Mr. Uttsley, of the firm of Clark & Co., Philadelphia, for \$100,000 in cash. All the Rawdon district is said to abound in gold veins.—*Exchange.*

THE TIERRA SECA GOLD PROCESS.—A method of extracting gold and other metals from their ores on the dry system, without the aid of water or chemicals, has been invented by Mr. William L. Card, of the United States. The system consists in the employment of a current of air and gravitation, in appropriately arranged machines. There are four types of these machines—namely, a small hand-worked prospecting machine for testing the richness of gold and mineral deposits on the spot; a machine for concentrating refractory ores; a machine for extracting free gold from alluvial and placer soils; and a machine for extracting free gold from crushed quartz. The principle underlying each of the machines, however, is the same, although differently carried out to suit the requirements of each case. As a general principle the crushed ore is fed into a hopper, whence it is admitted on to a series of inclined sieves, which in some cases are vibrated and in others remain stationary. A fan or blower is used to force a blast of air underneath the sieves and upwards towards them. In one case, however, the air is drawn upwards through the sieves by a fan placed over the machine. As the crushed ore falls on the sieves it is kept in a state of continuous but gentle agitation, and the blast is so regulated as to drive off the dust-like particles of earth, while the gold or other metals, by reason of their superior gravity, remain at the bottom of the sieves. The particles of gold are caught by the sieve on the top of the incline, but if any small particles should pass beyond it, they fall into the second or third sieve.—*English Mechanic.*

Amongst the new companies lately registered in London is the Dominion Phosphate Company, Limited, registered by Johnson, Budd and Johnson, 24 Austinfriars, E. C., with a capital of £40,000 in £5 shares. Object, to acquire any phosphate or other mines, minerals, and mining rights in the Province of Quebec, and in particular the freehold property known as lot No. 7 in the second range of the township of Portland East, in the County of Ottawa, in the Province of Quebec, and also all the mines, ores and minerals which have been found, or may be found, in or out of the north half of lot No. 8 in the first range of the said township, excepting the portions expropriated by the Government of Canada, containing about 19½ acres. There shall not be less than three nor more than five directors, the first to be appointed by the subscribers to the memorandum of association. Qualification, £2,000. Remuneration to be determined in general meeting.

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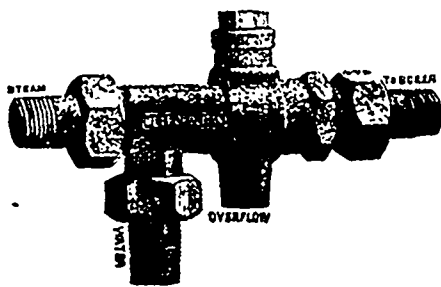
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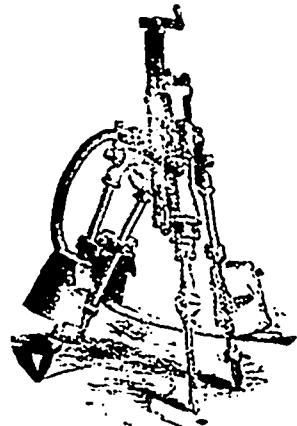
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The terms are moderate, and arrangements for convenience and comfort complete.

THAT FLIRTING NELLIE!

"So you have invited that odious little Nellie Jervas to spend the rest of the summer with you!" exclaimed Priscilla Relton, as she was saying her good-byes after a long morning call. "I was so surprised when I heard it!"

"Why?" queried Alice Edney, trying to speak coolly, though she was hot with indignation. "Have you heard anything to the discredit of our old schoolfellow?"

"Oh, my dear Alice, why pretend ignorance? Doesn't everyone know that she flirts atrociously with every member of the male sex who happens to come in her way?"

"Very impartial of her, I am sure, to distribute her pleasant looks and smiles to all alike," laughed Alice. "If you had accused her of angling for two or three lovers, and favoring each in his turn, I might agree with you and call Nellie a coquette; as it is, I believe that she likes to be liked, and so do I."

"Ah, but you are quite a different character. You have been, as mamma often says, so carefully brought up, while we all know that the Jervas are—"

The sentence was finished with a shrug and a sneer; but Alice Edney refused to see either.

"I have never heard any harm of Nellie's relations, except that they have been unfortunate; and neither you nor I can ever forget that, when we were ill with low fever at school, it was Nellie's mother who used to come and see us daily, bringing us fruit and flowers, and the most delicious of jellies and custards."

"Well," said Miss Relton, preparing to depart, "all I have to say is, that if I were engaged, as you are, to a light-hearted, handsome young fellow, who is not insensible to admiration, I should think twice before I exposed him to the wiles of an accomplished flirt like Nellie Jervas."

Alice bit her lip to keep back an angry reply. It was no use entering on the defense of her friend, or declaring that nothing should induce her to doubt the constancy of her lover, so she wisely kept silence.

Priscilla Relton was one of those persons who always contrive to say something that wounds the susceptibilities of those they pretend to esteem; and Mrs. Edney, bustling into the room to fetch her keys, was not very much surprised to find her daughter in tears.

"What a goose you are!" she cried, kissing her, and giving her a little shake. "What a goose to make yourself unhappy over that girl's silly speeches! What has she been saying? You know she only talks for talking sake."

"I am not unhappy," responded Alice; "but angry with myself for having allowed Priscilla to see that I was vexed. She will go away, telling the next person she visits that I have admitted that I am doing a foolish thing in having Nellie here, and that I am awfully jealous already."

"Pooh! What signifies? Come and help me tie down my preserves, and don't trouble your head about what the gossips chatter. Or, if you really do doubt the prudence of having Miss Nellie Jervas here, forbid Merric Granard the house till she has gone away again."

Seeing that her mother was laughing at her, Alice laughed too, and would not confess even to herself that for a brief period a dread had really seized upon her that Priscilla Relton's predictions might be verified. If Merric, dear Merric Granard, whose wife she was to be as soon as her parents could be induced to think her old enough, should be lured from his allegiance by the wiles of pretty, attractive Nellie Jervas—how would she bear the misery of losing him?

But for that hateful Priscilla, no such thoughts would have troubled her peace, and they vanished altogether when Nellie jumped out of the railway-carriage into her arms.

She was such a bright little creature! Not all her home troubles—and they were many—could ever cast more than the briefest shadow on her pretty face. It was someone's duty, she would aver, to look at the sunny side of the sky; and as it was a pleasant duty, she would make it her's. So Nellie's silvery laughter rang out at every opportunity, and she carried sunshine wherever she went.

"Don't make too much of me," she cried, struggling out of Alice's embrace. "My visit is not to you, but to your mother. I shall never be in her way, I know, while you—oh, you recant! You false-to-friendship individual to give yourself away to a he male!—you would find me in the way whenever he drew near. What is he like, Alice?"

"Who, Merric? You shall see for yourself presently," replied the blushing bride-elect.

"Much obliged—at least I ought to be; one must make some sacrifices to gratify one's friends, but do not ask me to admire the young man. Of all the individuals I detest, first on the list stand other girls' lovers!"

And so Nellie rattled on or talked gaily to the two lads who had escorted their sister to the station, extorting bursts of laughter from them till they reached Mr. Edney's house; and Mrs. Edney came into the hall to give the guest a motherly welcome, and warn Alice that the meat tea would be on the table in twenty minutes.

Soon after the meal had been despatched Merric Granard arrived, a little curious to see the school-friend of whom his betrothed talked so enthusiastically.

It was with a touch of latent uneasiness that Alice seized the first opportunity of whispering to him:

"Well, did I exaggerate when I said that Nellie is exceedingly pretty?"

"Am I to answer politely or frankly? The latter? Then my dear Alice, I do think you exaggerated very much. Miss Jervas hasn't a regular feature to boast of; she looks thin and worn, and certainly has no pretensions to be called a beauty."

"She is thin, but her smile is just as sweet."

"And she talks. Oh! ye gods, how she does keep talking! Cannot we make our escape and get out of sound of it for a little while? Say yes; your mother will amuse the young lady if she isn't capable of taking care of herself for half an hour."

"What do I think of Mr. Granard?" echoed Nellie, when the question was put to her, as she and Alice were brushing out their tresses that night.

"It is scarcely a fair question, *m'amie*; I do not view him with your bedazzled eyes."

"He is one of the best of men," exclaimed Alice. "Everyone who knows him congratulates me on my engagement."

"Then so will I!" cried Nellie, heartily. "But he might have spared you to me a little longer. Even you, who are seven fathoms deep in love, must own that it is very disappointing to me to lose the only girl-friend I ever made. I am not magnanimous. I don't like having to give you up to a male rival, who looks at me with disapproving eyes already. He doesn't want me here. He regards you as his peculiar property, and your guest as an interloper."

"But I should like you and Merric to be good friends," said Alice. "For my sake, you know."

"Give us time and we may learn to be civil to each other," was the laughing reply. "But you must not expect more. We are rivals in your affection, you know; he is distrustful, and I am jealous—frightfully, disgracefully jealous. Why didn't he leave you alone and fall in love with another girl?—Pris Relton for instance. By the way, how old is Pris? Does she still find out all the specks and blemishes in her friends just as she was wont? Won't I say or do something to astonish her!"

Apparently Nellie Jervas kept her word, for she had not been many days at Mr. Edney's when Miss Relton told half a dozen of her intimates in strictest confidence that this wicked little siren was angling for the new curate as well as the son of Dobbs the banker.

And we are afraid that Nellie did flirt with both these gentlemen, and that it was also her smiles and flattering speeches that brought the bachelor doctor and Squire Edlington to the house evening after evening.

"She was so jolly," the Edney boys asseverated; "so ready to sing, dance, play, or institute drawing-room games; while Alice was no use for anything now, except moping in a corner with Merric Granard."

Mrs. Edney looked rather grave sometimes when Mistress Nellie gathered her admirers about her chair and played them off one against the other, but even she was not able to resist the coaxing looks and caresses with which her gentle reproofs were heard.

"No, don't you accuse me of flirting, please!" Nellie would say. "I assure you I mean no harm. It's awfully nice to be liked, and I enjoy it, that is all!"

"At the expense of your victims, my dear?"

"Which be they?" questioned the damsel, demurely. "Not your curate, for he is engaged; nor young Dobbs, for he loves himself better than all women; nor the doctor, for he is too shrewd; and Mr. Edlington too sensible to woo a girl who hasn't a penny. Trust me, dear Mrs. Edney, these good souls may be scorched by the lightning of my glances, but they'll not catch fire. They are safe enough."

And Merric Granard?—was he safe too? was it by mere chance that he and Nellie had found themselves watching the moon rise from the same window, or sharing the same umbrella when caught in a shower?

"Poor, unsuspecting Alice!" sighed Priscilla Relton; and she made a point of calling frequently, and inquiring for Alice's health in the most sympathetic accents.

"You are quite well? You are sure?" she would murmur. "How thankful I am to hear it! But then you always are good and patient."

"What do I mean?" she would repeat. "Oh, my friend, is it possible! But don't question me—please don't! I would not be the first to draw your attention to anything that would grieve you!"

Alice laughed loudly, and teased Miss Relton till she had the satisfaction of seeing her bite her thin lips and redden with annoyance. To be so jibed at as the village news-monger, and to be saucily reminded of the sundry bits of mischief she had wrought, was too galling; and she remembered an engagement, and beat a retreat, followed to the gate by the girl's mocking laughter.

But when her tall, spare form, and nodding features, had passed out of sight, Alice slung herself on a couch and buried her face in its cushions. Alas! it was but too true; Merric was fast falling into the nets of the siren, and she was most miserable.

Twice she had come upon him and Nellie whispering together. They had started asunder at sight of her, too confused to offer the explanation she was too proud to ask. And only last evening, in the twilight, as she returned from some charitable visits in the village, she had found her friend and her lover in the avenue, not hastening to meet her, but in a less frequented path, so deep in conversation that they did not detect her approach.

Nellie was in the act of giving her companion a long lock of sunny hair, to which he pressed his lips before he hid it away in his pocket-book. Did the ears of the looker-on deceive her, or did she hear these words murmured:

"Remember, Alice must not know this until—"

Then came the reply:

"You may trust me. I will be secret and prudent until secrecy is no longer necessary."

And then they separated, and Alice rushed into the house to hide her wretchedness in her own chamber.

She could with truth plead a violent headache when her mother came to look for her; she had sobbed and cried till the pulses in her temples were beating madly, and she was burning with fever.

Mrs. Edney decided that her daughter must have caught some infectious complaint in the cottage where she had been visiting; and though the doctor, who was instantly summoned, pronounced this, he pronounced his patient to be in such a high state of nervous excitement that she must be kept in bed and exceedingly quiet.

So for the next two or three days only Mrs. Edney came near her, and by the time Alice was pronounced well enough to sit up for a few hours, she had schooled herself into patient endurance of her wrongs.

She had not acquired fortitude enough to read the notes from Morrie that were brought to her daily, but slipped them under her pillow, and took the first opportunity of burning them unopened; neither could she help shuddering and closing her eyes to shut out the sight of Nellie Jervas' pretty face when first it bent over her, beaming with the most affectionate solicitude.

But she resolutely conquered this feeling. Was it fair to blame Nellie for being irresistible bewitching? Her own attractions were so few, that how could Morrie help loving this charming little creature far better than he had once fancied he loved her?

"Once admitted into the sick room, it would be hard to exclude her again. She made herself too useful to Mrs. Edney, who, suspecting nothing amiss, gladly gave over the task of amusing and waiting on Alice to her willing visitor. And Nellie was in her efforts till the evening, when she seated herself on a stool beside the invalid's easy-chair and sank into a long reverie.

"Do you feel able to listen to a confession, *mon amie*?" she said presently, when the blaze of the fire had sunk into a ruddy glow, and the room was almost in darkness. "May I tell you what has happened, and will you promise not to blame me too much if—"

But Alice could not bear this yet. "Not now!" she gasped. "Give me time to get stronger, and then—"

"You are tired," said Nellie, tenderly. "I have let you sit up too long. Let me help you back to bed. You must try and sleep soundly, for we want you downstairs to-morrow. It is your mother's birthday, remember, and the home circle will not be complete without Alice to grace it."

"Yes!" Alice mentally exclaimed. "I will be brave, and take my old place without further delay. My dearest mother shall never know what I have suffered in losing Morrie's affections. For her dear sake I will overcome my regrets, and appear happy if I do not feel so."

And Alice kept her word. She came to the breakfast table on the morrow, paler and more hollow-eyed than her parents liked to see her; but with a smile on her lips even for Merric Granard, who had ridden over to bring fruit and flowers from his father's hot-houses in honor of this anniversary.

In spite of her efforts to avoid him, he drew her aside as soon as the meal was over.

"My dearest, how you tremble!" he cried. "Has the effort to come amongst us been made too soon?"

"No," she replied, as firmly as her faltering voice permitted, "you have something to tell me. Let me hear it at once."

"Ah, yes! You mean with regard to this," and opening a case he drew from his pocket, he displayed a very neat bracelet made of hair set in silver, with exquisitely-wrought clasps of the same precious metal.

"Did you miss one of your bonnie chestnut locks?" he asked. "Nellie Jervas stole it for me that we might have it made into this bracelet for your mother. We knew we could not give her a birthday gift that would please her more than this."

"By the by, Miss Nellie has made a conquest, hasn't she? But here she comes, anxious, I can see, to receive your congratulations. She isn't a bad sort of girl when one comes to know her. I'll give her half an hour, and then you must let me take you for a drive."

"Darling Alice," whispered Nellie, gliding into his place beside her startled, bewildered friend. "Don't say I shall do wrong in accepting Mr. Ellington; I know I am not half good enough for such an excellent man, and I could hardly believe him when he said he wanted me to be his wife."

"Mr. Ellington, of the Grange? He is nearly twenty years your senior!" "And twice twenty my superior in mental gifts and goodness of heart! I refused him point-blank—I know Pris Relton and everyone who thinks with her would say I was mercenary, and only wedded him for his money—but oh! Alice, he is so good, so generous, he has won my heart entirely. If I were not so poor, so utterly unworthy such noble affection as he proffers—"

Here Nellie broke down, and laid her head on her friend's shoulder.

"And so this was your secret; and the bracelet was Merric's. How foolish I have been!" ejaculated Alice.

"You are never foolish!" averred Nellie, "and I mean to be guided entirely by your advice."

Whether she was or not, it is certain that, to the horror and astonishment of Priscilla Relton, Squire Edlington led to the altar "that flirting Nellie," who has proved a pattern wife, and numbers amongst her most faithful friends Morrie Granard and his fair wife Alice.

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1889. A. No. 3011.
SHERIFF'S SALE.
IN THE SUPREME COURT.

EDWIN GILPIN, Plaintiff,
Between—
and
JAMES FRASER, Defendant.

To be sold by the Sheriff of the County of Halifax, or his Deputy, on Wednesday, the 23rd day of October, 1889, at 12 o'clock, noon, at the Supreme Court House, in the City of Halifax, pursuant to an order of foreclosure and sale made in the above action on the 17th day of September, 1889, unless before the day of sale the defendant shall pay to the plaintiff, or his solicitor, the amount due to the plaintiff for principal, interest and costs on the mortgage ordered to be foreclosed herein.

All the estate, right, title, interest, and equity of redemption of the above named defendant, and of all persons claiming by, through, or under him, of, in, to, upon, or out of all that certain lot, piece or parcel of

LAND,

situate in the north suburbs of the City of Halifax, being lot number seventy-six on the plan of the sub-division of Jennings' Field, filed in the Crown Land Office at Halifax, and described as follows: Commencing at the north-west corner of lot seventy-seven, thence northerly along the east side of Union Street fifty feet, thence easterly at right angles one hundred feet, or to the rear of lot number eighty-three, thence southerly along the rear line of lot number eighty-three fifty feet, thence westerly at right angles one hundred feet to the place of beginning.

Terms—Ten per cent. deposit at time of sale, remainder on delivery of the deed.

DONALD ARCHIBALD,
High Sheriff County of Halifax.
WALLACE McDONALD, Solicitor of Plaintiff.
Dated at Halifax the 18th September, 1889.

1889. A. No. 3010.
SHERIFF'S SALE.
IN THE SUPREME COURT.

EDWIN GILPIN, Plaintiff,
Between—
and
JAMES FRASER, Defendant.

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All the estate, right, title, interest, and equity of redemption of the above named defendant, and of all persons claiming by, through, or under him, of, in, to, upon, or out of all that certain lot, piece, or parcel of

LAND,

situate on the west side of Hollis Street, in the City of Halifax: bounded on the east by the said street, and there measuring forty-four feet, more or less, on the north by a garden lot, now or lately of Stephen Newton Binney, and there measuring one hundred and forty-eight feet, more or less, on the west by land of Robert Boak, junior, and there measuring forty-four feet, more or less, and on the south by land lately belonging to the heirs of Peoples, and there measuring one hundred and forty-eight feet, more or less, being the southern moiety of a lot conveyed to Charles Twining by The Honorable Alexander Stewart and others, by deeds of lease and release, dated respectively the fourteenth and fifteenth days of November, A. D. 1845, and registered at Halifax, aforesaid, Libro 85, Folios 305 to 308.

Terms—Ten per cent. deposit at time of sale, remainder on delivery of the deed.

DONALD ARCHIBALD,
High Sheriff County of Halifax.
WALLACE McDONALD, Solicitor of Plaintiff.
Dated at Halifax the 18th September, 1889.

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CHESS.

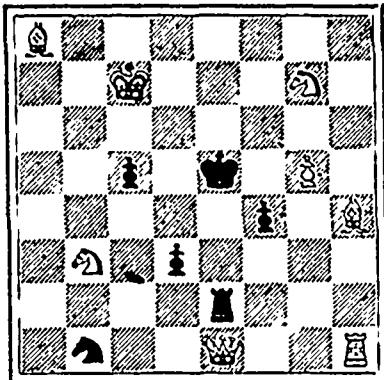
The proprietors of THE CRITIC offer two prizes—to consist of books on Chess—to those subscribers who shall send in the greatest number of correct solutions during the current year. No entrance fee required.

Solution to Problem No. 97.—B to KB2. Solved by Mrs. H. Moseley, C. W. L. and J. W. Wallace.

ANSWERS TO CORRESPONDENTS.

J. W. W. — The pawn in actual play may become Queen or Knight.

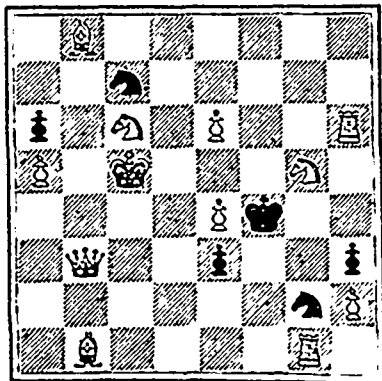
Corrected PROBLEM No. 98.
BLACK 6 pieces.



WHITE 8 pieces.
White to play and mate in 2 moves.

PROBLEM No. 99.

Awarded second prize in the *Shore-ditch Citizen* problem tourney.
By Mrs. W. J. Baird.
BLACK 6 pieces.



WHITE 13 pieces.
White to play and mate in 2 moves.

GAME No. 80.

Played in the Sixth American Congress.

VIENNA OPENING.

WHITE	BLACK
Mr. J. H. Blackburne.	Mr. M. Judd.
1 P to K4	P to K4
2 Kt to QB3	Kt to KB3
3 P to B4	P to Q4
4 BP takes KP	We prefer 4 KP

takes QP, when the game might proceed 4 P to K5; 5 P to Q3, 5 B to QKt5; 6 P takes P, 6 Kt takes KP; 7 Q to Q4, and should Black venture on 7 Q to R5 ch; 8 P to Kt3, 8 Kt takes P; he would lose by 9 Q to K3 ch.

5 Kt to B3	Kt takes Kt
6 Q to K2	B to K2

First played by the editor at Cologne in 1881 in a blindfold game against Herron Kockelkorn and Wemmers in consultation.

7 KtP takes Kt	Castles
8 P to Kt3	We do not approve of this, and would prefer Q to B2 followed by B to K2.

9 P to Q3	B to KB4
10 B to Kt2	P to B4
	Kt to B3

11 Castles	R to B
12 R to Kt	P to Q Kt3
13 Kt to R4	B to K3
14 Kt to B5	R to K
15 P to Kt4	B to B
16 B to B4	B takes Kt

Black has played remarkably well up to this, but by the present premature exchange with the view of the sacrifice that follows he compromises his game at the point when he could have much improved his position by 16 P to B3, to which we hardly see any satisfactory answer for if P to Q4, 17 B takes Kt followed by P takes QP, or if 17 Kt to Q6, 17 B takes Kt; 18 P takes B, 18 B to B2 followed by Kt to K4.

17 P takes B	Kt takes P
18 B takes Kt	P to B3
19 P to Q4	K to R

20 R to B3 An excellent move which initiates a beautifully conceived attack.

21 P takes P	P takes P
22 R to KR3	B to Q3
	P to KR3

Necessary, for if 22 P takes B; 23 R takes P ch, 23 K takes R; 24 Q to R5 ch, 24 K to Kt; 25 B takes P ch, and mates in two moves.

23 Q to Q2	P takes B
------------	-----------

Useless of course. But Black could only escape immediate disaster at the cost of a piece, namely by B to B, whereupon White would have withdrawn B to B4 winning also without much difficulty. 24 R takes P ch. Mr. Blackburne now finishes off with his usual brilliancy and precision.

25 B takes P ch	K to Kt
26 P to B6	K to B

A beautiful stroke—P takes P Resigns. For mate follows after 27 K to K2; 28 R to R7 ch, and Q to R6 mate.
International Chess Magazine.

DRAUGHTS-CHECKERS

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

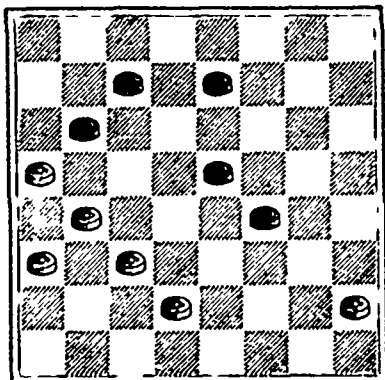
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OMITTED.

We regret that in making up this column in last week's issue the problem (No. 134), which should have followed and contained the end of game XXVIII, was accidentally left out of the form. We give it as follows:—

PROBLEM No. 134.

Black men 6, 7, 9, 15, 19 (Forsyth)



White men 13, 17, 21, 22, 26, 28 (O'Hearn.)
White to play. What result?

TO CORRESPONDENTS.

A. WHITE, Little Bay Mines, N.F. —Your favor enclosing subscription is received. The latter is handed to the financial department. If you had stated what numbers have missed you we would have tried to hunt them up. Do so in your next.

SOLUTION.

PROBLEM 133.—Position—Black men 8, 10, 11, 14, 15, 16, 19; white men 21, 23, 24, 26, 28, 31; black to play and draw:—

14—17	16—20	20—27	11—27
21	7	23	16
		31	24

drawn.

We had a call from a young man living in Shediac, named Edward McDonald. We had the pleasure of sitting across the board with him in four games. He is certainly a fair player, but would benefit by a closer study of the books. The following is one of the games played—an "Old Fourteenth;" McDonald black; Forsyth white:

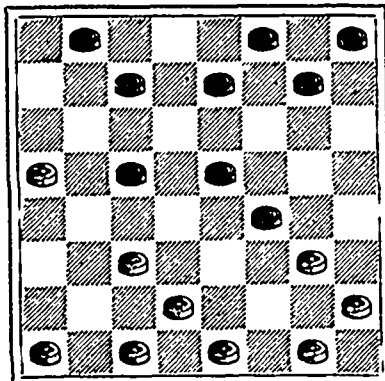
GAME XXVIX.

11—15	11—15	2—11	7—10
23	19	28	24
		19	10
		29	25
8—11	8—11	6—15	12—16
22	17	31	26
		26	23
		24	20
4—8	11—16	3—7	16—19
17	13	20	11
		23	19
		18	14
9—14	7—16	16—23	10—17
26	23	21	17
		27	18
		25	22
15—18	14—21	15—22	17—26
24	20	10	26
		25	18
		30	7

white wins.

PROBLEM No. 135.

This position occurred in play between Mr. Forbes of Shubenacadie and our checker editor. Black men (Forsyth) 1, 3, 4, 6, 7, 8, 14, 15, 19.



White men (Forbes) 13, 22, 24, 26, 28, 29, 30, 31, 32.

White to play and win.

It is not often that a veteran gets caught in such a trap, but his youthful opponent was too much for him on this occasion.

NEWS.

A team match has been arranged to be played on Thanksgiving Day at Shubenacadie between four players of that place and the same number from Halifax. This is the first team match, so far as we know, ever played in Nova Scotia.

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

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At 2 o'clock, p.m.

PRIZES VALUE, \$50,000.

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LIST OF PRIZES.

1 Real Estate worth	\$5,000	\$5,000
1 Real Estate worth	2,000	2,000
1 Real Estate worth	1,000	1,000
4 Real Estates worth	500	2,000
10 Real Estates worth	300	3,000
30 Furniture Sets worth	200	6,000
60 Furniture Sets worth	100	6,000
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