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A Maritime Provincial Journal.

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Commerce, Manufacturing, Mining and Agriculture.

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HALIFAX, N. S., JULY 26, 1889.

{ VOL 6
No. 30

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THE CRITIC,

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

BY

CRITIC PUBLISHING COMPANY.

Edited by C. F. FRASER.

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

SAMPLE COPIES SENT FREE.

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

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

EDITORIAL NOTES.

We begin in to-day's issue of THE CRITIC a short story by a gentleman of marked ability, who has for some time past been resident in Halifax. The little tale is clearly and brightly written and will forcibly remind its readers of the pleasant and often pathetic little military romances of "John Strange Winter."

The Earl or, as he must now be called, the Duke of Fife, deserves credit for his consideration in declining to receive wedding presents from his tenantry. These demonstrations are often a severe tax on persons who can ill afford to make presents, and the Duke's action may possibly prove the initiative of a general change of fashion in this regard. It must have occurred to many that the wedding present tax has of late years assumed alarming proportions, and must often prove a heavy impost, while it is not unfrequently whispered that numbers of wedding guests are sometimes invited with an express view to the contributions accruing.

The French Chamber of Deputies has been prorogued. It appears to have outlived any utility it may have possessed and the respect supposed to be due to a legislative body, for its last days were marked by riotous and discreditable scenes which added to the disrepute into which it had fallen. A general election is looked forward to in the fall, and it will then be seen if there is any strength left in Boulangerism. If trouble should arise with England out of the French encroachments in Newfoundland and the hostile attitude of France with regard to Egyptian affairs, it may yet be on the cards that she may come to look upon the redoubtable General as a possible staff whereon to lean.

Accounts are very frequent in the Daily Press of the riotous conduct of the soldiers of the Duke of Wellington's Regiment, and it is to be feared that corps, though in splendid drill order, is not altogether so well behaved otherwise as it might be. The trite old adage, however, that there are two sides to every question holds good here also. There has always been a section of the people of Halifax who entertain a violent animosity to the regulars, and eagerly seize or even make opportunities of collision. We were told, not many days ago, by a gentleman of unquestionable reliability that he had recently heard a rough say to his comrade loafers—"Let's get up a fight with the soldiers." And this was by no means the first time he had heard the same sort of thing.

Like our butter-making our fish-curing often falls far short of perfection, and Canadian fish is frequently unable to compete successfully in the European markets. The Minister of Marine and Fisheries has therefore taken a step likely to prove of great benefit to our great fishing industries in arranging for a special investigation into the most approved methods of curing and drying fish in vogue in Europe. We hope the investigation will be thorough and the report speedy.

Complaints have reached us of the setting of several salmon nets across the Shubenacadie River between Milford and Elmsdale, which completely prevent the salmon from getting up the stream. It is intimated that fishwardens are sometimes disposed to evade their plain duty in such cases by the fear of petty revenge on the part of offenders. This tendency is indeed far too prevalent in Nova Scotia, and it is perhaps only by the appointment of very resolute persons to the duty of enforcing the laws that the evil can be met and overcome.

We are indebted to the *St. John Gazette* for the following kindly and appreciative notice:—"The success of the Halifax CRITIC proves that a good independent weekly will prosper in the Maritime Provinces. The CRITIC has won its present position because of the intelligence which it brings to the discussion of all public matters, and also in consequence of the attention it gives to the industrial interests of the Maritime Provinces. It would be better for Nova Scotia if it had more papers possessed of the same spirit that THE CRITIC displays."

A gigantic scheme is on foot, and is to be submitted to Congress at its next session, to create a company to acquire the control of the leading railways of the continent, including the C. P. R. This control is sought in the interests of Boston. If this should come to pass it would, as is well observed by a contemporary, be a cruel awakening to Canadians from the dream that at all events, if they have spent millions on it, they were in possession of a great national highway forming an important link in the chain binding the Empire together the world over. And the worst of it is that it is not apparent that Canada would be able to put a veto on such a transaction, while the antecedents of Mr. Van Horne lend but too much probability to his giving his aid to it. The truth of the above report is doubted.

We have read with much pleasure and entirely concur in the sentiments expressed in a leading article in the *Chronicle* last Saturday. Our endeavor has ever been to point out the worse than uselessness of the continual ascription of unworthy motives to political opponents. We, for our part, decline to believe that either the Dominion Government on the one hand, or the Provincial Government of Nova Scotia on the other, are the "swindlers, ignoramuses or fools" they are too often respectively called. We believe that both are in the main actuated by higher motives. The abuse goes far beyond what is merited by their general courses of action. It is only reasonable to suppose that if their course of action were really such as is so continually ascribed to them, there would soon be a change. Moreover the tirades indulged in are out of all proportion to the importance of the interests involved. The *Chronicle's* plea for at least a truce has also this advantage, that even a temporary cessation from exaggerated invective might break the habit, and when real party warfare should demand the resumption of their weapons, the partisans might possibly renew the fight in a higher spirit of courtesy and forbearance.

The *American Bureau of Statistics* has lately published a report on the production and consumption of spirits and malt liquors, which shows an enormous increase in their use in the United States, and demonstrates the exceedingly favorable position among nations held by Canada from a temperance point of view. In the former, the average consumption per head of malt liquors in gallons actually increased from 1.36 to 12.40 between the years 1840 and 1888. The consumption per capita in different countries is given as follows, the figures denoting gallons:

Countries	Spirits.	Wines.	Malt.
United States.....	1 28	0.59	12.48
United Kingdom.....	0.98	0.38	32.88
Germany	1.09	...	24.99
France	1.24	26.74
Denmark.....	4 23
Canada.....	0 84	0.10	3.50

These figures show conclusively how unnecessary is fanatical insistence on arbitrary enactments tending to weaken personal responsibility, and to cripple the freedom of action which is the birthright of every citizen of a free country.

We are in receipt of the official programme of the St. John Summer Carnival and Electrical Exhibition, a pamphlet of nearly 100 pages, exceedingly well got up with a bright-looking pink-tinted cover. There are, we suppose, few travelled Halifaxians who do not know St. John, but if there be any, the illustrations of the Carnival Programme will reveal to them a city boasting many handsome streets and buildings. As stated in the introductory notice "the recent union of St. John and Portland has created a new city," to which, only fearing that the space of ten days allotted to the Carnival is somewhat too long a period, we wish every possible success in its festivity.

We have been favored with a letter over the signature "Civis," which is by implication not a little complimentary to THE CRITIC. "If it were possible," says our correspondent, "to issue THE CRITIC as a daily evening paper, I am of opinion that an important service would be rendered to many citizens of Halifax." We cannot give publicity to what "Civis" says of the three existing evening papers of the city, and can only tell our correspondent, with thanks for his appreciation, that whilst THE CRITIC endeavors to the best of its means and ability to fulfill with respectability some of the functions of a Weekly Paper, it would not only be quite beyond our scope to attempt a daily publication, but that success would be very doubtful had we the inclination. It is, we fear, precisely the tone which "Civis" deprecates, and which we could not by any possibility fall into, that would always ensure the preference of the mass of the public for our evening contemporaries. Our correspondent will further be good enough to take notice that any extended use of his communication would, under any circumstances, have been precluded by his not furnishing us with his name.

It is painful to read the efforts of some of our contemporaries to belittle the celebration of Dominion Day. In some cases it seems to be a matter of satisfaction that it is comparatively little observed in Halifax. There is something rather small in harking back to the antagonism of two and twenty years ago. Federation is not only an accomplished, but, notwithstanding here and there smouldering embers of discontent, a successful and a glorious fact. Says an Exchange:—"The prejudice against Confederation is chiefly political, and the man who has not sufficiently cooled off in twenty-two years to permit the flag (the red rag as a Pictou paper puts it) to float over his building on the anniversary of his country's birth as a nation, is too small-souled to live." Without going quite so far as our contemporary—for doubtless there are many who believe in the soundness of their objections—we cannot but agree with another, which says:—"We must all learn to bear and for-bear—to agree to differ as all men have to do on some points. To be a Canadian should be a bond of union outweighing all other differences, which should yield before the great work of uniting to build up our magnificent country." Surely it is time that all sections of Canadian citizens should take this lesson to heart.

"As to geography," continues Prof. Delitzsch, "the discoveries of Ur Casdim, the birthplace of Israel, and lately of Sepharvaim, rank among the most precious results of Assyriological research. All these new and welcome discoveries, extending also to non-Babylonian towns, nations, tribes, and names, have been collected in my book entitled 'Wo lag das Paradies?' Want of space does not allow me to cite illustrations. As for the science of religion, the resurrection of Assyrian and Babylonian antiquity has created a new epoch, especially for the religion of the natives of Western Asia. It has not only prepared the way for a deeper and more thorough understanding of the nature and character of the Babylonian and Canaanitish gods, such as Ashtoreth, Nergal, Marduk, Tammuz, and Moloch, and of the subordinate divine beings, such as the cherubim, but it reveals also the history of Hebrew religious feeling, opinion, and belief. One of the most striking and interesting coincidences between the Hebrew and Babylonian peoples is their equally deep consciousness of man's sin, guilt, and need of divine deliverance. I am fully persuaded that the time will come when we may make from the Babylonian and Assyrian clay literature a collection of Babylonian hymns and prayers which shall present a surprising agreement, both in form and in contents, with the Psalms of the Old Testament."

Lord Herschell, in a recent speech in London on the connection of the Colonies with the mother country, said that "the union which existed involved no serious burden on the Colonies, it did not hinder their free and natural development, but gave them a tie with the historic past. It made them subjects of the British Empire, whose good name and noble traditions were as much theirs as ours." This is an utterance to all appearance harmless enough, but the use of the word "subject" seems to have a disturbing effect on the sensibilities of one of our contemporaries, which is excited to say "Canadians have no intention whatever of remaining subjects of the British Empire. That position may be satisfactory to the Kaffirs at the Cape, or to the conquered races of India, but it will never satisfy the aspirations of the Canadian people. We will be citizens (mark the words, Lord Herschell!) of the British Empire with all the rights and privileges of full and free citizenship, or we will have no lot or part in your greatness!" The ordinary use of the word "subject" really does not seem to be worth all this demonstrativeness. The American citizen, we know, has a bumptious dislike to the term, but a British subject, knowing himself to be in the enjoyment of a truer freedom than the citizen of any republic on earth, has no captious objection to it. Indeed, we doubt if the question were mooted whether any intelligent American would seriously object to being called a "subject" of the United States. Every man is a subject of the laws and constitution of the country to which he belongs, and the term has no significance of thralldom or even real subjection.

On the 29th of July, 301 years ago, the great Armada which threatened so imminently the subversion of the Protestant Religion and the liberties of England was finally dispersed. To-day is our nearest day of publication to the Anniversary, and we have been favored by the Australian poet, Douglas Sladen, with a copy of his minor poem on an episode in the great fight. Mr. Sladen has a longer poem which comprehends the action generally, and a portion of that which we give to-day, but it is too lengthy for our poetical column, in which we give the earlier and shorter one. It was a daring enterprise of Mr. Sladen to have essayed a theme immortalised by Macaulay's stirring lines, some of which we reproduced in THE CRITIC of 26th July last year, but none who have read Mr. Sladen's poems will think his boldness unjustified.

The Press very generally agrees in lauding the humanity of the Kennel Club of London in deciding against the "cruel habit" of cutting dogs' ears to improve their appearance, but we do not hear a word of protest against the far more atrocious and useless cruelties of vivisection. The following paragraph is going the rounds:—"Professor Hartidan, of the West Virginia university, is conducting two interesting experiments in vivisection. In one he made an incision into the stomach of a dog, in which he placed a fistula tube from the outside. When a vessel of milk is placed before the dog and the animal drinks, the fluid runs out through the tube as fast as it is lapped up, and the dog's thirst is not quenched. When the tube is stopped, so that the milk is retained in the stomach the animal becomes satiated, showing that the seat of thirst is not in the throat, but is a demand of the entire system." As everyone knew this long ago, the experiment is one of wanton cruelty, and if Professor Hartidan was ignorant of the fact we should not be disposed to rate him very highly as a Professor.

Is not the following from the *Militia Gazette* well worth the attention of the Educational Authorities, not only of Halifax, but of some others of the chief towns of Nova Scotia? "In the interests of the future of the militia of Canada, scarce any more useful work could be done than that amongst the boys of the public schools, so carefully carried on in several cities. The adjutant of the Twelfth Battalion, Capt. J. T. Thompson, has achieved surprising results with the boys of Toronto, and now Capt. . . B.T. Macaulay, of the Sixth Fusiliers, is to the fore at the head of a well drilled class from the High School at Montreal. Capt. Macaulay has applied for, and will no doubt receive, permission to form a cadet corps at the High School, and this will be directed by him. Upon stipulated conditions as to the constitution of the drill companies, and the uniform to be worn, the Militia Department will furnish free to universities, colleges, normal and high schools, the arms and accoutrements necessary for instruction; and the Department will also detail an instructor to attend at each school, at the public expense, for one month in each year, or longer if required.

Amidst much discussion of Evictions, Home Rule, the imprisonments of Irish members, the general agitation of leagues, and the protracted warfare between landlords and tenants, little is said about the remedial measures which are slowly but surely altering the condition of the country. Mr. Gladstone's Land Act, the more extended law of the succeeding Conservative Government, and the enlargement of the latter, have enabled the provident tenant to acquire the land which he, and perhaps his ancestors, have cultivated. The purchase of land by a small annual charge is of course a slow process, but still it eventually makes a man and his heirs their own landlords. Doubtless more money will be provided when the present fund is exhausted, so that no occupant whose landlord is willing to sell need remain in a condition which discourages his efforts to improve his holding. These facilities have been supplemented by several Drainage Acts which provide employment for the peasantry, and will add a large area of land to the cultivable soil of Ireland. Railways, the construction of which is also provided for by an Act of Parliament, will throw open a number of isolated districts, and lead to the transfer of an unsettled population from congested districts to thinly settled regions. It would seem that measures such as these are likely to do more for the future prosperity of Ireland than all the ill-fated agitation, whose chief result is the artificial popularity of a number of demagogues.

The *Militia Gazette*, a most reliable Canadian military organ, has the following comments on the recent successes of the Massachusetts rifle team at Wimbledon. Without in the least grudging honor where honor is due the observations may serve to mollify a slight sense of disappointment at the non-success of the English teams in the competitions:—"The victories achieved last week by the team of Massachusetts riflemen in England have puzzled not a few who have not taken all the circumstances into account. The contestants have not been by any means on even terms, for the Massachusetts men have on their Springfield rifles wind gauges and aperture sights, while the Englishmen used plain Martinis, with open sights and no wind gauges, and were thus at a considerable disadvantage. The teams consisted of twelve men on each side, and they fired at 200, 500 and 600 yards, seven shots at each, with two sighting shots allowed. The standing position has been used at 200 yards. The scoring has not been remarkably high on either side, averaging for the five matches fired last week 88 points for Massachusetts, and 82 for the English teams. In the friendly match in which our Wimbledon team competed on Thursday last, and in which plain Martini rifles were used, the ten Canadians averaged 90.6 points per man, and the team of Cambridge volunteers 86.5 points. This last match was, however, with the kneeling position used at 200 yards—an advantage of perhaps three or four points per man over the standing position."

CHIT-CHAT AND CHUCKLES.

A WOMAN'S REASON.

Her manner was so pensive,
So sober was her air,
That I began to wonder
What grief she had to bear.

She was not dressed in mourning
But in the latest style,
She wore a Paris costume,
But she did not wear a smile.

She looked quite chic and dainty,
Her hands were neatly gloved.
But, somehow, she looked just as if
She never had been loved.

And so at last I asked her if
She'd lost her next of kin,
"Oh, no!" she sighed, "its only
These boots I'm breaking in."

"None but the brave deserve the fair." And even the brave can't live with some of 'em.

Every man is "hunting for a girl" until he is married. Then he takes a rest and his wife hogins.

The surest way to create a lively, popular interest in missionary work is to send Prof. John L. Sullivan out to labor with the heathen.

Mrs. Blonde (wildly)—"Where did this black hair come from?" Mr. Blonde—"I was riding behind a black horse, and he switched his tail—" "This is fine hair." "Yes, it was a fine horse."

Cabby (who has received his correct fare)—"Call yourself a gentleman? Why, I keeps a better gentleman than you to clean my boots." Fare—"Pity you don't keep another to wash your face!"

This is the way the Chicago Times disposes of another cherished delusion. "It is now rumored that the beautiful Lady Jane Grey of our boyhood's imagination was short and thin and had a mole on the end of her nose."

Fifteen young Hindoo ladies have been admitted to the new female class of the Campbell Medical Schools at Calcutta, and are studying medicine. Many of them are Brahmins. Ten have obtained scholarships, and the others are admitted as free students.

Anxious mother—"I wish, Susau, that when you give baby a bath you would be careful to ascertain whether the water is at the proper temperature." Susau—"Oh, don't you worry about that, ma'am. I don't need no 'mometers. If the little one turns red the water is too hot, if it turns blue it's too cold; and that's all there is about it!"

Pious fraud—Young lady (approaching a seat in the park on which three young gentlemen are reclining)—"Ach, could you sit a little closer?" Gents (simultaneously)—"With the greatest of pleasure!" Young lady (turning to an elderly companion)—"So, Aunt Lina, come; the gentlemen have made room for you! When I have had my music lesson I will come back here to fetch you. Good-bye for the present!"

Visitors to the Paris Exhibition may get a pretty fair idea of how our earth looks to the residents of the nearest planet. The globe in the Paris Exhibition is nearly 100 feet in diameter. Paris occupies about a third of an inch. All the great lines of communication by land and sea are shown in detail. The earth's daily rotation will be precisely imitated by clock-work, a point on the globe's equator moving an eightieth of an inch per second.

A leading clergymen of Boston, not long since preached a powerful sermon in New York State which affected many of the congregation. But one stolid man, an impenitent sinner, probably a printer, appeared quite unconcerned by the warning that he must be born again. After service a friend rebuked him for his stubbornness, reminding him that he must be born again or lost. "You forget," he replied, "where I was raised. A man who was born in Boston don't have to be born again."

One of the most curious among all the curious presents which the Emperor of Germany has recently received as products of his African possessions, is a transparent walking-stick made of rhinoceros skin. It appears that "Reichscommissar Hauptmann Wissmann" sent a large piece of skin over to a friend at Hamburg, who gave it into the hands of a clever turner to be made into walking sticks. By means of some novel process the turner has rendered the skin transparent and of a beautiful amber color, which has been done before, but never without changing color in a very short time, while in the present case the yellow is steady and unchanging.

So ARTLESS.—He stood in a doorway on Woodward avenue the other rainy day with an umbrella in his hand, and he seemed to be waiting for an opportunity. One soon came tripping along. She had no umbrella, and he stepped out, raised his own and began:

"Excuse me, but——"
"Oh, certainly," she laughingly exclaimed. "You are very, very kind. I shall always remember it. Good-bye."

And she took the umbrella from his grasp and tripped away without ever once looking back, and he returned to the shelter of the doorway to exclaim:

"There goes a \$5 umbrella and here stands an idiot who has been sold for a cent."

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SEND FOR ESTIMATES.

NEWS OF THE WEEK.

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

Those who wish to secure pleasant and profitable reading matter for the winter evenings should note our exceptional offer which appears on page 11. For \$3.00 in cash we undertake to send THE CRITIC to any subscriber for one year, supplying him in addition with 110 of the most readable of readable books. Those who are renewing their subscriptions, as well as new subscribers, should take advantage of his offer.

A proposition has been made to erect a monument to the late John Norquay.

The Erie and Niagara Railway has been amalgamated with the Canada Southern.

In order to develop the Assiniboine River \$400,000 will be raised in Winnipeg.

A large additional number of Icelanders for Manitoba are expected to arrive next month.

Hon. T. B. Pardee, Commissioner of Crown Lands for Ontario, died at his home in Sarnia on the 21st inst.

There is a proposition before the department of militia to form a company of garrison artillery at Sydney Mines.

It is understood that the Government has offered to withdraw proceedings in the *Mattie Winship* case if the owners pay \$2,000 forfeit together with accrued costs.

A branch of the Imperial Federation league has been formed in Yarmouth with fifty members. Col. P. S. Hamilton is president and T. B. Crosby secretary.

Mr. W. H. Rogers, the efficient Inspector of Fisheries, has applied for and obtained retirement and superannuation. Mr. Rogers' services have been such as to deserve well of his country.

The Royal Humane Society's silver medal has been presented to Danl. Hunt, who, it will be remembered, lost a foot through rescuing a passenger who fell overboard from one of the Boston boats.

Amherst continues to flourish, New buildings are now being rapidly erected. All is activity and bustle. The factories running to their fullest capacity and the trade of the place constantly increasing.

A public meeting of the ratepayers of North Sydney has been held to consider the matter of lighting the town with the electric light. The cost of the plant will be about \$10,000. The meeting unanimously decided to have the light.

The Earl of Dunraven has given his ultimatum in connection with his yacht challenge for the American cup. He will not send the *Valkyrie* across unless the Americans have trial races to choose a champion yacht and make an international affair of it.

The Yarmouth Steamship Company has got out a very neat and well printed folder, as good looking as any of the railway time tables, containing fares, time tables, and every information necessary for passengers together with a map of the route. It reflects credit on the company.

The St. John Carnival is in full blast. The streets are gay with bunting, the processions have been a success, the city is thronged with visitors from all parts, and the weather is delightful. It is to be hoped it will remain so for every day of the ten St. John has devoted to this festivity.

Miss Mamie Tibbits, of Fredericton, who was so badly treated in Montreal, has been honorably acquitted, and the counsel for the prosecution apologized in court for the annoyance caused to her. To judge by the accounts given of the Mulcahy people and their doings, it looks very much as if they were not quite "all there."

Mr. G. T. Monckton of Coldbrook, Kings County, has purchased a share in a property in the immediate vicinity of the Eureka Mine at Ecum Secum, Halifax County. The shaft has been sunk to a depth of twenty-five feet. The lead is twenty-two inches on the surface and shows abundant galena and white iron. Several sights of gold have been found up to date.

The annual competitions of the Halifax brigade of Garrison Artillery Rifle Association will take place on Bedford Range to-day. Entrance fee, 50 cents; no sighting shots. Ammunition sold on the ground. There will be two competitions; 1st at 200 and 400 yards, 7 rounds; 2nd, 200, 400 and 500 yards, 7 rounds. Consolation at 400 yards. Prize list, \$150; also prizes in kind.

At the end of the fiscal year 1879 the amount of deposits in the chartered banks of the country was \$63,636,000, in the saving banks \$14,702,000, and in the loan companies savings department \$9,425,000. The figures are now: in the chartered banks \$122,016,000, in savings banks \$51,915,000; in the loan companies \$19,000,000, or \$193,211,000 in 1889, against \$87,749,000.

The Summer School of Science opened its third session at Parrsboro on Monday evening. The visitors were accorded a cheering reception by the town, and other places are not backward in seconding the good example of Parrsboro. The many places of interest in and around Parrsboro will make this session of the school an especially enjoyable one. Upwards of 200 members now belong to the Summer School of Science.

The *Manitoba Colonist* of Winnipeg, has published a supplement in the shape of a large sized pamphlet under the title, *Port Arthur Illustrated*. It is excellently got up and the illustrations are very good, showing a large town with many handsome buildings on the spot utterly lonely up to 1870, which was in that year marked by the tents of the Red River Expedition. It is quite an interesting publication, and does the *Colonist* great credit.

Mr. M. Sweetnam has been made Chief Post Office Inspector of the Dominion, and Mr. F. D. Birwick succeeds him in the Toronto division.

The new Canadian cable scheme, of which R. R. Dobell, of Quebec, is chief promoter, is now in a fair way of accomplishment. Four hundred thousand pounds has been subscribed in England for the construction of a cable to run from the Strait of Belleisle to a point on the west coast of Ireland. The Dominion Government will, it is believed, continue land lines along the north shore on the St. Lawrence to the Straits of Belle Isle, where it will connect with the new cable. The object is to give to Canada an independent Atlantic cable, and the Government is understood to encourage its construction.

There has been considerable rivalry between the leading dry-goods establishments of Truro in the matter of dressing their show windows. One firm made a decidedly new departure last week when one of their large windows was fitted up with a beautiful fountain and pond of clear water surrounded with a great variety of mosses and ferns. A large aquatic bird of an unusual species, caught at Grand Lake, disported itself in the water and wandered among the ferns, while a number of canaries flitted about amid the overhanging branches. The whole made a picture of great beauty, reflecting credit upon the taste and skill of the decorator. A Boston dry goods firm shows the league base ball games in miniature in one of its show windows.

The procession of the Labor Societies on Tuesday was a really imposing demonstration. The column must have equalled the length of Hollis street from the corner of George street to at least Morris street, and was exceedingly well organized. In every respect the various "guilds" presented an appearance of the highest respectability, and the march was enlivened by the music of every available band in the city. There was a good display of handsome flags and banners, among them two American Ensigns, which might perhaps have been as well dispensed with, and the whole display was in every way creditable. Such a gathering on "Labor Day" is well calculated to inspire our artisan and laboring fellow-citizens with confidence in their numbers, power, and resources, but the respectability and intelligence of the assembled representatives of "Labor" would seem to constitute a sufficient guarantee against the abuse of the influences they wield. The picnic, dinner and sports subsequently enjoyed on MacNab's Island were a pleasant and appropriate wind-up to an anniversary celebration with which we have every sympathy.

The Carnival Numbers of the *Mail* and *Echo* are standing evidence of the timely enterprise of those Journals. Their cost must have been great, and we earnestly hope they will be well remunerated. That of the *Echo* is a splendid sheet, and if the colored engravings are here and there a little highly toned, the excellent paper and type amply atone for it. The photographic illustrations are some of them slightly indistinct, but, judging from the *Dominion Illustrated*, that drawback seems to be, in the present state of art, inseparable from that style of engraving. A pathetic and very well-written story from the pen of a Halifax lady adds interest to its columns. The *Mail* number, if not so brilliant in coloring, has distinct merits of its own, and its literary tone is excellent. A stirring poem by Mr. Douglas Sladen, the Australian poet, is one of its gems, and it contains also one of Mr. Sumichrast's brilliant letters, and a charming poetical tribute to the warm-heartedness of Halifax by M. J. K. L. It is impossible to go into details of the attractions of these charming sheets, but we feel sure they will command an extended circulation among an appreciative public.

American yellow pine is a great favorite for wooden pavements in Berlin.

Thousands of cattle are dying from "Texas fever" in Oklahoma and Indian Territory.

Complaints come from North Dakota about the intense heat, which is ruining the crops.

The number of suicides in the United States last year, as closely as can be figured, was 7,000.

Earthquake shocks of a violent nature were felt in various parts of Tennessee on Saturday evening.

Florida has \$12,000,000 invested in the orange business, and the sales this year were a fourth of that big sum.

A special to the *Inter-Ocean* from Grafton, Dak., says the wheat crop of Dakota is 30,000,000 bushels short.

Max O'Rell, it is said, is coming to this country to lecture again next year. His first engagement is in Boston in January next.

Edison has invented an "ore separator" which attracts from a moving mass of earth and crushed rock, by a powerful magnet, such portions as contain metal.

The Wichita man who sells a glass of beer is fined \$500. The Wichita man who cruelly beats his wife is fined \$10. Thus it will be seen that there are various degrees of prohibition even in Kansas.

The *World* prints a letter from King Mataafa, stating that the war and hurricane in Samoa have caused a famine, and expressing the hope that Americans will send aid to the unfortunate Samoans.

According to Boston papers there is a new feature of life in the Universal Hub. It is the business girl. She isn't afraid of a man, she dresses faultlessly, looks her prettiest, has a soft voice, and does not flirt during business hours.

A tremendous land slide occurred near Miles City on the Northern Pacific Railway. A high alkali bank suddenly gave way and a mass of earth for a distance of 500 feet slid down into the Yellowstone river, completely burying the railroad.

San Bernardino, Cal., keeps clear of tramps by holding the vagabonds under a waterspout for thirty minutes, giving them a severe cold-water bath, and ordering them to leave the town. They do not lose any time in obeying.

While workmen were opening a road up the side of Pigeon Mountain in Georgia they found beneath a large flat rock an iron pot containing \$2,000 in specie. It is supposed that the money was hidden during the rebellion.

The Philadelphia *Record* says that the youngsters having been prohibited from smoking cigarettes have taken to pipes, there being no restriction upon the sale of tobacco or cigars to young lads, and already boys may be seen in by-streets and secluded corners triumphantly pulling away at long clays and laughing at the shortcoming of the law.

Sir Julian Pauncefote takes back with him, it is reported, a rough draft of an agreement between Great Britain and this country covering the Canadian and Behring Sea questions, which, if consummated, will settle them for some time to come. It is the result of his conference with Secretary Blaine, and will be submitted to Lord Salisbury for suggestions.

During the past two years people have at various times claimed to have seen a sea serpent on Lake Winnebago, Wis., it is found that there was some ground for the story told. While two boys were spearing frogs near the lake, they saw the monster in a shallow pool. Assistance was summoned and a sea lion 11 feet long was captured. It escaped from a circus there four years ago and the fact had been forgotten.

The first trial of an Indian by a jury of red men took place recently at Red Lake Falls, Minn. Big Bird had killed another Indian and contended that it was accidental. The government agent empanelled a jury of six Indians who, after an investigation of twenty-four hours, decided that the killing was not accidental. The government agent said he never saw a better jury than the one which considered this case.

An exciting scene was lately witnessed at an animal store in New York. A boa-constrictor 20 feet long escaped from his box and, having seized a monkey chained in the yard, crushed it after the manner of constrictors, and at once proceeded to swallow it. The poor beast could not be rescued, so the snake was allowed to complete his meal, after which he was easily captured. The sight though interesting was of course horrible.

The first arbor day was observed in Nebraska 17 years ago, when 12,000,000 trees were planted. There are now growing in the state 605,000,000 trees. In other states many millions of trees have been planted, and at the present time 34 states observe an arbor day. A hundred thousand acres of valueless dunes on the Bay of Biscay were planted with trees by Bremon tier, which now yield France an annual income of 130,000 francs.

An association has been organized in Boston to construct a steel air ship on the vacuum principle. It is to be of thin steel plates of the strongest tensile strength, braced inside to resist the pressure of the atmosphere with a partial vacuum. It is expected to lift 200 passengers and 50 tons of mail or other matter, and also carry apparatus with electrical power sufficient to give the ship a speed of 70 miles an hour. A national subscription is being made to secure the necessary funds, \$250,000.

Andrew Lang and Rider Haggard are writing a work of imagination together.

Eighteen Russian army officers are now engaged in inspecting the Servian fortresses.

Sixty Russian engineers are surveying the Austrian frontier in the vicinity of Woloczysk.

An imposing monument to the late Emperor Frederick was unveiled yesterday at Braunfels.

The French Government has given a final refusal to assent to the Egyptian conversion scheme.

The issue of Panama Canal bonds to the amount of 8,925,000 francs, at 105, has been fixed for July 27th.

Grand Duke Constantine, uncle of the Czar, has suffered a stroke of paralysis. He has lost the power of speech.

Lord Wolseley has entered upon his 56th year, having been born June 4th, 1833. He entered the army March 12th, 1852.

The only places where women possess the same privileges of voting as men are Iceland, Pitcairn Island and the Isle of Man.

The Earldom of Fife has been raised to a Dukedom in favor of the prospective husband of the Princess Louise of Wales.

Queen Margaret of Italy is a mountain climber, and Queen Christina is a balloonist, having made an ascension a few days ago.

The Government have forbidden any demonstrations calculated to encourage the Pope to come to Spain in the event of his leaving Rome.

The marriage of Princess Sophia, sister of Emperor William, and the Duke of Sparta, Crown Prince of Greece, will take place October 15.

A number of Bishops and others have petitioned the Vatican to canonize Christopher Columbus on the anniversary of the discovery of America.

It is reported that the Empress Augusta Victoria has become converted to the Roman Catholic Church, and has made a profession of her faith.

Gilbert and Sullivan are popularly known in London as "The Cynic and The Knight." Their new opera will not be ready until next winter.

There is so much jealousy between Hindoos and Mahomedans in India that it is said a religious war would break out if British control were withdrawn.

The Ontario Boundary Bill, confirming the agreement, passed all its stages in the House of Lords unopposed. No opposition is probable in the Commons.

A new wedding anthem, "O Perfect Love," has been composed by Mr. Joseph Barnaby for the marriage of the Princess Louise of Wales and the Earl of Fife.

Charitable people in London have raised \$4,500 with which to pay the first cost and maintain for a year an ambulance system modelled after that of New York.

Mr. Gladstone considers yew the most difficult tree to fell; next comes beech and ash. Oak though very hard, fells well; but the easiest of all is Spanish chestnut.

The British Government has given to the widow of Professor R. A. Procter a pension of £100 per year, in consideration of the services rendered to the cause of science by him.

The Lifeboat Institution of Great Britain, has a fleet of nearly 300 boats, but as there are about 6,700 miles of coast in the United Kingdom to guard the number is none too large.

Bands of Cretan insurgents have seized the towns of Vomoc and Cidonia. They have expelled the authorities and burned the archives. A number of Turkish peasants have fled.

The number of wolves in European Russia is estimated to be about 175,000. These wolves destroy annually 180,000 head of cattle, 560,000 sheep, 100,000 dogs, besides 150 human beings.

The *Reforma* says:—"If the Pope, in the event of his departure from Italy, should contemplate returning in arms back to temporal power, he would find himself confronted with insuperable obstacles.

The National Portrait Gallery in Edinburgh, Scotland, was opened last week by the Marquis of Lothian. Mr. Findley, the proprietor of the *Scotsman* newspaper, has contributed \$250,000 towards it.

Four hundred houses and public buildings were destroyed by fire in the town of Paris to-day. Many children are reported to be missing. Hundreds of people are rendered homeless and the greatest distress prevails.

England has over \$1,000,000 invested in the manufacture of idols for heathen countries, and yet the churches of that country are continually calling for more money and more missionaries to suppress idolatry.

Reports from England to hand by last mail, indicate high prices for apples this fall—the unprecedented cheapness and abundance of last year's supply having increased the demand for all classes of American fruit.

It appears that Mr. Gladstone's ancestors were pirates. In 1665 Halbert Gladstone, a merchant in Edinburgh, was a member of the crew on board the *George*, which sailed from Glasgow to prey on the Dutch merchantmen.

The Government has accepted a proposal by Mr. John Morley, that an increased allowance to the Prince of Wales, enabling him to provide marriage portions for his children, be substituted for the proposed special grants.

The greatest passenger terminus in London, Liverpool Street, is to be enlarged, at a cost for land alone of \$3,250,000. The extension will enable the number of trains to be increased from the present figures, 700, to 1,000 daily.

The jury in the case of Mr. Wm. O'Brien against Lord Salisbury for damages for slander, returned a verdict in favor of Lord Salisbury. It is said there will be an application for a new trial on the ground of misdirection of the jury.

Work on the Nicaragua Canal is progressing favorably, both Nicaraguans and Costa Ricans warmly favor the pushing forward of the work of the construction, and the little misunderstanding between the two Republics over the canal is likely to be amicably settled.

Lady Dorothy Nevill, Miss Balfour, Mrs. General Booth, Mrs. Thackeray, Miss Amelia B. Edwards and Miss Olive Schreiner are among the signers of the reply in the *Fortnightly Review* to the women's appeal against woman suffrage which appeared in the last *Nineteenth Century*.

The question of the grant to the Princess Louise of Wales has produced a disruption in the opposition ranks, Mr. Gladstone, Sir Wm. Harcourt and Mr. Parnell having decided to support the Government. There may be much significance in this action, especially Mr. Parnell's.

The freedom of the city of Edinburgh has been conferred upon Mr. Parnell. Mr. Parnell said that the Irish people would accept the tribute as another proof of the near triumph of their legitimate aspirations for freedom. Referring to the special Commission, Mr. Parnell said if he had known it would block any enquiry into the Piggott conspiracy he would never have entered the court.

The Canadian Wimbledon team has been most successful this year. Besides getting the custody of the Kolapore Cup for the year, they have captured the London Corporation Cup, value \$155, and have gained a number of money prizes too numerous to mention, including the prize of \$400 annually offered to the highest colonial team. Canada has never been beaten except by the Mother Country teams.

The British House of Commons Colonization Committee met for the first time last Friday. The under Scotch secretary testified to the progress of the Crofters in the North-west and urged an extension of the limit of the mortgage on homesteads beyond \$600. This is not sufficient to emigrate and settle on for the general run of emigrants. Sir Charles Tupper is to be examined shortly. Stress will probably be laid on the proposal to extend the \$600 limit.

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Nervous Prostration, Wasting
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Print in colors
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With type ever set,
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THE ARMADA OFF DEVON.

A Sketch for a Poem after Tennyson's "Revenge."

I.

"To sea! the Spaniards follow me!"
So shouted Master Flemming, as he sprang on Plymouth Hoe,
When Howard and Drake and Frobisher were waiting for the foe,
And playing the old English game in the grand old English way,
As though with danger shrieking they had nought to do but play,
Till the foe was on their quarter with his fangs agape for slaughter;
Then, like hell's incarnate devils, bred to blood and fire for revels,
To turn and roar and rend in twain whoever dared the fray.

II.

"To sea! and fight the Spaniards free!"
Rang half a score of voices; but our sturdy Francis Drake
Cried, "We will not leave our game in doubt for any Spaniard's sake.
My Lord and Sirs, play on:
We have time enough, I trow, to play who wins this now,
And afterwards to tattle with the Don."

III.

So they finished in full their game, and to-day we treasure its fame
Mid the feats of light-hearted valour that have won our England her name.
And we pray when it comes once more
For England to hold her breath in the struggle of life and death.
That men may be many to die with the smile on the lip and eye,
Which has mad these Armada heroes a proverb the wide world o'er.

IV.

They played till their game was done, and the Man of Victories won
Our terrible Sir Francis, who had scourged the King of Spain.
A Devon man was he, but bred in knightly Kent,
Where back through storied centuries the tale of triumph went,
To the days when men of Dover fell upon the Norman's train,
And drove them hollering over to their native France again.
In the Saint-Confessor's reign.

V.

A wind rose in the night and roused the storm-wave's might,
The Spaniard stretched full seven miles in span from left to right,
And he cried in his pride, "Will these English dare to fight?"

VI.

The wind blow up from the West, and on the breaker's crest
His galleons rolled unsteady,
And his guns upon the lee damped their iron lips in the sea,
Till the captains were more ready
To run for port and anchor than a grim sea fight to wage,
But on their weather gage
The little ships of England came scudding at their ease,
For they loved the narrow seas,
And they dreaded not the storm,
Which round the Rame's dark form
Hung a shroud of misty white,
Till it loomed like a ghost at dead of night.

VII.

Would the English dare to fight?
Does the leopard fear to leap
On the monstrous buffalo, as he crashes, huge and slow,
Through jungle grasses deep to some wide river sweep,
When thirsty noon-hours glow?
Does the bull dog shun the bull as strong and augerful
As an elephant a-wrath?
Does the eagle flee the path
Of the swan
As it sweeps superbly on?
Nay, the buffalo shall reel 'neath the leopard's deadly paws;
And the tall swan's back shall feel the eagle's cruel claws:
And these stately bulls of Seville shall make revel nevermore,
For the bold torreador.

VIII.

Would the English dare to fight: aye, to fight and to attack,
And five ships heave into sight full upon the Spaniard's track.
The Admiral of England, and with him ships but four,
Upon the Spaniard's rear-guard their raking broadsides pour,
Scudding all along the line. "Mother Mary, be it thine
To help thy faithful servants to lay hands upon these few
Who sting their sides so sorely, but whom, once within their grasp,
They could, like a nettle, clasp and hew them through."

IX.

But the Virgin they besought to their prayers she heeded nought.
And their cannon on the lee still were choking in the sea;
While their cannon on the weather turned their angry mouths to heaven,
And tore the air with fruitless pray,
That the heretic might sink beneath their murder-laden levin.
But the shot from their upturned lips flew over the English ships,
And the broad backs of the Spaniards, hulls of thirteen hundred tons,
As they reeled beneath the gale, caught, like hillsides, all the hail
Which rained from the nimble English guns.

X.

And they fled. For the Spanish Admiral signalled, from his towering mainmast-head,
"Close up the rear," and forthwith all up channel crowded sail,
And it chanced that our powder and our shot began to fail;
So they fled.

XI.

But the noble Capitana, as the galleons clashed together
In the cruel Channel weather,
Lost her topmast and her bowsprit, and lay crippled, like a knight
Unhorsed in fight,
Entangled in his surcoat and o'erburdened with his plate,
And it fell to her to meet
The great Sir Francis Drake returning late
From chasing Flemish merchantmen in convoy of their fleet.

XII.

"Now yield you," cried Sir Francis; but the Spaniard answered "Nay,
You shall grant us terms to-day.
For I am Pedro Valdez, and my men be twenty-score,
All good fighters used to war, and of shot have goodly store;
And the snapping of a bowsprit and the falling of a mast
Have not made our cannon dumb, we can welcome all who come;
And our welcomes shall be lusty while they last.
Ye shall grant us terms to-day, or right dearly shall ye pay."

XIII.

And Sir Francis answered plainly, "I am Drake,"
And the Spaniards yielded them for his name's sake,
Who had swept the Spanish main like an island hurricane
Since his fighting days began,
And who fought more like a devil than a man.

XIV.

'Till night the Capitana into Dartmouth safe was brought,
The first-fruits of the battle for our faith and freedom fought,
And whose of you wanders to the abbey barn at Torre
May see the gloomy prison where, in brave old days of yore,
The soldiers and the sailors of the great Armada lay
'Till men marched them down to Plymouth—as a proof of what I say.

—Douglas B. W. Shelden.

[FOR THE CRITIC.]

LETTER TO COUSIN CARYL.

Dear Cousin Caryl.—Some hints on home decoration? You know already that it is my firm conviction that a charming home is one of the best moral educators in life. It is worth dozens and dozens of temperance sermons. A delightful home life in a delightful home does a wonderful work in fortifying weak spots in natures that tracts would never reach.

It is unfortunate that so many good people believe comfortable and artistic homes are to be had only at great expense. It does not cost a penny more to buy draperies, rugs, carpets and furniture that harmonize than it does to get furnishings that *jurer* at each other and at the walls. The length of one's purse determines naturally whether the hangings shall be of plush or of fleecy cotton flannel; whether the pictures shall be the original paintings or engraved reproductions, and so on. But there is nothing in limited means to prevent one setting her face religiously against gaudy prints, and tawdry odds and ends. No, the truth of the matter is, we ourselves, and not our financial circumstances—as we would like to think—are to blame for our ugly homes. The "House Beautiful" is built and furnished sometimes with a great deal of money, sometimes with very little, but never without scrupulous regard for the laws of fitness, harmony, form, color, and all the other apostles of beauty.

Do you remember that text, so often preached from, of Wm. Morris? He sums up the entire thirty-nine articles on home furnishing when he says, "Have nothing in your homes that you do not know to be useful, or believe to be beautiful." Sweep the house with this broom and away goes the clap-trap we are too often deluded into hanging and setting about our rooms. The be-ribboned and be-painted kitchen and barn utensils disappear along with the 273 other gewgaws that we had fondly tied to nothing with big bows. And then we fall to wondering why it did not occur to us before to take one first-class magazine instead of three ninth-rate family story papers, to buy some photographs of masterpieces in art instead of these wretched chromos, and,—but a little leaven leaveneth the whole lump, and once aroused to the influence beauty has upon our lives the regeneration goes on.

We are certain to learn at an early stage that art never sanctions perverting things from their legitimate uses. That is, the fireplace should not be decorated with dried grasses or growing plants. It shocks one's artistic sense to see such incongruous things as flowers and fire brought together even in imagination. Lay some pine cones or bits of birch bark and some pieces of wood in the grate, partially screen it if you will with a decoration fire screen, but do not make it a meaningless part of the furnishing of the room.

For odd nooks and corners about the house no furnishing is at once so artistic and so comfortable as low seats built into the corners, bay windows or whatever. Cushion these with plush, corduroy, cretonne, or whatever, in color or colors to harmonize with the prevailing tone of the room. Then have some large pillow cushions that match the seats to add to their attractiveness. These "jolly" corner seats are features of all the new houses, some exquisitely carved and richly upholstered, more, plainly, but yet artistically and comfortably fitted up.

Curtains of soft, figured or plain silks, hung on slender brass rods from the top and bottom of homely glass doors in book cases and desks lend grace to their stiff outlines. Cushions of raw silk tied into the big old-fashioned splint or wood bottomed chairs after they have been bronzed or stained with oak or cherry, turn these uncomfortable backs and seats into something quite luxurious.

Grouping the furniture in a room has much to do with its general air of hospitality. On no account have a "centre" table with chairs and a sofa set around the walls. Bring an easy chair and the table with the last magazine into friendly relations. Most sofas are horribly inartistic, but put some big cushions on them and move them cornerwise, and they are not so bad.

Artificiality is out of fashion, and one no longer tries to turn an old colonial house into a French Renaissance dwelling, or *vice versa*. Taste means a variety of causes, strike the key note in furnishings, and to get the best effects there must be no discords.

Yours devotedly,

DINAH STURGIS.

INDUSTRIAL NOTES.

The Charlottetown Woollen Mills, at Charlottetown, P. E. I., are the largest of their class in the Maritime Provinces. They are capitalized for \$200,000, employ fifty hands, twenty looms and three sets of cards, and turn out blankets and tweeds. The annual product will run between 150,000 and 200,000 yards of woollen goods.

Our Canadian trade is certainly extending itself almost all over the known world. Every Province of the Dominion has some one or more lines of manufactured goods that find ready market in some distant clime. The Massoys have put our agricultural implements into almost every country in Europe, and into many parts of Asia. Quite generally in South America and New Zealand large proportions of the farms can show farm tools and machines manufactured by this pushing firm. Now the manufacturers of our musical instruments are coming to the front with an enormous trade that they do in foreign countries. Messrs. Wm. Bell & Co., of Guelph, extensive piano and organ manufacturers, for years have taken first prizes at the great Australian Exhibitions. They have a most extensive trade with the Eastern Hemisphere and in a short time a member of the firm leaves to establish business connections on the continent of Africa. This all shows the magnificent increase in the volume of our trade.

A NEW ENGINE.—The Burrell-Johnson Iron Co. have just constructed a steam friction winding engine and boiler for Messrs. Campbell & O'Neil, contractors of the missing link. The machine is a combined winder and pile driver, and may be used for anything that can be attached by a belt. It has an upright steel boiler, the engine being a horizontal single cylinder. It has two separate attachments—one for pile driving, the other for hoisting concrete, &c. The engine and boiler are mounted on one frame, so as to be used either on a scow or on land. The whole apparatus works smoothly, is well adapted for the surface, and is far superior to the old style of cog gearing, being worked from one lever. The hammer weighs 2100 lbs. The Burrell-Johnson Iron Co. have also completed for the same parties a stone breaker, 11x15, to be run by the above engine, which also works admirably, and breaks up the hardest rock in fine style.—*Yarmouth Herald*.

Advices from Montreal inform us that all the millers manufacturing grey cotton cloth have agreed on a minimum price and several are making a special grade for China. The exports this year amount to a quarter of a million dollars. This has caused a firm home market with light stocks. Cotton men speak hopefully of the situation and think a successful season is assured.

At present a great deal of capital in the Maritime provinces is invested in the mackerel fishery, and thousands of men are employed in taking and curing the fish. Commander Gordon, R. N., admiral of the Dominion fisheries protection fleet, says that the disappearance of mackerel is due partly to the ravages of the ordinary means of capture, and partly to the use of these means at improper times. Unspawned fish he estimates at one-third of the total catch north of Cape Sable. He says that in 1885 the United States catch was 330,000 barrels, one-third of which was probably taken north of Cape Sable, N. S., say 110,000 barrels; to this add the Canadian catch, 148,000, making, say 250,000 barrels, one-third of which, 83,000 would be killed before spawning. Allowing 250 fish to a barrel, the destruction of 20,000,000 adult fishes before spawning which, if left alone another month, would have produced over 500,000,000 young fry.

AMHERST ENTERPRISE.—Besides the very heavy uncompleted contracts Rhodes, Curry & Co. have in hand, they have about \$120,000 worth not yet begun. The principal contracts included in this sum are the Dominion building at Annapolis, and the railway round house and addition to the erecting shops, at Moncton. In both cases their tender was the lowest. The price of the Moncton contract is about \$86,000 and is to be completed by the end of December next. It will require 1,250,000 brick, and 237 windows containing over 5,000 panes of glass of from 10 x 12 to 10 x 16 inches. It is an evidence of the great resources and capacity of this firm that it is able to undertake the completion of such a contract within five and a half months.

The firm has lately added a second wood-turning lathe to its factory. It was made on the premises by S. L. Lawson, the firm's machinist, and runs splendidly. Two lathes are now kept constantly in use. Sticks 20 ft. long and 20 inches in diameter can be turned at this factory.

The firm has also ordered from New York a new Universal Shaping Machine, for dovetailing, sinking panels of any variety of moulding, and sticking mouldings of any size or shape; also, a new sash machine with all the latest improvements for rapid work.

A very handsome lot of bank fittings was sent forward yesterday for a branch of the Bank of Nova Scotia about to be opened at Jamacia, W. I. They are of cherry.—*Record*.

BUILDING NOTES.—Building, which opened very brisk in Moncton, appears to increase as the season advances, and this will be one of the busiest falls ever known in this section. Some contractors are unwilling to undertake new work, as their present contracts will take them well into the winter, the woodenware factories are also busy. Mr. Lea, who has been obliged to enlarge his factory, now employs 25 men on orders and expects some new and improved machinery in a short time.—*Times*.

Some Canadian carpenters who have been in the habit of working in the border town of Newport, Vt., during the week, and spending their Sundays in Stanstead, on the Canadian side of the line, have been invited to move into the state and become American citizens or stay at home. They have elected to accept the latter alternative, and as a result building operations in the town of Newport are said to be at a stand-still. The collector says that the contract labor law will be strictly enforced in the future.

A new iron company has been formed at New Glasgow recently with John P. Mott, of Dartmouth, as president. It is the intention to build

furnaces at once, with a view to the immediate reduction of the ores they have acquired in the neighborhood.

CITY CHIMES.

Those who have bemoaned the lack of accommodation for high class boarders in Halifax will be pleased that "Maplewood," that lovely spot on the North-West Arm, has been opened for the reception of boarders by Messrs. Sheraton & McGrath, of the Queen Hotel. A lovelier spot in which to spend part or the whole of the summer it would be hard to find. Every facility for boating and bathing is provided, and the beautiful grounds will be illuminated by electric light. It is probable the house will be filled with guests the entire summer.

The S.S. *Halifax* took about 500 people to Bridgewater on Monday, and in spite of some drawbacks the excursion may be voted a success. It was a merry-looking crowd which thronged the decks as the steamer slowly backed off from the wharf at 8.15, but when York Redoubt was reached some faces began to pale, and the owners thereof were led below to "the seclusion that the cabin grants." Soon the swell began to make itself unpleasantly familiar, rolling the ship about in a very undesirable manner, and getting the better of the majority of the excursionists. When the mouth of the LaHave was reached the invalids came on deck again, most of them looking sad and cheerless, but once in smooth water the uncomfortable emotions of the last few hours were forgotten, and all were able to enjoy the beautiful scenery on either side of the river. The water of the river is hardly deep enough to admit of taking such a large ship as the *Halifax* up to Bridgewater, but after touching bottom a few times and stopping short once or twice, the steamer was successfully moored at the railway wharf, where a train of flat cars was waiting to take the excursionists for a short trip on the N. S. Central Railway. The delay caused by the difficulty of getting up the river shortened the time to stay at Bridgewater to about an hour, so there was no time lost by those who wished to see their friends on shore. A walk through the pretty town was taken by almost everyone, and the universal verdict was that it is a very pretty town. The good Bridgewaterites turned out in force and the whole place was in gala dress. At Doyle's hotel there was a splendid display of bunting, and the genial and obliging proprietor was there looking after his guests and seeing that the new comers were supplied with all they could desire. This hotel is called "Fairview," and as it is well on the top of a hill the title is appropriate. The time to return came all too soon, and at 4.30 the *Halifax* began to move slowly down the river. The "saw-dust question" has not been disturbing the minds of the public recently, and if the discussion of it is in as ill odour as the excessively disagreeable stuff itself is when stirred up by the propeller of a steamer, the longer it can rest undisturbed the better. Perfume and smelling bottles were in demand on this occasion, but the saw-dust effluvia was powerful and would not be overcome by such puny weapons as these. The river LaHave somewhat resembles our North-West Arm in appearance, only of course, being more continuous. The distance from the lighthouse at the mouth of the river to Bridgewater is fourteen miles. On the way back speeches were made by some gentlemen present, and votes of thanks were passed to Capt. Hill and the Directors of the Canada Atlantic S. S. Company for the pleasant trip that had been given them. Dinner was served on board about one o'clock, and all those who were able to eat at all pronounced it excellent. The music was provided by the band of the 66th P. L. F. and Jock Patterson with his bagpipes. The bagpipes may be very gratifying to those who like them, but it is probable, were a vote taken on the subject, the pipes would be dispensed with. At eleven o'clock the steamer was docked at Noble's wharf, and the tired excursionists had an opportunity of getting on *terra firma* once more. "All's well that ends well," and even those who suffered the pangs of sea-sickness announced the fact that they were not sorry they went, and on the whole they had a "good time." The *Halifax* will make some excursions on the harbor during Carnival week, and it is probable she will be well patronized.

The Grayson Opera Co. opened a season at the Academy of Music on Tuesday evening, and although it was quite evident that the members of the company were tired from their journey, "La Mascotte" was given in a very acceptable manner. Miss Bessie Gray has a very pleasing voice and acts well, and Miss Bebe Vining is very charming in appearance, and her acting and singing are excellent. Mr. Herman Waldo, the tenor, was suffering from a cold, but nevertheless his performance was good. Mr. Gilbert Clayton is the funny man of the company, and the lovers of laughter could have no fault to find with him. The company is a good one, and those who appreciate light opera should not fail to hear them.

We had last week in Halifax a concert company which brought out for the first time in the city some novelties in the way of musical instruments. A quartette of German saxophones played several selections in perfect time and tune, the effect of which was most grateful to the ear. Musical instruments peculiar to Italy and Mexico were also played upon in an artistic manner. Mr. J. A. Lucier, the leader of the company, is a masterly cornet-player, and he is very properly classed in the United States as one of the leading cornetists. Taken altogether the concert well deserved the most liberal patronage of our citizens, and those who did not attend it missed an evening of rare musical enjoyment.

The dance given by the captain and officers of the *Bellerophon* on Wednesday went off very pleasantly. The new officers and their guests were, of course, comparative strangers to each other, and there was some

not altogether well-bred hesitation shown here and there by ladies about being asked to take refreshments by gentlemen to whom they had not been introduced. Ladies in such a case might remember that every officer of a ship or regiment giving an entertainment is one of their hosts, and that they are perfectly free to accept every attention in the capacity of guests. The music was good, and the refreshments excellent and abundant.

COMMERCIAL.

There has been a steady and satisfactory distribution in all staple lines. While no special activity has developed, the course of trade has been of an even character, resulting in a fair movement. Payments have, as a rule, been pretty well provided for, and no serious complaints are made on that ground.

The weather in this Province has been extremely favorable to the growing crops, alternating rains and warm weather having occurred, and reports from all sections indicate a very good yield in every line of husbandry this season.

The following are the Assignments and Business Changes in this Province during the past week:—Cason & Learmont, hotel, Truro, will dissolve Aug. 1st.; Chas. A. Hielchie, builder, Halifax, assigned; T. G. McMullen, saw mill and lumber, Truro, sold out saw mill to Thos. McLellan.

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

	Week		Weeks corresponding to			Failures for the year to date.			
	July 19, week	1889	1888	1887	1886	1889	1888	1887	1886
United States..	170	218	141	152	191	6425	5694	5541	5971
Canada.....	16	16	18	24	20	925	969	708	795

DRY GOODS.—Orders for fall dry goods have been liberal, probably owing to the advance in the raw material, but in some quarters fears are expressed that buyers have operated too freely, though such is not noticeable as yet. Enquiry among the wholesale dry goods men has elicited the fact that payments have been more satisfactorily met since the beginning of the month, and sorting-up orders have shown quite a healthy volume for this season of the year. Our merchants on the whole are confidently looking forward for a brisk fall business, as the late conservative buying of many country storekeepers will necessitate larger orders later on.

IRON, HARDWARE AND METALS.—Trade has been fairly active and evidences of improvement are not wanting, while prices of most heavy goods have been well maintained. The outlook favors a good fall trade, and already a satisfactory amount of business for future delivery has been accomplished. Our large hardware merchants appear to be well satisfied over the situation, the aggregate of transactions being decidedly ahead of those of a year ago. Castings have a firm tone, both pig and finished iron being well maintained, but metals are no more than steady. Warrants in Glasgow show a material appreciation, having advanced 5d. Coltness is cabled 1s., and Gartsherrie 6d. higher. Wrought scrap iron is in demand, the sale being reported of 500 tons at 64s., c. i. f., Montreal, spot cash. The sale of 1,000 tons of Trails is also reported as having been effected at 71s., c. i. f., Montreal, spot cash. Sheet zinc is firm and higher, while zinc spelter is steady. One of the largest manufacturers of galvanized sheet iron has cabled withdrawing all quotations. Ingot tin and copper are unchanged. Remittances are reported fair.

BREADSTUFFS.—A strong tone has prevailed in the flour market and holders of desirable grades are very firm though not quotably higher. The demand, especially for strong baker's, was good, and the market has been active with a considerable volume of business doing. Bearbohm's cable says:—"Cargoes off coast, wheat advanced 3d. to 6d. per quarter; corn nil. Do on passage and for shipment, wheat advanced 3d. to 6d. per quarter; corn firmer, held higher. Weather in England, local thunder storms prevalent. French country markets quiet." There was a weak tone to the Chicago wheat market, owing to the crowd selling heavily on reported lower cables, clearing weather in the southwest and the prospects of liberal receipts next week. The market was active with considerable trading and prices declined ½c. to 1½c. Corn was quiet and ruled about steady. Oats were firmer. The New York wheat market was weak and dropped ¾c. to 1c. Corn was firmer and improved ¼c. At Toledo wheat was stronger on the first two options, prices moving up ¼c. to ½c. The other options were weaker and ¼c. lower. Corn and oats were unchanged. In Milwaukee wheat fell off ¼c.

PROVISIONS.—The feeling in the local provision market has been steady and prices remained unchanged. The demand for pork has been good and the market was active. The demand for lard is slow. The offerings are large and prices easy. In Liverpool, G. B., lard was weak and declined 3d. Bacon was weak and broke 6d. Pork was steady while tallow was strong and advanced 6d. The Chicago provision market was more active and stronger. Pork advanced 10c., short ribs 5c. to 7½c. and lard 2½c. There was a weaker feeling in the hog market and prices declined 5c. to 10c. The cattle market was steady.

BUTTER.—There has been nothing of interest in the condition of the butter market, which continued quiet but well maintained. There has been business at about quotations but no activity is apparent. The Montreal *Trade Bulletin* reports as follows:—"The export demand, which unexpectedly set in a few weeks ago, has afforded our makers of creamery a capital chance of unloading their June product, and most of them have availed themselves of it. Prices however, are getting above the export basis and shippers state that, on that account, the demand may cease as suddenly as it sprang up. As far as Canada is concerned it is evident that for several years past she has been producing less butter and it is questionable if she will ever again see the large surpluses of former years. This is accounted for by the fact that the extraordinary increase in cheese production has

GYPSY.

BY MISS F. M. MUSGRAVE.

(Concluded.)

Gypsy lay there thinking for some time, then as a strange languor stole over her, in a half dreamy way she heard Bertrand say anxiously :

"Oh my child what is it! How selfish I have been. Darling, speak to me?"

But like a baby she lay there in a semi-conscious state. It was as if something held her and prevented her becoming wholly unconscious.

For many days Gypsy lay in that state. The doctor expressed himself quite puzzled. He had thought her on the fair way to recovery, and now the relapse was almost incomprehensible. Bertrand felt very guilty. He could say nothing but that Gypsy was naturally excitable and that she must have excited herself in some way. The anxiety which Bertrand endured in those days was dreadful. Fears of all kinds tormented him. At last he heard again that Gypsy was getting better, but that it would be very slow work and any excitement would be almost fatal.

Again and again Bertrand repeated to himself those words of Gypsy's which had fallen on him like a thunderbolt. Never for one moment had he suspected or thought it possible that she gave him a love like that.

He could hardly believe this great love had been given him in his old age. Then Gypsy's white face would rise before him and her great brown eyes as they were lifted to his when she made a confession of her love, then a terrible thought would steal into his mind and he would clasp his hands in a perfect agony of alarm. How fragile she had looked—almost unearthly, when those words of pure love had fallen from her lips. How much it must have cost her! What if that confession cost her her life? She had come so near to him: she had touched him with her beautiful warm love, and now just as he had felt the glow of it—was it all to vanish from him? Was the light of that love to go out leaving his life darker and more dreary than ever? Softly he would murmur Gypsy's name—as if by the murmuring of that name he would keep her near to him spiritually. Oh foolish Love! Oh blind Love! How fearful we all grow when love takes possession of our hearts.

CHAPTER XII.

It was three weeks before Bertrand again saw Gypsy—three weeks of fearful suspense. At last they met. Bertrand saw only too plainly that Gypsy shrunk from him—the memory of that last scene was almost pain to her.

No word escaped him that could in any way remind her of what had taken place that last time they had met. He only waited on her with great tenderness. His intense thoughtfulness for her could not but touch Gypsy. And yet in all that he did or said there was nothing but the most perfect reverence. Nothing could have reassured and comforted poor Gypsy so much as his utter avoidance of what she knew lay so near to his heart. When he parted from her that evening he never even touched her hand, although he was longing to take her in his arms and show her some of the love which had now become life to him.

Gypsy understood it all and silently thanked him for his tender consideration.

She knew he was only thinking for her as he ever would think for her for the rest of his life now.

It was just a week since Gypsy had been able to come down stairs and already she was beginning to look a different being—a faint color had crept back to her cheeks. How untiringly Bertrand had watched over her Gypsy even could never guess. How often at night he had stood silently by her door listening anxiously for some sound of life from within.

It was a very warm day, Bertrand had had Gypsy's chair taken to her favorite summer house and there they were seated. Bertrand was writing, and Gypsy was supposed to be reading. But she was furtively watching Bertrand, as she looked at him then something in his face brought the tears to her eyes,

Bertrand, who was also furtively watching Gypsy now and then saw the tears come into her eyes; but was wholly unconscious of the look which had preceded the tears. Instantly he was beside her.

"What is troubling you, Gypsy?" he said gently bending over her. That question only produced a greater flow of tears. "Has your trouble anything to do with me?" It was the nearest approach he had yet made to that subject so carefully avoided between them. The words burst from Gypsy passionately.

"Oh if I could only make you happy!" Then he knelt beside her taking both her hands in his.

"You have made me happy" he said softly "I have never been so happy before. I never knew what it was really to be happy—and it all seems so strange to me Gypsy, that this happiness should have been given to me in my old age; for you know I am an old man now." He spoke very calmly. But it was the calm of a restful happiness. Gypsy looked at him and her doubts ceased. She felt she had made him happy and her own heart glowed with joy. Just as Bertrand regretted his age because of Gypsy's youth, so Gypsy was always regretting her youth because of Bertrand's age; she was so afraid lest her youth should lack what might make him really happy.

"You must try and not be disappointed in me Gypsy." Gypsy smiled on him. "You have never kissed me," she said half wistfully, "That is the only particular in which I am disappointed in you. You have never once kissed me."

And then he did take her in his arms as he had so often longed to take her. He kissed her with the tenderest reverence. "I can never, never be disappointed" whispered Gypsy "it is you who will perhaps someday be disappointed that you have such a silly little wife."

Bertrand smiled.

"Gypsy" said Bertrand about a week after "I retract what I once said about a woman's proposing, under certain circumstances I think it may be the most unselfish act of her life." Alas, alas for the consistency of human nature!

"No! no!" cried Gypsy her cheeks now a very bright carmine "I don't at all agree with you."

"My darling" said Bertrand in a puzzled tone "You don't agree with me?"

"No" very decidedly "I don't agree with you" "Gypsy do you already mean—" Bertrand stopped.

"No, ah no. No, my dearest dear." And Gypsy sprang to Bertrand's side and perched herself on his knee in the boldest and most unfeminine way in the world. Bertrand never even looked shocked but seemed immensely contented at having her so near to him.

"No," she whispered, "no, only I think no circumstances can be like ours. I don't believe any man in the world can be so unselfish and so thoughtful as you are. I do believe you love me as no man ever could. There is but one way of measuring the depths of love for some loved one, and that is with the measuring line of tender forbearance. When that measuring line comes to an end then one may feel sure the depths of love have been fathomed. Your tender forbearance has never come to an end. I know how much you love because you are always so gentle with me. You do not love me with a little love Uncle Bertrand, but with an ever anxious watchful love. I would that I was more worthy of it."

"My darling," was all he said, fervently.

"Has it never occurred to you" went on Gypsy with a naive truthfulness, "that no one would have the same patience with me that you have. There are some women in this world who are never happy because they marry men too young for them. Just as there are some men with very little brains, who would be much happier if they married women older and wiser than themselves." Here Bertrand smiled. "I should be miserable tied to a young man. We should soon hate each other. He would think me stubborn and wilful, and I should think him hard and exacting. You never think me wilful, do you darling?"

He answered her as he often answered her now, by a caress.

"O my husband" she murmured.

Nothing could have touched Bertrand so deeply as the giving him that name of trust before he had any right to it.

"I don't wish to repay you for all your long unselfish tenderness; I only wish to love you as you should be loved, as no other man on earth deserves to be loved."

She drew his head down to her own level, then lightly like the fall of rose leaves her lips touched softly, just where the hair was getting decidedly thin. She wound her arms round his neck. There could be no doubting that tone of low ecstasy as she laid her head on Bertrand's broad shoulder and nestling closer to him, murmured,—

"I am so safe now. O my darling, my darling!"

THE END.

[FOR THE CRITIC.]

A POSTSCRIPT.

(By R. M.)

It is generally a foolish thing to make a proposal of marriage by letter. At least half the romance of the proceeding is lost, whereas if one proposes orally, and does it really well, a doubtful citadel may be carried by storm, which given time to defend itself may force you to retire a sadder, if a wiser, man.

But if it was foolish of Mr. Prescott Astor to make his proposal a written one, it was still more stupid of Miss Meg Carterot to accept him as she did. For this gay young damsel wrote on the first page of her reply, a refusal then turning over she added a postscript on the other side running thus:—

"P.S.—My dearest Prescott, the foregoing page is annulled. It is my cruel joke, but I am so happy since I got your dear letter that I cannot be serious. We will meet at the Hayes' to-morrow—ever your own, Meg."

And now, strange to say, happened the most stupid thing of all.

Prescott was dressing for mess in his quarters, when the precious epistle was brought him by his servant. He took it as calmly as possible, for he very well knew from whom it came, no other letter being likely to be brought him at that hour, unless the official military document, or "pill" as it is popularly named, which may come at any hour except the right one. Well, as I said before, now happened the most stupid thing of all about this business, and that was, that P. Astor, Esq., Midland Fusiliers, as he was described on the envelope, never read the postscript at all! All he saw was the first page, and having grasped its meaning, became, so to speak, mentally stunned.

Sprigs, his servant, who was standing by, thought something must be wrong, for when he handed Mr. Astor the note, the latter immediately dropped his hair brushes and read it with one side of his hair neatly brushed, the other being tangled and streaky, which was a very unaccountable thing.

for the usually deliberate Prescott to do. He was still more puzzled when his master, who had meantime let the no'e flutter to the floor, where it fell into an empty hat box, after looking at him in a meaningless way for some seconds, muttered "good-night."

Surprised, but rightly divining that Mr. Astor wished to be alone, Sprigs replied respectfully "good-night sir," and vanished.

Prescott stood quite still for some time, then slowly wandered over to his window and drew back the closed curtains. There beyond the red brick little town, that lay beneath his open window, was a stretch of softly colored English country, with the light of the early autumn sunset touching the yellow fields and ruddy trees. He leaned out, and apparently listlessly watched some curling smoke that rose from a little valley in the distant wooded land. That was where Miss Carteret lived. Slowly his head bent down till it rested on his hand, and although it is painful to toll it, for Prescott Astor was a big, good-looking soldier, some tears fell softly on the sill beneath.

Everything was very quiet; the hum of the town was scarcely audible; but nothing conveyed such a sense of stillness as that poor lonely figure at the window.

Presently the silence was broken by the mess call sounding, when Prescott started up, and proceeded mechanically with his dressing.

The door burst open and two noisy subalterns came in with a rush.

"You lazy beggar!" cried the first, "don't you know it's guest night, and you'll be fined if you're late."

"Yes!" shouted number two, "you went to dress half an hour ago, and you're not done yet. Upon my soul you take more dressing than a lobster, and don't look half so nice to a hungry man."

Out they clattered, followed by Prescott.

For those who have not dined with a regiment be it said, that as a rule, everybody is in good spirits; you generally get a good, sometimes a very good dinner, and there is always a flowing supply of the sparkling wines of sunny France. Dinner over, you smoke and the wine goes round in the old way, and when that ceases you play pool or whist, or sit and talk until about 11.30 p. m., when if you are an elderly respectable gentleman you ought to go to bed, as about this hour the youngsters may begin to get noisy.

Astor was getting noisy on this particular occasion, and appeared to be in the wildest of spirits. Everybody was laughing, talking and drinking with him, as they always did, for he was one of those gifted men who have the peculiar charm about them which makes them what we call "popular."

All the senior officers having gone, somebody suggested a "mild flutter" which is a playful term for a gamble, and they fell to woo Dame Fortune through the medium of the seductive game of "Loo," which is a very nice game for you if you're in luck, and very nice for others if you're not, which goes to prove that "it's an ill wind that blows nobody good."

At 2 a. m. the game was still proceeding; everyone, however, except the five players had gone. Now Astor, who had lost very seriously indeed, was one of those men who have no right whatever to gamble. Already more in debt than he could hope to pay off in the near future, he had nothing to look forward to. His father, once squire of Astorholme, and a well-known owner on the turf, had plunged wildly; everything had been swamped in racing, and dying he had left his widow and child nothing but the old house, bereft of its land, part of which latter went to purchase an annuity for Mrs. Astor. From this latter source came Prescott's modest allowance so you see he had not much to come and go upon!

It happened on the special night in question that the winner of what Astor had lost was young Smiles, a brother subaltern, who was much disliked by everybody, and it was an odd thing that this Mr. Smiles had always been a sort of rival with Astor for Miss Meg Carteret's affections. Nobody knew which of the two the bright young damsel preferred, but of them, it was quite certain that they lost no love between each other. So they were dubbed "Smiles and Tears," by those callous individuals to whom "the heart bowed down" has no significance beyond being the name of a song.

At last the party broke up, and one by one the players went off to bed, till only Smiles and Astor were left in the room. Prescott ordered some brandy and soda, and having thirstily swallowed it, he suddenly turned towards Smiles, and said,

"Look here, if you'll come to my room, I'll go you double or quits, at *carté*."

Smiles, a somewhat sinister looking man, hesitated a moment, looked at his watch; then rising slowly, replied

"Very well since you will, though its madness on your part with the bad luck you've had all night."

"I'm the best judge of that," muttered Astor, as they left the room for his quarters.

A table, cards and candles were soon found, and the two sat down very quietly to play.

Three quarters of an hour later Astor, who had now lost twice every sou he was worth, seized the cards, and with a bitter oath, flung them towards the smouldering fire round which they fell like huge snowflakes. They had both risen, and Prescott was standing with a white face turned towards Smiles. How he hated and cursed him in those moments. He brooded no longer over the money he had lost; it was his heart, his wounded heart that was feverishly whispering to him, "that man has robbed you of your love, he will make you kill yourself," for a ghastly thought was forming in Astor's over-excited brain. So you see he was not a great hero after all.

During these moments, Smiles had been silently watching his companion's face, with its hunted look and quivering lips.

(To be Continued.)

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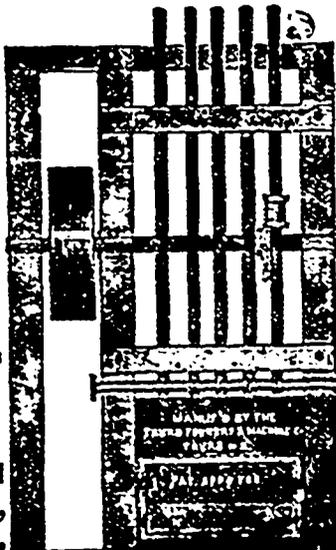
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MINING.

There is great lack of information in the United States, even in the Hub, regarding the resources and capacities of the Maritime Provinces of Canada. Just now a discussion has been going on in the journals of Boston regarding the utilization in Massachusetts of some of the ores of Nova Scotia. If that Province would have a carefully prepared condensed and complete description of its resources in iron, manganese, and gold, prepared by the inspector of mines, Mr. E. Gilpin, who is well-known among the scientific public, published in the *Boston Herald* and paid for as an advertisement, the effect might be of incalculable benefit to that Province. Should this much be undertaken by a politician it will be of no value; it is absolutely necessary that it should have the guarantee of its accuracy in the signature of E. Gilpin or some equally well-known scientist.—*St. John Gazette*. A special correspondent of the *Boston Herald* has lately been investigating our mineral resources and as a result that widely read daily will publish some valuable information in regard to our mines and minerals.

The following, coming as it does from the great protective state of Pennsylvania, is most significant: "A manufacturing company from Dalton, Ga., underbid all other companies for a contract to furnish the iron to build 4,300 feet of fence on a new bridge at Boston. The fact is significant as showing the factor which the South is becoming in the iron trade. It also serves to more forcibly impress upon the iron men of Massachusetts the necessity, if they would remain in the field, of free ore and free coal. In 1880, New England produced 170,000 tons of rolled iron and steel; in 1887, only 102,000 tons, a falling off of 40 per cent. From 1880 to 1887, 50 per cent. of the rolling mills of Maine died, 20 per cent. in Connecticut, 50 per cent. in Rhode Island and 36 per cent. in Massachusetts. The time is rapidly approaching when the loudest demand from any part of the country for free raw material will come from New England. In fact, it may be said to be here now, as regards wool, coal and iron ore, and even pig metal."—*Pittsburg Post*.

Edison's latest invention is a patent ore separator, which is expected to revolutionize iron ore mining. The present mode of separating the ore from the earth and rock is an expensive one. The working of the new invention is explained in this way: The rock containing the ore, after passing through the crusher and being broken into pieces, is conveyed in small buckets into a large hopper. From here it sifts in a thin stream down an incline, passing within a few inches of a powerful magnet. This latter is so heavily charged as to draw the iron ore from its course into one channel, permitting the rock and other foreign elements contained in the ore to pass through a runway to the refuse pile. The invention being patented there is no secret about its working. Mr. Edison is accompanied by a number of New York capitalists. There is every reason to believe that the invention will prove a success.

OIL IN INDIA.—Petroleum is much more widely spread than has generally been supposed. The chief sources of present supply are the Pennsylvania oil fields, and those of Baku, in Russia, on the western shore of the Caspian sea. The product is enormous; but the use of mineral oil is now so widespread that even the vast quantities produced find markets in various parts of the world. Mr. Charles Marvin, of Kent, England, has just published a pamphlet to show that very important oil fields exist in British territory. Those of Ontario are of comparatively little importance; and those in Northwestern Canada, though undoubtedly valuable, are unknown to Mr. Marvin. That gentleman, however, describes oil wells which have been worked for more than a century on the Irawady river in Burmah. In 1795 Colonel Symes described these wells, and reported the yield to be about 90,000 tons annually. In 1835 Captain Hannay said it amounted to about 93,000 tons annually. The government restrictions were so great, however, that in late years the export trade has not exceeded 10,000 to 12,000 tons. Mr. Marvin believes that if the wells were sunk to proper depths, and if the field were properly exploited, the district would compare with Pennsylvania or Baku. On the coast of Burmah near Aracan, and on the islands near that place, oil is also found, and considerable quantities have been raised, though proper wells have never been sunk. In Assam, between the Bramapootra and the Irawady rivers, are oil fields of unknown richness; and the valley of the Indus on the western frontier of India contains two oil fields. One of these is on the left bank of the Indus, between Rawul Pindi and Peshawar. It is intersected by a railway. West of the Indus and north of the railway to Quettah is still another. If these various fields are properly worked Mr. Marvin thinks the British Empire will produce more mineral oil than all the rest of the world.

Queens County gold mining items from the *Gold Hunter*:

WHITEBURN.—It has been some time since we have heard from Whiteburn, but it still lives.

The Graves mine is doing well under the management of the new manager, Mr. Edward Whidden, who is a practical miner, and is well spoken of wherever he has worked. The different leads now being worked look well, which speaks prosperity for the company.

J. L. Graves Esq., is now here. We understand his stay will be short. We are always glad to see him, and sorry to have him go away so soon.

The McGuire Mine is now running full blast. Manager McLeod is still at his post, and everything is looking all right on that property.

Quite a number of prospectors are at work in this locality, and are meeting with good success. This is what Whiteburn needs to make it the best gold district in Nova Scotia.

The Whiteburn Base Ball Team is looking forward for a good day 1887.

when they expect to meet the Molega B. B. Team in another game at Caledonia. We hope, if the boys meet, everything will go off quietly, and leave no hard feelings.

The McGuire mine at Whiteburn crushed eighteen tons of quartz last month, which resulted in a clean-up of about seventy-five ounces of gold.

The Caledonia Gold Mining Company has contracted with Messrs. Burroll & Johnson, of Yarmouth, to erect a ten stamp crusher at once. This new mill will have all the latest improvements. The rich ore now being taken out warrants them in pushing this property night and day.

Mr. James E. Barss, who, we understand, has had thirty years experience in gold mining in California and other places, has been elected manager of the Parker & Douglas Co., and has contracted to have a ten stamp mill, with all improvements, put in immediately on this good showing property. The many rich leads recently cut on this property are fast bringing it to the front as one of the great gold producers of Nova Scotia, and the managers feel sanguine of adding still more stamps, as the ore is now increasing beyond the means at hand for crushing. Mr. Gilbert Parker, a Caledonia boy, is the leading spirit in both the Caledonia and Parker & Douglas mines, and much credit is due him for the success of these two enterprises. Mr. P., we understand, built the first shanty in the Molega district.

BRAZILIAN COAL.—The following is a report upon the properties of the Brazilian coal from Arroio dos Ratos. The examination was made by John Pattinson, chemist to the Newcastle-upon-Tyne city council. On submitting coal to distillation in a coal-testing apparatus, 8000 cubic feet of gas was obtained per ton of coal, having an illuminating power equal to 13.8 standard sperm candles, as ascertained by burning the gas at the rate of five cubic feet per hour in a photometer fitted with the No. 1 London Argand Standard Burner. The following percentages of coke and volatile matters were yielded: coke, 58.8 per cent.; volatile matters, 41.2 per cent. The coal swelled up but very slightly on being heated in a close retort and formed a slightly coherent coke. A complete ultimate analysis of the coal was made and the following results obtained:

	Per cent.		Per cent.
Carbon.....	53.84	Sulphur.....	3.65
Hydrogen.....	3.91	Ash.....	17.01
Oxygen.....	8.23	Water.....	12.77
Nitrogen.....	0.59		

The calorific power of the coal was determined in Thompson's calorimeter. This indicated that one pound of the coal would evaporate 10.3 pounds of water from 212 degrees Fahr. or 100 degrees C.

The late advance in coal stocks in the United States has been used as the basis for a story that arrangements had been made to put all the coal lands into a gigantic Trust, which could then reduce the cost of production to the lowest point and increase the profits to the highest. One of the members of the combination of the six great coal companies in New York said: The mines will be run to their full capacity and the production will be larger in September than in any other month in the history of the trade. For the year the production will be close on to 38,000,000 tons, against 34,600,000 tons last year, which was an increase of 2,500,000 tons over the preceding year. No change will be made in prices in September at the mines and it is not contemplated to make any further advance this year, the prices made a week ago being practically the schedule until January 1. No comparison can be made with the prices in September last year, because then the production was curtailed on account of strikes, and buyers had to pay whatever was asked, but they are about 30 cents higher than August 1887, which is a fair month to compare with."

DRILLING AN OIL WELL.—The bringing in of a well of the "gusher" caliber is an exciting affair. The drill is known to be half way through the pay sand, and the driller is in his glory. The owner and friends anxiously watch the great walking beam as it rises and falls. Hour after hour passes, and as the driller pulls the tools and changes the bit it is noticed that there are several hundred feet of oil in the hole. The tools are lowered and the ton and a half of steel at the bottom of the 2,000 feet hole pounds away once more. Another hour passes. The hole is full and the oil begins to spray, saturating everything in the derrick room. Suddenly there is a sound like thunder from below; a pocket of gas has been struck. The spraying oil increases to a shower that shoots clear over the derrick, while dirt, pebbles and slate come up from below. The rumbling increases to a roar, and then, with a mighty rush, up come the tools, and the golden fluid flows unchecked. The well is in, and a "gusher."—*San Francisco Chronicle.*

The following companies which intend to operate in Canada have lately been registered in London:

CANADIAN CO-OPERATIVE COLONIZATION COMPANY, LTD., Registered by R. Jordan, 120 Chancery lane, W. C., with a capital of £50,000 in £10 shares. Object, to acquire land in the Dominion of Canada, and to erect buildings for the establishment of a college for instruction in practical agriculture, with training farms.

VANCOUVER CITY LAND COMPANY, LTD., Registered by W. Brown, 107 Cannon street, E. C., with a capital of £28,000 in £1 shares. Object, to carry into effect an agreement, dated June 22, entered into between Major C. T. Dupont of the one part, and C. B. B. O'Callaghan, on behalf of the company, of the other part; to acquire real estates and rights in lands in Vancouver City and other parts of British Columbia.

THE CANADIAN SYNDICATE, LTD., Registered by W. Brown, 107 Cannon street, E. C., with a capital of £20,000 in £1 shares. Object, to acquire and improve lands, heritages and real estates, coal, iron and other mines and industrial properties of every description in the Dominion of Canada.

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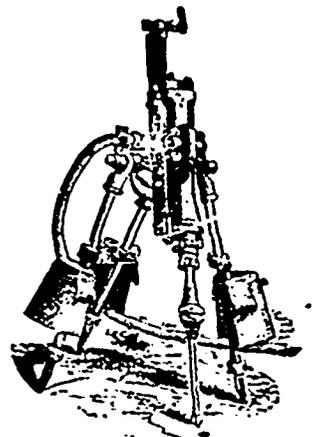
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HOME AND FARM.

We have great pleasure in noticing a new agricultural periodical for the Maritime Provinces, published semi-monthly at Sackville, N. B., at the moderate figure of \$1.00 per annum, in advance, by Messrs. Paterson & Gilbert. The *Maritime Agriculturist* is well written, well printed, and got up in a neat reddish-brown cover, somewhat in the style of the excellent *Farmer's Advocate* of London, Ont. This new enterprise, for which we earnestly desire every success, fills a decided want of the Maritime Provinces, in which we have always felt it was scarcely creditable that there should be but one journal of an agricultural character.

We quote the following sound advice to farmers from an agricultural exchange:—"FRAUDS ON FARMERS.—The Ontario department of agriculture has issued a bulletin describing some twenty or thirty varieties of frauds practiced on farmers by unfamiliar travelling agents. The frauds include the seed grain swindle, by which it is said \$25,000 has been taken out of the farmers in Lennox and Addington alone. There is a well known class of frauds in which the articles delivered are suited to the locality, hay forks being one of the favorites. This swindle consists in taking a note from a farmer, who thinks he is signing an agreement accepting the agency for the sale of some useful article. The fraud in question is not unknown in the Maritime Provinces.

The shoddy cloth trick is not confined to Ontario, nor the lightning-rod deceptions. The Ontario farmer is also victimized by agents who induce him to sign his name to some reference or to furnish it for some other innocent purpose, and who three months afterwards finds a note of hand written above his signature, and the document in the possession of an 'innocent holder.' Among the remedial measures proposed is that every county agent shall be required to procure a license from some duly authorized individual on whom will rest the responsibility of seeing that the business is of a bona fide character. Some very sensible recommendations are made to the Ontario farmers which apply no less to the countrymen in other provinces. It is advised that farmers refrain from accepting agencies from strangers, or indeed from leaving their legitimate business on any pretext to engage in trade. Equally good is the counsel to deal with none but well established firms, never to sign documents for a stranger, and never to sign without reading. Most farmers will protest that they do not need to be told these things, and yet the melancholy history of each year, with its long list of frauds, proves that the warning is still needed."

The following exhaustive American report pretty well settles the status of the English Sparrow:—"The English sparrow has come to be a serious problem in the agricultural interests of this country, and has been made the subject of a bulletin from the newly-established division of ornithology and mammalogy of the department of agriculture. The report says that the fact that in Europe the characteristics of the sparrow had been discussed for centuries without any absolute settlement, should have made us cautious in introducing it to America. A thousand times as much money and energy have been expended in fighting the sparrows as were expended in introducing them at first, and the results of the effort in the two cases are painfully disproportionate. It is absolutely necessary that active and comprehensive measures should be taken for the abatement of this evil.

The sparrow does great injury to all kinds of buds, blossoms and foliage from its bud-eating habit, and in every town and state in the union where it is abundant many ornamental trees and vines are damaged by the filth from the birds. There is scarcely a garden fruit or vegetable which does not suffer from the attack of the sparrows, grape-vines suffering the most. In California there is danger of a loss to the state of many thousands, if not millions of dollars from this pest. The sparrow is the only undomesticated bird that eats tomatoes, and its palate even delights in currants. It does much mischief in the garden. In every stage of growth most vegetables are more or less subject to its attacks. Peas, corn, lettuce and cabbages suffer most while in the green stage; peas and corn also when ripening their seed. It is a nuisance to newly-seeded lawns, scratching up the seed or pulling the tender sprouts as they come up through the ground. Wheat suffers from the time of sowing until it is stored in the barns or elevator; and even then they find a way to get at it. Next to wheat, of the grain crop, the sparrow seems to prefer oats, and numerous instances of a serious loss to this crop are reported. They will not touch barley so long as they can get anything better, but there are times when even this crop suffers considerably from their attacks. The sparrow also threatens to seriously damage the field corn crop in the near future. In some parts of the country it has been found very destructive to the seed of different kinds of millet. It is very fond of buckwheat, attacking it under all circumstances.

More than a thousand original contributions and all the available published testimony on the subject lead the department to assert positively that the sparrow molests our native birds and drives them from our gardens and parks. The reports mention specifically seventy kinds which are known to be molested more or less by the sparrow; most of these are kinds which are beneficial to the farmers and gardeners.

In considering the other side of the case, whether the sparrow has any insect-eating proclivities which should be placed to its credit, the reports say that the bird does not prefer insect food; and any instances where it has done service in destroying injurious insects are exceptional and readily accounted for when all the circumstances are known. All seed-eating birds, when insects are extraordinarily abundant, substitute insect food to a certain extent for their natural diet. The injurious insects which the sparrow sometimes destroys are precisely the insects that are also acceptable to other birds, while others which the common birds devour greedily the sparrow never touches. Thus the sparrow does no kind of beneficial work which could

not be much better done by our native birds, while its presence prevents the birds from accomplishing many kinds of work which the sparrow does not undertake at all.

- The report submits these recommendations to State legislative bodies:
- 1 The immediate repeal of all existing laws which afford protection to the English sparrow.
 - 2 The enactment of laws legalizing the killing of the English sparrow at all seasons of the year, and the destruction of its nests, eggs and young.
 - 3 The enactment of laws making it a misdemeanor punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both—(a) to intentionally give food or shelter to the English sparrow, except with a view to its ultimate destruction; (b) to introduce or aid in introducing it into new localities; (c) to interfere with persons, means or appliances engaged in, or designed for, its destruction or the destruction of its nests, eggs or young.
 - 4 The enactment of laws protecting the great northern shrike or butcher bird, the sparrow hawk and the screech owl, which species feed largely on the English sparrow.
 - 5 The enactment of laws providing for the appointment of at least one person holding civil office, preferably the game constable, where such officer exists, in each town or village, who shall serve without additional compensation and whose duty it shall be to destroy or bring about the destruction of English sparrows in the streets, parks and other places where the use of firearms is not permitted. In the larger towns and cities this office might be well imposed upon the commissioners of public parks.

The *Free Press* of London, Ont., contains the following pertinent paragraph: "Why is it that so little good butter is made by our farmers; or, why do they make butter at all if they do not make good butter? Complaints are general, especially at this time of the year, that some of the butter is rancid and ill-flavored. In fact good butter is the exception and not the rule. There is no excuse for making poor butter that sells for 14 or 15 cents a pound when choice 'gilt edged' butter would sell for one-third more in our markets and for exportation. Farmers if they make good butter by improved appliances, and put it up in an attractive form, are sure of a good price for all they can make, while butter can be profitable shipped to the English market."

WHAT IT COSTS FOR TREES.—Kings county, N. S., farmers have paid Upper Canadian and American nurserymen \$10,000 for trees this season.

OUR COSY CORNER.

Seasons come and go but the sailor shape retains its popularity. The straw best liked for it is the fine English variety, and white is given preference. Garnitures arranged just on top are more novel than those placed either at the side or back, and only a little more care is required to arrange them properly. Heavy white grosgrain ribbon is used for this purpose; do not put tulle or lace on a sailor hat, for although it may never be worn on board ship it must look as if it could endure at least the roughness of a summer voyage.

Little folks are wearing large, fine straw hats in dark colors with simple trimmings. For a tiny maid there is an enormous dark-blue straw with a band of blue ribbon about the crown and a long-looped bow placed deftly at one side. The charm of this hat lies in its simplicity, its lightness and its utility for shading eyes. It is shown in brown, dark-green and white, the last being intended especially for gala occasions. Little boys are wearing with their kilt suits large sailor-hats decorated only with a band of ribbon. More elaborate garnitures are unsuitable for boys wear—rather let the fineness of the straw bespeak the dainty quality of the small gentleman's *chapeau*.

Although the garden, the fields and the mountains are searched for new varieties of flowers to be imitated, there are bonnets and hats that are as simply trimmed with loops of ribbon or velvet as if the art of copying the natural flower were unknown. To know how to place a decoration and on what, and to know how and when to impart to simplicity a style of its own, are important items in the amateur milliner's education; and she must remember, also, that even with a complexion that is absolute perfect, she cannot wear such a combination as yellow and gray. Then, too, deep shrimping and lettuce-green remind the beholder of a salad—an unpleasant comparison as it affects one's Summer bonnet.

Violent contrasts, like violent storms, soon wear themselves out, and in a millinery sense they tire everybody's eyes and offend everybody's ideas of good form. Therefore, beware of them. Even black and white, if not properly managed, may have a glaring effect; so it will be readily seen how skilfully the crude shades of to day must be handled and how carefully worn in order that the colors may suit the face and the general effect be appropriate to the occasion.

Canned fruit should always be opened two or three hours before it is needed, as the flavor is much finer when the oxygen, of which it has been so long deprived, is thus fully restored.

The amount of sugar necessary for each jar of fruit is as follows:

For Cherries,.....	8 ounces.	For Peaches,.....	6 ounces.
" Raspberries,.....	6 "	" Bartlett Pears,.....	8 "
" Strawberries,.....	10 "	" Pineapples,.....	8 "
" Whortleberries,.....	6 "	" Siberian or Crab	
" Quinces,.....	12 "	" Apples,.....	10 "
" Small Sour Pears		" Plums,.....	10 "
(whole),.....	10 "	" Ripe Currants,.....	10 "

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At 2 o'clock, p.m.

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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
200 Gold Watches worth.....	20	10,000
1000 Silver Watches worth.....	10	10,000
1000 Toilet Sets.....	5	5,000

2307 Prizes worth \$50,000.00

TICKETS \$1.00.

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

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

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

GAME No. 21.

Single corner played at the Lanark County tourney this year, between C. Brown and A. Bissat.

Table of draughts game results: 11-15, 16-20, 20-24, 15 11, 22 18, 18 15, 32 27, 8-15, 15-22, 9-14, 16-20, 19 10, 25 18, 22 17, 17 14, 6-15, 8-11, 7-11, 10-17, 28 10, 29 25, 23 18, 21 14, 14-17, 4-8, 14-23, 3-7, b-23, 19-1, 25 22, 27 18, 14 10, 11-16, 11-16, 7-14, 24 19, 26 23, 18 9

a. 5-14

This was the losing move.

b Bissat's move here allowed black to draw. The following variations will show how white should have won and will also form the solution to PROBLEM 124.—The position was:—black men 1, 2, 12, 17, 20; white men 10, 23, 27, 30, 31. White to move and win:—

VAR. I.

Table of variations for Var. I: 31 26, 9-13, 8 12, 26-31, 2 12-16, 26 22, 22-26, 19 24, 23 18, 17-26, 12 19, 31-26, 2-6, 30 23, 26-30, 23 19, 10 7, 13-17, 18 14, w. wins, 6-9, 3 8, 30-26, 7 3, 17-22, 14 10

VAR. II.

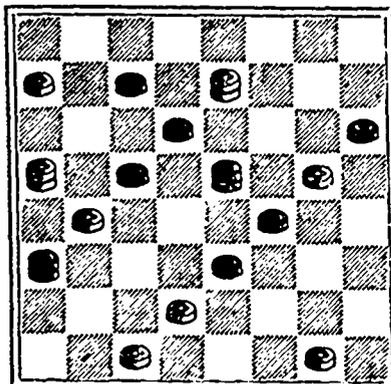
Table of variations for Var. II: 1-5, 6 1, 17-22, 15 10, 23 19, 2-7, 26 17, 7-14, 3-5-9, 19 15, 13-22, 9 25, 10 6, 12-16, 5 9, w. wins, 9-13, 1 5, 16-19

VAR. III.

Table of variations for Var. III: 17-21, 9-14, 22-26, w. wins, 19 15, 11 8, 23 18, 12-16, 14-17, 26-31, 26 23, 8 4, 8 12, 5-9, 17-22, 31-34, 15 11, 4 8, 12 28

PROBLEM No. 126.

By Richard Lyons, Sunderland. Black men 6, 10, 12, 14, 19, 23, kings 15, 21.



White men 5, 16, 17, 26, 30, 32, kings 7, 13.

Black to move and win.

This is another fine "stroke" problem which we specially commend to the study of our solvers,

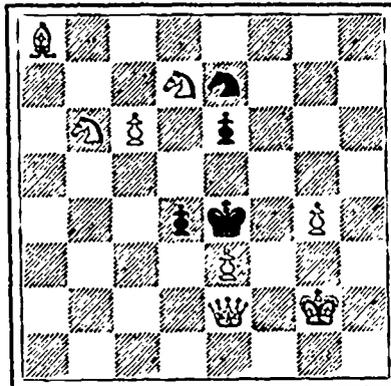
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CHESS.

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. 88, Kt to B5. Solved by J. W. Wallace and Mrs. H. Moseley.

PROBLEM No. 90. BLACK 4 pieces.



WHITE 8 pieces.

White to play and mate in 2 moves.

INTERNATIONAL CORRESPONDENCE TOURNAY.

The game between Dr. T. F. Leech, Judson, Ind., and Mr. R. Short, Montreal has been won by the latter Mr. R. H. Bechler, Milwaukee, vs. J. Gallon, Lindsay, won by the former, Mr. T. W. Coleman, Summit Point, W. Va., vs. Mr. R. T. Burns, Kingston, won by the former. Mr. J. F. Burns, Columbus, O., vs. Mr. A. Hood, Toronto, won by the former. Present score; United States, 16 1/2; Canada 13 1/2.

GAME No. 72.

The following is one out of eight games played by Mr. Blackburne simultaneously and sans voir, against eight strong players of the Montreal Chess club, June 8, 1889.

VIENNA OPENING.

WHITE BLACK Mr. J. H. Blackburne. Mr. J. Barry.

- 1 P to K4 P to K4
2 Kt to Q B3 B to B4 (a)
3 B to B4 (b) Kt to K B3
4 P to Q3 P to K R3
5 Kt to B3 P to Q3
6 B to K3 Q Kt to Q2
7 Q to K2 P to Q R3
8 P to Q R3 P to B3
9 R to Q B to Kt3
10 P to Q4 Q to B2
11 P to R3 P takes P
12 Kt takes P Kt to K4
13 B to R2 Castles
14 P to B4 Kt to Kt3
15 Castles R to K
16 Q to Q3 Kt to B
17 K to R Q to K2 (c)
18 Kt takes P (d) P takes Kt
19 B takes B R to Kt
20 B to Q4 B to K3 (e)
21 B takes B Kt takes B
22 B takes Kt Q takes B
23 P to B5 Kt to B4
24 Q takes QP Q takes Q
25 R takes Q Kt takes P
26 Kt takes Kt R takes Kt
27 R takes BP R takes KtP
28 R to B5 ch K to R2
29 R to B7 R to K7
30 R to B R to B7
31 R takes P K to Kt
32 R to B7 R takes KBP
33 R to Q R to R7
34 R to Q3 R to B3

- 35 R to KKt3 R to B2
36 R to B6 K to R2
37 R takes RP R takes BP
Abandoned as a draw.

NOTES.

- (a) For a player unacquainted with the multifarious variations springing from this fine opening, the text move is the safest defense.
(b) The more improved continuation is 3 P to KB4.
(c) Black apparently overlooks the fact that this move loses a Pawn
(d) The blindfold player saw it!
(e) If R takes KtP; Kt to Q5, etc.
-Montreal Gazette.

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