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THE CRITIC.

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HALIFAX, N. S., MARCH 26, 1886.

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The short service system in the British army has had the effect of inducing a better class of men to enlist as privates, while it has had the opposite effect upon those seeking commissions as officers. It is not at all unlikely that in time promotion from the ranks will come to be looked upon with favor. At any rate, the present system tends that way, and from what is known of the individuals who have thus risen, we have no reason to fear that such a change would be injurious to the service.

The withdrawal of Queen Victoria from public life has caused much dissatisfaction among her English subjects. Ireland the Queen taboos, while her visits to Scotland only serve to strengthen Her Majesty's disinclination to take part in public affairs, the retirement at Balmoral Castle being even greater than that at Osborne. The British people are loyal and long-suffering, but such exclusiveness upon the part of the Sovereign tends to weaken the hold of royalty upon their affections.

The men in Major Low's eastern frontier column are, according to the Burmese correspondent of the *Broad Arrow*, now literally barefooted, while their clothing is almost unwearable. British troops suffered much in the Crimea, owing to the bad management of the commissariat department; but it appears almost an unpardonable offence, in these days of rapid transit, to allow our soldiers thus to suffer. Britain is never fully prepared for war until the articles of peace are about to be signed.

The Chinese Ambassador at Washington claims damages to the extent of \$147,000 for the depredations committed at Rock Springs, Wyoming, upon the property of Chinese laborers; and considering the niggardly manner in which John Chinaman provides for himself and family, and the miserable hut he is pleased to call his home, the amount appears somewhat large; but the Celestials may have taken a leaf from the book of our American cousins, and learned that by making an exorbitant demand, they stand some chance of getting fair compensation for their losses.

Experiments have been carried on lately on the Chicago and Northwestern Railroad Co's lines with Leslie's new rotary steam snow-shovel. The head of this machine consists of a set of angular cutting blades, which revolve at a high speed, cutting and loosening the snow and passing it back to another wheel with blades which throw it some distance from the track. In drifts from 3 to 10 feet and packed too hard to be penetrated by the ordinary snow-plow, this machine cuts through at the rate of a mile an hour, and in lesser drifts much faster.

At the outbreak of the American Revolutionary War, the Legislators of Nova Scotia had already made up their minds as to the obligations of a colony to the mother state. As pointed out by Martin J. Griffin, of Ottawa, the Legislature protested "that it dreaded a separation from her (the British) government and protection as the greatest political evil that can befall us or our posterity," and asked the king to accept a tax on all commodities imported into this Province. Were these men living to-day, they would be Imperial Federationists to the core.

The destruction of American birds for purposes of fashion, has gone on to such an extent that many of the choice varieties are becoming scarce. The American Ornithologists' Union has formed a committee for the Protection of North American birds. The object of the committee is to gather information concerning the destruction of birds and the steps necessary for their preservation in the future. The diffusion of this information among the people, in order to create a sentiment in favour of the birds, the formation of bird associations, and other protective measures.

Rumor has much to account for, so far as the press is concerned. Not long since, our exchanges were publishing an item to the effect that coal-mining in China was, in the course of a few months, to be carried on according to modern methods. The Manager of the Kaiping coal mines near Peking, writes in contradiction of the statement, that the mines under his direction had been worked for the past three years according to the most improved modern methods, and that the coal was shipped by rail to Peking. He explains the Chinese aversion to railways, but states that the railroad used by his company is known as a tramway, and under that name the officials allow it to exist.

Those who have a vague idea that the warriors of former ages exceeded in physical development the men of the present, will find food for a moment's reflection in such facts as the following—The bodies exhumed from the buried city of Pompeii reveal the fact that the Italians of 1800 years ago were small and gracile, compared with those of to-day. Collections of mediæval armor show that the wearers, distinguished as they were for individual prowess, were not at all above the stature of the average man of the present day. On the accession of Queen Victoria, in 1837, the Scottish gentry gave a costume banquet, at which costumes were worn which had been actually used in the time of Mary Queen of Scots. They were not a little surprised to find that the subjects of Queen Mary were both shorter and more slender than the Scottish subjects of Queen Victoria.

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

EDITORIAL NOTES.

The stockholders in the Suez Canal are making money, the receipts for tolls being at the rate of \$34,000 per day. Of the six million three hundred thousand tons of shipping that passed through the canal, during 1884, Britain owned 4,500,000, and Germany less than a quarter of a million.

Gladstone recently received five hundred dollars for an article written by him for an American journal. Five hundred dollars for fifteen hundred words, or thirty-three cents per word, is not a bad remuneration even for "the grand old man."

The *Englishman's Journal* is the name of a new monthly periodical, published in Montreal. It is practically the organ of the Sons of England, an organization most popular in the Upper Provinces, but it contains reading matter suited to the taste of all English-speaking people.

In the State of Pennsylvania, the daily attendance at school averages 2,000,000, and yet in that progressive Commonwealth where education is made compulsory, upwards of 300,000 children are receiving no educational advantages. The employment of child-labor in factories is the assignable cause.

The first move in the direction of a summer carnival for Halifax has been made. A committee to look after the preliminary work has been appointed, and if it receive the cordial support of the several athletic, aquatic, and other clubs, the success of the carnival is assured; and this means much for Halifax, both from a dollar and cent point of view and otherwise.

Says the *London Figaro*—"The uses of coal tar would seem to be endless. At a semi-scientific gathering last week in a well known chemist's rooms, the host passed around a tiny phial to his guests, containing a little of the new liquid extract "Saccharin," which a German chemist, Professor Falberg, has succeeded in producing from common coal tar. Small as the phial was, it was calculated that it contained as much sweetening power as at least 50 lbs. of sugar. Some notion of its essential sweetness may be gathered from the fact that one part of "Saccharin" added to 10,000 parts of water is enough to make that water perfectly sweet to the human palate.

GLADSTONE FOR IRELAND.

The lull in British politics is but the calm before a great storm. Gladstone has asked for time in which to formulate his land reform and governmental policy respecting Ireland, and Parnell has consented to support the present ministry until its action respecting Ireland is made known. By the 1st of April next, Gladstone proposes to introduce a measure, having in view the expropriation of Irish land, and the abolition of Castle rule. It is impossible to state at this date the precise character of the measures which the grand old man intends to carry out, but it is safe to predict that landlordism in Ireland is doomed, and that the present system of governing that country through and by a British Viceroy, is to be abolished. Agrarian outrages still continue to be perpetrated, but it is evident, from the conflicting accounts respecting these unfortunate occurrences which appear in the party press, that the criminal character of these outrages is exaggerated beyond all bounds. As pointed out by Michael Davitt in his patriotic and outspoken address to the people of Castle Island, County Kerry, the only hope that the landlords now have of retaining their hold upon the Irish soil, is to foster by cruel evictions open opposition to the laws of the land. By cowardly and unscrupulous appeals, they hope to so work upon the passions of the people as to kindle strife. Says Michael Davitt:—"I want you, men of Kerry, to defeat this infamous purpose. I want you to look beyond the confines of your own county, and consider the consequences which your acts will entail upon the cause of your fatherland, and I demand of you the cessation of all proceedings which afford to our enemies the only arguments with which they can hope to combat our just demands for the abolition of landlordism and Castle rule."

Gladstone has undertaken a stupendous task, one that will test to the utmost his marvelous executive ability, but that the undertaking is beyond being accomplished, we cannot for a moment believe. The Irish people have for centuries been groaning under the curse of absentee landlordism, a curse which in itself is sufficient to account for the poverty and degradation which are observable in many localities; but, as if the burden were not sufficiently heavy, the Irish people have, in addition, been subjected to a system of government analogous to that of the people of Tunis.

Ireland has its Viceroy, and scores of officials appointed by him, so Tunis has its Bey or Governor, who fills the minor official positions with the creatures of his will; but beyond the Bey is the French Cabinet which virtually governs and controls his subjects, just as the British Ministry, through the Viceroy, control the people of Ireland. Gladstone's task is to secure the soil of Ireland to the Irish toilers, and establish local or home government, in which the Irish people shall be represented.

THE SERVANT-GIRL QUESTION.

The difficulty of obtaining efficient female help in the household, is the subject which is probably uppermost in the minds of most American housewives, and of not a few Nova Scotian ones. In the United States, hired domestic service is done chiefly by negroes, Irishwomen, Germans, or Nova Scotians, all foreign or of direct foreign extraction. The native American girl prefers the labor of the shop or the factory to that of the household. Not that such labor is easier or in many cases more remunerative; but there is an independence, real or fancied, about it which commends itself to the liberty-loving, as well as a possibility of advancement which attracts the ambitious. Factory and shop girls, too, find the service of experienced overseers who employ a large number of male and female operatives, and who treat them all alike and upon recognized principles, less irksome than that of the average housekeeper, who, fresh perhaps from some Ladies' College, is called upon to supervise operations of which she knows nothing. The advisability of establishing training-schools for servants has been discussed in many of the American papers, and experiments of the kind have been made, with some success, among the negro population of the South. But there is another kind of institution required to facilitate the harmonious working of the domestic machinery—and that is a training-school in which the accomplished young daughters of America may themselves learn to roast a joint of beef or boil a pudding, to treat servants with some degree of deference and to practice the principles of common domestic economy. When we hear an afflicted lady plaintively relating her experience of the six servants who have come and gone within a month, we are inclined to think of the sorrows of the servants.

The scarcity of domestic help is sometimes attributed to the spread of education among the "lower" class—"educating them beyond their sphere," as it is called. Those who hold this theory are in favor of keeping the said lower class in the darkness of ignorance, thus creating a dangerous, heliolic sub-stratum of society, which will keep the law-abiding citizens in daily terror of its lawlessness. "Alas, for the rarity, of Christian charity, under the Sun!" But, first, let the advocates of this generous measure prove that the shop or factory girls are more afflicted with education than their more easily satisfied sisters who remain "at service." They will then have adduced some evidence in support of their contention that education is to blame for the reluctance of girls to become domestic servants. But the real reason they overlook—the democratic tendency of the age, which on this continent especially, opens to all some prospect or possibility of social advancement, while it prevents their becoming the humble, cringing creatures to be met with among the domestics of former times and of European countries. This ambitious and independent spirit may sometimes run away with the judgment of the individual servant; but the march of democracy will go on, whether we have good servants or not.

OMINOUS FACTS.

Europe is again in a fever of excitement, and once more are heard the distant mutterings of a storm, which, sooner or later, must involve the great powers in a fierce struggle for supremacy. This time it is not the petty Balkan States which have created uneasiness; it is the simultaneous action of Germany and Austria towards the strengthening of their respective domains. The immense army of Austro-Hungary is to be supplemented by the establishment of Landstrum or universal militia, which will add to the military force of the Austrian Empire, 1,600,000 men, making a total of 2,180,000 men. This will enable Austria to place in the field 1,000,000 soldiers, and at the same time leave a sufficient force at home to protect the interests of the Empire. The recent proposal of Prince Bismarck, to expel the Poles and Germanize Eastern Prussia, has for its object the strengthening of the eastern portion of the German confederacy. For, so long as the Poles remain Poles, they would undoubtedly prove a source of uncertainty, if not weakness, in the event of a conflict between Germany and Russia. It is well known that the German Chancellor and Francis Joseph of Austria have formed a strong alliance, in order to prevent further Russian aggression in Europe, and the fact that the proposed strengthening of the eastern frontier of Germany has been quickly followed by an unprecedented increase to the military force of Austria, is considered ominous. Russia evidently has become alarmed at the situation, and is making preparations to checkmate any move that may be made to thwart her ultimate advance to the shores of the Bosphorus. In the Russian arsenals and dockyards, the activity evinced indicates that the rumoured intention of the Czar to take the field in the spring is not without foundation. With Austria seeking an eastern outlet upon the Aegean Sea, and Russia determined upon the occupation of Constantinople, with Greece clamouring for an extension of territory, and Bulgaria and Servia eager to follow suit, the possessions of "The Sick Man" in Europe stand a chance of being partitioned without his leave or license; but perhaps the desires of the greater powers with the lesser ones are the best guarantee for the continuance of the Ottoman rule in the Balkan peninsula. Germany may strengthen her eastern frontier, and Austria add a million men to her military force, without there being a war; but as we have said, the simultaneous action of these two great powers is, to say the least, ominous.

TO THE HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY.

During the thirty-five years that the Island of Cape Breton and its affairs were managed by a Governor and Council, its prosperity was all that could at that time be reasonably expected. Its progress during that period probably surpassed that of any contemporary British colony in America. So great a change for the worse was wrought in its condition by the legislative union with Nova Scotia Proper that the Islanders began an agitation for separation. For twenty-four years they remonstrated with the Nova Scotian legislature, with the view of obtaining a return of the halcyon days that had vanished with the Island's provincial status and autonomy. They had for years but two representatives in our legislature, and their pleading did not, it seems, at first make a deep impression. But their efforts did not pass entirely unnoticed. In 1844, a special session of the Assembly of the Province was called to decide whether it would be advisable to request the Imperial Government to restore the former Government of Cape Breton. A resolution was passed affirming that the union of Cape Breton and Nova Scotia Proper had been a great benefit to the former. Shortly before, owing to fears of an outbreak in the Island, its representation was increased to six, and it is a significant fact that all of these voted against the resolution affirming the satisfaction of the Island with the union. The dearest wishes of the people of the Island were, however, silenced by the forty odd members of Nova Scotia Proper, some of whom no doubt honestly believed that in a short time therefrom ample justice would be done the Island, and that, with a justly administered union, Cape Breton would be better off than if separate.

Now, again, the people of Cape Breton talk of separation. This time they are over 100,000 stalwart determined people. If justice to Cape Breton be not granted by the House of Assembly of Nova Scotia, there are these 100,000 to appeal to the Throne for justice. The voices of so many British colonists will not be disregarded.

In all the principal cities in England associations have been formed to aid unemployed workmen during the present season of depression. The honest mechanics and laborers have expressed their unwillingness to accept charity, affirming their desire to maintain themselves by work if work could be provided. This manly attribute of the unemployed speaks volumes for the British workmen.

In 1851, the railway era of this Province began. From that year to 1867 seven million dollars were expended in railway construction within our borders. Since 1867, the amount spent must be over fourteen million dollars. These amounts were all spent in Nova Scotia Proper. The Island of Cape Breton was repeatedly consoled with the assurance that, as soon as the lines of which there was most need in Nova Scotia Proper would have been built, Cape Breton would receive from Government the attention and the money grants to which her resources and her contributions to the cost of railway building in Nova Scotia Proper amply entitle her. In view of the hope referred to, which was time and again held out to Cape Breton, the representatives of that Island often supported money-grants for railways in Nova Scotia Proper when they might have prevented the voting of the same. We submit that a handsome railway subsidy should now be given to Cape Breton in the name of Justice.

TWO ENIGMAS.

I am composed of eight letters:—

- My 1, 2, 3, is a nickname.
- My 6, 4, 7, 8, is a common adjective.
- My 6, is the beginning of everything.
- My whole is what doctors desire.

I embrace nine letters:—

- My 7, 6, 4, tells of time.
- My 1, 8, 9, is the same.
- My 2, 3, 6, is a pronoun.
- My whole is a name which is becoming widely known

THE CRITIC will be sent free for one year to the person giving the only correct answers to above puzzles. When two correct answers are sent in, THE CRITIC will be sent free for six months to each of those answering correctly. Answers should arrive at CRITIC office before Tuesday, P. M., marked answer to puzzles.

Answer to Diagonal Puzzle published last week:—

NEW FERRY
EEL
WOW
FORFEIT
EMBLEM
RECTORY
REFINERY
FROMANRY

TIT-BITS.

The evil consequence of smoking are illustrated by Mt. Vesuvius, which constantly suffers from eruptions.

Why was Prince Bismarck like an always hungry boy? Because he had hardly commenced trying to gobble up the Caroline Islands when he cried for Samoa (some more).

A PROFESSIONAL RETALIATION.—Two actors at a certain theatre (call them A and B) were always quarreling. At a dinner, where both were present, A took special pains to annoy B by uncomplimentary remarks. "Now look here said B, "I've put up with this sort of thing long enough. If you say another word, something will happen that has never happened to you before."

"I'd like to know what that is!" said A.

B got up and left the room. A few minutes later, A was called out by a message that B wished to see him; and he got up and went into the hall, expecting to have a fight on his hands. The rest of the company filed out to see the fun. B was outside.

"What do you mean by calling me out here?" asked A, in a rage.

"I told you something would happen that has never happened to you before, and it has. You have been called out for the first time."—*Texas Siftings.*

SAFETY IN WEAKNESS.—A dinner at a cheap restaurant displays signs of irritation just because the waiter happens to have spilled a plate of soup over his coat. "Don't worry, sir, don't worry," says the head waiter: "it is 7 o'clock." "What in thunder has that got to do with it?" yells the victim. "After 6.30, sir, our soup doesn't grease."

A dude in one of the new cape coats looks like a perambulating pen-wiper.

A New York firm advertises "Amateur painting fired." We don't blame them; we would fire it ourselves.

It is curious how much faster a street car goes when you are running for it than it does when you are riding on it.

Parson Downs confesses that he "don't know in advance what God is going to do." If he did, he probably wouldn't feel so chipper.

In the Art Museum.—Mrs. Fishwacker to friend, pointing to statues of Apollo and Diana. "This, my dear, is the Apollo, and that female there, the Apolonaris!"

"O Arthur, how happy I should be alone with you on a quiet island in the distant ocean!"—"Have you any other wish, dearest Ella?"—"Oh, yes, do get me a season ticket for the opera."

In the ante-room of a Minister of State.—"Is the Under-Secretary of State in his office?"—"Yes, sir, but when he is in he doesn't receive anybody."—"All right; I'll come some day when he isn't in."—*French Joke.*

An extraordinary accident occurred in Yonkers recently. A young gentleman just in fun pointed and snapped an unloaded revolver at his fiancee, and the weapon did not go off. This is the first time this has occurred since the war.

"Is Washington's birthday observed in Texas?" asked a New Yorker who was visiting San Antonio. "Observed!" exclaimed the astonished native, "why, it's venerated. It takes four car-loads of beer to fill the demand on that sacred day."

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NEWS OF THE WEEK.

Subscribers remitting Money, either direct to the Office, or through Agents, will find receipt in next paper.

Correct answers to Diagonal Puzzle published last week were received from Miss M. T. Mulroney, 408 Upper Water St, and Douglas Clarke, Cor. Cedar & Chestnut Sts., City.

The handsome donations which have been made towards the Pasteur Institute for the cure of hydrophobia, prove that Parisians are fully alive to the important discovery made by the savant for whom the Institute is to be named.

Dr. Schurman delivered a very brilliant lecture on "Darwinism" last evening, in the Academy of Music, to a large audience. The proceeds of the lecture were in aid of the building fund of Granville St. church.

The brick building of P. Dillon, corner of Sackville and Albermarle Streets, has been handsomely re-dressed. A view of its exterior will be the best possible advertisement of the workmanship of Mr. E. J. Power, painter.

Commercial men, and those engaged in business generally, say there is no precedent for the small profits which are now realized in business transactions. The *Montreal Trade Bulletin* points out the curious partnership which now exists between small profits and high living. The partnership it regards as one not likely to be of long duration.

A subscriber writes that he is much pleased with the way in which the advertisements in the Critic are set up, he should not over-look that of A. M. Liddell & Co.

A large increase is to be made to the British navy. This is imperative owing to the unsettled state of affairs in the eastern Mediterranean, and the necessity for asserting the rights of Britain in the Pacific and Indian oceans, in which German and French cruisers are carrying out the territorial extension policies of their respective governments.

To have one's linen well laundered is in itself a satisfaction, but when the laundry proprietor agrees to have the missing buttons replaced and the stitch in time put in, he becomes in his line a benefactor whom all appreciative persons should encourage. At the laundry of John A. Poud, one may have their clothes washed, starched, repaired, ironed, and promptly returned for a comparatively small outlay.

Our City Fathers want a new city hall, and the governors of Dalhousie College want new college buildings. Those which the latter now occupy could easily be remodelled so as to suit the purposes of the city. The City Council have offered the Dalhousie board \$25,000 for the College building and site; but if the negotiations are not soon concluded the Council must look elsewhere for a suitable situation for the new City Hall, and the governors will have to wait for many a day to find a purchaser for their present property.

With the development of our mineral resources has come the establishment of such houses as Austen Bros., where the mine owner can obtain those articles which are indispensable in mining operations. Austen Bros. advertisement should be read by mill and mine owners.

Foot passengers passing along Hollis street have had their attention attracted during the past few days by the new and brilliant gas lamp which has just been placed in front of the establishment of Mr. Freeman Elliot. The size of the lamp, and the brilliancy of the light would indicate that the battle between gas and other luminating agencies is "not yet over."

It is the intention of the Dominion Government to again send the steamship *Alerit* to Hudson's Bay, but it is not yet definitely settled whether observing parties are to be left there during next winter.

A set of new and well-fitting shirts, such as Millican and Co. are ready to make to order for all customers, would have been considered a luxury in days of yore.

The Archbishop of Dublin gratefully acknowledges the receipt of \$675 in aid of the Irish parliamentary fund. The same having been contributed by a number of patriotic Irishmen residing in Halifax, and forwarded by Mr. J. O'Brien, Secretary of the Charitable Irish Society.

Eighteen hundred tons of Canadian exhibits for the Indian and Colonial Exhibition have already been forwarded and there are still five or six more hundred tons to go. Mr. W. D. Dimock deserves credit for the push and enthusiasm displayed by him in securing a good display from this Province.

Our country subscribers should note the advertisement of W. Eaton & Son, which appears in another column.

It is said that the supply of apples from last year's crop has not yet given out in the United States.

At Liege and other towns in Belgium an uprising of anarchists has taken place. Many lives and much valuable property has been destroyed, and the mobs were only suppressed by the regular troops charging on them with fixed bayonets.

Henry W. C. Boak, L. L. B., Barrister-at-law, Solicitor, Notary, etc., 103 Hollis Street, Halifax. Mercantile Collections and Commercial Litigation a specialty.

The British troops are being massed at Mandalay to prevent the Burmese rebels from sacking that city. 12,000 rebels fully armed are approaching Mandalay and a battle is imminent.

A few weeks since the report that a treaty of peace had been signed by the French-General in Madagascar and the Queen of the brave Hovas was current; from a late despatch it would appear that fresh hostilities have broken out and that the French troops have suffered heavy losses.

When Halifax was provided with an adequate water supply, it was thought a wonderful advance, now every town in the Province is supplied with water, or is endeavoring to establish water-works. Now Glasgow proposes to spend \$60,000 upon this service.

The Government proposes abolishing the Board of Charities, and assuming the responsibilities of managing the P. and C. Hospital, the Poor Asylum, and the Hospital for the Insane. Had its powers never been delegated to an irresponsible Board, much unpleasant bickering in Halifax might have been avoided; as it is, the City Council asks to have some say in the conduct of these Institutions, seeing that a large proportion of the funds, especially of the two former, are drawn from the City Treasury. Dual management would be a mistake—the control of these Institutions should be in the hands of either our Provincial or City governments, not in both.

We recommend our subscribers to read the story entitled "How I Secured a Bonanza" which appears in one of our mining columns, it deals with persons and localities well known, not only by mining men, but by many others in the Province. The story which will occupy a column in this and several successive issues, and which has been written especially for THE CRITIC, is told in a racy and pleasing manner, and reflects much credit upon its author.

We call the attention of intending purchasers of dry goods to the advertisement of Messrs. Anderson, Billing & Co. This old and reliable house is to the front, as usual, and a visit to their wholesale warehouse will amply repay close buyers. Their warerooms are replete with novelties, and their stock is so managed that it can be seen at a glance. The junior partner of the firm, Mr. Boak, makes it his special object to visit the largest manufacturing centres in Europe at least twice a year, and from these selects the very best lines of goods.

Mr. W. C. Smith has just received a large stock of Spring and Summer Cloths, and is prepared to fill orders at short notice.

The children of Israel now number about 6,477,000 the world over.

A portion of the mails of the Steamship *Oregon* have been recovered. The ship now stands upon an even keel on the bed of the ocean, 132 feet below the surface of the water, her top-masts standing fifteen feet out of water. No sufficient explanation of the disaster has yet been made public.

A movement is on foot to superannuate the present Stipendiary Magistrate of Halifax. Dr. Pryor, the present incumbent, has held the office for such a length of time that he is entitled to be relieved from the arduous duties which it involves.

The handsome cut of the business establishment of A. Keith & Son, which appears in another column, will be recognized as a Halifax land-mark. Mr. Donald Keith, the present proprietor, has the business of this old established firm well in hand, and is successful, despite hard times and foreign competition.

It is probable that the bicycle and tricycle will become in the future as much of a staple article of manufacture as the common road waggon of to-day. In England, fifteen million dollars are now invested in their production, employment being given to ten thousand people.

In 1874 there were only 16 miles of railway in all Canada. But there are now nearly 10,000 miles. Canada has \$104 invested in railways for each inhabitant, being only excelled by the United Kingdom which has \$107, and the United States which has \$112.

FROST-PROOF WAREHOUSE.

Report of Committee on Frost-Proof Warehouses, February, 1886, to the Provincial Grange.

Your Committee on Frost-Proof Warehouses, in connection with the Railways at Halifax, beg to Report:—

The necessity for a Frost-Proof Shed, at Richmond, or other convenient point, cannot for one moment be questioned; and without the addition of such a building, the R. R. facilities can only be regarded as seriously incomplete.

The handling of fruit and vegetables during the winter months, under the most favorable circumstances, is attended with great risk to the producer and shipper, which are materially increased by the absence of any available shelter whatever on the arrival of these commodities intended for either local or foreign markets.

Your Committee, upon consultation with merchants and shippers in Halifax, find their own views of the matter strongly endorsed, and the tardiness of the R. R. authorities condemned for not having long ere this, in response to the petitions of the farmers of Nova Scotia, provided such accommodation as is necessary for the development of the country's resources.

RELIGIOUS.

BAPTIST.

The Rev. E. Crowell, of the Free Baptist Church, Yarmouth, has been confined to his house for about six weeks with acute rheumatism.

The Baptist Union of Halifax, some time ago purchased a site for a mission chapel at the west end of the city, and are now erecting a building. The total cost will be about \$1600.

CHURCH OF ENGLAND.

The Lenten Services are being well attended in the Churches, and large classes are being prepared for the confirmations in Holy Week.

The Rev. W. B. King, Curate of St. Luke's, arrived on Friday evening, and assisted in the Services at the Cathedral on Sunday last.

The Rev. Samuel Davies, travelling missionary in Cape Breton, who was ordained to the Priesthood last Sunday, preached at the Bishop's Chapel in the evening.

The festival of the Annunciation, Thursday, was the thirty-fifth anniversary of the consecration of the Bishop of Nova Scotia.

The nominating committee of St. Paul's Church have presented the name of Rev. Weston Jones, of Lindsay, Ontario, as a suitable gentleman for the position of Rector of that parish.

PRESBYTERIAN.

At the last meeting of the Presbytery of Halifax, the Revs. J. A. Snodgrass and W. J. Thompson, were received as ministers of the Presbyterian Church in Canada.

The Rev. W. L. Cunningham, of Hamilton Square Presbyterian Church, New Jersey, who is well known in Nova Scotia, has received a call to the Dutch Reformed Church of Upper Red Hook, on the Hudson, N. Y.

One of the most prosperous Synods in Canada is the Synod of Winnipeg, which has for its field the whole of the North-West.

The proposed federation of the Australian and Tasmanian Presbyterian Churches has advanced considerably, and it is expected that the first federal Assembly will be held in Sydney, in July.

METHODIST.

The trustees of St. James' Street Church, Montreal, have, it is reported, purchased a site for a new church on St. Catherine's street, at a cost of \$70,000.

An application by various chiefs in the neighborhood of the Old Calabar River, West Africa, asking for the appointment of evangelists, has been received by the British Wesleyan Missionary Committee.

At the Elm Street Church, Toronto, the sum of \$2,357 was collected on one Sunday for missions. Well done!

In the Sunday schools connected with the Methodist Church in Ireland, there are 24,723 scholars, of whom 4,165 are church members.

CATHOLIC.

FATHER BECKX.—The London Register, in speaking, last month, of the illness of Father Beckx, Superior-General of the Jesuits, said:—"He is one of the most wonderful old men. He is in his ninety-first year, and yet, while he still exhibits an executive ability worthy of a Prime Minister, he is familiar with the best recent literature and the latest scientific research as any scholar in the front rank of Review, editors could be supposed to be; and in sacred science he ranks among the most learned men living."

St. FRANCIS XAVIER'S.—An addition to the St. Francis Xavier's College and Academy, Antigonish, is to be built at a cost of over \$10,000. The friends of the institution have reason to be pleased with its judicious, progressive, energetic management.

Dr. WALSH.—The sermon preached on Sunday last, at St. Mary's Cathedral, by Rev. Dr. Walsh, of Bermuda, was gratifying to the many friends of Dr. Walsh, as well as wholesome to the minds of all who heard him.

THE FRENCH CARDINALS AND M. GREVY.—The three French Cardinals, the Archbishops of Paris, Lyons, and Toulouse, have addressed a protest to M. Grévy respecting the charge of election delinquencies made against the clergy by the ministerial declaration and by M. Goblet. They state that, while an un-Christian minority seeks to direct religious animosities against the Government, the clergy are endeavoring more and more to sever religion from political passions and interests.

MARKET QUOTATIONS.

WHOLESALE RATES.

The following Price-Lists have been corrected up to the time of going to press, and are thoroughly reliable and accurate.

GROCERIES.

Table of Groceries prices including Sugar, Tea, Molasses, Soaps, Confectionery, Butter, Cheese, Eggs, Tobacco, and Fish Oils.

BREADSTUFFS.

Our quotations below are our today's wholesale selling prices for cash within ten days after shipment.

Table of Breadstuffs and Provisions prices including Flour, Bran, Shorts, Middlings, and various meats.

A. GUNN & Co., 253 Barrington Street, Halifax, N. S.

PROVISIONS.

Table of Provisions prices including Beef, Pork, Mutton, and other meats.

These quotations are prepared by a reliable wholesale house.

The above quotations are corrected by Mackintosh & Co., Jericho Warehouse.

FISH FROM VESSELS.

Table of Fish prices including Mackerel, Herring, Salmon, Haddock, and others.

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

HOME AND FOREIGN FRUITS.

Table of Fruit prices including Apples, Oranges, Lemons, and other produce.

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

WOOL, WOOL SKINS & HIDES.

Table of Wool and Hides prices including various grades and types.

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

LUMBER.

Table of Lumber prices including Pine, Spruce, and other wood types.

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

POULTRY.

Table of Poultry prices including Fowls, Turkeys, Geese, and Ducks.

The above are corrected by a reliable victualler.

LIVE STOCK.

Table of Live Stock prices including Steers, Oxen, Fat Steers, and other animals.

These quotations are prepared by a reliable victualler.

A WOODLAND HUSH.

Tall firs, spruce saplings green and slim,
And bare grey trees—these seem to hold
Some precious secret. Not a limb
Stirs; soft the snow lies, fold on fold,
About their feet: the season grim
Tries them; the time of biting cold.

And yet I know that all at last
With radiant life these woods shall be,—
Full of sweet odours, and the whirr
Of bird-wings, and the chanting free
Of little brooks. The stern old fir
Shall be a home of minstrelsy.

Fredericton, N. B.

JANE E. G. ROBERTS.

[FOR THE CRITIC.]

THE CANADIAN MILITIA.

VII.

UNIFORM.—In considering this far from unimportant question it seems to me to be almost more necessary than in any other, to break through the traditional lines, and cast aside the traditional ideas. We are at present given over to the spirit of "apacy" of the Imperial Army, which covers us with lace and trappings which, as a body, we can ill afford. It may be all very well for a few well-off officers of crack city corps, and a few who may also be well-off in country corps, but that the larger proportion of rural officers feel the expenditure—indeed fail to come up to it—appears plainly enough from the reports of Inspecting Officers, and Commandants of Schools, as well as from the personal experience of many of us. Here, as elsewhere, every energy should be bent to simplification, economy, and the removal of items conspicuous to the marksman, and productive of superfluous work to the soldiers.

To begin with the last consideration—it is full time for the utter abolition of the abomination of pipe-clay. It is quite unnecessary to dilate on this subject. All belts for all services should be brown leather, which would take on a darker hue by age, and the use of proper unguents for keeping them soft. As long as rifle uniforms of dark green are in vogue, black might be an exception, but blacking is nearly as objectionable as pipe-clay; and for this reason brown boots are also the best.

The conspicuousness of pipe-clay is another reason for its abolition, as the conspicuousness of color is for a general change of the hue of uniform. On this point evidence is not so concurrent as might be supposed. There are still advocates of the scarlet, on the ground that it presents a somewhat indefinite outline; while, on the other hand, the almost black rifle uniform is said to present too clear an outline. There are counter arguments to these. Scarlet may be indistinct in outline, but it must present a brilliant spot, a point in which the rifle green would, under most circumstances, have some advantage. The advantage of dark color, however, whatever it may amount to, is partially, at least, neutralized in the case of officers, by the bright silver line of the belt ornaments across the most vital parts, and by the steel-scabbard, which latter also enhances the noticeability of red-coated infantry. Scabbards and ornaments should all be bronze instead of silver, steel, or brass.

It is pretty certain that all the objections to scarlet and rifle green are very much modified in considering shades of grey or brown, such as appear in the highly-becoming uniforms of numberless volunteer regiments in England, though they also commit themselves to the mistake of silver ornaments and steel scabbards.

Brown or grey therefore the Canadian Volunteer Militia uniform should be, with bronze ornaments, scabbards, and spurs, and brown belts.

Rifle regiments stand as a proof that gold and silver lace are unnecessary to the ideal of a gentlemanly uniform, and their outfit is, to some extent, correspondingly moderate in cost.

Brown silk, or mohair, braid and cord, would be the appropriate trimming of brown or grey uniforms, but the badges of rank might still be gold, as a slight but unobtrusive relief. Moreover sleeve-trimming should not be too elaborate.

The present long slings to officer's sword-belts are, though graceful enough, practically inconvenient, and the sword when hooked up, especially so. Moreover, in corps which wear the belt under the tunic, one hand is occupied in carrying the scabbard. A good many years ago the admiralty initiated a departure in the direction of common sense by suspending the sword by short slings attached to rings a few inches below the mouth of the scabbard, so that the sword hung straight up and down in the line of the leg. But naval officers were attached to their long slings, and the new order was soon rescinded. I remember when, in the swallow-tail coat days, infantry officers' swords were suspended up and down the thigh, in a frog on a broad baldric crossing the chest from the right shoulder to below the waist at the left side.

Attention should now be given to the best mode of carrying pistol ammunition. The shoulder belt pouch, hanging at the back, is useless except for a pipe and tobacco, and ought to be replaced by binocular glasses for all officers. The use of the sash I take to be to bind up severe wounds, and if worn at all it would, I think, be better round the waist as of old. I think it would also be more useful of the old pattern. The front of the shoulder-belt might be utilized for cartridges, in addition to a small pouch, or case, in front on the sword belt.

In the interest of that economy which it is only due to our officers to consult, it should ever be borne in mind that no Canadian officer serves his country otherwise than with loss of valuable time, and at an expenditure which he is very often ill able to incur, and which should be lightened to

him as much as possible. Were this comprehensively considered we might hear fewer complaints of officers appearing imperfectly equipped.

The simple addition of a velvet collar to a tunic or patrol jacket imparts an appearance of much finish to an officer's uniform. I think also one style of dress only should prevail, and, whether of tunic or patrol cut, should serve both for full and undress.

Finally, it is time steps were taken to initiate the manufacture of all uniforms and accoutrements in Canada.

FRANCO-TIREUR.

THE DOMINION SAFETY FUND LIFE ASSOCIATION.

The following emphatic endorsement is a matter of interest to the insuring public desiring the production of Life Insurance at the least possible outlay.

Mr. Standen's ability as an Insurance expert is recognized by all insurance men in Canada, and his opinion will bear with it unquestioning confidence to the mind of all who are acquainted with his reputation.

New York, August 16th, 1885.

J. DEW. SPURR, Esq., President,

Dominion Safety Fund Life Association, St. John, N. B.

I have very carefully examined the details of your plan of Life Insurance, known as the "Natural System."

I understand the object of your system to be a middle course; avoiding the larger cost of old line plans, and the insecurity, weakness and indefiniteness of the co-operative or assessment plans—that you may with confidence appeal for patronage to those who wish *Good Insurance* with the least possible outlay. In this object you have most certainly been *eminently successful*, and have formulated a cheap and beneficial plan of Insurance, that is based upon sound demonstrable scientific principles.

In the adoption of a proper basis of "Cost of Insurance," great care has evidently been exercised, looking to the assumption of a rate of mortality that will be fairly conservative, while making some allowance for the general low rate of mortality that prevails among Canadian insured lives. This item of your charges provides against every reasonable contingency; and it is difficult to conceive of a condition of affairs that could entail a sufficiently heavy rate of accidental mortality for a long enough period of duration, to create any deficiency in your charges to meet the payment of your death losses. *You have been as conservative in this respect as the most careful Actuary could desire.* Constituting, as it does, the fundamental principle of your plan, and being its scientific justification, the fairness of your basis of contribution to the death fund should secure you a *Large Support and Universal Confidence.*

As an auxiliary to this fund in the event of any exceptionally heavy rate of mortality, your special "Safety Fund" forms a valuable supplement, and is fully adequate for the purpose. As this fund constitutes an effective guarantee that the Policies of the most persistent members *will be paid in full at their face value as Endowments*, it should be regarded as a very welcome element of a plan that has very much to commend itself to the judgment of careful men who desire Life Insurance, and mean to prove their persistency and good faith.

I have drawn largely upon my past experience in the theories and practice of insurance, for the purpose of ascertaining whether there be any condition of affairs that your plan is not designed to meet. *I cannot call to mind any such condition.*

I have tried to find some element of weakness or inequity in your plan, that would endanger its success or retard its growth. *I find only the elements of strength and true equity.*

I have tried diligently to conceive of future possible contingencies that it would be unable to meet successfully. *I can imagine no such contingencies that would jeopardize its safety.*

Your wisdom in enforcing mortality payments in full, to meet the cost of a normal death rate; your refusal to treat "suspended mortality," or "delayed mortality" as a source of "profit," or "actual gain," is *worthy of the strongest commendation.* It is but another proof that your plan is designed to stand, not for a year nor for a few years, but for all time to come.

Having examined your "Natural System" fully and carefully and finding it deserves entire approval; and having searched for weak spots in it, and finding none, *I heartily recommend it to those that seek indemnity against premature death, at the least possible cost, consistent with the greatest degree of security and safety.*

The foregoing opinion will show you how far I can go in the way of an endorsement of this admirable plan. *I do not think I ever saw so perfect a system, adapted in every way to the wants of those who look for a cheap and reliable form of Life Insurance.*

Yours very truly,

WM. T. STANDEN,

Consulting Actuary.

[FOR THE CRITIC.]

THE NORTH-WEST INDIANS.

III.

There can be no more complete picture of abject misery than an Indian as he now prowls about, lazily folding his arms and listlessly dreaming of the days of old. Covered with filth, as he generally is, they at once strike one with disgust as well as pity. Naturally inclined to be morose and despondent, this inactivity only tends to make them more so. Their minds dwell continually on the past and they meet together and talk over it, and

great deal of their present misery they attribute to the white man and the disappearance of the buffalo.

Archbishop Tache relates how he visited not long since a half-breed who was settled on a comfortable and well cultivated farm, with a well furnished house, and noticing something on the man's mind asked him what it was. The half-breed told him how many nights he could not sleep for thinking over the good old days of the past and then he must get up, walk the floor, and smoke his pipe. This was what made him unhappy. He was one of the old buffalo-hunters of whom Gabriel Dumont was the type. If a half-breed has these feelings, how much stronger must they be with a genuine red-man!

Notwithstanding these feelings, many have taken to agriculture, and have made quite a success of tilling the ground; but among some of the tribes a number will work a farm on a joint-stock principle, perhaps only one or two of the number having the energy or will to plough and sow, but all quite willing enough to reap their share from the soil when the time comes round.

A great deal of influence for good could be exerted by the farm instructors if the government could secure men of the right type. Many no doubt do their best, and a few are the best that can be obtained for the compensation offered. One can imagine the elastic properties of mind that would be required in one, to be able to expostulate with, teach, condemn and place almost in the same breath these unhappy creatures, and one can hardly envy a farm instructor his position.

Those agents who have a portion of Indian blood in their veins are apt to be too morose, uncommunicative, and resentful in their manner. To succeed well with these children of nature, one would require to be firm but gentle, persuasive, hopeful, without an iota of deceit in his composition. A rather rare combination if to these we add the other qualities required such as good mechanical skill, and a generally practical turn of mind. Woe betide the man who, having at any time offended willingly the dignity of any of the tribe, is left to himself in a position like the above when any trouble occurs. The sooner he departs the better for himself.

In taking lessons of the white man the Indians have been led away by their simple mindedness to take also to his vices, and are to-day seldom free from the most loathsome of diseases, for which there does not appear to be any remedy in their pharmacopœia. When sickness of an ordinary type occurs, they enlist the services of their medicine man who endeavors to charm it away by his sorcery, more than to cure it through the efficacy of drugs. It has been very difficult for the white man to learn the real nature of their drugs and their methods of cure. The greatest number of their remedies they obtained from the vegetable kingdom, a few also from animals and minerals. Medicine with them means more than it does with us; it comprises sorcery, conjuring, and a general *ollapoduda* or medley of priest, prophet, medicine-man, and weather-twister. Amongst the cures, the most efficacious for delirium attending fevers *was* to knock the patient on the head. This was done owing to their belief that the individual was returning to a state of cannibalism. This it may be remembered was what was done with an old squaw in Big Bear's band when her mind began to wander through senility, when that tribe were on the rampage, and for which her murderer was tried and convicted. The powers and influence of the medicine man is now on the wane since the Government have taken charge of the Indians and properly appointed doctors from the Department now minister to the sick.

A case happened not long since on one of the Reserves, where two young bucks quarreled about a young woman of whom they were both enamoured. The upshot of it was that one of the suitors mortally wounded the other in the arm by a bullet from a rifle. The doctor was called in to attend to the wounded man and informed him and his friends that life depended upon his arm being amputated, to this they all turned a deaf ear, but none more so than the man himself. He could not bear the idea of living with one arm and sitting quietly at home amongst the squaws; but if he died he would be worse off when he joined in the chase in the happy hunting grounds. He took all the medicine the doctor ordered with implicit faith, and his friends attended to his every want, bathing his head, etc., with the most touching care and sympathy. After death his body was hid away, as is their custom, and not being forthcoming when a "coroner's inquest" was called, that ceremony had to be dispensed with. The idea of hacking the dead body of a friend whose spirit was now for ever engaged in the chase in spiritland was most horrifying to the Indian mind. The culprit was a brother of the chief, who at once sent to the police to have him arrested, and when two policemen arrived, handed him over—his own brother!

From this we can learn a great deal how the influences of the present are tending down their lives.

The tepee, or wigwam, as in the past is now their general style of habitation, but its covering is now of bark and only in very few cases do we find one covered with skins, and then probably the property of some chief or old buffalo hunter. Those who manage to get nearer settlers often become the fortunate possessors of some worn out tent obtained in barter. These frail structures are erected very quickly, a canoe comes along the side of a lake or stream, the inmates land and the squaws set to work, cut poles, strip them, place the ends in a circle and bring together at the top, which frame work they then cover with the large sheets of bark they carry about with them for the purpose. In these tepees they live nearly half the year even when more comfortable habitations offer. The constant removal of these frail structures is as good as a modern house cleaning process, and we know if they lived as we do, their houses would never see that yearly event of agony, which brings delight to the women and asfright to the men. In winter they generally take possession of some old log shanty or exert them-

selves to construct one. On many of the reserves they have built houses, receiving instructions and aid from the agents.

The Indian in his wardrobe is not very particular. Give him a discarded suit of clothes and an old hat, and he is happy; his squaw will soon stitch his moccasins and ornament them with beads, if he wants to cut a swell. They can be seen in all imaginable garbs. I have seen one with a cork helmet on, long frock coat, pants made of an old flour sack, earrings and spectacles complete, looking as dignified as a porcock. Some of them discard the modern ill-fitting coat, and merely wear cloth pants and colored shirt, with a blanket thrown over their shoulders. The finest built Indian I ever saw was dressed in this manner. His face was painted, especially around the eyes, with green and red, which spoiled his otherwise handsome features; on his head was a felt hat with three feathers stuck in short pieces of willow with the pith removed, and when he walked about the wind sent the feathers whirling around, putting one much in mind of the toy windmill men in England. But the *proudest* individual of the tribe is the chief, in his toga or chief's coat of scarlet, which is given to him by the government.

At the treaty time, which occurs once a year, about the autumn, all the tribes muster for their treaty money. Each member receives \$5 or \$6, a chief \$25, and so on.

Then every youngster who has any Indian blood in its veins is brought forward, and they don't fail to make a sure count. Some try to pop in twice, but fail.

This treaty time is a general harvest for the shop-keepers in the vicinity, who generally become the full recipients of the various stipends.

If there is anything an Indian is proud of it is his hair, which he always plait if long enough, and very often it reaches right down the back. They don't twist the hair into a close tight plait like the Chinese, but a broad open one, more artistic in appearance.

The women wear loose ill-fitting print dresses, and a shawl over their shoulders, with no head covering, unless they use the shawl for the purpose; whilst on their shoulders we find the papoose (youngster) strapped tightly in its moss-lined basket or framework, with a hood over it, on which they put a covering to shield its eyes from the sun's rays. They strap or tie the legs of the youngster with the feet perfectly straight and the toes turned in. This seems to cling to them ever afterwards. An Indian always turns his toes in when walking.

All the menial work is done by the women, even to chewing the gum for the seaming of the canoes, and where canoes are being repaired, one may often see an old squaw sitting near chomping away for dear life. She is preparing the spruce gum for the seamers who are hard at work near by on the canoes turned bottom up, a burning stick split down the top held in one hand, whilst the gum is kneaded on the joints or seams with the fingers of the other hand; every now and then the stick is passed swiftly three or four times through the air to arouse the flagging ember.

SEMON.

(To be Continued.)

[FOR THE CRITIC.]

ODDS AND ENDS.

Charles 1st was a "perjured traitor," because he entered into solemn obligations to his people, which he again and again deliberately violated.

The history of the Stuarts is the history of the struggle of the rights of the people against despotism. Of the four Stuart Kings, three were fools. Charles 1st was more knave, yet a fool also, as all deceivers are fools. The vigor of the evil House of Guise was diluted by the imbecility of Darnley. James 1st was hopelessly stultified by the murder of Rizzio, and no subsequent cross redeemed the deteriorated blood. Perfidy and frivolity became an inevitable heredity. Charles was, as Macaulay says, "in truth impelled by an incurable propensity to dark and crooked ways." "Faithlessness was the chief cause of his disasters, and is the chief stain on his memory." But he was perfidious from principle as well as by constitution and habit. "He seems to have learned from the theologians he most esteemed, that between him and his subjects there could be nothing of the nature of mutual contract." In the interests of the despot promises were as thistle-down.

I do not defend the execution of the King though, like Riel, he was the cause of the loss of many lives better than his own, besides Eliot's and Hampden's. But when people style him "God's blessed martyr," one scarcely knows whether to laugh at their absurdity, or be shocked at their profanity.

I am well acquainted with Dr. Mozley's writings, which are very able, but I do not share the opinion of "a leading English journal" as to the "finest Essay in the English Language," and the tone of Dr. Mozley's mind is one with which I have no sympathy.

It has been by bad Kings that England has gained her liberties. Let us, if you like, celebrate them all—John, Henry, Charles, James—but not make saints and martyrs of them. Folly and superstition die hard, and I verily believe there still exist Jacobites and believers in Divine Right.

But there are few difficulties to the class of mind which can accept Canon Mozley's reasonings on miracles. There is indeed one which might puzzle Faith over so little leavened by secular philosophy, i.e., whether miracles ceased with the apostolic or immediate post-apostolic age, or whether they are still (in moderation) to be compassed by Faith. One great church boldly maintains the only logical contention, and we have the Virgin of Lourdes and Kneek accordingly.

The *Week* of the 4th March contains a critique by Mr. LoSueur, on Mr. Mair's "Tecumseh." In this drama, General Brock says:—

"Then might I smile, though velvet-footed time,
Struck all his claws at once into our flesh."

No doubt, as Mr. L. Sauer justly remarks, "*General Brock goes rather out of his way for an image*" (italics mine) when he uses the simile, but when Mr. LeSueur goes on to say "Time may move silently, but to represent it as a gliding cat is to forsake simplicity," one does not feel so sure but that the dictum may suggest a doubt. It might readily occur to those who in the midst of an apparently "velvet-footed," at all events tranquil, passage of time, are suddenly shaken to their inmost depths by tidings, or the actual shock, of crushing bereavement, or cumulative misfortune, that the outstretched claws, the velvet tread, and the quick agony that leaves undying scars, are not an altogether over-stretched or far-fetched figure.

Mr. J. B. Allen, of New York, has published a re-print of ten of Froude's Essays, in a fifty-cent volume, of clear type, bound in cloth, with gilt top. Any one of the Essays is worth the money, and the volume should be in every cultivated reader's hands. It is to be hoped a second series will follow, which should contain the exquisite Essay, "Sea Studies," "The Condition and Prospects of Protestantism," "The Revival of Romanism," "A Plea for the Free Discussion of Theological Difficulties," "A Bishop of the Twelfth Century," and "Science and Theology."

FRANC-THEUR.

SESSIONAL NOTES.

FREDERICTON, N. B.—Mr. Pugsley's resolution in favor of Biennial Sessions of the Legislature, after considerable discussion, was rejected by a vote of 20 to 6, the minority being composed of Messrs. Pugsley, Adams, Black, Humphrey, Baird, and Murray. It is probable that the resolution will be brought forward next Session, and that it will then receive more support.

Why the Government should not accept the Dominion Franchise Act, and make use of the Voters' Lists prepared by the Revising Barristers, does not appear. Probably, they think that nothing good can come out of Ottawa. At any rate, they have prepared a Franchise Amendment Act, which differs from the Dominion Act only in minor particulars, and then apparently for the express purpose of differing, in order that the extra expense that they will put upon the country may have some pretence of justification. The introduction of the measure gave rise to a discussion on Universal Suffrage, and led to a resolution in favor of it, proposed by Mr. Ellis, editor of the *St. John Globe*, seconded by Mr. Adams, ex-Surveyor-General, and strongly supported by both, who have been for some time past consistent advocates of the proposition. The leaders of the Government and Opposition both opposed it, and no doubt, had much to do with causing its defeat, though the vote of 10 to 28, on the first braaching of the subject need not be discouraging. The yeas consisted of the Speaker, and Messrs. Adams, Ellis, Quinlan, Colter, McAdam, Park, Perley, Baird, and Black. It is stated that three others, if they had been present, would have voted with the minority. So far as I have heard, tickets for the General Election have been formed in only two Counties, Sunbury and Northumberland. In the latter, Messrs. Adams, Park, Tweedie, and Hutchinson, have been requested to run against the Government. In Sunbury, the Government men are Messrs. Clasier and Harrison; the Opposition, Messrs. Wilmot and Perley. The elections are likely to take place in May or June, unless the Government has lately changed its mind.

M. H. C.

POLITICAL REVIEW OF THE WEEK.

DOMINION.—Wednesday March 17.—White reported that the number of homesteads entered within the C. P. R. belt up to 31st December last was 15,644.

Pope in answer to a question stated that the government had entered into an agreement with a company to construct a railway from the Intercolonial to Paspebiac, and that the agreement would be submitted to parliament.

Sir Adolph Caron then rose to speak to Landry's motion, and till the hour of adjournment made introductory remarks.

Thursday, March 18.—Caron continued his speech on the Riel motion. He read a letter from Bishop Gradiu to show the craft and skill of Riel, and how he sought the aid of the clergy, and failing in this, set to work to undermine their influence with the half-breeds. The government decided from the first to allow the law to take its course, but would have intervened had there been any doubt about his sanity. He also read affidavits of the men who captured Riel, which shewed that he did not surrender, and therefore could not be considered a prisoner of war or to have been promised an amnesty.

Desjardins read articles from the *Toronto Mail* and complained of their tone. He accused Langevin of having misled his supporters in Quebec into a belief that a constitutional agitation against Riel's execution would have a good effect.

Landry (Kent) said that the papers of both parties had been very violent. He did not believe that Riel had been sacrificed on account of being a Frenchman. He did not die for the French cause; and it was folly to urge French-Canadians to revenge for such a martyr. He ridiculed the idea of Riel's insanity. He came over to the North-West, not for the purpose of helping the Metis, but to speculate in rebellion.

Friday March 19.—Mackintosh referred to the French-Canadians as generous and noble of disposition. The agitators had seized these good qualities and turned them in the wrong direction. He accused the opposition of taking up the Riel matter because they had no fixed policy except to stir up sectarian prejudices, and set race against race. A few months ago they raised a cry against French domination, now they are wooing the French in order to secure office.

Blake followed. He said the discussion was one of a delicate character. All party spirit should be eliminated. The opposition had decided that there should be no association of party in their ranks, and he would speak for himself alone. He complained that the government had not brought down necessary papers. He held the government responsible for every pun that had been suffered in consequence of the rebellion, for every life sacrificed, for every death, whether on the scaffold or elsewhere. He admitted Riel was legally guilty of high treason. He regretted the choice of the judge as he was not a man of authority or weight, nor was he independent, as he could be removed at any time by the government. He discussed at length the law of insanity. Unquestionably, it was not sane at times. In the execution of Riel a gross perversion of justice had been committed, and consequently he would support Landry's motion. He showed that in England, France, and Canada more than half the culprits sentenced to death were pardoned.

Thompson moved the adjournment of the debate.

Monday March 22.—Thompson spoke on the Landry resolution. He said that no parliament in the British realm arrogates to itself the right to decide upon matters relating to the administration of justice. He quoted from several British parliamentarians, to show that the exercise of the prerogative of the crown was left invariably with the executive, untrammelled, and that parliament was not the place where cases may be tried over again. Regarding the charge of the alleged unfairness of the trial of Riel, because Riel's counsel were not granted a month's delay, he said that no application for such a delay had ever been made. He entered into details and denied every charge of unfairness. That Judge Richardson had tried the case impartially was clear from the fact that the counsel for the prisoner waited on him and thanked him for his fairness. He read depositions of Fathers Andre, Fourmond, and others to prove Riel's criminality. He argued that Riel's was not a political offense. He quoted from a report on capital punishment by an English commission in which it was held that in treason-felony, where accompanied by overt act of rebellion, the extreme penalty of death must be retained.

Mr. Thompson spoke for five hours, and held the close attention of the house, and at the close of his speech was enthusiastically cheered.

Mills accused the government of seeking to make a political platform out of the Regina Scaffold. He referred to many of the statements of Thompson.

Tuesday March 23.—Orton resumed the debate on the Riel resolution, contending that the dead rebel chief was sane and deserved death.

Casgrain read a declaration from parties who attended meetings at which Mr. Landry, the mover of the resolution, declared his approval of the government's course in executing Riel.

Costigan denied that he had betrayed the interests of those he represented. He said that Irishmen were recognized as the equals of others.

Speeches were also delivered by Casey, Kaulbach, and Sproul.

Sir Hector Langevin, before the house adjourned, said that the budget speech would be delivered on Thursday next.

Wednesday, March 24.—After speeches by Girouard, DeSaulniers, Massue, Chapleau, Bergeron, and Tasso, the House divided on Langevin's motion, that the question be now put. This was carried by a vote of 126 to 73, seventeen Conservatives voting with the Opposition. The vote on Landry's motion was then taken, which was lost by 146 to 52, 23 Liberals voting against the Government.

The estimates for the next fiscal year were then presented by Mr. McLelan, who announced that the Budget Speech would be delivered on Tuesday. The estimates amounted to something over thirty-three million dollars, compared with thirty-five millions in 1885-6. The reduction is due chiefly to the rebellion expenditure. The total capital expenditure for next year is estimated at five and a-half millions, of which \$2,097,958 is for the redemption of the debt; \$2,865,100 for railways; \$335,100 for other public works, and \$100,000 for Dominion lands. \$912,100 will be spent upon the C. P. R.; and \$123,000 upon the Intercolonial, including \$60,000 for the Stellarion branch. The estimates for canals amount to nearly two millions. About \$57,000 is to be spent on public buildings in Nova Scotia.

PROVINCIAL.—Wednesday, March 17th.—Bills relating to chap 56 R. S. of County Incorporations; the name of a settlement in Richmond Co. the expenditure of the road and bridge grant; and the bill to enable the Municipality of Guysborough to construct a road, passed a third reading.

The following bills were introduced:—To amend the Act to provide Windsor with water; to amend that part of the Judicature Act relating to Jury causes; and a bill to enable the Municipality of Digby to borrow money for fire purposes.

In reply to a request by Mr. Blair, Mr. Fielding stated, that since January, 1884, 223 animals had been imported into this Province, and that the bonuses paid by the Government amounted to \$893.

Thursday, March 18th.—Mr. Macdonald introduced a bill to extend the Jurisdiction of Justices of the Peace in Civil matters, allowing an assignee to sue in his own name for sums not exceeding twenty dollars; Mr. Blair, to amend the Act incorporating the Truro Condensed Milk and Canning Co.; Mr. Munro, a bill to amend chap. 39 R. S. of Agriculture; Mr. Corning, a bill to incorporate the trustees of the Presbyterian Church at Carlton, Yarmouth Co.; Mr. Fielding, a bill to amend and consolidate the Acts relating to Dartmouth; Mr. Longley, a bill to amend chap 47 R. S. of highway labor; and Mr. White, a bill to incorporate the Maritime Commercial Travellers' Association.

Mr. Church laid on the table the financial returns of Public Works and Mines. The amount of coal royalties received in 1884 was \$86,277.20; in 1885, \$101,411.25. The gold royalties for 1884, amounted to \$11,386.26; and for 1885, \$15,196.12. Total income for 1884, \$100,678.36; in 1885, \$119,367.03. Excess of income in 1885, \$18,688.67.

Friday, March 19th.—The bills incorporating the Temperance Union, the Mayflower and the Chebucto Divisions, and the bill changing the boundaries of polling districts 5 and 11 of Antigonish, passed a third reading.

Mr Harrington presented a petition from residents of Halifax, asking for an investigation regarding the condition of the Provincial Hospital.

Mr. Bell introduced a bill to amend the Act incorporating the Hopewell Woolen Mills Co.; Mr. Black, a bill to amend the Act relating to the removal of the embankment over the LaPlance River, Cumberland Co.; Mr. Fielding, a bill to incorporate the Stowincko Valley Railroad Co.; Mr. Bell, a bill in reference to the Iron and Steel Company of Pictou; and Dr McLennan, a bill to amend chap. 57 R. S., 5th series of controverted elections of Municipal and Town Councilors.

Monday, March 22nd.—Mr. Mack presented a petition from the registered Practitioners of Medicine of Nova Scotia, requesting that the present condition of the management of the Hospital be considered, and that means be devised to secure to it the confidence of the medical profession, the public, and especially of those for whose benefit it was established.

Mr. Fielding said the petition was not a spontaneous expression of opinion from the doctors of the Province, but certain incorrect and misleading statements were printed and circulated by certain city doctors, who had also obtained the signatures to the petition.

Mr Campbell introduced a bill to legalize the assessment of school section No. 3, Inverness; Mr. Fielding, a bill to enable the Municipality of Halifax to purchase a poor farm; also, a bill to amend chap. 56 R. S. of County Incorporations; Dr. Muuro, a bill to provide for the formation of Mutual Insurance Companies; and Mr. Corning, a bill to amend chap. 105 R. S. of County Court procedure.

Tuesday, March 23rd.—Mr. Buchanan introduced a bill to incorporate the Y. M. C. A. of Sydney; Mr. Bell, a bill to amend the Act incorporating the Vale Coal and Iron Manufacturing Co.; Mr. Mack, a bill to change the name of certain settlements in Queen's Co.; and Mr. Church, a bill to amend chap. 8 R. S. of the regulation of Mines.

WINDSOR CASTLE.

The castle hill springs from the bosom of a typical English scene; to the north the eye ranges over a wide expanse dotted with parks and groves; beyond the river is Eton, which for twenty-one reigns has been the training ground of the youth of England; and there, in the river, is Magna Charta Island, and on the bank lies the open field of Runnymede. From the Round Tower you can see the house that once was Milton's, the church-yard of Stoke Pogie, where Gray's "Elegy" was composed, and the distant heights of Hampstead and Richmond; in the park you can visit Shakespeare's oak, the Elm Ride, laid out by Queen Anne, and oaks that were planted by the Virgin Queen. The Round Tower itself dates from the reign of Edward III. who built it to receive the Round Table of his newly founded Order of the Garter. It is indeed, to this Edward, the Sir Edward of Windsor, as Froissart loves to style him, that Windsor owes its pre-eminence over other abodes of English royalty. A hunting box in Saxon times, a fortress and a prison under the Norman princes, the Castle now became the centre of the court and of court life. Here the victor of Crecy kept his state, and here entertained the royal and knightly captives King John of France and King David of Scotland. Here, for eighteen years, King James of Scotland pined in captivity, and beguiled his solitude by composing his poem "The King's Quhair." In the tomb-house lie Henry VIII., Jane Seymour, and the remains of Charles I., as well as the bodies of the later sovereigns of the House of Hanover, and the Prince Consort. In fact, wherever we look we see some fragment of the long history of England.

The Castle occupies over thirty acres of ground. To the east of the Round Tower is the upper ward, to the west the lower court. In the former, on the north side, are the state apartments, and on the east, the private apartments of the Queen. The suite of state rooms is open to the public. The usual entrance to the Castle is from the town of Windsor into the lower ward, in which is the chapel of St. George and the houses of the knights, and thence through the Norman Gate to the terrace, and other parts of the Castle which are accessible when the Queen is not in residence. Then any one, by merely applying at a stationer's store for a ticket, can view the noblest rooms and finest pictures in the Castle—the great Banqueting Hall, the Waterloo Chamber, the Presence Chamber, and the Chapel. The actual dwelling of the sovereign is only visible to guests of the Queen, and is completely shut in from the public part of the Castle. Those who have had the good fortune to penetrate this mysterious region speak enthusiastically of the quaint shapes of the rooms, the deep bay-windows, and the general snugness and habitable air. From the Great Corridor, in itself a treasury of art and priceless bric-a-brac, opens a suite of drawing-rooms—the White Room, with a bay-window over the Home Park; the Green Room, remarkable for its display of Sevres china, especially a set of matchless bleu du roi; and the Crimson Room, which is generally used by the ladies of the household. The Queen's daily dining room is an octagonal room, sober in tone and exceedingly plain; it is lined with oak, and contains only three works of any artistic character—two pieces of Gobelin tapestry, and the Queen's own portrait by Baron von Angeli. It is in this Oak Room, or in the adjoining private sitting room, that the Queen does her routine work.

To many persons the parks of Windsor offer more attractions than the edifice itself. The Great Park, which extends for miles to the south, contains the finest trees in England, which have been carefully tended for generations. Virginia Water, a portion of the forest, is the largest artificial piece of water in the country, and is attractively laid out. The Little Park, to the north of the Castle, contains the "Herne's Oak" of Shakespeare, or rather the successor of that illustrious tree.

The Castle proper, its towers and terraces, its blended architecture, its broken and picturesque outlines, its mixture of mediæval fortress and modern dwelling, of war and peace, of military keep and knightly chapel, make it an object on which the eye of the artist loves to dwell. The whole of the valley of the Upper Thames is lovely, and nowhere more so than where it flows past the royal dwelling—above the rest beyond compare.

COMMERCIAL.

FISH.—The Halifax fish market is yet as dull as when we last reported. There have been very few arrivals of fish from the coast, and prices for pickled fish that have come to market have ruled very low, indeed there is no feeling among buyers to purchase at even what they may think a low price. When we reported some time ago that an advance had taken place in Bank Cod Fish we were then of an opinion that the advance must only be temporary, and that there were no advices from abroad to warrant any advance. We find such has been the case, and sales were made within the past few days at \$2.20 per qtl., and we doubt if this price could be had to day.

We are very sorry that we cannot report a better feeling in the West India markets. As reported some little time ago, it was expected that when the late shipments had begun to arrive at the Havana markets prices would go down. Such has been the case, though quite a number of the late shipments from here have been and are still held over at New York. So that the quantity going forward have not had the effect of demoralizing that market altogether. Late reports from the Jamaica market are very unfavorable, indeed sales were made about the 1st inst. at 15 shillings tierces, 17 shillings boxes, 16 shillings herring, and 22 shillings mackerel, these sales are next to ruinous.

The demand for fresh fish was fair, but the receipts were very heavy the last few days, and it appears that Kingston as well as all the outports have quite stock enough for some time in the several vessels to arrive.

The trade for box fish has been unusually dull. The supply of herring has not been excessive, but there are accumulations of previous parcels and 16 shillings have been obtained lately with difficulty from late receipts which always have the preference.

We notice sales of mackerel at Kingston, Ja., ex *Delta* at 12 shillings per bbl.

Montreal advices report sales of Labrador herring, No. 1, at \$2.62 per bbl. and if trade does not improve very much the next fortnight there must be a good many left over. The feeling among buyers is that there is no scarcity, and as prices tend downward there are not many to buy.

Boston advices up to week ending March 19. are as follows: Trade during the past week has been fair but not up to the usual standard at this time of the year. The fresh fish trade continues very good, and the weakness of the salt fish trade is in a great measure attributable to the fact that fresh fish are being shipped from here all over the United States.

Codfish are in good supply and are moving very slowly at \$2.37 for large pickled Bank, \$2.25 for medium. The market for dry fish remains about the same, \$3.00 for large, and \$2.62 for medium. George's cod continues to arrive daily and are selling at about \$2.25 for early, and \$3.00 to \$3.50 for late caught.

At present it is hard to give an accurate idea of the situation on mackerel. Forced sales have to be made on account of little or no enquiry; shore, 3's, \$3.75; 2's, \$5; real choice 3's might bring \$5.00 to \$5.50; 2's, \$6.50 to \$7.00; 1's, \$18.00, Nova Scotia 1's move very slowly indeed at \$16.00 per barrel.

HERRING.—The demand for this article of fish is principally for the cheaper grades. A few Eastport round are arriving and selling at \$2.25 per bbl.; Labrador, \$3.75; Large Nova Scotia split herring, \$3.50 per bbl. Up to date there has sailed for the mackerel grounds 25 sail of vessels, and if weather holds fine we may hear of new mackerel in the New York market any day from now.

Below will be found a comparative statement of arrivals of mackerel at Boston for the past four years, week ending March 19:—

1886	1885	1884	1883
7626 bbls.	7458 bbls.	8793 bbls.	8015 bbls.

Receipts at Gloucester, for the week ending March 19th, 1886, were as follows:—

Faces.	From.	Pounds Cod.	Pounds Halibut	Pounds Haddock
45	George's,.....	1,710,334	49,400	100,000
2	Grand Banks	44,000
4	Ipswich Bay, Trawl .	33,000
3	Do. Not....	19,000
2	Brown's,.....	40,000	12,000
56		1,832,334	105,400	100,000

Quite a number of sailing vessels have left this port for the mackerel grounds, and one steamer.

The first of the Lenton demand for fish having been supplied, the demand has slackened up. Prices show no change, though dull. Bank Cod \$2.75 to \$3.50; George's \$3.50; Medium \$2.50; Mackerel, Shore, 3's, \$5.00 to \$5.50; Medium 2's \$6.00 to \$6.50; Extra Two's, \$8.00; Fresh Halibut 6½c.

The Codfish fleet of France is now very numerous. Below will be found a statement of vessels from France on the Grand Banks the past year:—

1884—290 vessels, 27,000 tons, catch 300,000 qtls.
1885—323 " 30,000 " " 1,000,000 "

1886, it is expected the fleet will number 363 vessels of 35,000 tons. The past year is said to have been the most profitable one in twenty years.

A BUNCH OF VIOLETS.

CHAPTER I.

A DRAWING ROOM in a somber house in a gloomy London street—unmistakably the drawing-room of a lodging-house. A girl sitting before a piano—an Eraid, hired by the month—looking at the music on the desk before her and yawning undisguisedly, it being no breach of politeness to yawn when there is nobody but one's self in the room. The drawing-room is the drawing-room of the house No. 33 Carleton St., and the girl is myself.

My name is Allie Somers Scott, and I have come up to London for the purpose of having-singing-lessons. I had a lesson this morning, and I have gone over it again and again till I am tired to death of words and music both. But I have set it up before me now with the laudable intention of going over it once more before it grows too dark to see. To that end I play the prelude through conscientiously, and then I lift up my voice and sing—

"He thinks I do not love him:
He believed each word I said;
And he sailed away in sorrow
Ere the sun had left its bed.
I'd have told the truth this morning,
But the ship was out of sight.
Oh, I wish those waves would bring him
Where we parted yesternight!
Oh, I wish—

A knock at the street-door, and a knock wherein the knocker gives no uncertain sound. I hear it through the melancholy wail of my own high-pitched voice, through the pianoforte accompaniment. I leave the instrument and rush to the window. Olive Deane promised to make her mother set her down here, instead of going to the Rollestons' "At home" in Berkeley Street. I hope it may be Olive, though I had given her up half an hour ago. I have spent such a stupid afternoon cooped up in this dingy room that more than once I have been tempted to break my promise to Uncle Tod and sally forth into the street. Why Uncle Tod thinks it quite permissible to go out in the morning for my music lesson, yet out of the question that I should put my head out of doors alone in the afternoon, passes my comprehension. I suppose he knows or thinks he knows, more about London than I do. Poor dear Uncle Tod!

That is not the Deanes' carriage, that hansom drawn up before the door. Nor is this Olive Deane running up the steps. I draw back from the window infinitely disappointed. It is horribly unkind of Olive not to come; she does not know how lonely I am in these stupid old lodgings, how long the afternoons and the evenings are. She cannot comprehend a feeling of loneliness, with that great houseful of brothers and sisters in Dexter Square. But she might keep a promise when she makes one. I shall scold her when I meet her at the singing class to-morrow, and tell her she does not embody my idea of a friend.

But, if it is not Olive, who is it? The hansom has driven away, but the door has not yet been opened; and I flatten my nose against the glass to see the doorsteps, which are partly concealed by the open ironwork of the balcony. A young man is standing below waiting, patiently or impatiently—the top of his round felt hat gives no clue to his mood—until Mrs. Wauchope's maid-of-all-work shall see fit to ascend from the basement story to open the street-door.

He is coming to stay, evidently, for he carries in one hand a black leather valise, in the other what looks like a large picture, in a kind of rough wooden case. Of himself I can see nothing but a dark overcoat and the round hat already mentioned, except the gloved hand which holds his valise, his figure, as visible from my stand-point, being so foreshortened that it presents very little beyond the felt hat and the toes of his boots. I wonder who he is! Scarcely a tradesman, thought at first I had fancied he must be a glazier, with his tools in the black and his pane of glass in the wooden case. And certainly not Mrs. Wauchope's son, for he is a small boy of eleven and to my certain knowledge does not wear a round hat!

He may be related to the two maiden ladies who the maid-of-all-work calls "the parlors," as I suppose she calls me "the drawing room" when relating all she knows of my affairs to everybody else. I can distinguish the initials "G. B." painted in white on the black bag. "G. B." stands for nothing I can think of on the spur of the moment but "Ginx's Baby." The name is not satisfactory, nor are my surmises likely to lead to any appreciable result. I leave the window convinced on this point, just as Mary Ann opens the door and admits the stranger, without a question apparently, and certainly with but little delay in closing the door behind him.

I glance at the open piano, but I cannot bring myself to sit down and finish that song. I had been longing to learn it; the Deanes raved about it, but I have had enough of it. It was unkind of Olive not to come; we could have had a pleasant chat and drunk tea together—Mary Ann has carried up the tea things, the tea pot stands under that hideous dark blue knitted cozy on the little square table near the fire. I do not care to drink tea all alone.

I wander away from the window and round the room aimlessly, my hands clasped behind me, my long blue gown trailing over the carpet—the ugly shabby old-fashioned room which is "my doleful prison this sixth of May," as poor Anne Boleyn wrote in the Tower three hundred and fifty years ago. Not that this is the sixth of May. This is the sixth of March, and dear old Uncle Tod's birthday. He is seventy-two to-day.

Not that I am in prison here either. Nobody wanted me to come here—I came here of my own free will. Indeed a great many people wanted me not to come, Aunt Ross among them, who thinks it very *outré* for a young girl like me to live in lodgings in London all by myself, and she objected very much to my coming up to town, even for the laudable purpose of improving myself.

I know these furnished lodgings to be eminently respectable—was not Mrs. Wauchope house-keeper at Woodhay Manor when I was a child—and I have promised Uncle Tod to be very steady, and not to go anywhere without the Deanes.

"Why, Allie, you look exactly like Mr. Millias's picture of 'Yes or No.' I turn my head. Olive Deane is standing in the doorway, with her gold rimmed glasses on her saucy nose, laughing at me.

"You wretch?" is my salutation. "Where have you been all the afternoon?"

"At the Rollestons'—mamma would not let me off. But I got her to put me down on her way home, and she has promised to send Fred for me at half-past five."

An hour and a half! It is an eternity of enjoyment to look forward to. I put Olive into my own hammock-chair, and take off her fur tippet.

"I intended to give you a great scolding," I confess, laughingly. "But now that I have got you, I can't find it in my heart to say anything."

"But it wasn't my fault, Allie; mamma would have me go; and, oh, I've got an invitation for you—you're to come with us to the Rollestons' dance on Friday. Won't that be fun?"

"But I have no evening-dresses here, Olive!"

"Then you must send down for one, unless you choose to buy a new one."

"Oh, I can send down for the dress I wore at the Hatchells! We don't go out much at the vicarage, so don't be shocked when I tell you that I have only one ball-dress in the world."

"That's why I want you to come on Friday. You haven't been at a dance since you came up to town."

"I don't know what Aunt Ross will say. I came up to town for singing-lessons."

"She can't say a word when mamma is chaperoning you. It is not to be a grand affair, you know—only a nice little carpet dance. We'll call for you in the carriage at nine."

"But Aunt Ross will object to it." I say, shaking my head.

As if you really minded your Aunt Ross! You know it's a shame you haven't regularly come out, Allie—mamma says so, and everybody."

"Uncle Tod doesn't care for London society."

"But you must take a season or two when you come of age."

"If you mean a season or two of balls and garden-parties, I certainly shall do no such thing."

"But why, Allie? You don't mind their old-fashioned notions at the vicarage?"

"My dear Olive, I don't care a pin about balls and garden-parties."

"That's because you know nothing about them."

"Oh, is it? I've been to balls and garden-parties at the Towers and Dunsandle. They were enough for me."

"But you ought to be introduced into society, Allie."

"Yes, if I were a beauty, perhaps, and likely to make a sensation. I'm not a beauty—quite the contrary; and, besides, it would be a joke to 'come out' at one-and-twenty."

"Ellinor is to come out next season, and then mamma will have three of us on her hands," Olive says meditatively.

"But Poppy is engaged."

"Oh, yes, Poppy is engaged! And I'm going to retire into private life and take up æstheticism or women's rights!" Olive laughs, taking her tea out of my hands. "I can't compliment you on the beauty of your tea service, Allie. You won't find it very hard to 'live up to' that tea pot."

"Or the cozy?" I say, holding it up for her inspection. "Isn't it nice, Olive?"

"Utterly hideous!" Olive answers, looking at it through her glass. "Why don't you throw it behind the grate and work a new one for yourself in crewels on peacock velvet, like what I am making for Ellinor?"

"I don't do crewel work; and, besides, I don't want to insult Mrs. Wauchope. She made that cozy herself."

"So I should have supposed. You must find it lonely here in the evening, Allie"—looking round the room.

"Lonely?" I echo. "You may say so, my dear! I never felt so lonely before in my life."

"Then why do you stay here, you ridiculous girl?"

"Oh, because I wouldn't give Aunt Ross the satisfaction of going to bed before the end of the month! She would only tell me for the hundredth time that it was a pity I didn't know my own mind."

"Then why don't you come to us?"

"And practice scales half the day for your delectation and that of your visitors! No, thank you, my dear. I came up to get singing-lessons, to amuse myself, and, having put my hand to the plow, I won't turn back yet awhile. And it's not so bad here, after all, only a little lonely—the music lessons are great fun."

"How do you like the new song?"

"I have murdered it till it threatens to haunt me for the rest of my life. I laugh, glancing at the piano. Then, struck by a sudden recollection, "Oh, Olive, I've a piece of news for you! We've got a gentleman at Number Thirty-three."

"A gentleman lodger?"

"Yes. He arrived about twenty minutes ago, with a black valise and a huge wooden case."

"Who is he?"

"I don't know. Mrs. Wauchope never told us a word about him. She said there was nobody in the house but those two old maiden ladies on the stairs."

"Well, he wasn't in the house then, I suppose?" Olive says, looking at me.

"What is he like, Allie? Young or old, dark or fair?"

"I can't tell you that either. Young, I think, and dark; but I'm not sure."
 "Why don't you ask Mary Anne?"
 "She has not been up here since he came into the house."
 "Then ring for her now, and we'll cross-question her," Olive suggests, with animation.
 Olive is up to more mischief than I am, notwithstanding her spectacles. I ring the bell.
 "We need not expect her for ten minutes or so," I say; and, ponding her arrival, we drift into talk about our singing-lessons, of the concert we are to take part in with the rest of the pupils on the twenty-first, Poppy's bridemaids' dresses, and a hundred other things. When at last Mary Anne does make her appearance, we stare at her with a vague surprise in both our faces.
 "You rang, miss?" she says, with a look of stolid inquiry.
 "Oh, yes!" Olive answers, in quite a sprightly way. "You wanted coal on the fire, Allie, didn't you?"
 Mary Anne puts coal on the fire ponderously.
 "Who was the gentleman who came in just now?" I ask, trying to speak with a gravity which might excuse the question.
 "The attics," Mary Anne answers, putting some finishing touches to the coal with her fingers.
 "What is his name?" Olive inquires, without a change of countenance.
 "I forget his name. We call him the Count."
 "Is he a count?"
 "Oh, no—no more a Count than you are! But he's so dark and foreign-looking, and so short-like of money, we call him the Count. Not that he's mean or that—he's as proud as Lucifer, and wouldn't owe anybody a farthing."
 "Then how do you know he is poor?" Olive inquires with interest.
 "In course he wouldn't live up four pairs of stairs if he had much money to spare, for all he wants to be near the skylight!"
 "What does he want with the skylight?"
 "He's an artist," Mary Anne answers, with such an inimitable air of pity, not to say contempt, that Olive and I are absolutely afraid to look each other in the face.
 "Is he a photographer?" Olive asks innocently.
 "Oh, no—a painter! And a poor thing he makes of it, though the mistress do say that, if he worked at it, he'd make a name for himself. He do work hard enough sometimes, but it's only by fits and starts. And he has a lot of idle young friends that come bothering him—I don't doubt but he'd do well enough if they let him alone."
 "Where has he been for the last fortnight?" I inquire, thinking of Aunt Rosa.
 "On a sketching tour," Mary Anne answers glibly, "up in Scotland or somewhere. Can I take the tea things now, ma'am?"
 Permitted to take the tea-things, Mary Anne returns with them to the lower regions, whence we had evolved her. The moment the door closes behind her Olive and I begin to laugh.
 "What will Aunt Rosa say?" Olive exclaims delightedly.
 "Indeed I don't know," I answer more seriously. "I only hope she won't know anything about it for the next fortnight. I sha'n't tell her."
 "You'll never see him," Olive says, "unless you happen to meet him on the stairs, and that's not very likely. And, as for his friends, I dare say Mrs. Wauchope will give him a hint not to bring them about the house while you are here."
 "I don't mind his friends, or him either. Only I know Aunt Rosa will think my being here more *outré* than ever. I say, Olive, wouldn't you like to see his studio?"
 "I should, very much. I wonder if he takes portraits, Allie? Wouldn't it be fun if I got him to paint my picture? You could come with me to play propriety, you know; or would it be necessary to have up Mrs. Wauchope? I wish we knew his name."
 "I shall soon find it out. Ginx's Baby, I call him—the initials on his valise were G. B."
 "G. B." Olive repeats musingly. "Fred knows a great many young artists. I'll ask him if he knows any 'G. B.'"
 "I am afraid the 'four pair back' is an artist as yet unknown to fame," I laugh, poking the fire into a bright cherry blaze. It has grown dark already in Carleton Street; but I do not care to light the gas yet; it makes the evening seem so interminably long to light the gas at half-past five.
 "I'm afraid so. Allie, what colour is your evening-dress?"
 "Blue, my dear—the most delicate shade of bird's-egg blue."
 "Gauze or gronadine?"
 "Neither, silk and crepe. Oh, it is a very decent dress! I was extravagant enough to get it from Madame Garoupe."
 "Then it is sure to be all right," Olive says, with a sigh of as complete satisfaction as if the crepe and silk "confection" were absolutely before her eyes. "I wish I could order my dresses from Madame Garoupe."
 "I can afford it; I get so few of them."
 "Afford it!" Olive laughs, shrugging her shoulders.
 "Oh, well, you know Uncle Tod doesn't allow me much for dress!"
 "Then why don't you make him give you more?"
 "I don't want it. He lets me have my horse and my dogs; and nobody dresses much at Yattendon."
 So "Ginx's Baby" drops out of the conversation. And so completely have we forgotten his existence that, when Fred Deano comes in, we never think of asking him if he knows of any artist whose initials are "G. B." Fred wants to engage me for the first waltz on Friday evening, and, as he dances very badly, I want to reserve myself for his brother Gus, who is sure to ask me, and who dances very well.

(To be continued.)

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 MONTREAL.

To the Electors of Ward 4.

GENTLEMEN,—Having received from the Electors of your Ward a large and influential requisition, numerous signed, inviting me to offer myself as a candidate for Alderman at the coming Civic Election I will say in reply that I accept your kind invitation, and if elected, will, to the best of my ability strive to especially promote the interest of Ward Four, and likewise the City of Halifax at large. Respectfully soliciting your support on the 25th of April, 1886.

I remain, Gentlemen,
 Yours respectfully,
 J. F. IRISH.

To the Electors of Ward 1.

GENTLEMEN,—Having accepted a very influential and numerous signed requisition from the electors of the ward, requesting me to be your candidate for Alderman at the ensuing election on April 25th, if you see fit to place me in that responsible position by your vote and influence, I shall do my utmost to further the interests of the city generally, never forgetting the requirements of Ward One, in which I am now, and have been, for many years a resident property owner.

I remain, gentlemen,
 Yours sincerely,

T. E. COOKE.

Halifax, March 20th, 1886.

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THE MARITIME PATRON,
AND ORGAN OF THE
Maritime Provincial Grange—Patrons of Husbandry.

"In Essentials Unity—In Non Essentials Liberty—In All Things Charity."

[All communications intended for this column should be sent to the editor of the Maritime Patron, EDWIN S. CREED, M. D., Newport.]

We quote the following from the *Canadian Co-operator and Patron*, published at Owen Sound, Ontario:—

"Where live, self-sacrificing patrons are at the head, the Grange is advancing; where office-seekers and incapable brethren are at the head, the Grange is at a stand-still. We are pleased to note the rapid advancement of our Order in the Maritime Provinces. In no section of America is there greater activity in Grange ranks than in Nova Scotia and New Brunswick. We have a warm sympathy for our brother and sister Patrons down by the sea. May abundant success crown their efforts."

If we express the pleasure we felt upon reading the kindly and appreciative words of "Veteran," in *The Critic* of the 19th inst., we might as well confess that kindly words and appreciation are a treat. Well, so be it, for so they are. Thank you, "Veteran." The Order of the Patrons of Husbandry, as represented by its principles and purposes, its beautiful and instructive ritual, and its truly elevating degrees, is worthy of a great deal of praise and appreciation. As the only organized exponent and advocate of the interests of Agriculture, and the just demands of farmers, our Order might well be valued by governments as a mirror and barometer of the Agricultural mind. We feel assured that the *referans* of our Nova Scotian government are as appreciative as the correspondent of *The Critic*. That it has seen the Agricultural mind focalized and reflected, and its pressure indicated in our Provincial Grange, and that we and the country will receive at its hands a measure of assessment reform which shall effect an equitable adjustment of Municipal taxation. The Order was invited to prepare and present such a measure. It did so. What will the Government do with it? An answer to this question should be obtained by re-introducing the Grange Assessment Bill into the Legislature of this Province at its present and last Session.

The Secretary of the Maritime Provincial Grange has received from the Secretary of the "Morning Star" Division Grange (for Lunenburg and Queen's Counties) a copy of a Resolution passed by that body, expressing—"That 'Morning Star' Division Grange, No. 55, P. of H., desires to respectfully impress upon the Maritime Provincial Grange the importance of urging upon the Legislature of this Province the necessity of passing a measure, having for its object the re-adjustment of the Municipal Assessment Law of the Province, as provided in the Bill approved by the Grange, and submitted to the Legislature at its last session."

We have in a previous issue referred to the importance of introducing instruction in the first principles of Agriculture into all country district schools. Although special training would greatly enhance the value of teachers for this as for any branch, still such special training is not essential to good and useful work. We have in "Tanner's First Principles of Agriculture," a little book of only 95 pages, all that is needed for a commencement. It treats of "The Soil," "Composition of Crops," "Fertility of the Soil," "Farm Manures," "Artificial Manures," "Natural Manures," "Tillage Operations," "Rotation of Crops," "Live Stock," and "Food of Farm Stock." These subjects are of course treated very briefly and concisely, but yet in such away as to be suited to and afford a very large amount of information, not only for children, but also for farmers.

We are fully impressed with the fact that between talk and theorizing about any proposal, and the actual benefits derivable from the practical application of the proposal, there is often a great gulf, more or less impracticable. We feel quite sure, however, that any and every farmer who examines this little text book will agree with us, that a knowledge of the principles, facts and reasons which it contains could scarcely fail to be of great practical benefit.

Let us take for example the chapter on "Tillage Operations," which teaches how the operations of plowing, harrowing, rolling, cultivating, hoeing, draining, etc., contribute to the productiveness of the soil. The advantages of drainage are explained so as to impress the mind of the boy with the importance of this, in our Province, much-neglected operation, and we may rely upon it, that what impresses the boy will be acted upon by the man.

How few farmers either practice or know the reasons for an intelligent system of rotation of crops. Teach the boys, and the girls, why a system of crop rotation should be followed, and the principles that should govern the selection of such a system, and the farming of the next generation would be as distinguished for scientific practice in this respect as the present is for disregard of all system.

We shall at present refer to but one other chapter of this little book, that on "Food for Farm Stock," which treats of proximate and chemical composition of foods, of digestion and assimilation, and of the subject of nutritive values and ratios, or the combinations of foods essential to economy in their use. As an example of the saving that may be effected by "a judicious combination of different kinds of food," it has been found "by repeated trials, that 8lbs. of beans, or 6lbs. of linseed cake are each capable of producing 1lb. of increase in live weight," but that when these articles and quantities are mixed and fed together, the result is an increase of 4lbs. of live weight. Thus knowledge effects a given result with half the feed that ignorance would have to use.

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To the Electors of Ward 6.

GENTLEMEN.—In response to very large and influential requisitions, I will be a candidate for the seat at the City Council, vacated by the retirement of Ald. Longard.
As a resident of the Ward, and always taking a deep interest in its prosperity, I shall, if elected, endeavor by every means in my power to promote such measures as will tend to secure for it a full share of the benefits of our civic government.
Respectfully requesting your votes and support on election day (28th April),
I remain,
Yours very truly,
SAUL MOSHER.

To the Electors of Ward 2.

GENTLEMEN.—At the request of many influential electors of your Ward, I have consented to offer as candidate at the approaching election for your representation in the City Council.
Should you be pleased to elect me, my hearty support will be given to all measures of reform in civic affairs, and more especially to such as shall tend to reduce the annual expenditure of the city without detriment to its general interests.
Yours, &c.
J. M. CHISHOLM.

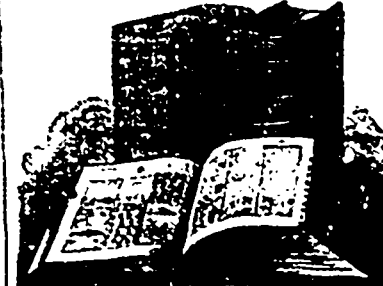
To the Electors of Ward 5.

HALIFAX, March 6th, 1886.
GENTLEMEN.—Having been numerously and influentially requested to serve another term as a member of the City Council, I will be a candidate at the election which this year takes place on the 28th April, and if favored with a renewal of your confidence, will endeavor to look faithfully after such civic interests as may be entrusted to me.
JOHN EAD.

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MINING.

OUR MINING LAWS.—Last Friday the committee, to whom Mr. Fraser's bill respecting gold mines had been submitted, received a deputation of mine-owners and others interested in the improvement of our mining laws. The committee accorded those in attendance a careful hearing and received their suggestions respecting the amendments to the bill with evident satisfaction. It was pointed out that under the existing law the tenure of mine holders was of a most uncertain and unsatisfactory character. A reform in this respect was suggested which would be a decided advantage to all those having to do with the leasing of gold mines. If Mr. Fraser will embody this suggestion in a new bill, or if possible incorporate it in that already introduced by him, he will confer a favor upon mining men which will be of lasting benefit. The present system under which the mines are leased is most objectionable, and any reform that can insure to the capitalists the certain tenure of their mining areas, will give a new stimulus to the gold mining industry.

THE COGSWELL MINE.—A very rich strike was recently made on the Cogswell property, of a pocket in which the quartz yielded from eight to nine ounces per ton. Some of the specimens which were exhibited were exceedingly pretty, bearing evidences of gold on all sides.

The Dominion Phosphate Company have contracted to deliver in Hamburg and other European ports during the coming season, 6000 tons of phosphates. This shows a decided growth in the demand for Canadian phosphates, as last year the same company exported little more than three thousand tons.

A MINERS ASSOCIATION.—For the past few months we have urged the necessity that existed for the formation of a Miners' Association, and we are pleased to announce that a movement is now on foot with this end in view. The following is a verbatim copy of a paper which is now in the hands of W. L. Lowell & Co., and to which it is hoped every mine owner and practical mining man in the province will at once subscribe his name:—

"The subscribers, being persons directly interested in the development of the gold mining industry of this Province, are desirous of closer association for the benefits of mutual aid and protection, and to that end do hereby signify our intention to become members of an organization which shall have these and other benefits for its object and purpose."

Those among our subscribers who do not intend visiting Halifax for some time to come, and who wish to have their names attached to the paper in question, should at once notify Mr. John Lyle, of W. L. Lowell & Co., of their desire. It will not be necessary for us to represent to those interested the manifold advantages that would result from the establishment of such an association. These will at once be evident to all practical mining men.

The amount of coin in the country on 1st of July, 1885, was some \$320,000,000, of which \$542,000,000 consisted of gold coin, and \$278,000,000 of silver coin.

The shipments of the Adams mine, at Leadville, during the month of January, aggregated 1,250 to 1,300 tons of mineral.

Great Britain imported in 1885 \$4,405,000 in silver, of which \$1,275,000 came from the United States.

The Drum Lumon mine of Montana distinguished itself during January by the largest production on record. Sixty stamps working thirty days crushed 3,456 tons, yielding \$100,831.19.

The valuable alloys of copper and cobalt are obtained by melting in a crucible metallic copper and cobalt under a flux composed of boracic acid and wood charcoal.

The shipment of bar silver from Butte, M. T., for the week ending Saturday, Feb. 27, was valued at \$82,544.

Montana mines have paid \$1,377,050 in dividends to shareholders during the past year.

A vein of borax has been discovered in Weld County, near Sterling, Col.

The country about Trinidad, in southern Colorado, is rich in coal, iron and fire-clay.

Idaho has produced \$24,137,417 gold, and \$727,296 silver. As a gold producer Idaho ranks sixth, and in silver seventh.

In the statistics of production of lead in 1885 the amount is given at 109,667 tons, or about 9,000 tons less than in 1884.

The Ropes gold mine, Michigan, for the month of February produced, from bullion and concentrates, about \$3,000 in precious metal, averaging about \$6.50 per ton of rock treated.

The statement of the United States mints for February shows the coinage to have been as follows: 479,510 pieces of gold valued at \$2,949,637.50; 2,600,000 pieces of silver valued \$2,600,000; total coinage, 3,079,150 pieces; value, \$5,549,637.50.

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These we offer at a GREAT BARGAIN.

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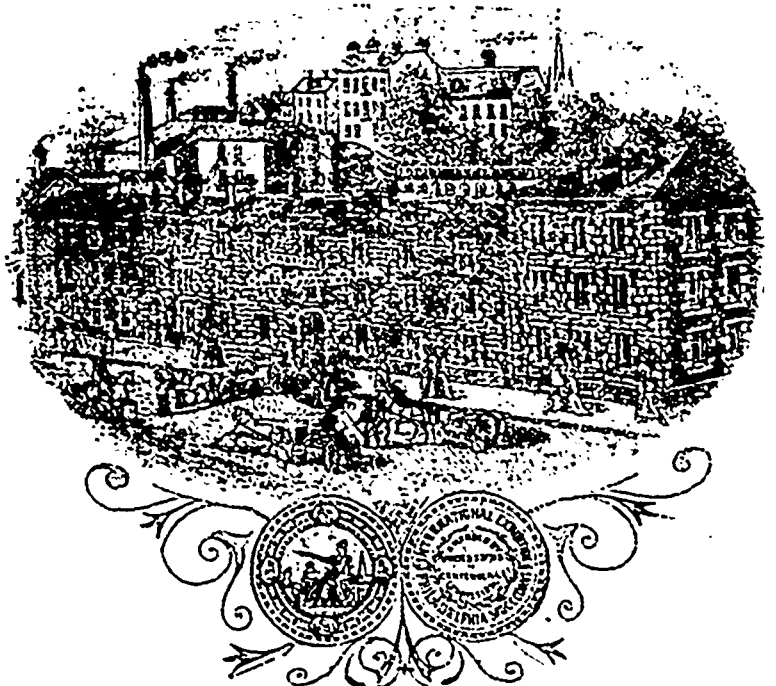
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HOLLIS STREET.

HALIFAX, 18th March, 1886.



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MANUFACTURERS AND IMPORTERS OF

India Pale Ale and Porter,

ENGLISH ALE & BROWN STOUT.

LOWER WATER STREET, HALIFAX.

HOW I SECURED A BONANZA?
(A Story of the Nova Scotia Gold Fields.)

Chapter I.

OFF TO EAST CHEZZETCOOK.

One bright October day, some years ago, I was seated in my office in Halifax, patiently waiting for the clients, who would not come, or vainly trying to propitiate my creditors, who did. My neighbor in the adjoining office was a famous practitioner and the constant banging of his outer door, the hum of voices indistinctly heard through the thin partition, the busy scratching of pens, all testified to his prosperity, and presented a vivid contrast to my almost hopeless condition.

In England the briefless barrister finds some consolation in bewailing the want of appreciation evinced by the Attorney, but in Nova Scotia where both branches of the profession are rolled into one, even this small consolation is denied. Unlike my neighbor, however, I could smoke, with no fear of offending the nostrils of fair clients, so lighting my pipe I stepped to the window and gazed dreamily into the back area. A slight glimpse of a dusty, deserted street, a forlorn and stunted tree denuded of its foliage, the dead tendrils of a fine Virginia creeper dangling in front of the window, together with sundry ash barrels and the usual debris of back yards, were the objects presented to my view; and, under ordinary circumstances, would not have been conducive to cheerfulness. But the bright sunshine and the pure invigorating air, combined with the soothing effects of the tobacco, threw me into a pleasant train of thought, and gave me an intense longing to leave the city behind me and plunge into the depths of the woods. Conscience perversely whispered, "you know you can't afford it," but the thought flashed into my mind. "what about those gold claims? Yes, I must pay a visit to them." A client had prevailed on me to accept his gold claims in the East Chezzetcook district, in payment for legal services. He had stated that the claims adjoined a rich property, but I had had so little faith in them, or him, that I had not taken the trouble to visit the mines office and verify his statement. Now, however, they presented a good excuse for a day's shooting in the country, and without giving conscience another opportunity I decided to go.

As the gun from the citadel boomed out the noon hour, I put on my hat and hurried forth to prepare for the trip. At the door I met my old friend Ralph Rambler, pipe in hand, coming to have his usual smoke and chat with me.

"Where are you off to?" he asked, evidently much astonished at seeing me in a hurry.

"To the East Chezzetcook gold district. Come with me."

"I should like to, Spendall," (allow me to introduce myself) "but I have nothing prepared. It is a twenty-five mile drive down there, and it will be midnight when we arrive. Why not wait until morning?"

"The day is too fine to lose. If you can come, get your guns and traps ready, and meet me at two o'clock on the ferry wharf."

"All right, if I get leave I will be there." And we separated, he to arrange with my prosperous neighbor in whose office he was chief clerk, and I to hurry home and pack up.

Ralph was a handsome, dashing young man of twenty five, and had been my companion on innumerable trips to the pretty troutling lakes that surround Halifax in all directions. He was a keen sportsman and an expert with the rod and line. While I whipped off the flies, tangled up my line, and conducted myself generally in a most unsportsman-like manner, he caught the fish. I may add that being pater-familias I did my full share at eating them. His manner of ingratiating himself with the farmers, their wives and their daughters, was truly Hibernian; and although he prided himself on having nothing but English blood in his veins, I had my doubts. His cool assumption of superiority for everything English, sometimes roused my Yankee blood, but our little differences only served to cement our friendship. Chezzetcook, our destination, is divided by its harbor into two settlements, East and West Chezzetcook. West Chezzetcook supports a large Acadian population, but, although many pretty faces are to be seen there, Longfellow's ideal Evangeline would be hard to find. At East Chezzetcook the population is largely French, but is mixed with Dutch and Scotch, and while the West Chezzetcookers retain the customs and manners of their forefathers in all their primitive simplicity, East Chezzetcook has, by the introduction of foreign blood, lost many of its quaint peculiarities. Gold had been discovered, and the peaceful settlement had been invaded by hosts of miners. High wages had drawn the plodding Acadian from his farm and fisheries, to handle the pick and hammer, and had caused him to look with disdain on his former occupations. Promptly at two o'clock I was at the ferry wharf, and found that Ralph, with his innumerable bundles, had arrived before me.

The old ferry boat (popularly supposed to have been the handiwork of Noah, and to have been converted into a steamer by the Chinese long before steam was known to us) moved slowly from the wharf and our journey had begun. The day was simply perfection. The mellow Indian summer sun cast a hazy light over the dull old city and made it look quite picturesque in the distance. Not a ripple stirred the waters of the harbor, except where they were churned into foam by the paddles of the steamer. The men-of-war lying idly at their anchorage—the far too few sails that sparsely dotted the harbor—the frowning fortress on George's Island—the variegated foliage of the forests fringing the Eastern Passage and covering McNab's Island—the noble expanse of waters forming the harbor—all combined to make a scene of quiet beauty hard to be excelled.

(To be continued.)

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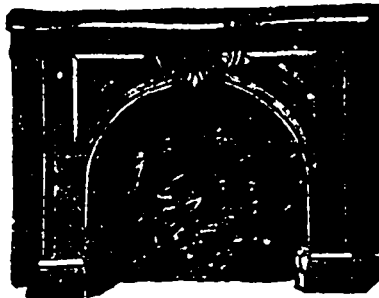
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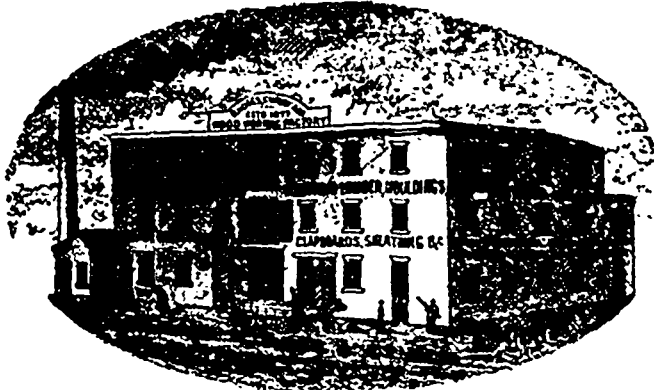
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Forms of Tender, giving full particulars relative to the Supplies required, dates of delivery, &c., may be had by applying to the undersigned or to the Indian Commissioner at Regina, or to the Indian Office, Winnipeg.

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Each Tender must be accompanied by an accepted Cheque, in favor of the Superintendent-General of Indian Affairs on a Canadian Bank, for at least five per cent. of the amount of the tender for Manitoba and the North-West Territories, which will be forfeited if the party tendering declines to enter into a contract when called upon to do so, or if he fails to complete the work contracted for. If the tender be not accepted, the cheque will be returned.

Tenders must make up in the Money column in the Schedule the total money value of the goods they offer to supply, or their tender will not be entertained.

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