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THE CRITIC.

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The editor of THE CRITIC is responsible for the views expressed in Editorial Notes and Articles, and for such only; but the editor is not to be understood as endorsing the sentiments expressed in the articles contributed to his 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.

Charles A. Dana has figured up the value of a man at his twenty-first birthday and sets it down at only \$750. Yet the man himself at that age estimates his value higher than at any other time of life.

So the Bartholdi statue is not, after all, the highest in the world. Mr. William Simpson claims that distinction for a statue at Bamian, in Afghanistan, cut out of the solid rock, and ascertained (through the labors of members of the Afghan Boundary Commission) to be 173ft. high—rather higher, that is, than the Nelson column in Trafalgar square, and nearly 70ft. higher than the Bartholdi figure. This will be bad news for our Yankee brothers, who dearly love to have the biggest possible things, and to "lick all creation."

The German Government would fain stay the stream of German emigration flowing to the United States, but it is powerless to prevent the stalwart Teuton from seeking abroad that freedom from military service which in the Fatherland is now compulsory. Nearly 200,000 German emigrants annually leave their native country, four-fifths of whom find homes in the United States, the remainder settling in South America, Africa and Australia. 2,500,000 Germans are now to be counted without the limits of the empire, most of whom have renounced their allegiance as German subjects and embraced citizenship under the Stars and Stripes or the Union Jack.

One might imagine on reading the details of the horrible crimes which are daily occurring in different parts of the world, that human beings were fast becoming callous to the sufferings and tortures of the victims in such atrocities; but it will be found that, omitting the crimes committed by insane persons, there are always circumstances which prove the perpetrators are not entirely hardened. The recent tragedy at Blois exemplifies this. Here an aged mother had her garments saturated in paraffine oil by her two sons, daughter and son-in-law, and then was held over a fire until life was extinct. The relatives who were tempted to commit this outrage in order to obtain possession of her savings which amounted to 40 pounds, took care that she saw the priest and received absolution before the crime was committed, and during its progress chanted prayers for the peace of her soul. Such cruel indifference to the poor woman's physical sufferings, and concern respecting her spiritual welfare appear almost inexplicable.

Leprosy has during late years prevailed to an alarming extent in the Sandwich Islands. The disease is supposed to have been introduced by a Chinaman in 1848 and hence is known as the Chinese disease. About five per cent. of the population are afflicted with leprosy. The government is now taking active measures to stamp it out, but the people are averse to sending their relatives to the government hospital.

The Cologne Gazette advocates the founding of a large settlement of Germans in Queensland in view of the eventual separation of that colony from England and its annexation to Germany. Such a movement, says the Gazette, is necessary to counteract the tendency of Australia to become possessed of the whole of the south seas. The Gazette overlooks the fact that Germans settling in British colonies soon become British subjects.

We have not the data at hand for giving a full answer to the enquiry of a "Countryman" which appears in another column, but our correspondent is correct in assuming that editors are not the most numerous fraternity in the world. As a matter of fact, in the Maritime Provinces we have but 85 editors, while clergymen of all denominations number about 950. As to the comparative intelligence and power of the fraternity, that is a vexed question upon which it would be difficult for any jury to decide.

It has long been the ardent wish of those who admired the great Duke of Wellington to erect a statue to his memory worthy of the hero of Waterloo. Arrangements have at length been made with Mr. Boehm, an English sculptor of high reputation, to produce and erect in Wellington Place an equestrian statue of the Iron Duke and his noble charger. The corners of the pedestal are to be supported by four soldiers representing English, Scotch, Irish and Welsh veterans as they appeared in Wellington's day.

The New York State Legislature has appointed a committee to consider the question of capital punishment and to recommend some more merciful method of taking the life of a convicted person than that at present in vogue. Hanging has been condemned as a relic of Anglo-Saxon barbarism, while the French guillotine is pronounced as inhuman and uncivilized. The discussion is the outcome of a desire to save from the gallows a woman who killed and fed her husband to the pigs. It is difficult to understand why the members of the legislature should have been so solicitous about the manner in which such a criminal crossed the narrow bridge connecting time with eternity.

Emin Bey, the brave Austrian doctor, who, with his black troops, has been maintaining the supremacy of the Khedive in Equatorial Africa, has through Dr. Junker, the Russian explorer, officially informed the British Government that he is able to maintain his post despite the hordes of fanatical Arabs by which he is surrounded. He can, however, if so desired, withdraw from the country. Emin Bey was Gordon's first lieutenant, and until Dr. Junker's report was published, it was thought that he too had fallen a victim to Musselman ferocity. It is supposed that Colonel Stanley will lead the expeditionary force sent to his relief. News of Emin Bey will now be eagerly sought after.

England has now a new fishery question to settle, which is of serious import to those who dwell along the east coast of Britain, and who ply their calling as fishermen in the North Sea. The British fishermen use surface or drift nets in securing their catches, while the Dutch, Belgian and French fishermen trawl in the deeper waters. The drift nets impede the progress of the trawlers, and these latter have invented a device known as the "devil," by which the surface nets are instantaneously severed and destroyed. Such occurrences, it is said, are frequent upon the open sea, but just how to bring the offenders to justice is the hickory nut which John Bull is endeavoring to crack.

A scheme is being promoted by some French capitalists for the construction of a railway through a tunnel to be carried under the sound from Denmark to Sweden. It is to start from the Ameger suburb of Copenhagen, to the Island of Salthorn, a distance of about five miles, where air shafts would be established, and thence to Limhamn, in Sweden, a distance of about three miles. The depth of water in these passages does not exceed fifty feet, so that the tunnel would not be at any great depth. It is expected that the work would be completed in less than three years. A Government guarantee of five per cent. is sought on the capital to be raised, the amount of which is not yet fixed, and it is possible that the whole sum may be provided by some large houses without coming on the market. The Swedish ports on the sound are shallow, and difficulties occur in the shipment of goods, but as railroad communication now exists between Copenhagen and the Continent of Europe, this submarine railway would bring Sweden into direct communication with the Continent, and a large goods traffic, as well as conveyance of passengers, is expected.—New York Commercial Bulletin.

NATURAL ENEMIES OF PROPERTY.

The people of this city and province may sometimes imagine that as Nova Scotians they are called upon to undergo hardships in the gaining of a livelihood that do not fall to the lot of their fellow-men in other climes and other lands; but while it is true that our growing seasons are not as long as in some countries, and while the area of arable land is not so great as we might desire, we have in this country compensations which should make us well satisfied with our surroundings. Like ourselves, property-holders in other lands have protection against the damages which may be done by fire, or against the attacks of those vandals of society who live by stealing that which their neighbors have accumulated,—but there are elements of forces against which civilization and social organization have provided no adequate protection, such are the cyclones which sweep over the western prairies, destroying in a few moments it may be the labors of a life-time. Such are the droughts which during the past year have caused the otherwise fertile soil of Texas to be parched and unproductive, pauperizing thousands of industrious farmers who have never before known what it was to ask for bread. Such are the earthquakes which in a few hours demolished the most stately edifices in Charleston, and rendered homeless tens of hundreds of her citizens. Such are the volcanoes which in New Zealand devastated a large tract of country, covering the face of the land four feet in depth with volcanic matter. Our seasons are short but vegetation is rapid, and the farmer can with a degree of certainty depend upon a fair return for his labors. Our property owners in city, town and country have reason to feel thankful that they have not to contend with such natural enemies as we have enumerated.

THE MAYOR'S ADDRESS.

Mayor Mackintosh's last annual address is before us, and we commend it to the careful perusal of all taxpaying citizens. It is a well written document of some forty-nine printed pages, and in it the Mayor touches on all departments of the city's service, and proves the efficiency of each.

Besides giving a most concise and clear statement of the city's financial affairs, which furnishes a triumphant vindication of the working of the Act of 1883, the Mayor makes many excellent suggestions, which, if acted upon, would tend to make Halifax one of the healthiest and most beautiful cities on this continent. We will confine our remarks in the present article to the operation of the Act of 1883, reserving the many topics touched on by the Mayor for future attention. The opposition to the Act of 1883 is largely the result of ignorance and is mainly fomented by a few interested parties. Under the old act small property owners, the occupiers of their own premises, had to pay their taxes, while large property owners had all responsibility shifted on their tenants. Under the defective system of assessment then in vogue, large tracts of unoccupied land in the western and northern portions of the city, were assessed at a mere nominal value. These tracts were mainly owned by wealthy men, who would not sell them at reasonable prices nor improve them, and the result was that some of the most desirable residence portions of the city were rented out as pasture fields and the city growth in certain directions greatly retarded. The taxes were a mere song and the owners of the properties could well afford to let them be idle. The Act of 1883 has changed all this and has placed the responsibility for the taxes where it really belongs, on the land owners. Not only this, it has made the taxes a first lien upon the property, and there is now no possible way of evading their payment. It is the system universally in vogue elsewhere, (at least in the leading cities of the United States and Ontario), and a favor system cannot be devised. The old system was rotten to the core and under it the city was fast drifting into bankruptcy. In 1879-80 13½ per cent. of the taxes remained unpaid, this rapidly increased until in 1882-3 a deficit of 18 per cent. was reached.

"In 1885 a change in the mode of collection was adopted, but without the operation of the Lien, and with the following result:—

	Assessed.	Allowed.	Additional Loss.	Total Loss.	Per Cent.
1883-84	\$244,845	\$11,507	\$4,873	\$16,360	6½

In 1884 the full law, including the Lien clauses, began to operate, and though no property has yet been sold, the account for that year made up to 1st November, 1886, stands thus:—

	Assessed.	Allowed.	Gain.	Uncollected.	Per Cent.
1884-85	\$247,847	\$11,991	\$6,170	\$5,821	2½

When the Lien clauses are finally enforced by sales of property, or payment before sale, the following will be the probable result:—

	Assessed.	Allowed For Losses.	Gain on Allowance.	Loss.	Per cent. of total assessed
1884-85	\$247,847	\$11,991	\$8,170	\$3,821	1½

Average annual loss from 1879 to 1883.....\$35,129
 Estimated loss on 1884-85..... 3,821

Annual net gain in favor of new law.....\$31,308

The percentage of loss the last year under the old laws..... 18 per cent.

Percentage of first year of new law..... 1½ "

In favor of new law..... 16½ "

This is a noble showing, and the Mayor should feel a justifiable pride in the fact that the new act, which he did so much towards having placed on our statute books, has worked so well in actual practice.

There is one feature of the act which we do not like, as it seems an unnecessary interference with private rights, and that is making taxes a

preferential lien over mortgages that were in existence before the act came into force. This, however, is a question that the courts will likely have to decide upon, and we should not be sorry to see a decision in favor of the mortgagees.

In cases where there is real property we also think the distraint clause of the act should be annulled, as the lien gives ample security.

The assessors under the new act seem to be receiving a most unnecessary amount of abuse. For our part, we should not mind a high rate of assessment if it was applied to all alike, as it seems to us the greater the assessed value of the city the better the chances for floating our loans at a low rate of interest. The owners of personal property might receive a slight advantage, but we would as soon pay one per cent. on one hundred dollars valuation as ten per cent on ten dollars. A certain fixed sum has to be raised by taxation, and the rate per dollar to realize this has to be fixed by the total assessed valuation of the city. If all grumblers could have their way the assessed value would be reduced one-half and the rate per dollar doubled. How would this benefit the tax-payer? Those who take advantage of the appeal clause in the act and get their assessment reduced may secure some advantage, but if their time is worth anything the amount gained will be likely more than balanced.

One point of the assessors' work that is deserving of particular attention is their mode of computing the value of personal property. The chances seem to be that it is always greatly undervalued, and, if it is, an unfair proportion of the civic burdens must be thrown on the owners of real estate. The time for the assessors to make their rounds is generally known, and it would be an easy matter for large firms to greatly deplete their stocks in anticipation of their visits. Then how many thousands of people enjoy police protection, our well-lighted streets, our public gardens and parks and all other civil advantages, and yet escape taxation, or, at the most, pay a small poll tax? It is here that the assessment act seems defective, and our political economists should devise some remedy for the evil.

The Act of 1883 as a whole, always had our cordial support, and we agree with Mayor Mackintosh that "no sane man will propose a return to the old system of valuation and assessment, which, in a term of years, added a quarter of a million dollars to the city debt."

CIVILIZATION ON TRIAL.

Pessimists have frequently asserted that our modern civilization is a delusion and a snare, and as a proof of this they point out that wherever it is brought into contact with more primitive civilizations in new countries, the aborigines gradually die out, and in time become extinct races. Without rebutting such a general assertion and with full knowledge that the natives of Australia and the red men of North America have diminished in numbers since the first European emigrants settled in their midst, we cannot believe that this decrease is attributable to civilization of any kind, but is rather the outcome of neglect and indifference, displayed by some European races, for the natives of the land to which they emigrate. As a matter of fact it may be noted that in Mexico and South America where the Indian civilization was comparatively high, and that of the emigrating races correspondingly low, the two peoples soon become merged, and the Indian race, while losing its distinctive characteristics, was absorbed as part of the population of the country. In North America and Australia the civilization of the aborigines was comparatively low, while that of the races which peopled these countries was correspondingly high. These extremes of civilization had nothing in common, and hence the fusion of the races was impossible. In New Zealand the highest European civilization and the highest native civilization have met on common grounds, and we are therefore naturally interested in watching the result. We confess that up to the present time the Maoris, who are physically and intellectually splendid men, have failed to hold their own; their number having been reduced from 200,000 to 40,000 during the space of 45 years. This is not due so much to the Maoris' having adopted the vices of the white man, but rather to them having endeavored to adopt the habits, customs and mode of living of the settler, without their having any knowledge of those sanitary laws which white people now intuitively follow. The mat covering has now given place to European clothes, and the old Maori hut to small houses, but the native who would formerly throw aside his mat when wet, does not take the same precaution when his modern apparel has been soaked by the rain. With respect to their houses we cannot do better than quote the report made to the New Zealand Parliament by Dr. Ginders, the medical officer at the government sanitarium.

Dr. Ginders says:—"Being curious to know something of these hotbeds of disease, I entered one at seven a. m., before the occupants had turned out. I have no wish to repeat the experience. This was quite a small family affair, fifteen feet long by ten feet wide. It contained twenty individuals of both sexes and all ages, who had spent the night—say ten hours—in it. The cubic air-space per head was about such as would be afforded by a comfortable full-sized coffin. How they can exist under such circumstances is one of the mysteries of Maori nature. Unfortunately for them, these sleeping-places are built of pervious material, through which the outer air must filter, and all the more rapidly from the fact of the great difference of temperature between the external and internal air."

The foregoing extract will be sufficient to explain why the race is dying out, but the New Zealand government is now doing its best to counteract the evils of huddling by educating the Maori children, and afterwards training them in some industrial pursuit by which they can earn their livelihood. We have shown that the means of civilization coalesce, while the extremes never unite. The case of the Maoris and settlers of New Zealand is peculiar and therefore is of especial interest.

CHUCKLES.

When is a boat like a heap of snow?—When it is a-drift.

The royal family always wears its trousers turned up at the bottom, because it is reigning in England.—*Life*.

A critic, in noticing a discourse on "The Sayings and Doings of Great Men," remarks, "It is sad to observe how much they said and how little they did."

A certain journal mentions James Clarke and his wife, who were "born, died, and buried on the same day." He and his wife must have been awfully young.

Swift said the reason a certain university was a learned place, was, that most persons took some learning there, and few brought any away with them, so it accumulated.

NAIVETE.—"Is that your offspring, madam?" asked a judge of a woman on the witness stand, who was holding a boy by the hand. "No, judge; this is my oldest son," she innocently replied.

A good collector must be patient as a post, cheerful as a duck, sciable as a flea, bold as a lion, cunning as a fox, weather proof as rubber, and as watchful as a sparrow hawk.—*Americus (Ga) Recorder*.

"What's the matter, Uncle Rastus?" he asked facetiously as the old man came limping in, "got the gout?"

"No, sah, Ise got de bill fo' dat whitewashin' what I did fo' yer las' yeah."—*Life*.

Magistrate: "You say you are not a vagrant?" Prisoner: "No, your honor." Magistrate: "Did any motive bring you to the city?" Prisoner: "Yes, your honor." Magistrate: "What?" Prisoner: "Loco-motive." Magistrate: "Thirty days."

Visitor (regarding the baby)—Oh, what a dear little duck of a child! He resembles you both, indeed he does. He's got his mother's handsome eyes and his father's hair. Father (who is baldheaded)—I think he must have; I haven't.

Lord Loughborough rallying a physician one day on the inefficiency of his prescriptions, the doctor said he defied any of his patients to find fault with him. "That," answered the witty Lord, "is exactly what the hangman says."

A judge, in remanding a prisoner, called him a scoundrel. The prisoner replied: "I am not as big a scoundrel as your honor"—here the culprit stopped, but finally added, "takes me to be." "Put your words closer together," said the judge.

A correspondent tells an admirable story of a Gorman general who, on inspecting his troops at the close of the war, addressed them thus: "Now, my children, we can once more get seriously to work. The pastime of war is at an end, and drill must go on regularly as heretofore."

The egotism of the American military writer has been neatly satirized in the *Brooklyn Eagle* in an anecdote short enough to quote:—"Oh," said the proprietor of a type foundry to his foreman, as he opened and read another of the letters received by the morning mail, 'there is an order for three tons of capital "P's" from the *Epoch Magazine* people.' 'What's up now, then,' rejoined the foreman, 'a new fishing story?' 'Oh, no,' was the reply, 'it's another article on the Battle of Shiloh by an officer who was in command of the field!'"

"Is there a gentleman from Georgia in this car?" asked a stranger, thrusting his head through the doorway while the engine was taking on water at the tank.

"I am from Georgia," replied a deep bass voice in the rear.

"Then will you be kind enough to lend me your corkscrew?" There was a roar of laughter and a tinkle of chestnut gongs, through which the deep bass voice rose again:

"Why, certainly! But will you please state first where you are from?"

"Connecticut, sir!"

"Connecticut? Then you must excuse me, I would never see my corkscrew again." This time the roar of laughter was not accompanied by the voice of the chestnut gong. And the deep bass villian, thrusting the cork jorker into his boot top, doubled his legs up under him and sat down with his hand on his hip pocket.

Once at a little dinner party, one of the guests, the younger brother of an English nobleman, expressed with commendable freedom his opinion of this country and its people. "I do not altogether like the country," said the young gentleman, "for one reason, because you have no gentry here." "What do you mean by gentry?" asked another of the company. "Well, you know," replied the Englishman; "well—oh, gentry are those who never do any work themselves, and whose fathers before them never did any." "Ah!" exclaimed his interlocutor, "then we have plenty of gentry in America. But we don't call them gentry. We call them tramps." A laugh went round the table, and the young Englishman turned his conversation into another channel.

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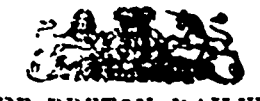
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 Tenders for the Work of Construction.

SEALLED TENDERS addressed to the undersigned and endorsed "Tenders for Cape Breton Railway," will be received at this office up to noon on Wednesday, the 12th day of January, 1887, for certain works of construction.

Plans and profiles will be open for inspection at the office of the Chief Engineer and General Manager of Government Railways at Ottawa, and also at the office of the Cape Breton Railway at Port Hawkesbury, C. B., on and after the 27th day of December, 1886, when the general specifications and form of tender may be obtained upon application.

No tender will be entertained unless on one of the printed forms and all conditions are complied with.

By order
A. P. BRADLEY,
 Secretary.
 Department of Railways and Canals,
 Ottawa, 15th December, 1886.

NEWS OF THE WEEK.

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

It is now over two years since THE CRITIC was established. Its readers have had a good opportunity to judge of the tone, character, enterprise, and worth of the journal, and if they deem its merits are worthy of their continuance and support, we ask their co-operation in still further increasing its circulation. Any subscriber renewing his subscription will, upon forwarding to this office \$2.50, be entitled to two copies of THE CRITIC for the ensuing year, one to be mailed to his own address, the other to any person he may desire. Ask your neighbor to club with you for THE CRITIC when you next renew your subscription; or, if you have a brother, son, or relative, resident in any other part of Canada or the United States, send in your order for two copies, and we will send the absent one THE CRITIC for the next year, post paid.

Don't fail to read our last page.

The Ottawa Y. M. C. A. propose to erect a building to cost \$16,000.

It is stated the new post office in Charlottetown will not be opened for two months yet.

Sir Charles Tupper leaves England for Canada in a few days. It is said that he will re-enter the cabinet.

Mr. Keegan, an American buyer, took away eighteen horses from Charlottetown in the *Northern Light* on the 28th December.

The English Citizens' Committee have decided upon Mr. A. F. Gault, the wealthy wholesale dry goods merchant, as their choice for the Mayoralty for Montreal.

Montreal has property to the value of \$15,500,000 exempt from taxation. The city thus makes a handsome contribution towards the funds of Christian and benevolent institutions.

The beautiful widow of the famous Confederate General Pickett, who led the famous charge at the battle of Gettysburg, has been appointed to a clerkship in the Interior Department at Washington.

Dangerous counterfeit ten dollar notes of the Canadian Bank of Commerce are in circulation. The paper on which the counterfeits are printed is of a slightly darker color than that used in the genuine notes.

Quite an extensive fire occurred in this city on Thursday morning. It began in Hiesler Bros. hat and fur store at 172 Granville Street, and burned through to Fortune's dry goods store and Baldwin's crockery store on Barrington Street.

The Canadian Pacific Navigation Company has contracted for the construction, in San Francisco, of a screw steel steamer of 1,000 tons, to cost \$200,000. The vessel is to be used as a feeder to the Canadian Pacific Railroad on Puget Sound.

The Ontario government obtain an annual revenue of \$700,000 by the lease of the provincial timber limits. Steps are now being taken to preserve these forests, as in the event of the loss of the income derived from them Ontario would have to resort to direct taxation.

A proposition has been set on foot for the Dominion militiamen to commemorate the Queen's Jubilee by the inauguration of an annual rifle competition to take place at the Dominion Rifle Association matches for a handsome challenge cup, to be known as the "Jubilee Cup."

All the principal British colonies are expected to send local regiments to England to take part in the grand review during the Jubilee celebration. Toronto and Montreal are aspiring to this honor on behalf of the Dominion, but if the Halifax boys would take the matter up with a will a Halifax regiment might be chosen.

The place to buy good sausages, hams and bacon is at Wm. J. Hames', corner of Argyle and Sackville Streets. Mr. Hames cures his hams and bacon by a recipe of his own that can't be beat, and the demand for his fine-flavored sausages is constantly increasing. He also has fresh pork, butter and eggs always on hand.

G. W. Suker & Co.'s, of 198 Argyle Street, is the place to go for bargains in kitchen furnishings and household supplies. Orders for tin, sheet iron and zinc work promptly attended to, and delivered free to all parts of the city. Parties in the country in need of any of the above articles would do well to send their orders by mail.

A telegram from Ottawa says: The business transacted in the patent branch of the Department of Agriculture during the past twelve months shows an enormous increase over preceding years. The revenue derived from patents was somewhat over \$74,000. Upwards of 30,000 persons visited the patent model rooms in the western block during the year.

The roughs of St. John, N. B., have had an encounter with the stalwart members of the Salvation Army of that city, resulting in many persons being seriously injured. Fortunately Mayor DeVeber succeeded in dispersing the crowd before any fatal accident had occurred. Rowdiness in our sister city appears just now to be rampant. A postal official, while collecting letters, was attacked by a number of young men, and only succeeded in escaping from his assailants by knocking one of them down with an iron letter box. The St. John police should wake up, such occurrences are a disgrace to the city.

Those who wish to secure pleasant and profitable reading matter for the winter evenings should note our exceptional offer which appears on page fifteen. For \$2.00 in cash we undertake to send THE CRITIC to any subscriber for one year, supplying him in addition with forty-five of the most readable of readable books. Those who are renewing their subscriptions, as well as new subscribers, should take advantage of this offer.

Messrs. Smith Bros., the well known wholesale dry goods and millinery firm of 25 Duke and 150 Granville Streets, have on hand a large stock of the newest goods. Their travellers left for the country on Monday morning with the largest and finest selection of samples yet sent out. That they will be cordially welcomed by their innumerable customers goes without saying.

Canadians everywhere will hear with sadness that Lord Dufferin's health is in a very unsatisfactory state. He has been more or less unwell for a long time past, and it is clear that his constitution will not stand the Indian climate. There are grave fears that he will be unable to complete his term of office as viceroy. No Governor-General of Canada, before or since his term of office, was ever so popular here as he.

Every seat in the pretty parlor of the Canadian Club, New York, was occupied on the evening of Dec. 30th by an appreciative audience to listen to the lecture by Prof. C. G. D. Roberts, of King's College University, Windsor, N. S. The subject was "Echoes from Old Acadia," which provided a most intensely interesting paper. The hearty thanks of the Club were voted to the Professor, one of whose patriotic poems was also read by Mr. W. A. Short.

We have received several handsome calendars, particularly noticeable amongst them being those of the Halifax Manufacturing Co., manufacturers of Fenerty's patent socket shovels, spades and scoops, that of Ganong Bros., manufacturers of fine confectionery, of St. Stephen, N. B., and from that well-known and favorite insurance company—the Confederation Life. They are all most artistically gotten up, and reflect great credit on the good taste of their designers.

A Halifax correspondent of the "New York World," who appears to know whereof he speaks, wires to that journal the following telegram:—"Private information from London intimates that efforts are being made to confine the list of honors to be distributed on the occasion of Queen Victoria's jubilee to 2,000 names, of which 800 are officers of the army and navy. The colonies and India will be liberally provided with honors and titles. Inside official circles here it is generally understood that Lieut. Gen. Lord Russell, Commander of the British forces in North America, will be advanced in rank and probably be made a G. C.; Vice-Admiral Lyons, commanding the North American and West Indian Squadron, who is only plain "Mr.," will be created a "Sir." This is the first time in the history of the colony that an untitled officer has commanded the fleet. Sir John Macdonald, the Canadian Premier, who now wears the highest honors ever conferred on a colonist, and is a member of the Imperial Privy Council, will doubtless be created a peer of the realm, with the appropriate title of Earl of Ottawa. Sir Charles Tupper, Canadian High Commissioner to England, will be advanced to the Grand Companionship of the Bath and made a Privy Councillor of the Empire. Sanford Flemming, the first Chief Engineer of the Canadian Pacific Railway and the originator of the twenty-four hour system and of the project just launched for laying cables from British Columbia to Australia and Japan, who is now a Companion of the Bath, will be made a Knight Commander. It is also regarded as a certainty that the originators of the Canadian Confederation now living, the members of the Dominion cabinet, the Lieutenant-Governors and Premiers and Chief Justices of the various provinces will also be knighted, or, where thus honored now, will be advanced in rank. The honor of knighthood will doubtless be offered to Edward Blake, leader of the Liberal party in Canada, but it is almost certain that he will refuse the title, as his predecessor, Premier McKenzie, did before him.

John Roach, the famous United States shipbuilder, is reported to be fatally ill.

A patriotic league has been organized at Chicago to oppose the spread of socialism. It is issued an appeal asking the support of all good citizens.

It is a singular coincidence that Logan, like Grant, died immediately after completing his book. The last work he did was upon it.

The manatee or sea-cow on exhibition in Philadelphia has died. It was one of the largest ever in captivity, and at the time it died the only one on exhibition in the world.

R. G. Dun & Co. report 9,834 failures in the United States during the year 1886 as compared with 10,637 for 1885. The total liabilities of 1886 being \$114,000,000, as compared with \$124,000,000 in 1885. The average liability per failure being about the same sum.

Henry Watterson has delivered an address to the Freedman's Home Society, of colored people, in which he sensibly advised them to look to education and country life for elevation of their condition. He said that in a few years they would be in the majority in some of the States, and should be prepared for the responsibilities of self-government.

The proprietors of the Boston *Herald* announced on New Year's day to their employees a proposition to give to them for the current year a portion of the net profit of the business, after reserving the interest on the value of the property. The employees are to share in proportion to the wages received during the year. They also suggested to the employees the formation of a mutual benefit society, promising to contribute an amount equal to the aggregate contributions of the employees. The proprietors say in their circular announcing the proposition:—"We hope this experiment may be so successful that profit-sharing may be adopted by us as a permanent policy."

The Wisconsin Central Railway has prohibited its sleeping car porters from receiving any tip from passengers, except ten cents for blacking shoes, which is not to be done unless ordered. The salaries of the porters were at the same time raised. Now let us have light and heat in the sleepers that will not cremate the passengers, and the public will travel freer of anxiety.

Mr. Arthur's last words, spoken in scarcely audible tones and addressed to no one in particular, were as simply beautiful as his life had been. They were uttered while the dying man's eyes were closed and while he still suffered severe physical pain: "Good night," he said, and was quiet for a moment, and then "good night" in still lower tones. When the watchers looked again he had fallen asleep.

A terrible collision of an express train bound west, running at the rate of sixty miles per hour, and a heavily laden freight train coming east, took place on Wednesday morning last at Tiffin, Ohio, on the B. & O. Railroad. The passenger cars and sleepers in the express train were wrecked, the ruins at once taking fire. Nineteen bodies have been recovered, but it is supposed that many more yet remain in the debris.

Fort Worth, Texas, January 2.—The official report of the convention of county judges from counties in the drought district of Texas, has been published. Twenty-one counties were represented in the convention. The total number of people in these counties now in need of food, clothing and fuel is placed at 30,000, while thousands more are without seed to plant during the coming year. An appeal is made to the state and national legislature, and to the country at large, to furnish at once \$500,000 to relieve their immediate wants.

The latest thing in cycling in England is the performance of a Chinaman, who rides a bicycle down an inclined wire.

The Royal Thames Yacht Club announces an ocean yacht race for one thousand guineas, to be held during the Queen's jubilee.

During the recent heavy snow storms in Germany nearly 200 persons lost their lives. The snow fall was greater than has been known for years.

In the trial of the cadets and officers of the Bulgarian army for conspiracy evidence has been adduced showing that the defendants were in communication with the Russian Consul.

Spain is becoming jealous of the manner in which the United States is coquetting with Cuba and Porto Rico. Should the congress reject the new treaty, Spain will immediately impose a differential duty of 25 per cent. upon American imports. If this comes to pass there will be a business boom in Nova Scotia.

Soup kitchens in Birmingham have reduced the price of a child's meal, consisting of three-quarters of a pint of soup and two slices of bread, one of which is spread with jam, to one half-penny. This is nearly as great a triumph of economy as that of providing a large and live newspaper for the same amount. The soup kitchens expect to reduce the price of their meals still further to one farthing.

Mr. Goschen has consented to take the position in Lord Salisbury's Cabinet vacated by Lord Randolph Churchill, upon the condition that two other seats in the ministry be given to the Liberal-Unionists. The out-and-out Conservatives strongly oppose the idea of the coalition government, but under existing circumstances their opposition is futile. Lord Salisbury must bow to the inevitable and seek the cooperation of his old enemies or resign the premiership. Lord Randolph Churchill has not yet given any satisfactory reason for his resignation, and although he has announced that he will give the Conservative government a general support, it is feared by many Tories that he, following the example of the Grand Old Man, will leave his first political love and unite with the Liberals.

The London school board is true to British traditions: it refuses, by a vote of thirty to fifteen, to abolish flogging in the schools, but it decides that the power shall be restricted to the head-masters, who are told, in addition, that the more thoroughly qualified and skillful a teacher is, the less necessary will it be for him to resort to corporal punishment. The idea that flogging breaks the average boy's spirit, or humiliates him in such a degree as to injure him, is a modern American namby-pamby notion. Boys, as a general rule, take a flogging as they take any other punishment brought upon them by their sins, as a sort of purgation, the pain of which they should bear manfully. They take their flogging as they would pay a debt, without a sense of shame or disgrace except that which is caused by the offence.

A terrible encounter with a lion is reported from Verviers, in Belgium. One night an untrained lion, called Brutus, was let into a cage before an attendant, named Gremier, had had time to leave. The lion showed signs of great excitement, taking prodigious leaps all about the cage, and uttering appalling roars. Seeing the man in danger, the "lion queen," Mme. Soumet, entered the cage to enable Gremier to withdraw, when the lion rushed at her, and fastened his teeth in the lower part of her face. A professional tamer, named Bonvillant, went to the rescue, and by main force opened the lion's jaws, thus enabling the unfortunate woman to leave the cage. A portion of her lower jaw, with some of the teeth, had been bitten away. The savage beast then turned upon Bonvillant, and he and the lion actually wrestled together for two or three minutes, the lion savagely biting the man about the chest and shoulders. Finally, one of the attendants, by attacking the lion with a pitchfork from outside the cage, made him let go his hold, and Bonvillant rushed out of the cage and fainted away. Mme. Soumet's life is despaired of; but Bonvillant is expected to recover.

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1887.

W. H. HART
HAS REMOVED HIS OFFICE
Corner of Sackville St. and Bedford Row.

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RELIGIOUS.

METHODIST.

The Rev. J. W. Wadman, of the Methodist Church at Carleton, N. B., accepted a call to Victoria, British Columbia, provided the Transfer Committee consent.

The last term has been the most successful in the history of Mount Allison College. Over eighty students were in attendance.

Rev. Robert Wilson, of Exmouth St. Church, St. John, N. B., has been preaching a series of sermons on special subjects, some of which have called forth numerous criticisms.

BAPTIST.

There are at the present time two general missionaries and twenty-five missionary pastors engaged in Home Mission work in the Maritime Provinces in connection with the Baptist Church.

Mr. J. A. Bostwick, of New York, is said to be the wealthiest Baptist in America, if not of the world. He is said to be worth at least \$40,000,000.

Dr. Edward Judson, of New York, appeals to the Baptists to celebrate the 100th anniversary of the birth of his father, Rev. Adoniram Judson, August 9, 1888, by building a church for the working people in the lower part of New York. Dr. Judson was the first American foreign missionary, and the one who introduced Christianity into Burmah.

The three Baptist pastors of St. John, N. B., have been kindly remembered by their flocks during Christmas season. Rev. J. E. Hopper, D. D., pastor of Brussels Street Church, \$150; R. v. J. A. Gordon, pastor of Leinster Street Church, \$180; Rev. G. O. Gates, pastor of Germain Street Church, \$110, all in gold. These donations constitute no part of the stipulated salary, but were in each case a complete surprise to the recipients.

PRESBYTERIAN.

Next Sunday morning there will be an exchange of pulpits in the Presbyterian churches of this city, when missionary services will be preached.

The Rev. Mr. Ferry, of Glenelg, Pictou county, has accepted the call extended to him by the Presbyterian Church at Bridgewater.

The Presbytery of Truro has 16 ministers on the roll, and has under its charge 14 settled congregations, and 4 mission stations. The membership is reported at 3,615, being an increase over last year of 389.

The Committees appointed by the two General Assemblies, Northern and Southern, at their last meetings, to arrange for the celebration of the centennial anniversary of the Presbyterian Church to be held in 1888, met some days ago in Baltimore. A programme for the celebration was arranged by the committee, which will be presented to the two General Assemblies at their next meetings.

The basis of a union between the Northern and Southern Presbyterian Churches, proposed by the two Synods of Missouri, is becoming more and more popular in the Southern Church. A number of the Synods have already adopted the basis.

CHURCH OF ENGLAND.

What is the origin of our Xmas plum-pudding? In Yorkshire and the north of England it is usual to eat *fermity* on Xmas Eve, that is, a porridge of wheat and currants, sweetened with honey or sugar. *Fermity* is the earliest form of plum-pudding, and *fermity* was eaten anciently in heathen times in honor of Freya.

Rev. T. R. Gwillim has gone to Lunenburg to take charge of the Parish until Easter, or pending the election of a rector.

It has been determined by the Central Committee to send an agent to England to raise funds for the proposed Cathedral in commemoration of the Centenary of the Colonial Episcopate. The Rev. Dr. Partridge, who had been nominated to go to England for this purpose, has declined to go, on the ground that the present is an inopportune time. First, because the Queen's Jubilee will overshadow everything else in the mother country this year, and secondly, because the Province of Nova Scotia and the Dominion of Canada ought to show what they will do towards the proposed Cathedral before asking friends in England to contribute. He will probably go in November next. In the meantime the foundation stone will have been laid, and the gifts of the sons of the Church in Nova Scotia secured.

The Rev. Canon Brock, M. A., President of King's College, preached in St. Luke's Cathedral on Sunday morning last, and in St. George's Church in the evening. The sermon on the latter occasion was one of surpassing interest and power. He received an offertory in aid of the Restoration Fund of King's College.

CATHOLIC.

About £260 has been collected for the purpose of presenting a testimonial to the Rev. W. P. Kearney, of Drogheda.

The late Cardinal Franzelin was a Jesuit.

Cardinal Gibbons, in the preface to a little Work for the use of a Temperance Confraternity just organized, says: "The only effectual method in our judgement by which intemperance can be repressed, is by religious and moral influences."

The claims of the Knights of Labor to Papal recognition are been discussed before the sacred congregation in Rome.

We have lately seen a memoir of the illustrious and renowned Father Vincent, of Petit Clairvaux Monastery, Tracadie, in this province. It comes as a translation from the facile pen of Miss A. M. Pope, of Charlottetown, P. E. I., a lady of by no means ordinary literary abilities. It is graced by an able preface by Rt. Rev. Dr. Camerou, Bishop of Antigonish.

FOR THE SCRAP ALBUM.

The longest span of wire in the world is used for a telegraph in India over the river Kistnah. It is more than 6,000 feet in length and is 1,200 feet high.

The largest ship in the world is the Great Eastern. She is 680 feet long, 83 feet broad and 60 feet deep, being 28,627 tons burden, 18,915 gross and 13,344 net register.

The largest theater in the world is the new Opera House in Paris. It covers nearly three acres of ground; its cubic mass is 1,287,000 feet; it cost about 100,000,000 francs.

The loftiest active volcano is Popocatepetl—"smoking mountain"—thirty-five miles south west of Puebla, Mexico; it is 17,745 feet above the sea level and has a crater three miles in circumference and 1,000 feet deep.

The largest bell in the world is the great bell of Moscow, at the foot of the Kremlin. Its circumference at the bottom is nearly 68 feet and its height more than 21 feet. In its stoutest part it is 23 inches thick and its weight has been computed to be 443,722 pounds. It has never been hung.

The largest library is the Bibliotheque National, in Paris, founded by Louis XIV. It contains 1,400,000 volumes, 306,000 pamphlets, 175,000 manuscripts, 300,000 maps and charts, and 150,000 coins and medals. The collection of engravings exceeds 1,300,000, contained in some 10,000 volumes. The portraits number about 100,000.

The biggest cavern is the Mammoth Cave in Edmonson County, Kentucky. It is near Green river, about six miles from Cave city, and twenty-eight from Bowling Green. The cave consists of a succession of irregular chambers, some of which are large, situated on different levels. Some of these are traversed by navigable branches of the subterranean Echo river. Blind fish are found in its waters.

The biggest trees in the world are the mammoth trees of California. One of a grove in Tulare country, according to measurements made by the State Geological Survey, was shown to be 276 feet in height, 108 feet in circumference at base, and 76 feet at a point twelve feet above the ground. Some of the trees are 376 feet high and 34 feet in diameter. Some of the largest that have been felled indicate an age of from 2,000 to 2,500 years.

The largest tunnel in the world is that of the St. Gothard, on the line of the railroad between Lucerne and Milan. The summit of the tunnel is 900 feet below the surface at Andermatt, and 6,600 feet below the peak of Kastelhorn, of the St. Gothard group. The tunnel is 26½ feet wide, and is 18 feet 10 inches from the floor to the top of the arched roof. It is 9½ miles long, 1½ miles longer than the Mount Cenis Tunnel.

The largest desert is that of Sahara, a vast region of Northern Africa, extending from the Atlantic Ocean on the west to the Valley of the Nile on the east. The length from east to west is about 3,000 miles, its average breadth about 900 miles, its area about 2,000,000 square miles. Rain falls in torrents in the Sahara at intervals of five, ten and twenty years. In summer the heat during the day is excessive, but the nights are often cold. In winter the temperature is sometimes below freezing point.

The greatest pyramid is that of Cheops, one of three pyramids forming the Memphis group, situated on a plateau about 137 feet above the level of the highest rise in the Nile. Its dimensions have been reduced by the removal of the outer portions to furnish stone for the city of Cairo. Its masonry consisted originally of 89,028,000 cubic feet and still amounts to 82,111,000 feet. The present vertical height is 450 feet, against 479 feet originally. The total weight of the stone is estimated at 6,316,000 tons.

The greatest fortress, from a strategical point of view, is the famous stronghold of Gibraltar. It occupies a rocky peninsula jutting into the sea, about three miles long and three quarters of a mile wide. One central rock rises to a height of 1,435 feet above the sea level. Its northern face is almost perpendicular, while its east side is full of tremendous precipices. On the south it terminates in what is called Europa Point. The west side is less steep than the east, and between its base and the sea is the narrow, almost level span on which the town of Gibraltar is built. The fortress is considered impregnable to military assaults. The regular garrison in time of peace numbers about 7,000.

The first true Union flag was hoisted over the American camp at Boston, January 2, 1776. It was composed of thirteen stripes, with the British "union" in one corner. In May or June, 1777, a committee that had been appointed by the Continental Congress called at the house of a Mrs. Ross, in Arch street, Philadelphia, with a design for a flag—thirteen red and white stripes, alternately with thirteen six-pointed stars—and requested her to make the flag. She suggested that the stars would be more symmetrical if made with five points, and folded a sheet of paper and produced the pattern by a single cut. This was approved, and she finished the flag the next day. Mrs. Ross was given the position of manufacturer of flags for the Government, which descended to her children. In 1794 Congress ordered that the flag should consist of fifteen stripes, alternate red and white, and fifteen stars white on a blue field. There were then fifteen States. The stars and stripes were equal, and a stripe and a star were added with the advent of each new State. In 1818, as the States increased and the flag threatened to become too large, the stripes were reduced to thirteen, representing the original Union, and the stars were made equal to the number of States. No change has since been made, except to add a star when a new State is admitted.

[FOR THE CRITIC.]

"AFTER THE STORM."

Last night the storm-king roared
On the mighty billows high,
And the wild winds bore away
The seagull's piercing cry.

But, with the morn, the sun
In all his splendor rose;
The booming wind is hushed,
And now but softly blows.

Down by the rocky beach,
This sunny morn I roam;
By the mighty rolling deep,
With its lovely sun-kissed foam.

The seabirds whirl and wheel,
Far up in the brilliant sky,
Or cradled in the waves,
So restfully they lie.

The radiant sea-green waves
Come rolling into the bay,
Then break on some hidden rock,
Into beautiful sparkling spray.

On again they rush,
Till their goal they reach,
With a long-drawn, breathless swish,
They roll up the pebbly beach.

Then eddying, hurrying back,
Amid the seething foam,
The pebbles they carry away
Down to the mermaid's home.

Again the curling waves
Come tumbling in to the shore,
Laden with bright-hued shells
From the sea-queen's boundless store.

Surely these cresting waves,
That gleam in the sun so bright,
Are not the same mad waves
That tumbled and roared last night?

Where are the angry winds,
That shrieked thro' the forest trees?
It's not the self-same air,
That forms this balmy breeze.

Oh! wind so fresh and free,
Oh! sea so bright and true,
When your passions are asleep,
You are as false as I.

Oh! waves with your snowy crests,
That flash in the morning light,
We must forgive you now,
For the mischief done last night.

COLLEEN BAWNS.

[FOR THE CRITIC.]

EVENTS AND COMMENTS.

"A robe of seeming truth and trust,
Hid crafty observation;
And secret hung with poisoned crust,
The dirk of defamation.
A mark that like a gnat showed,
Dye-varying on the pigeon,
And for a mantle broad and large,
He wrapt him in Religion."

In the first pages of the Holy Bible we find that Cain slew his brother because they disagreed as to the mode and manner of worshipping the true and living God; and sad to say that from that time to the present, through all the ages of history, we can recount the crimes and massacres that have been committed in the cause and name of religion. The Jew and the Moslem, the Pagan and Christian, the Protestant and Catholic, all possess to a greater or lesser extent the same spirit towards each other that stained the virgin world with the blood of the martyred Abel. The latest work that I have read on this subject is entitled "Fifty years in the Church of Rome," by the Rev. Charles Chiniquy. I shall not attempt to enter into a critical review of this ex-priest's work, yet I cannot refrain from correcting some of his errors as to the causes and consequences of the late Civil War in the States. With regard to the Rev. gentleman's views of the Catholic Church I shall make no comments; but I must say that I was surprised to see in his exposition of the crimes of the Roman Catholic Church that he, parenthetically, drags into his arguments certain statements about Jefferson Davis which are not true. He tells us in his book (page 724) that Dr. Nudd, (I presume he means Mudd), at whose place Booth stopped to have his broken leg dressed, was a Roman Catholic, and so was Garrett, in whose barn Booth was caught and killed. Why so? Because, as Jeff. Davis was the only man to pay one million dollars (!) to those who would kill Abraham Lincoln, the Jesuits were the only men to select the murderers, and prepare everything to protect them after their diabolical deed: and such murderers could not be found except among their blind and fanatical slaves." If this be the truth in history, why did not the Federal Government, that offered \$100,000 reward for the capture of Jefferson Davis for complicity in the assassination of Abraham Lincoln, who was afterwards caught and imprisoned in Fortress Monroe for over eighteen months, try him for his diabolical doings, in place of releasing him upon the bail-bond of Commodore Vanderbilt and Horace Greoly, two of the ablest and strongest supporters of the Federal Government? The answer to this must be that Mr. Davis was not guilty of the charge. If this charge against the ex-President of the Confederate States was false, may we not presume that the crime charged against the Jesuits is

also untrue? In fact, the character of the Federal Government in the conduct of the war is forcibly illustrated by the orders found on the body of Colonel Dahlgren, of the Northern army, who in February, 1864, was killed in his attempted raid around Richmond. These orders instructed his men, who were disguised in Confederate uniforms, to "burn, pillage and destroy" the city of Richmond, giving the special injunction that the city must be burned, and "Jeff. Davis and cabinet killed." The Rev. Mr. Chiniquy also tells us that "Mr. Lincoln, that great and good man, feared nothing so much as to arm the Protestants against the Catholics and the Catholics against the Protestants." How is it that Mr. Lincoln's "client" should in after years depart from the wise precepts of this truly great and good man, and in his old days seek to array one denomination of the Christian church against another? And further, why does the Rev. Chiniquy attempt to lay all of the dark "episodes" of the Civil War between the States at the door of the Pope of Rome? The truth in history shows nothing of the kind, for it appears that the Southern States, because of certain grievances, legitimately under the Constitution of the United States, withdrew from the Federal compact; and the Northern portion of the States, by overwhelming numbers and resources, after a long and bloody war overcame the South, and the results were that "slavery" and "state sovereignty" were swept out of existence, and the country was again united under a revised constitution, and the Pope of Rome had about as little to do with the "dark episodes" of the war as the "man in the moon." Doubtless in this horrible tragedy of civil war acts of cruelty were committed by Catholics as well as Protestants. General Sheridan, the "celebrated Catholic cavalry raider," said in his despatch to his superior officer "that, by the aid of his torch, a crow could not subsist where he went without his 'haversack,' much less the women and children of Virginia." The Federal Government was deeply indebted to one of the followers of the Pope (General Meade) for his brilliant victory at Gettysburg, and in truth the history of the war proves that the Catholics figured more conspicuously on the part of the North than they did on the Southern side, in fact, from Mr. Chiniquy's own evidence we find this to be true. He tells us in his book that "he (in 1864) saw with profound distress the influence of Rome was almost supreme in Washington, he could not find a single statesman who would dare to face that nefarious influence and fight it down except General Baker." This is strange logic for a man who claims to know so much of the private as well as public acts of President Lincoln and his Cabinet at that time. It may be that some of these public men looked on the Reverend Father as "a wolf in sheep's clothing," and they did not wish to be interviewed on this particular occasion by this particular man.

Perhaps it may be well in this connection to enquire who was the "exception" in Washington to the "nefarious influence" of His Holiness the Pope of Rome? This valiant soldier was no less a personage than Gen. L. C. Baker, of the "detective police," whom Lewis Schade, attorney-at-law of Washington, published as a liar in the newspapers in Washington in regard to certain reports that he (Baker) put in circulation during the famous "Witz trial," and, although a Brigadier-General in the U. S. army, he never resented it.

The star of the Southern Confederacy has long since set in a sea of blood and disaster, and the head of that ill-fated government is now living quietly amid the balmy breezes of his "native heather," whilst most of his compatriots and opponents have all "gone to that bourne from whence no traveller returns," yet, strange to say, we find a man in the robe of a saint, whose motto should be "peace on earth and good-will towards men," after almost a generation has passed since the cruel strife, attempting to revive the animosities of the war by slandering the chief of the Southern confederacy.

VETERAN.

AN AFFECTIONATE LION.

Gerard, the great lion hunter, captured a whelp in the mountains of Jebel Mezoours, Algiers, named it Hubert and brought it up as he would bring up a dog from puppyhood. After a time, his huge pet becoming too dangerous to go at large, Gerard made a present of the animal to his friend, the Duc d'Anmale, and Hubert traveled to Paris in a big cage, bemoaning his separation from his old master. The next year Gerard himself visited Paris on leave of absence from the army, and went at once to the Jardin des Plantes to see his exiled favorite. He described the interview as follows:

Hubert was lying down, half asleep, regarding at intervals with half-shut eyes the persons who were passing and repassing before him. All of a sudden he raised his head, his tail moved, his eyes dilated, a nervous motion contracted the muscles of his face. He had seen the uniform of the Spahis, but had not yet recognised his friend. I drew nearer and nearer, and, no longer able to refrain my emotion, I stretched my hand out to him through the bars. Without ceasing his earnest gaze he applied his nose to my hand and drew in knowledge with a long breath. At each inhalation his attitude became more noble, his look more satisfied and affectionate. Under the uniform that had been so dear to him to began to recognize the friend of his heart. I felt that it only needed a single word to dissipate the doubt.

"Hubert!" I said, as I laid my hand on him—"my old soldier!"

Not another word. With a furious bound and a noise of welcome he sprang against the iron bars that bent and trembled with the blow. My friend fled in terror, calling on me to do the same. Noble animal! You made the world tremble even in your ecstasies of pleasure. Hubert was standing with his cheek against the grating, attempting to break down the obstacle that separated us, magnificent to behold as he shook the walls of the building with his roars of joy and anger. His enormous tongue licked the hand that I had abandoned to his caresses, which with his paws he gently tried to draw me to him. If any one tried to come near he fell into frenzies of rage, and when the visitors drew back to a distance he became

calm and caressingly as before, handling me with his big paws, rubbing against the bars and licking my hand, while every gesture and moan and look told of his joy and his love. When I turned to leave him he shook the gallery with his heartrending roars; and it was not till I had gone back to him twenty times and tried to make him understand that I would come again that I succeeded in quitting the place. After that I came to see my friend daily, sometimes spending several hours with him in his cage. But after a while I noticed that he became sad and dispirited, and when the keeper alluded to his furious agitation and excitement every time I left him, and attributed his worn out and changed appearance to this cause, I took their advice and made my visits as seldom as possible. One day, some four months from the time of my first meeting with him in Paris, I entered the garden, and one of the keepers came forward, saluting, and said: "Don't come any more, sir. Hubert is dead."

AN ENQUIRY.

To the Editor of the Critic.

DEAR SIR,—May I enquire whether you can decide as to the truthfulness, or otherwise, of a statement I recently saw in a congratulatory address to an editor on entering upon his duties? It was this: "You now enter a FRATERNITY the most numerous, intelligent and powerful in the world." Are there not more preachers than editors on earth and are they not generally as intelligent? Certainly they are as powerful in doing good. Are not teachers a fraternity? According to Webster's definition they surely are. They are more numerous than either editors or preachers, and, I hope, dispense more useful secular knowledge. Are there not more Good Templars and Sons of Temperance than editors? There certainly are more monks, whether they are more intelligent or powerful I say not. If the writer, who is generally correct in his compositions, had said one of the largest fraternities, the positive statement would not have been questioned even by a

COUNTRYMAN.

MONLY TO BE MADE.—It is said that dull times are not known by the agents for the great publishing house of George Stinson & Co., of Portland, Maine. The reason of this exceptional success is found in the fact that they always give the public that which is keenly appreciated and at prices that all can afford. At present, we understand, their agents are doing wonderfully well on several new lines. They need many more agents in all parts of the country. Those who need profitable work should apply at once. Women do as well as men. Experience is not necessary, for Messrs. Stinson & Co. undertake to show all who are willing to work, not hard but earnestly, the path to large success. It should be remembered that an agent can do a handsome business without being away from home over night. Another advantage—it costs nothing to give the business a trial, and an agent can devote all his time, or only his spare moments to it. Stinson & Co. guarantee grand success to all who engage and follow simple and plain directions that they give. We have not space to explain all here, but full particulars will be sent *free* to those who address the firm; their full address is given above.

THE NEWCOMBE PIANOS.—By Her Majesty's command Messrs. Nowcombe, of Toronto, Canada, have sent one of their grand pianofortes to Windsor Castle, which has been placed in the Queen's audience chamber. This instrument was selected by Sir Arthur Sullivan at the Colonial and Indian Exhibition, and his judgment was confirmed by that of Dr. Stainer, of St. Paul's cathedral, and Mr. James Dace, the composer, who described the instrument as "the gem of the Exhibition—such an instrument as an artist would fall in love with at first hearing." W. H. Johnson, Halifax, is the agent for the Newcombe pianos.

BALDNESS, OR ALOPECIA

A bald head is becoming more and more common, and seems to be a feature of modern civilisation, one indication of the peculiar nervous activity that characterises the times. In those centres of population where commercial enterprise and high intellectual culture are associated, nearly one half of the men at forty are more or less bald, while a large proportion of women of like age, divested of artificial head-gear, would show scalps thinly supplied with that which the Scriptural writer terms their "glory." Some of our scientific observers predict that the time is not far distant when the English, German, and American people will be generally bald-headed.

Want of hair on the head is due to the failure of blood supply or nutrition in the hair follicles, and this failure may be due to several causes. It may appear suddenly, as in an attack of typhoid fever, which often leaves the papillæ of the scalp so weakened that rapid baldness ensues. The papillæ, however, do not lose their vitality, and as the system regains its strength they quickly recover their function and the hair grows again. Some skin diseases, like acne, eczema, erysipelas, &c., may cause the hair to fall out temporarily or permanently. Anything that reduces the constitutional tone is likely to thin the hair. Women who nurse their children often lose hair during the period of lactation, after which rest, good food, and agreeable surroundings minister to a renewed growth of their hair as it does to their general health. The baldness of age is not associated with any impairment of the vital powers. It is in most cases a hereditary peculiarity when it appears at the age of thirty-five or forty, but its development is usually gradual. The same cuticular reason is to be alleged for it as in other cases. The failure of nutrition becomes so complete that the hair-bulb wastes away entirely. Its capillaries have become obliterated, and even the follicle itself no longer constitutes a depression in the skin, and the scalp has the smooth and shining appearance so well known.

It is claimed that so long as the scalp contains a fair amount of fatty tissue baldness will not occur, and this is one reason that women do not lose their hair so early as men. On the sides and lower part of the head, where the muscular attachments are, there is more fat than on the crown, and there the hair is usually thick when the top of the head is entirely bare. If, then, it is loss of skin tissue that contributes to baldness, any treatment that will preserve the normal consistency of the scalp will tend to preserve the hair. One of the earliest symptoms of scalp trouble, that may lead to thinning of the hair, is scalliness of the epidermis or the rapid formation of a bran-like substance that is commonly known as dandruff. And if proper measures be taken early in its development the disease, a form of pityriasis, may be cured and the hair growth invigorated.—*Pharmacological Journal*.

The steam yacht *Chick*, owned by Messrs. Alley & Maclellan, engineers, Glasgow, which has arrived at Port Glasgow for an overhaul, is being fitted up with an apparatus and machinery for the trial of a patent for lighting by electricity under water. The apparatus is of a most costly description, but if successful, which it is fully expected to be, results will be something marvellous, as it can be used not only in the examination and lifting of wrecks, but also in fishing and the recovery of articles lost under water.—*Electrical Review*.

COMMERCIAL.

In the first week of the New Year, trade has been, as was to be expected, rather sluggish. Travellers have not resumed their routes as yet. Still annual settlements have been on the whole quite satisfactory, and the situation continues promising.

The past year saw a decline in the volume of registered shipping in this Province of 59 vessels of 13,818 tons; 134 new vessels having been added and 193 struck off, which were wrecked, sold or condemned. As matters have stood for some years sailing bottoms have not been very profitable property to hold, and this tends to discourage the construction of many new vessels. Still the tendency is to build larger vessels than formerly, as is evinced by the fact that the new vessels registered in Nova Scotia in 1886 averaged 187 tons each. These larger vessels are relatively cheaper to build and to run, and they more readily command freights than do smaller ones. In this connection we note that the tendency of late, both on the great lakes and in the Eastern States, has been to build immense four-masted and even five-masted schooners. It is claimed that with the modern appliances for setting, reefing and taking in sail these vessels are far easier to handle than "square-riggers" are. Some of our shipbuilders should try the experiment on an extensive scale.

In the year just closed Halifax imported 9,866 hhd., 286 trcs., 1,987 bbls., 225,748 baskets and 21,871 mats of sugar, of which 124,474 bags and 2,675 baskets were re-exported to New Brunswick and Montreal refineries. During the same period Halifax imported 10,130 hhd., 595 trcs. and 1,209 bbls. of molasses. Our fish exports in 1886 to Brazil, Demerara, and the British and Spanish West Indies were 260,486 qtls. of dry and 41,990 bbls. of pickled.

This statistical summary of the foreign trade of this port in the above staple articles is here inserted because it will, doubtless, be useful to our readers for future reference.

The construction of the Short Line railway, which is to bring both this city and St. John into closer connection with Montreal and the Great West, is being pushed forward as rapidly as possible. When finished it will, very naturally, help to swell the volume of our imports and exports, and will divert to us a considerable portion of the trade that naturally belongs to us but that now seeks Portland or Boston; that is, if it is amply provided with rolling stock. The great fault of the I.C.R. has always been that it was never properly equipped in this respect. Large quantities of freight are constantly delayed because there are not enough cars to carry nor engines to draw them. The idea has always been—a mistaken one we believe—to make the road pay for itself, regardless of the demands of trade. A large business is growing up and is capable of indefinite expansion if the managers of these iron highways will look past the immediate moment and to the future.

It is usual to expect to see in the advertising columns of the daily press on the 1st of January in each year numerous announcements of changes in business firms, but this year there was only one such—the admission of Mr. Albert Cook to the firm of Theakston & Angwin, one of our iron and hardware firms. This is gratifying, because it indicates that our merchants are satisfied with their present business arrangements, and have no desire to change their mutual relations.

Work on and about steamers at the elevator and the railway wharf continues brisk, and as many men find employment as room can be found for to labor without getting in each other's way.

Our West India merchants are very busy in loading and sending off their "fish-boxes" as fast as they return to port, and, although they come back in ballast, it is asserted the profit on the outward freight pays the expenses of the round voyage and leaves something "to the good" besides.

IRON AND HARDWARE.—The market is very firm, and in pig and most other lines has advanced. Advices from Glasgow indicate a very strong and even excited tone in pig iron. Since last season the advance has been fully equal to \$4 per ton. A difficulty is, however, reported in closing contracts for immediate or for future delivery, as the views of holders are beyond the reach of buyers, and the latter will have to advance their limits considerably before any large amount of business can be done. We note that "owing to the general appreciation of the price of iron, the makers of boiler tubes throughout Great Britain have agreed to advance 10 per cent. from prices

January 1st, 1887." This state of matters—which promises to continue—should afford the Londonderry Steel and Iron Works the chance, which they have long wanted, to get firmly on their legs.

BREADSTUFFS.—Flour has advanced a little in England, but the utmost efforts of the bulls on this side of the water have been unavailing to toss wheat or flour up. The growing visible supply—already so enormous—keeps prices steady in spite of the large drain on American supplies by Europe, caused by short products there.

HOG PRODUCTS.—There has been an advance in the price of pork both in England and in Chicago during the past fortnight, but no excitement is manifested. The prices are about 20 to 25 cents per 100 lbs. higher in the great centres than they were last year. This locality has not been influenced by the movement, and local raisers complain that they cannot obtain within fully one cent per pound of the figures realized last season.

BUTTER.—Best qualities continue to be in active demand and to command full prices. In Liverpool stocks are reported to be small and enquiry active. Holders of finest creamery and U. S. and Canadian extra have been able to obtain full prices, and the transactions have been larger than usual.

CHEESE.—This article appears to be at a standstill. In England transactions have been chiefly in August makes. Holders of finest September are very firm, and in many cases refuse to offer at present, as American advices are strong, and, being considerably above prices quoted in Liverpool, they are confident of forcing the market up.

LIVE STOCK.—The supply during the past week has been rather light and the quality hardly up to the mark. It is said in explanation that country holders of fine large cattle have decided that it is best to hold off for a few weeks before bringing their beasts down for sale and slaughter.

FRUIT.—The shipment of apples has somewhat fallen off, although the reserve still held back is reported to be quite large. Choice winter varieties are selling well in England at an advance. Newton Pippins are said to be scarce, and late advices state that a few choice selected brought 58s. per barrel. Winter varieties of Canadian and United States apples are quoted at 27s. per bbl. We note that Canada apples this year are preferred to those from New York State as being larger, firmer, and better in every respect, as well as being carefully packed and honestly culled.

SUGAR AND MOLASSES.—Business in both these articles is very quiet. Large stocks are held in this city, for which the demand appears to be inadequate to the supply. Still, as not much more is likely to come to hand for a few months, the refineries may be able gradually through the winter to absorb what is now held. We do not anticipate any serious losses on the part of our importers on this score.

TEA AND COFFEE.—There is a moderate, though quiet demand, and prices are firm. The Trans-Caspian Provinces of Russia are going into the business of raising tea, and threaten to do so on a large scale. If they produce a really good article—and there seems no reason to doubt that they will—they will further aid to prevent any marked advance in prices for many future years.

LUMBER is quiet. There is comparatively little demand at this season of the year, and business in this line is necessarily in consequence dull and uninteresting. The continued absence of snow is much deplored by lumbermen, who have not been able, as a rule, to do efficient work in the woods, and they fear that what remains of the season will be too short for them to carry out their plans this year.

BUILDING.—On the other hand, the open winter, so far, has enabled builders to continue to push their work on steadily, and many contractors now hope to finish their jobs ahead of the time agreed upon. The Church of England has decided to build a large Cathedral on the lot belonging to it at the head of Spring Garden Road and corner of Robie street and Coburg Road. It is not, however, probable that operations will be commenced before next spring at the soonest.

FISH.—The fish market remains in about the same position as reported in our last issue. The only fish that have since come to market are bank codfish, some of which have been sold, while some yet remain on the market. In the absence of arrivals of pickled fish and hard Shore codfish, it is very hard to give a quotation; for the former there are but few buyers, and much lower prices than were paid ten or fifteen days ago would have to be accepted to make sales. The latter, if a very good article, will command quick sales at full price. We find the improvement in the Cuban market is somewhat off, owing to large receipts in that market. Quotations are lower than a short time ago. Fish have sold in the Porto Rico market at an advance. Advices to 24th Dec. reports as follows.—At Arecibo, the following sales were made:—Codfish \$1.50; haddock \$3.50; mackerel \$7.00; split herring \$4.00; round herring \$3.50. At Mayaguez \$4.75 for codfish was paid, and it was expected that if any further arrivals took place immediately that prices would be lower. The consumption of fish in Porto Rico is not as active as formerly, causing rapid fluctuations. Formerly, if two or more arrivals of fish reached any of the markets in Porto Rico the sales were not effected; but at present, if two or more arrive together prices would go down immediately, thus showing the necessity of keeping the shipments as far apart as possible.

Grinding has already commenced at some of the ports, but nothing has yet been said as to prices of new crop; and as soon as grinding becomes general, it is possible there may be more demand for fish, and that sales will be better.

We know of no change in any of the other West Indian or in the United States markets.

MARKET QUOTATIONS.

WHOLESALE RATES.

Our Price Lists are corrected for us each week by reliable merchants, and can therefore be depended upon as accurate up to the time of going to press. We intend devoting special attention to our Commercial and Financial Articles, and to our Market Quotations, and to this end have secured the co-operation of several persons thoroughly conversant with questions of finance and commerce.

GROCERIES.

SUGAR.	
Cut Leaf.....	4 to 8 1/2
Granulated.....	6 to 8 1/2
Circle A.....	5 to 6 1/2
Extra Yellow C.....	5 1/2 to 6 1/2
Yellow C.....	4 to 5
Tea.	
Coucou, Common.....	17 to 19
" Fair.....	20 to 23
" Good.....	25 to 29
" Choice.....	31 to 33
" Extra Choice.....	35 to 36
Oolong—Choice.....	37 to 39
MOLASSES.	
Barbadoes.....	25 to 30
Demerara.....	30 to 37
Diamond N.....	39
Porto Rico.....	31
Tobacco—Black.....	37 to 40
" Bright.....	42 to 38
BISCUITS.	
Pilot Bread.....	2.60 to 2.90
Boston and Thin Family.....	5 1/2 to 6
Soda.....	5 1/2 to 5 3/4
do. in lb. boxes, 50 to case.....	7 1/2
Fancy.....	3 to 15

BREADSTUFFS.

PROVISIONS AND PRODUCE.

Our quotations below are our today's wholesale selling prices for car lots net cash. Jobbers' and Retailers' prices about 5 to 10 per cent advance on carload lots.

FLOUR.	
Graham.....	1.10 to 4.30
Patent high grades.....	1.65 to 3.60
" mediums.....	4.50 to 4.50
Superior Extra.....	3.25 to 4.10
Lower grades.....	3.30 to 3.80
Oatmeal, Standard.....	1.20 to 4.25
" Granulated.....	1.30 to 4.10
Corn Meal—Halfax ground.....	2.65 to 2.75
" —Imported.....	2.85 to 3.00
Bran per ton—Wheat.....	17.50 to 18.50
" —Corn.....	16.00
Shorts.....	10.00 to 19.00
Middlings.....	20.00 to 22.00
Cracked Corn.....	26.00 to 29.00
" Oats.....	25.00 to 30.00
" Barley.....	nominal
Feed Flour.....	3.40 to 3.60
Oats per bushel of 34 lbs.....	31 to 75
Barley " of 48 ".....	35 to 80
Peas " of 60 ".....	1.70 to 1.10
White Beans, per bushel.....	1.50 to 1.60
Red Barley, per barrel.....	4.85 to 4.90
Corn " of 56 lbs.....	75 to 80
Hay per ton.....	13.00 to 14.00
Straw.....	10.00 to 12.00

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

BUTTER AND CHEESE.

Nova Scotia Choice Fresh Butts.....	20 to 25
" in Small Tubs.....	20 to 22
" Good, in large tubs.....	19 to 20
" Store Packed & overhauled.....	10 to 12
Canadian Creamery.....	24
" Township, Fancy.....	20 to 22
" Finest.....	20 to 22
" Fine.....	18 to 20
" Mouraburg and Brooklyn.....	17 to 19
" Western.....	13 to 16
Cheese, N. S.....	12
" Canada.....	14

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

FISH FROM VESSELS.

MACKEREL.	
Extra.....	15.25
No. 1.....	12.25
" 2 large.....	8.50
" 3.....	7.50 to 8.00
" 4 large.....	6.00
" 5.....	5.50 to 5.75
" 6.....	5.00
" 7.....	4.75
" 8.....	4.50
" 9.....	4.25
" 10.....	4.00
" 11.....	3.75
" 12.....	3.50
" 13.....	3.25
" 14.....	3.00
" 15.....	2.75
" 16.....	2.50
" 17.....	2.25
" 18.....	2.00
" 19.....	1.75
" 20.....	1.50
" 21.....	1.25
" 22.....	1.00
" 23.....	0.75
" 24.....	0.50
" 25.....	0.25

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

LOBSTERS.

Nova Scotia (Atlantic Coast Packing).	
" Fall Cans.....	4.60 to 5.40
" Flat.....	6.00 to 6.50
" Per case 4 doz. 1lb cans.....	

The above quotations are corrected by a reliable dealer.

LUMBER.

Pine, clear No. 1, per m.....	25.00 to 28.00
" Merchantable, do do.....	14.00 to 17.00
" No 2 do.....	10.00 to 12.00
" Small, per m.....	8.00 to 14.00
" Spruce, dimension good, per m.....	9.50 to 10.00
" Merchantable, do do.....	8.00 to 9.00
" Small, do do.....	6.50 to 7.05
Hemlock, merchantable.....	7.00
Shingles, No 1, sawed, pine.....	3.00 to 3.50
" do do.....	1.00 to 1.25
" spruce, No 1.....	1.10 to 1.30
Laths, per m.....	2.00
Hard wood, per cord.....	4.00 to 4.25
Soft wood.....	2.25 to 2.50

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

J. A. CHIPMAN & Co., Liverpool Wharf, Halifax, N. S.

PROVISIONS.

Beef, Am. Ex. Mess. duty paid.....	11.00 to 11.50
" Am. Plate.....	11.50 to 12.00
" Ex. Plate.....	12.50 to 13.00
Pork, Mess. American.....	14.50 to 15.00
" Old.....	12.50 to 14.00
" American, clear.....	13.00 to 15.50
" P. E. 1 Mess.....	14.00 to 14.50
" P. E. 1 Thin Mess.....	12.00 to 12.50
" Prime Mess.....	10.00 to 10.50
Lard, Tubs and Pails.....	11 to 12
" Cates.....	12.50 to 13.00
Hams, P. E. 1.....	none

These quotations are prepared by a reliable wholesale house.

WOOL, WOOL SKINS & HIDES.

Wool—clean washed, per pound.....	15 to 20
" unwashed.....	12 to 15
Salted Hides, No 1.....	7 1/2
Ox Hides, over 60 lbs, No 1.....	7 1/2
" under 60 lbs, No 1.....	6 1/2
" over 60 lbs, No 2.....	6 1/2
" under 60 lbs, No 2.....	6 1/2
Cow Hides, No 1.....	6 1/2
No 3 Hides.....	5 1/2
Calf Skins.....	8 to 10
" Deacons, each.....	25 to 35
Lambskins.....	25 to 75

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

HOME AND FOREIGN FRUITS.

Apples, No. 1 Greenstein.....	per bbl. 2.50 to 3.50
" Other No. 1 varieties.....	1.75 to 2.00
Oranges, per bbl. Jamaica (new).....	8.00
" Valencia.....	8.00 to 8.25
Lemons, per box.....	3.50 to 3.75
Cocoanuts, per 100.....	3.00 to 3.50
Onions American, per lb.....	2 1/2 to 2 1/2
Potatoes, per bbl. new.....	3.00 to 4.00
Grapes, Almeria, legs.....	6.00
Raisins, New Val.....	6 to 7
Figs, Blème, small boxes.....	12 to 17
Prunes, Ste Ring, per lb.....	6 1/2
Dates, boxes, new.....	7 1/2

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

POULTRY.

Turkeys, per pound.....	11 to 20
Geese, each.....	10 to 25
Ducks, per pair.....	60 to 70
Chickens.....	30 to 60

The above are corrected by a reliable victualer.

LIVE STOCK—at Richmond Depot.

Steers, best quality, per 100 lbs. alive.....	4.00
Oxen.....	3.00
Fat Steers, Heflers light weights.....	3.75
Wethers, best quality, per 100 lbs.....	2.75 to 3.20
Lambs.....	2.25 to 3.50

These quotations are prepared by a reliable victualer.

[WRITTEN FOR THE CRITIC.]

A CRITICAL AND PUZZLING CASE.

(Concluded.)

During our drive my companion had done her best to entertain me. At starting she was gay and happy, but had gradually relapsed into silence and reserve, chilled by the almost icy exterior that I was obliged to assume in order to cover my real feelings and prevent any display of them. When we came to the river road she had driven slowly as I expressed delight with the ever changing beauties of the landscape, but when we arrived in sight of the mills my companion touched the spirited horse with the whip and off it flew. I had expected to return to the house from which we had come and was surprised when Mrs. Burton turned the horse up into the lane leading to her own home, where she found the crowd of friends whom we had left awaiting us. I was ushered in and welcomed by Mr. Burton. The rooms were profusely and tastefully decorated and displayed evidences of more than comfortable circumstances.

That was a Merry Christmas. Dancing, games, charades and Christmas readings, filled up the afternoon and evening. The guests for fear of wearying me left early, and I was shown to my room by Mr. Burton, who said as he bid me good night.

"Good-night. You will make this your room and my home yours just as long as you wish to."

I could not remain long, however. Day by day I increasingly felt the necessity of getting away. I struggled hard to feel only friendship for my hostess, but day by day I became more and more deeply involved. I told myself I was a villain—wicked in the sight of God and man—and strove to shame myself into propriety, but failed, so by New Year's day my resolution was made to go away. Burton urged me to remain. I was not fit to travel yet he said. Neighbors joined him in persuading me to settle at the mills and practice, but I knew that I could not. Mrs. Burton, to my surprise, and I must own, not a little to my chagrin, maintained what I may call "a hospitable reserve" up to the moment of my leave-taking on New Year's afternoon, but her "Good-bye, Dr. Hannaford, you will not quite forget us," still rings in my ears and echoes in my heart.

Mrs. Cairns, I know you condemn me. I am self-condemned, but I have striven in vain against this wickedness.

I have nothing more to tell except that I drove home and remained there until spring, when, quite recovered, I commenced and soon got into a good and lucrative practice.

Oh, yes! I should not neglect to tell you that one day after I had returned home I found, in an inner pocket of my overcoat, a purse containing a cheque for \$100 and a piece of paper on which was written, "Please accept as a token of gratitude for the life of our dear daughter. JOHN BURTON, SENR., H. J. FAIRBANKS, SENR."

"See here, Ned, the end of your Christmas story has not yet been told. I don't believe you are as much of a villain as you think you are. What do you say, Marian?"

"I shall keep my thoughts to myself just now, but I'm awfully impatient," said Mrs. Cairns in reply to her husband. "But come, let us dress the Christmas tree. Children, you had better go to bed."

Obediently the children kissed their mother and father, shook hands with their guest and retired.

Then Dr. Ned got his parcel, which had been left at the door, and Dr. and Mrs. Cairns produced their presents.

"Dr. Hannaford, you are too liberal. Rick, you should not have allowed your friend to get such costly things for the children," said Mrs. Cairns.

"I didn't know what he was at, Marian. I recall now that he very coolly took from under my very nose those skates which I had selected for Mabel, and I remember also that he made inquiries which anyone less stupid than I am would have seen through. But what are we to do about it?"

"I don't see that you can do anything but let me have my own way and say nothing about it, good friends."

"You are very kind, and the children will be delighted. We will try to be even with you to-morrow, won't we Rick?" said Mrs. Cairns.

By the time the tree was dressed and the presents that were too big for the tree were properly arranged around it, Christmas day was so near that one of the trio—I forget which one—exclaimed, "If we don't get to bed soon we won't get any sleep before Christmas." Then followed Merry Christmas wishes, and Dr. Cairns kissed his wife under the mistletoe, and Dr. Ned shook hands with both of them and recalled the time when Marian Ellesley was his little sweetheart and he had all the kisses he chose to take, and when it was the dearest wish of his boy heart to make his playwife his "really wife." Perhaps Mrs. Cairns recalled that halcyon time too, and perhaps she would not be offended if— Well, never mind about that. The good-nights were repeated and all lay them down to their rest.

Christmas morning crisp, bright, clear and beautiful. Snowdrifts blocked the streets. Snowdrifts blocked the country roads and the railroads. There was a snow blockade. Trains were snowed up and passengers and train officials must even make the most of such facilities as the train and neighboring houses—if any—afforded for Christmas cheer. Christmas gatherings that had been planned were abandoned. Deep as the drifts were though, throughout the land many a merry party tramped and shovelled their way through and broke the blockade and thought Christmas all the merrier on account of it.

The city houses looked as though they had struggled out of the drifts, and men and boys were doing their very best to help the houses. How

would the milkmen, the baker's man, the newspaper boys, and the letter carriers get around? The bellringers had managed it for sure, for out upon the frosty air of morning rang merry peals. The Christmas bells were wedding-bells in Dr. Ned's dream. Mrs. Burton knelt by his side clad in bridal robes radiantly beautiful. Mr. Burton was his best man. Mrs. Cairns and Millicent Prior were bridesmaids, the officiating clergyman was just about to pronounce the words that would make them man and wife, when his friend, Rick, appeared upon the scene and tore him away from his bride. While they struggled together among the wedding party and a mob of guests and lookers on, the great bell of the church came crashing through the roof and extinguished all but himself. Yes, he stood all alone, not in wedding garments, however, but in the garb of night, and by the dim light of morning he discerned the fragments of the lamp he had dashed to the floor in his imaginary struggles with his friend.

"Hollo, Ned!" cried Dr. Cairns as he entered the room, "What's up? are you trying to smash things generally? Wish you a Merry Christmas."

Dr. Hannaford related his dream. The friends had a hearty laugh over it. A broom was procured, the shattered glass was swept together under a table, and then Dr. Cairns told his friend that he had been called in haste to go and see the child he had sent medicine for the previous evening, and would like Dr. Hannaford to go with him. So the latter dressed hastily, and the two hurried away down the street. Dr. Cairns knocked at the door of a stately residence, which was opened by the nurse. "Mrs. Burton," said Dr. Cairns, "I have brought my friend, Dr. Hannaford, with me. Allow me to introduce you to each other."

"I should know your friend without the ceremony of introduction. I owe my life, under a merciful Providence, to Dr. Hannaford, sir. I am very glad to meet him again and to see him looking so well. Ah! he was terribly shattered when I last saw him, and I feared that he had sacrificed his life in saving mine."

"Mrs. Burton?" as he grasped her hand no magnetic thrill was produced as when the circuit of hearts is completed by joined hands. Was his passion then a dream?

"Are you not pleased to see me, Dr. Hannaford, was my life too dearly saved? You do not seem to be glad to see me."

"I am glad, I am very glad to see you again, dear Mrs. Burton, but I am too much surprised or puzzled to shew anything else in my manner. Mrs. Burton, have you a sister who looks very much like you? If you have, the puzzle is solved."

"I will tell you all about it, Dr., when there is opportunity. My little charge is very ill, we must hasten to it." The child was in a bath surrounded by members of the family, some weeping, all in a state of consternation and excitement.

"Mrs. Burton, please get me a piece of kindling," said Dr. Hannaford.

"Thank you, now some cold water."

A dash of water in the child's face relaxed the tightly closed jaws for an instant. Now help me to open the mouth, that will do. The stick was placed between the teeth, then Dr. Hannaford thrust a finger down the child's throat. A gasp, a long drawn breath, a sigh and the fixed stare and the convulsive spasms ceased, and the little one gazed around wonderingly.

"Take her up, wrap her warmly in blankets, don't trouble about drying, and let her rest quietly as long as she will. Spasm of the glottis," said Dr. Hannaford to his friend. "Broke it up. Not always act that way though, lucky hit this time. What do they feed the child on?" said he to Mrs. Burton.

"Oh, they are very hygienic, no confectionery, no pastry, no fats, plenty of porridge and graham bread."

"Oh!" Then turning to Dr. Cairns, "I would recommend that the child eat no more bran for a while. It is, I think, occasioning such a degree of irritation as to produce these convulsive fits."

"I dare say you are right. Thank you."

They consulted together a few moments, communicated the result to Mrs. Burton, and left the room and the now happy family, upon which had fallen the dread of a sad Christmas.

Mrs. Burton followed the two doctors downstairs and invited them into a small room used as a library.

"Dr. Hannaford, I think I can in a few words explain a mystery, and I hope make this a very Happy Christmas for you. While you lay unconscious I watched over you with terrible anxiety, hoping and praying that your life might be spared. I could not bear to think that you, life should be sacrificed for mine. My husband, while sharing my gratitude and anxiety, became jealous. I was ashamed to acknowledge that we quarrelled, and one night as we stood by your bedside he said to me, 'I believe you love him better than you do me.' This maddened me and in my anger I vowed that I would leave him. I left him and my home and came here to Halifax, and have supported myself by nursing. When I left home my twin sister took my place, at my request, both in caring for you and for Mr. Burton. She is a noble girl, Dr. Hannaford, but I fear that she is sinking into an early grave. None of the doctors understand her case. They call it "a very critical and puzzling case." You are skillful, your courage saved my life, cannot your skill save hers?"

"I will try. But, Mrs. Burton, where is your husband? I am happy to have been the means of saving a life, but I have also been the means of making two lives miserable. To-day, Christmas Day, the anniversary of that first Christmas morning when the heavenly-host sang the prophetic song of 'Peace on earth, good will towards men,' and the 'Prince of Peace' was born, will you not put away all enmity and forgive. I would do anything for you."

"Dr. Hannaford, I would lay down my life for you. I will go to my husband this day. It is too late now for the morning train, but we may yet have a happy ending of the day."

"Dear Mrs. Burton, this is as it should be. Would that this day might

be as happy to me as I hope it will be to you and your husband. Can you take a walk with me after breakfast?"

"Certainly, if you wish it."

"Good morning till then."

"Good-morning, Mrs. Burton," said Dr. Cairns.

The two friends went out and home together. What a greeting they received when they returned to the hall of Dr. Cairns' residence! Such uproarious "Merry Christmas" greetings! The children were perfectly wild over their presents, and Dr. Ned's popularity was at its zenith. That wonderful train carried many a load that day. The doll was tired of uttering its limited vocabulary, and Mabel could scarcely restrain her impatience to try the new skates.

After breakfast Dr. Hannaford went out alone and called for Mrs. Burton. "You are a very skillful nurse, Mrs. Burton, and I would like you to try your skill upon a patient of ours as soon as you can be released from your present charge. They walked northward along Pleasant Street until they came to the house where the Priors resided.

"This is my brother's house," said Mrs. Burton, "let us go in and wish them all a Merry Christmas."

Millicent received the first greetings.

"Come in, Dr., this way, Mary. Come Dr. Hannaford," and Millicent ushered them into a handsomely furnished parlor, where burned a cheerful fire.

"Excuse me a moment, Dr.," said Mrs. Burton. The moment seemed a very, very long one in spite of Millicent's endeavors to entertain her guest, but at length Mr. Burton returned, bringing with her a delicately beautiful copy of herself.

"Dr. Hannaford, this is my sister, Nancy Prior."

What unseemingly infatuation possessed Dr. Hannaford to open his arms!

What unmaidenly infatuation possessed Nancy Prior to rush into those outstretched arms, regardless of appearances and of physical weakness?

How dare he cover those blushing cheeks and rosebud lips with kisses?

Heroic treatment this assuredly for such a critical and puzzling case. Let us hope it will be effectual. How could I have supposed that you were Mrs. Burton? "Never mind now dear, I am so happy. This is the happiest of happy Christmases. You disappointed me so last Christmas Dr. Hannaford"

"Say Edward."

"You disappointed me Edward, (How sweet it sounded to her ears). I thought you cared for me. I hoped you would tell me so while we were out driving. I have been so miserable. Do you think I shall get better now, Dr.?"

"Of course you will. You must."

Such a happy Christmas! A really "Merry Christmas!" The Christmas bells rang out, summoning all to join in Christmas anthems and thanksgiving—to hear of the babe of Bethlehem, the Prince of Peace—in green decked churches odoriferous of spruce, incense of Christmas.

An album lay open beside them. "For Nancy Christine Prior," was written on the fly leaf.

"Is that your name?"

"Yes. Do you like it?"

"Oh, yes. I shall call you Christine. It will always remind me of this Christmas day. I must go now. I have another mission. Two other hearts must be made happy to-day. I will tell you all about it when I return. Good-bye till then, Christine."

"Good bye, Edward. Can I spare you so long?"

Mrs. Burton and Dr. Hannaford went out together again down to Mr. Burton's hotel.

"Our patient is in here, let us go in," said Dr. Hannaford.

They entered and went upstairs to Burton's room and knocked.

"Come in!" cried a voice from within.

"John! My husband," cried Mrs. Burton, "It is he." She stood trembling violently for an instant, then burst open the door and sank at her husband's feet.

"Mary!"

"You are hurt, John, tell me what is the matter."

"Is not Dr. Hannaford with you, Mary? Come in Dr. I wish you a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year. This is a happy Christmas to us, ain't it, Mary?"

"Yes, John, but it comes at the close of a very miserable year."

They sat talking together of the past and the future. John Burton was saying as he put his uninjured arm around his wife, "Dr. Hannaford, you have twice given me this precious gift. It is my Christmas present to-day," when sleigh bells made silvery music and stopped at the door. The outer door opened, a familiar step ascended the stairs, came along the hall and paused in front of the room. "Come in, Dr. Cairns," cried John Burton. "Come in."

"Hollo!" cried the Dr. as he surveyed the group. "I guess you have another physician, Mr. Burton. I have come to take ye home to dine with me. Do you think you are well enough to drive?"

"Thank you, Dr., I believe I'm well enough for most anything, but—"

"Oh! your wife is coming to. We shall take a turn together while you get ready."

What a merry drive that was. How the spirited horses plunged through the snow. What music the bells made. How happy John and Mary Burton were. They called for Christine, who, to their surprise, was all ready. How happy and charming she looked. Millicent and her brother had gone to church and were already engaged for dinner.

Arrived at Dr. Cairns house, they were all ushered in and introductions and Christmas wishes were exchanged.

Such a happy group they made about the blazing fire. Such a dinner party! It is safe to say that nowhere was gathered a happier.

"This is not such a very critical and puzzling case after all, is it Dr. Cairns?" said Mrs. Cairns, as she stooped down and kissed Christine's cheek. "Do you not think she will recover?"

"Yes, I have some hopes of her now. I hope she will recover, but with the loss of her name."

At which they all laughed and Christine blushed.

Dear reader, if Christmas 1886 is not under snow blockade, while you are enjoying Christmas cheer, you may imagine a Christmas party at the Hannaford homestead. Dr. and Mrs. Cairns and their son and daughter will be there. Mabel is far away with her husband. Rick, junior, is Captain Richard Cairns, of the barque "Marian." Maud is just of age, and folks do say that Dr. Hannaford has a brother who would like to make an alliance with the house of Cairns. Perhaps Dame Rumor will have more to whisper after Christmas. Dr. Hannaford and his wife and three children will, of course, be there, and Mrs. Cairns' father and mother and brother and sister-in-law. John and Mary Burton are also invited, and that splendid mother and dearest of grandmothers, will grace the festival.

Wishing them and you, dear reader, a "Merry Christmas and Happy New Year," I close this memory of Christmas 1872.

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THE GEOLOGY OF CAPE BRETON ISLAND, NOVA SCOTIA.—By Edwin Gilpin, Esq., junr., A. M. F. R., S. C. Inspt. H. M.'s Mines.

Mr. Gilpin, by his able papers on the geology and mineralogy of Nova Scotia, read before different scientific societies, and by his reports as Inspector of Mines, has thrown much light on these important subjects, and has earned for himself an enviable name for reliability and painstaking investigation. His last pamphlet on the geology of Cape Breton Island is reprinted from the quarterly journal of the Geological Society for November, 1886. It is accompanied by an excellent geological map reduced by Mr. Gilpin from survey by H. Fletcher and others of the geological survey of Canada. The paper appears at a most opportune time, as much interest is now being taken in the Island, and the reading public are anxious for information on its geological formation. In his opening remarks Mr. Gilpin briefly refers to his design in undertaking the work, and explains that he has tried to give a brief account of the geology of the Island from notes of his professional work as Inspector of Mines and from other available sources.

"Mr. R. Brown, of the Sydney mines, lived for many years on the island when it was, geologically speaking, an unexplored region. The transactions of the Society contain several valuable papers of his, giving many details of the Carboniferous system. Sir J. W. Dawson, in his 'Acadian Geology,' indicated the outlines of the principal geological divisions, and devoted much attention to the Carboniferous flora. During the past fifteen years Mr. A. Fletcher, of the Canadian Geological Survey, has explored and mapped the island, and the map accompanying these notes has been reduced from the large scale-plans accompanying his annual reports, from which I have taken several sections. Valuable reports were made by Professor Lesley, Mr. Lyman, and others on several districts considered of economic importance; but the list of writers is a scanty one.

The geology of Cape Breton is notable on account of the development of two great rock series—the Carboniferous and the Pre-Cambrian. There are no measures known later than the upper portion of the productive Coal-Measures, and between the basal conglomerate of this period and the Pre-Cambrian there intervene only a few areas referred to the Devonian and the Lower Silurian.

The following formations have been recognized in Cape Breton by the officers of the Geological Survey:—

Pre-Cambrian (Laurentian): including the Felsite series, the Crystalline Limestone series; Lower Silurian; Devonian; Carboniferous: including Middle Coal-formation, Millstone Gilt, Gypsiferous series, Limestones, &c., Lower Coal-formation."

We shall give further quotations from the paper in future issues, as the information contained is invaluable and it should be in the hands of every mining enquirer in the Province.

Mr. Goddard, who owns a promising gold property four miles from Mill Village, Queens County, is now in town and is stopping at the Royal. A large number of areas have been taken up in the Mill Village district; but the applicants, as is too often the case, have made no attempt to prospect their properties, but have been waiting to see whether Mr. Goddard would strike it rich. He commenced work in the autumn of '85 and did some prospecting with encouraging results, finding some rich boulders, but did not begin active work until July, 1886. His progress was retarded by the great depth of surface varying from 15 to 20 ft., but he persevered, and during the past two months has tunnelled 75 feet. He has already discovered two veins of 14 and 16 inches showing gold, and the boulders and the drift now indicate that he is close upon the main lead. The boulders prove that the main lead will prove a large one, and he has a number of specimens with him that are studded with coarse gold. He is looking for capital to aid him in his prospecting, and intending investors would do well to call on him and inquire into the merits of his property.

LAKE CATCHA GOLD DISTRICT.—The Oxford gold mine is still keeping up its reputation as a gold producer. Mr. J. M. Reid brought to the city a gold brick weighing 106 oz., the product of two weeks' work, and worth about \$2,000.

NEW BRUNSWICK MINING ITEMS.—Nothing particularly new in mining matters has occurred since last writing you. The weather has been very changeable with us, snow being a scarce article, while rains have occurred frequently. New Year's day was ushered in with fall of snow, and shortly after changed to rain, which fell in torrents more or less all day long.

The manganese deposit at Petiteodisc, it is reported, shows very finely, and the promoters seem to have faith that large paying quantities are within easy reach.

Some five or six carloads of matte from Mineral Vale property at New Ireland, Albert Co., have been shipped away from the mine for export to Swansea. One of the parties interested states that they can make from four to five tons of matte per day. To do this takes from 7 to 8 tons of ore per ton of matte. The matte is valued at about \$100 per ton, independent of

the richer veins of silver ore which the refiners at Swansea advise them to keep separate and ship by itself. The shaft is down over 100 ft. and drifting is being carried on vigorously. The ore is very fine in appearance from this depth. About 30 men are employed in this work at the present time.

It may not be generally known that an American Company from Pennsylvania have been boring for oil in the Mourmeacock Valley, Westmoreland County. They have acquired large areas of territory and within the past three or four years have sunk quite a number of wells, but without success as yet. At present they are boring in what is known as the old Ayers Mill property, about 3 miles northwest of the Mourmeacock Station. As they have spent large sums of money it is to be hoped their efforts will be crowned with success. Hon. A. D. Richard, Barrister of Dorchester, is solicitor of the company.

A number of young barristers, medical men, &c., of Dorchester, N. B., are engaged in developing some gold mining areas in Country Harbor district, N. S.

The new company formed for development and working of a manganese property near Tonnicapo, has some New Brunswick gentlemen interested in it. John Harding, of the Marine and Fisheries Department, Hon. David McLellan, Prov. Secretary of New Brunswick, and others being among the provisional directors, stockholders, &c. While we do not grumble at the position of affairs, we think it strange our New Brunswickers should invest their funds in Nova Scotia and elsewhere, especially on manganese mines, while numerous valuable properties of this ore are lying in New Brunswick awaiting the necessary cash for development of same.

The outlook generally seems more favorable for the pursuance of legitimate mining features than it has for some time past. The bogus speculator and mining shyster will find it harder in the future to trip the foreign investor than he has in the past, and it should be the aim of honorable men interested in the mining prosperity of the country to cry down and point out such tricksters. I presume the columns of THE CRITIC will always be open for such purposes, and it will be stopped if our level headed miners only take the steps to publish such characters. It seems new that any attempt to close out or sell even bona fide properties is met with opposition from a class of obstructionists who act "the dog in the manger" policy or seem determined to balk any honest and legitimate sale that is being negotiated. Such work retards the development of the mining prosperity of any country and calls for strong denunciation.

In the meantime wishing you and THE CRITIC reader all the Compliments of the Season.

Yours, etc.,

New Brunswick, Jan. 3rd. 1886.

Any capitalists who wish to take chances in the development of a promising manganese property in New Brunswick, would do well to address THE CRITIC office, Halifax.

DULUTH AND NOVA SCOTIA MINING COMPANY.—The owners of the Milipsigate mining property have organized with a capital of one million dollars, and have called the company the Duluth and Nova Scotia Mining Company. They will go to work at once and erect more mills at Milipsigate and will also open up other properties which they own. The last report received from Milipsigate is that the lead is 6 foot wide and carrying about 15 pennyweights per ton. The officers of the new company are C. Poirier, President; John Walsh, Vice-President; M. Haug, Treasurer; Jos. A. Mannheim, Secretary and Manager. Mr. Mannheim is at present spending the holidays at home in Duluth, but intends bringing his family back with him and locating at Bridgewater.

Returns from Victoria show that the yield of gold in that colony during the past year was 130,000 ounces, under that of 1885.

KEARSAGE MINE.—Work continues on the Kearsage property in Nos. 1 and 2 shafts, the former being down about 35 feet and the latter over 80. An engine is now used at the deepest shaft, and this week will find one in operation at No. 1. Developments continue favorable, the rock sent to the surface showing equal in richness to any yet taken out, while specimens of shot-copper give additional evidence of the prospective value of the Kearsage. An engine house and engine, formerly used on the Seneca, have been removed to the Kearsage and are now being re-erected, so that within a few weeks the mine will be independant of its neighbor, the Wolverine, from which it now receives its air supply for drills.—P. J. Gazette.

An Ottawa despatch of the 2nd inst. says:—"Mr. Geo. Rainboth, D. L. S., who has just returned from a trip to the North Saskatchewan, reports quite a boom in the gold district there. He surveyed a claim for Judge Rouleau previous to leaving. An assay from the lode proves that the quartz will run about \$18 to a ton. If the average is proportionate to that of the specimen tested, Judge Rouleau would not dispose of his interest for \$100,000.

Mine owners and manufacturers who desire the services of a thoroughly competent mason to do the brick work required in setting up boilers and doing furnace work, should not fail to write to Mr. Aaron Sinfield, whose advertisement appears in another column. In his line, Mr. Sinfield is known as one of the most skillful mechanics in the Province, and can refer to the leading manufacturers of the city.

THUNDER BAY DISTRICT.—Work has been suspended for the present at the Elgin mine. It is understood that negotiations for the sale of Silver Mountain West End property will soon be concluded.—Can. Mining Review.

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.]

"Our Grange Homes," until recently published as a monthly at Hudson, Mass., now comes to us as a department of our old friend "The New England Farmer," a bound volume of which, for the year 1853, furnished food for a city youth longing for agricultural knowledge, and is still consulted among the many more modern authorities. We do not think that "Our Grange Homes" has lessened its opportunities for good, by merging its individuality into the "Farmer"; on the contrary, we think that its opportunity for advocating Grange principles, and for illustrating the many advantages of the Order, by publishing reports of Grange doings, have been largely increased by being carried with its old established and widely circulated host into many other than Grange homes. Whether the advantage of the Order and its principles and purposes, on the contrary, we know not, but certain it is, that the Maritime Patron finds entrance to four thousand homes, as a department of THE CRITIC; into which it would not find entrance as a separate and distinct Grange organ. Another and important gain to our contemporary is in a weekly instead of monthly issue. A monthly issue of a Grange or society organ cannot satisfactorily convey intelligence of events, whose interest is lost or merged in that of more recent sayings. Nor is it always possible to get official matter circulated as required through the medium of an organ issued only monthly.

According to promise, we give below the substance of Worthy Secretary Albert Gates' report of the Session of Annapolis Division Grange, held with "Belle Isle" Grange, No. 905, on Nov. 2nd.

The Division was opened in ample form at 11 o'clock, a.m., Worthy Master Solomon Drew presiding. After approval of Minutes and other routine business, verbal reports of the standing and progress of sub-Granges in the Division was called for. In response, Bro. F. M. Chipman said that Nictaux Grange is not as strong numerically as it once was, but its members are true and tried, and seem bound to carry out the principles of the Grange to the very letter. He thought that every farmer should take sufficient interest in his own welfare to affiliate with the Grange or some similar organization affording means of protection from the frauds and deceptions imposed upon him in the past.

Bro. A. B. Neilly said that Belle Isle Grange had cause for congratulation, in that it had steadily increased by the addition of good working members.

Bro. S. Chute, of Clarence Grange, No. 709, gave very interesting and instructive definitions of the motto of the Grange—"In essentials Unity; in non-essentials Liberty; in all things Charity." As nearly all in the vicinity of Clarence Grange who are eligible have united with it, there are no additions to report, but it is doing good work.

Bro. Geo. Holland spoke very approvingly of these off-hand verbal reports at Division Grange Sessions: he regarded them as a means of keeping up an interest in the Order. His Grange, Totbrook, No. 740, was not in as flourishing a condition as could be desired, but had among its members earnest advocates of the Order.

The following subject was selected for discussion at the afternoon Session:—"How can we, as an organization, dispose of the products of our farmers, more especially apples, to the best advantage? Shippers of fruit are getting advantages that are at the present time denied to us. What can be done to remedy this evil?"

After dinner, the Grange was again called to order by the Master, the Minutes of the Morning Session were read and approved, and the Secretary opened the question for discussion. He stated the grievances and impositions under which farmers are laboring, especially in the shipment of fruit to Europe, and declared that co-operation—that grand plank in our Grange platform—must be relied upon to gain for farmers their just rights.

Bro. W. Miller spoke at length upon the question, and expressed his determination, that if any way of escape could be found, agents should not in future pocket so large a share of his money.

Bro. S. Chute made some very appropriate remarks upon the question under discussion, and was followed by Bro. F. M. Chipman, endorsing the sentiments of the speakers who had preceded him.

Bro. Wellington Daniels thought that the Grange would be unwise to attempt what it would be impossible to accomplish. He felt great sympathy for the poor agents, and did not wish to see them injured.

Bro. Dr. Barnaby thought that it was scarcely worth while to import men from across the ocean to ship a few car loads of apples when there were plenty of competent men among us. He believed that combination is what is wanted, and must be relied upon to secure his rights and fair play for the farmer.

Several other members spoke upon the subject, which was finally disposed of in the following preamble and resolutions:—

Whereas, it has been brought to the notice of the grangers and shippers of fruit of the County of Annapolis, that steamship companies are giving terms to agents that are unfair to shippers, and on being interviewed by a shipper of the grange, have been denied the satisfaction of getting the same terms as agents.

Therefore Resolved, that we deem it advisable, and to our interests, to

appoint one of our own men to transact our business in the shipping of our apples to Europe.

Resolved also, that a mass meeting of all the fruit growers of Annapolis County be called at some central point, due notice of the time and place to be given.

A vote of thanks was cordially tendered to Belle Isle Grange for their hospitality in entertaining visiting patrons.

Upon motion, it was resolved that the proceedings of the session be published.

The Division adjourned to meet at the call of the Executive Committee.

Bro. Gates writes as under date Dec. 20th, "I have at last been successful in getting the terms mentioned in the preamble to resolutions passed by our division, that agents have so long been fattening on, I now have as favorable terms as they, and I tell you I have had a tough time of it."

"CLEARING UP."—Whether on the field or in the garden, an important winter work is the clearing up of the rubbish and weeds that, while they were kept down early in the season, have gained the mastery in the mid-summer days, and in autumn present a heavy growth in field and garden. What shall be done with them? Weeds, in growing, take from the soil the same plant food as do the plants of our crops. If we can turn under, while yet green, a crop of weeds, it is often as valuable in enriching the soil as if we had turned under a crop grown expressly for green manuring. But in late autumn the weed crop, having lost its succulence and become dry, is no longer fit for turning under. Still, the weed crop has taken up from the soil potash, phosphoric acid, and other plant food, and stored them in its stems, etc. These crops are just such material as the cultivated crop will need next season. To turn under the weeds at that time would be to re-seed the land with them. If they are taken to the barn-yard or piggery, to be worked into manure, the seeds will still remain and bring trouble next season. The only proper treatment for weeds gone to seed is to burn them. All that they contain of value to the crop of next season is left in the ashes. To burn the weeds and apply their ashes to the soil is a mark of good farming. While in most of our Northern States but little of this work can be done now, in the South it may be carried out during the greater part of winter.—*American Agriculturist.*

THE HAIR OF ANIMALS IN HEALTH AND DISEASE.—The hairy covering of our farm animals is by no means a worthless thing. It not only protects from cold, heat and rain, but makes the appearance of the animal more agreeable looking than it would be without hair. As an indication of the qualities of the animal, the hair is made of value to the breeder or feeder. Fine, silky hair, especially if it has a tendency to curl, is an indication that the animal will fatten easily, and that its flesh will be fine grained and of good quality. Coarse, stiff hair, is invariably found on an animal slow to fatten and of coarse flesh. This applies to cattle, hogs or sheep, and irrespective of breed. The shrewd feeder, and also the shrewd breeder, will reject an animal with very coarse hair. Such hair usually accompanies a bad disposition. A coarse-haired cow generally gives poor milk; a fine-haired cow generally gives rich milk. But usually coarse-haired sows are more prolific, while fine-haired sows are the better sucklers. Staring hair indicates an unhealthy condition of the body: but when cattle lick the hair in the wrong direction—they are thrifty. By studying the peculiarities of the hair of our live stock, much of the internal structure and of the disposition of the animals may be learned.—*Ibid.*

USES OF PLASTER.—There seems to be an opinion prevalent with many that as plaster or sulphate of lime does not enter largely into the composition of plants, it can be of but little use as a fertilizer. They do not consider that there are substances which, while they do not contribute directly to the growth of plants, have chemical or mechanical properties that play a very important part in vegetation. Plaster has both of these properties. As a disinfectant and deodorizer it is one of the best, as well as cheapest, substances at our command. Any one who has kept stock of any kind stabled during the warm summer months, knows what a hard task it is to keep their apartments clean and odorless. Now, if they will keep a barrel of fresh-ground plaster in a convenient corner, and every day, on sweeping the floor clean, sprinkle it freely with the plaster, it will absorb all disagreeable, noxious odors, while the value of the manure will be greatly enhanced. Poultry houses should also be swept clean at least twice a week in summer, and once in winter, and the floors sprinkled with plaster; it will add greatly to the value of the manure, and you will have clean, sweet, odorless coops and healthy flocks.—*Ibid.*

ICE SUPPLY.—In some places the conditions are not favorable for cutting ice, and farmers drive five miles or more to get good cakes. A small stream can be utilized for the purpose of ice-making. In our town an ice house was built on lower ground than where the aqueduct delivered water to the cattle tub, and a spout from the aqueduct run the water into the ice-house at pleasure. In good freezing days two or three layers of ice each two or three inches thick could be added, and so continue until the house was solid full of ice. The wall of the ice-house is a four inch space filled with sawdust, and sawdust is put on top of the ice. The walls need not be entirely tight, as wet snow thrown against a crack in a freezing day makes a good cement. Ice can also be frozen in cakes in any metal vessel, a little at a time, and at the bottom first. If considerable ice is wanted every year it will pay to have cheap sheet iron boxes, made of the desirable size, perhaps eighteen inches square and ten inches deep, a little larger at the top than the bottom, to run full of pure brook or spring water, by which means the best quality of ice can be secured. To empty the boxes or any metal vessels invert it, and pour hot water on the bottom; one painful would start several

cakes. A dozen such boxes would soon furnish a family supply of ice; they might be serviceable to several families. If filled at once with water the bottoms would bulge out and spoil, but run in three inches of water and as soon as that is frozen, three inches more, and in this gradual way they may be safely filled with ice.—Z. E. Jameson, in *Tribune*.

HOT WATER FOR PLANTS.—Water at a heat of 100 degrees will not injure pot plants, but it will prove very uncomfortable to earth-worms and root-lice, or the white worms which so often damage the roots of these plants. These small white worms are the larvæ of black flies, smaller than house-flies, which may be found crawling about the soil in the pot. A good plan is to fill a pail with water so hot that the hand can be dipped into it for a minute, and no more, and plunge the pots in this water so that the surface of the earth is covered and the soil is soaked. A hot-water bath thus given once a week, and the pot set to drain awhile, is an excellent treatment for the plants.

SELLING BUTTERMILK.—It may be remarked that if the practice of churning the milk were adopted in this country, more especially near the cities and towns, more butter would be obtained than by merely churning the cream, while a considerable revenue could be derived from selling the buttermilk in the cities, where it is almost impossible for families to obtain it good and fresh.

On the west of Scotland near the large cities of Glasgow and Paisley, and we believe, elsewhere, the farmers all churned the milk, bringing into the towns the buttermilk in large casks with a tap at the end, on carts made for the purpose, driving through the streets selling it at a penny sterling the Scotch pint (about two quarts), the women and children coming out to get it at the call of the milkman's shrill whistle. It was a great boon to the poorer people to get so nutritious a beverage so cheap and easily, and would be the same in this country, where it would bring two cents a quart.

Those who save their own seeds, whether of vegetables or flowers, are apt to gather the pods or other seed vessels, lay them away on papers, or in shallow boxes, in some unoccupied room. Such seeds should now be cleaned and put away at once. Amateurs often trust to memory, feeling sure that they will recollect the name of the variety. When they come to clean and put away the seeds, there will probably be several lots, all trace of which is lost. Seeds, after they are taken from the plant which bore them, should never be without a distinguishing-label. While they are spread to dry, use a wooden label, heavy enough not to be readily displaced. No time should now be lost in cleaning up last season's seeds. If there are any about which there is a doubt, the best way is to burn them at once. Take a clear dry day for the work, and by the use of sieves and winnowing, the chaff may be removed very readily. Strong paper bags are best for small seeds; larger ones may be stored in bags of some coarse fabric, or in wooden boxes. Label each kind with name and date. Seeds should not be exposed to extremes of temperature. A uniform temperature, a little above the freezing point, is best. Dryness is essential.—*American Agriculturist* for December.

SELECTING HEIFERS.—Raising heifers sounds well in theory, but breeding cattle is a separate art from dairying, and unless followed with great judgment is a losing business, as not every heifer raised becomes a first-class milk cow. The best plan is to buy heifers heavy with their first calves—called "springers;" and in this there is much more room for judgment and skill in making these selections than most men are willing to admit. The mistake usually made is, in being misled by a fancy for certain shapes, colors and fashionable points, to the neglect of others relating immediately to the usefulness of the matured cow.

The first point to consider is, that the heifer is strong, with a deep flank, indicating constitutional vigor; then see that her teats are large and set wide apart. Viewed from behind the twist should be open and wide, with her rudimentary udder well displayed and teats far apart. As secondary and fancy points, a slim neck, and long head with small horns are good features. Above all things, avoid those heifers that show very small rudimentary teats, or those with large ones set close together. Such a heifer never can make a first-class cow. There are enough risks to run before securing a good one, without starting out with those that never can improve. Even the best of pedigrees cannot make a good cow out of a heifer with a deformed udder. Those who have studied Guenon's method, while they do not rely upon it to the exclusion of other points, find it a great aid, and feel that they cannot ignore the escutcheon.—*American Agriculturist*.

A farmer told us that he would not be without Dr. Bull's Cough Syrup if it cost \$5.00 a bottle.

Mr. J. M. Keesler, Merchant Tailor, 42 German Street, Baltimore, Md., says:—"I find Salvation Oil effectual and speedy in the cure of neuralgia."

ADVICE TO MOTHERS.—Are you disturbed at night and broken of your rest by a sick child suffering and crying with pain of Cutting Teeth? If so send at once and get a bottle of "Mrs. Winslow's Soothing Syrup," for Children Teething. Its value is incalculable. It will relieve the poor little sufferer immediately. Depend upon it, mothers; there is no mistake about it. It cures Dysentery and Diarrhea, regulates the Stomach and Bowels, cures Wind Colic, softens the Gums, reduces Inflammation, and gives tone and energy to the whole system. "Mrs. Winslow's Soothing Syrup" for children teething is pleasant to the taste and is the prescription of one of the oldest and best female physicians and nurses in the United States, and is for sale by all druggists throughout the world. Price twenty-five cents a bottle. Be sure and ask for "MRS. WINSLOW'S SOOTHING SYRUP," and take no other kind.

A CARD

To all whose suffering from the errors and indiscretions of youth, nervous weakness, early decay, loss of manhood, etc., I will send a recipe that will cure you, FREE OF CHARGE. This great remedy was discovered by a missionary in South America. Send a self-addressed envelope to the REV. JOSEPH T. INMAN, Station D, New York City.

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In musical instruments, certainly Messrs. W. Bell & Co., of Guelph, Ont., have reason to be proud of their success and it is universally conceded that their display was about the most prominent in their line.

H. R. H. the Prince of Wales, personally congratulated them on having the most handsome exhibit: the stand itself, a work of art in design and fitting, having been erected at a cost, it is said, of \$3000. The wood-work is in enamelled white, and real gold, handsomely carved, and the drapery is in silk plush and Indian muslin.

The Marquis of Lorne, and H. R. H. the Princess Louise, after thoroughly testing the instruments made and exhibited by the different manufacturers, decided to buy one of the illuminated pipe top "Bell" organs. This sale was followed by others to the Rt. Hon. Sir Robert Bourke, Governor of Madras, India, and Sir Robert Atkeek, each of whom purchased one of their large and handsome organs.

The popularity of this instrument is growing more extensively every year in the British Isles, and on the continent, confirming the critical judgment of experts, who have pronounced them superior to all others for purity of tone and pleasing design.

In the Citadel of Quebec, a "Bell" organ graces its drawing-rooms for the use of the Marquis and Marchioness of Lansdowne, and in far distant Victoria, B. C., Lady Douglass selected a "Bell" organ for her use.

Perfection in these instruments has only been attained after years of experience and study, by using the best material and employing none but skilled and practical workmen, Messrs Bell & Co. have produced an organ without an equal.

Prominent English organists, who have tried them at the Exhibition, have been delighted with them. *The Invention*, a journal published in London, says:—"The excellence of workmanship, and quality of the 'Bell' organs, leave only one verdict possible to any expert who cares to personally inspect them, as we have done for ourselves, and we have pleasure in expressing ourselves as greatly pleased with the genuine organ tone brought out in their instruments."

The Music Trade's Journal says:—"That Messrs. Bell & Co. are now doing a very flourishing business, which ought certainly to be much extended as a result of their handsome exhibit at the Colindale, and it is gratifying to note that the judges at the Exhibition have endorsed our opinion as to the excellence of their instruments."

We understand that Messrs. Bell & Co. have received the Gold Medal at the Liverpool Exhibition, which has just closed.

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Lerond's Brandy. 25 quarter cases and 30 octaves and 200 cases Lerond's Brandy. Just received per S. S. Avlona from Charente.

Martell's Brandy. 150 cases Martell's * and *** Brandy. Just received per S. S. Avlona from Charente.

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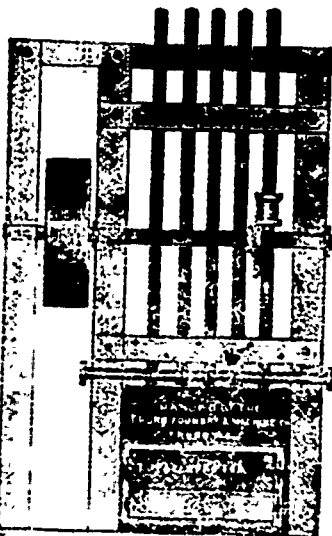
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[ADVERTISEMENT.]

POTTS' COLD.

Mr. Potts, who has been troubled with a severe cold on the lungs, effected his recovery in the following manner. He boiled a little boneset and horshound together, and drank freely of the tea before going to bed. The next day he took five pills, put one kind of plaster on his breast, another under his arms, and still another on his back. Under advice from an experienced old lady he took all these off with an oyster knife in the afternoon and slapped on a mustard paste instead. His mother put some onion cloves on his feet and gave him a lump of tar to swallow. Then he put some hot bricks to his feet and went to bed. Next morning another old lady came in with a bottle of goose oil and gave him a dose of it on a quill, and an aunt arrives about the same time from Sambro, with a bundle of sweet fern which she made into tea, and gave him every half hour until noon, when he took a big dose of salts. After dinner his wife, who had seen a fine old lady on Creighton Street, gave him two pills of her make, about the size of an English walnut and of a similar shape, and two tablespoonful of homemade balsam to keep them down.

Then he took a half pint of hot rum at the suggestion of an old sea captain in the next house, and steamed his legs in an alcohol bath. At this crisis two of his neighbors arrived, who saw at once that his blood was out of order, and gave him a half gallon of spearmint tea and a big dose of castor oil. Before going to bed he took eight of a new kind of pills, wrapped around his neck a flannel soaked in hot vinegar and salt, and had feathers burnt on a shovel in his room. Still matters grew no better. The cold had settled to stay and poor Potts began seriously to think of writing his will. At last an old chap from across the road came in and after diagnosing the case applied some of Simson's Liniment to Potts' throat, which appeared to afford much relief, at the same time advising him to take frequent doses of Putner's Emulsion, which Potts did. Next morning found him down town as well as ever. He wonders now why he did not think of this treatment before. Anyone can cure a cold by this recipe, but it is not absolutely necessary to go through that part of the programme previous to using Simson's Liniment.

APPLE CAKE.—Take two cups dried apples, stew just enough to cut easily, chop about as fine as raisins and boil them in two cups of molasses till preserved through, drain off the molasses for the cake; then add two eggs, one cup of butter, one cup sour milk, four cups flour, spices of all kinds, two teaspoons soda. Add the apples the last thing.

The presence of worms may be known by a gnawing sensation about the stomach, disturbed sleep, grounding of the teeth, dry sympathetic cough, offensive breath, nausea, itching about the anus and slimy stools. The best preparation for their eradication is Abbott's Worm Tablets. They are perfectly safe, mild in their action, easy to take and are very efficacious.

HARD GINGERBREAD.—One cup butter, two cups sugar, one teaspoon saleratus, one-half cup sweet milk, one egg, ginger, rosewater. Flour to roll out. Cut in long cakes and crease with a creased roller.

Price's Glycerine Cream will cure chapped hands and lips, being much better for that purpose than the celebrated "two lip salve." It also removes freckles, cures sunburn, heals the flesh and makes it soft and smooth.

BACHELOR'S CAKE.—One pound flour, half a pound of butter or lard, four wineglasses of milk, half a pound of Sultana raisins, quarter of a nutmeg, quarter of a pound of currants, the same of a candied peel, two teaspoonful of ground ginger, one of carbonate of soda and one of cinnamon. Mix well together and bake slowly for an hour and a half.

NEGLECTED COUGHS AND COLDS.—Few are aware of the importance of checking a cough or common cold in its first stages; that which in the beginning would yield to a mild remedy, if neglected, soon preys upon the lungs. Brown Brothers & Co.'s Syrup of Tolu and Anised will afford ready relief.

FANNY'S CORN CAKE.—One gill flour, one pint sweet milk, one teaspoon salt, half teaspoon soda, half a gill of yeast, Indian meal to make a batter a little thicker than for griddle cakes. Let it rise over night and bake in the morning.

If you wish to have good results in your cooking it is quite necessary to use the Pure Spices and Flavoring Essences sold by Brown Bros. & Co.

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MCPHERSON'S DIPHTHERIA WASH—Highly recommended as a cure for Diphtheria.

POLAND MINERAL SPRING WATER—For Bright's Disease and Urinary Complaints.

BUTCHER'S ANTISEPTIC INHALER—For the permanent cure of Catarrh, etc.

For a cheap and good perfume we would recommend Mayflower Cologne, made by Brown Bros. & Co., from the purest aromatics and oils. The Mayflower Hair Gloss is an equally fine preparation, and a bottle of each would make a most acceptable New Year's gift.

HONEY CAKE.—One cup of sugar, one cup of rich sour cream, one egg, two cups of flour, half a teaspoonful of soda, flour to the taste. Bake half an hour. To be eaten while warm.

Simson's Liniment is one of the best articles of the kind ever manufactured and that it is appreciated by the public is proved by the fact that Messrs. Brown Brothers & Co. have had to largely increase their facilities for manufacturing it in order to meet the large orders they are constantly receiving.

It is a combination of vegetable oils so blended together as to form an elegant preparation, and it has been a great success in the cure of rheumatism, sciatica, bruises, cuts, neuralgia and the other innumerable pains and aches to which mankind is subject. Price 25 cents.

When you have been out in the cold or have wet feet, do not take brandy or other liquor, but mix a teaspoonful of Simson's Jamaica Ginger in a small tumbler of sweetened water and drink it. It will be found more effectual than liquor and may save you from a spell of sickness. It is a grand tonic and will give great relief to the dyspeptic. Manufactured by Brown Bros. & Co. Price 25 cents.

FISKE'S LAVOENT.—This is the name of an excellent tooth wash prepared by Messrs. Brown Brothers & Co. from a formula of Dr. Fiske's, the well-known and skillful D.D.S. of this city. The excellent properties of this wash and its efficacy in cleansing and preserving the teeth make it a welcome acquisition to the toilet, and the tasteful way in which it is put up adds to its desirability.

Simson's Chemical Food is a combination of iron, lime and phosphorous; and medical science teaches us that the body is composed largely of these three elements, the bones consisting almost altogether of phosphorous and lime, and the blood containing a large quantity of iron, whilst the three are diffused throughout every part of the system, even to the hairs of the head which turns white from a lack of one or more of these three elements. Persons who are nervous and weak from overwork, children who are pale and fretful, who complain of being tired, whose limbs are weak, and who have rickets: women who are run down from nursing or overwork, or are troubled with diseases peculiar to their sex, all need phosphorous, lime and iron.

Simson's Chemical Food is a scientifically compounded preparation containing these three elements and is made in the form of a syrup which is pleasant to take and easily assimilated by the digestive organs, making it the best vitalizing tonic ever offered to the sick. Its merits are recognized by all physicians who are acquainted with its composition and it is largely prescribed by them. Manufactured only by W. H. Simson.

If the nerve of the tooth can be got at, nobody need suffer for one minute with the toothache if they will only use Brown's Toothache Drops. They not only stop the pain, but when applied on cotton wool they are almost equal to filling. If the root of the tooth is ulcerated the only remedy is "cold steel" and the sooner it is applied the better. The price of these Drops is 15 cents per bottle.

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