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# THE CRITIC.

The Welfare of the People is the Highest Law.

60 PER ANNUM.  
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HALIFAX, N. S., JANUARY 29, 1886.

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There was a time when the inducements to enlist as a British soldier were comparatively small, but now when a man can join the army with twenty pounds sterling in his pocket, it is not surprising to find a better class of recruits coming forward.

Some curious statistics have recently been compiled, showing the extent of the linguistic area occupied by the principal languages. From these we gather that Chinese is spoken by 400 millions of people, the Hindoo languages by 200 millions, English by 100 millions, Russian by 100 millions, German by 60 millions, Spanish by 48 millions, and French by 46 millions.

The citizens of Chicago were treated to a novel sight, on New Year's Eve. A constellation of twenty electric lamps, each of 2000-candle power, was kept shining from the tower of the Chamber of Commerce Hall, 300 feet from the ground. The glare was seen distinctly from Michigan City, about 60 miles distant, on the opposite shore of Lake Michigan. Such a display must have suggested to the spectators the advisability of changing the American emblem of "Liberty enlightening the world" into "Electricity enlightening the world."

At a meeting of the Modern Languages Association of America, held in Boston, on Dec. 29th and 30th, the excellent work done in our Canadian colleges was commended. Toronto University was especially mentioned, being ranked with Harvard, Cornell, and Michigan, among the larger colleges. Some of the weaknesses of American colleges were pointed out; and the frank, impartial statements made at the meeting might well lead those students whose aspirations are America-ward, to consider well, whether they are not going to an expensive foreign market to buy what can be obtained more easily and more cheaply at home.

Had Cape Breton, like China, shut herself out from the rest of the world, she might have been like China, without railways, and even without an Insane Asylum. But since that Island has, since its first discovery, been in every other respect fully abreast of the times, it puzzles us to understand why it should now lack Railway facilities; and still more, why ample provision has not been made for the care and treatment of those among her inhabitants who are bereft of reason. The fault lies somewhere. Perhaps some of the long-headed Scotchmen of Cape Breton can tell us just where.

Jumbo was a king among elephants, but as compared with the royal white elephant of Burmah, his kingliness sinks into nothingness. An elephant, for whose habitation a magnificent palace is built, and who is attended by a Royal Minister of State and a retinue of invited attendants, should be considered quite a fortunate beast. The Burmese regarded their white elephant as sacred, and his sudden death, occurring as it did, within a few days of King Theebaw's overthrow, formed a coincidence which, in the minds of these superstitious people, indicated the extinction of Alope.

As we predicted a short time ago, the Salisbury administration has been compelled to surrender the sweets of power to Gladstone and the Liberal-Parnellite majority. It was clear, from the time that the Irish question became the pivot upon which parties were to turn, that Salisbury and his followers would not pass any measure that would threaten the privileges and immunities of the great landed interests in Ireland. As might have been naturally expected, the Home Rulers aimed themselves with the Liberals. Whether this will eliminate the Wing element from the Liberal ranks, remains to be seen. Lord Granville has already pronounced strongly in favor of concessions to Ireland.

The recent massacre of the unoffending Chinese, by their co-workers, in the mines of Wyoming, called forth, both from the American and Canadian press, many sympathetic paragraphs, in which the vials of commiseration were liberally poured out, but we have not yet observed any reference to the similar treatment of the Russian gold miners by their co-labourers in Manchuria. John Chinaman may object to the intolerance of the American working classes, but he is none the less intolerant when the Muscovite attempts to share with him the profits of the gold mine situated in his own country. We can cry, "room for all," so long as we ourselves have elbow room.

From an excellent paper on Writing, in the *Educational Weekly*, we clip the following passage.—"The system of writing used in England is the old round hand, the principles of which are the old 'pot hooks and hangers,' which loom up before the memory from the days of yore like a forgotten relic, over which many a helpless juvenile has received an old-fashioned caning, as was the custom in those days of unphilosophic pedagogy. This system has in America been consigned to the tomb. Another style that should have its funeral rites performed is (with all deference to our fair scribes) the pointed or angular hand, whose only good quality is its regular, ruler-like, picket-fence appearance. It is devoid of the graceful beauty and flow that is so much admired in fine writing."

## THE CRITIC,

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## EDITORIAL NOTES.

Eddison, who has been occupied during late years in perfecting his electric light, now proposes to devote his attention to the improvement of his phonograph.

Oscar Wilde now has his hair cut like a Christian, and dresses in the habiliments of an ordinary man of the world. His aesthetic disciples may mourn over the perfidy of their apostle, but Oscar Wilde, now dubbed "Oscar Tame," quietly leaves them to their fate, after having successfully played upon the credulity of mankind, and pocketed the ducats which the display of his folly earned for him.

We are pleased to note that the Rev. John Storrs is winning over golden opinions among all classes, in London. He is said to be one of the most effective pulpit orators in the great metropolis, and to be as active in carrying forward the work of the Church as he is thoughtful and considerate of the needs of the poor. The London *Figaro*, in a leading article, ranks him as one of the coming men. Mr. Storrs was born and brought up in Cornwallis, N. S., his father for many years having had charge of that parish.

The annexation of Burmah by the British will, no doubt, be advantageous to the people of that mis-governed land; but the political and commercial possibilities, aye, probabilities, which may result from its becoming a portion of the British Empire are almost beyond calculation. How, think you, would the Czar of all the Russias fancy an Anglo-Chinese alliance? And the French appreciate railway communication with the rich Southern Provinces of China via the valley of the Irrawaddy? John Bull may be asleep, but he always sleeps with one eye open.

Some of our contemporaries in the United States continue to assert, or imply, that the execution of Riel has divided the Dominion into two parties.—Ontario on the one hand, and Quebec and the remaining Provinces on the other. The Chicago *Times* has it that "large and enthusiastic indignation meetings have been held in Quebec, Manitoba, and Nova Scotia." As a matter of fact, no "indignation" at Riel's fate ever existed in Nova Scotia, and, of course, no indignation meetings were held. Nova Scotians are cool-headed, and rational lovers of law and order. They, therefore, approve of the sentence of Riel; and if an appeal were made to them to decide the issue at the polls, not one "Riel" sympathiser would be returned from this Province. Many people in this part of the Dominion are opposed to Sir John A. MacDonald, but not because he allowed the law to take its course in the case of Riel. If Riel had been again let loose by the pusillanimity of the Government, then there would have been indignation meetings in this Province.

### ASSERTIONS NOT FACTS.

At a recent meeting of the Chamber of Commerce, Mr. Fyshe, of the Bank of Nova Scotia, referred in a somewhat general way to the present condition of the country, and stated that we now were face to face with one of the greatest depressions in the history of the Province. Coming from such a source, a statement of this kind cannot fail to injure Nova Scotia, and lower her credit in our sister Canadian Provinces; but while we admit that Mr. Fyshe should be in a position to speak with authority upon financial matters, we cannot, by any means, support his assertion that the Province is going behindhand, and is threatened with general bankruptcy. If the Halifax Manager of the Bank of Nova Scotia could spare sufficient time from his business to visit the agricultural and mining localities, both east and west, and learn for himself the condition of the farmers and miners, as compared with that of twenty, ten, or even five years since, we think he would find good reason for believing, that as a Province, we are enjoying a fair degree of prosperity. We understand that traders in the country districts meet their notes in the local and city banks with promptness, and this, we believe, implies that the consumer pays in cash for his groceries and other necessities. We note that our industrial classes in the towns and cities are adding, month by month, large sums to their deposits in the Savings' Banks, and that the price of real estate, especially in farming lands, holds at steady figures. Our great fishing industry, it is true, is at present much depressed, and this, no doubt, has a direct effect upon the trade and business of Halifax; but from Annapolis, Kentville, Windsor, Truro, Amherst, Pictou, New Glasgow, Antigonish, and other Provincial centres, come reports of a fair year's business for 1885, with a bright outlook for the new year. Mr. Fyshe should certainly be cognizant of these facts; at any rate, he should make himself familiar with the present and past condition of the Province, before giving publicity to his views. The country may, according to his idea, be fast going to the dogs, but it will take more than mere assertions to convince us of the fact.

### ADULTERATION OF FOOD.

An order-in-council has been issued, putting in force the "Act respecting the Adulteration of Food, Drugs, and Agricultural Fertilizers," passed last July. Under this Act, the Government appoints a chief analyst for the Dominion, and a number of district analysts; while the Municipal authorities are empowered to appoint one or more inspectors of food, drugs, and agricultural fertilizers. These inspectors, like the officers of Inland Revenue, have power to procure samples of any articles used as food, drugs, or fertilizers, and submit them to the public analyst. The Dominion analyst decides all appeals against the decision of the district analysts. Nova Scotia and Prince Edward Island form one district, of which Mr. Maynard Bowman, of Halifax, has been appointed analyst.

The regulations of the Act are as stringent as the nature of the crime requires. Food is deemed to be adulterated, under the Act, if any substance has been added to it, in order to lower the cost of production, or to lessen the strength of the article; if any valuable constituent of the supposed article of food has been removed; if the article sold is a counterfeit of another article; if it contains any poisonous ingredient. A drug is held to be adulterated, when, being offered for sale under any name to be found in the British or United States Pharmacopœia, or, failing these, in any other recognized Pharmacopœia, it differs from the standard of strength or purity laid down in such work; or, if a proprietary medicine, when it falls below the standard under which it is sold.

The penalty for the first violation of the Act, if substances injurious to the health are added to articles of food is to be not greater than \$50, or less than \$10; subsequent offences are more heavily punished. A heavy penalty is also imposed upon all sellers of adulterated food. Watered milk is specially mentioned as coming within the scope of the Act; and skimmed milk is not to be sold, except in vessels, and with measures, distinctly labelled "skimmed." With so uncompromising a law, if our inspectors are vigilant and active, we may have pure food and unadulterated drinks.

### THE OUSTED BLEUS.

An independent onlooker must indeed find the present position of the two great political parties in Canada a most interesting study. For years, Sir John MacDonald and his colleagues have received the support of a strong French wing of the Conservative party, and his Government has been openly and repeatedly accused of being subservient to French influence. For years, the French Bleus have, upon one pretence or another, forced from the Government material acknowledgments of the party loyalty which they vouchsafed. It was quite evident that such a state of affairs could not long exist; and when the Government took its stand upon the law of the land, and declared its determination not to interfere with the just sentence passed upon Louis Riel, then the ultra-Bleus realized that the day of French domination, under Conservative rule, had passed, and that the time had arrived for allying themselves with the opponents of the present Premier.

The Hon. Edward Blake, who is acknowledged to be as able in debate as he is pure and honest in his motives, has, for the past seven years, been leading an Opposition, which has failed to impress the country favorably. The Liberal party, as a party, no doubt, has glorious traditions, but at the present juncture, it seems content to fly the banners under which former battles were fought, rather than raise a standard, around which are entwined the living issues of to-day. Liberalism and Toryism are now meaningless terms; they are relics of the past which cannot be correctly applied to either of the parties led by the Hon. Edward Blake and Sir John A.

MacDonald, but the leader of the Opposition is having forced upon him by the Bleus, a policy which, if he accepts their support, he must be prepared to adopt. It is the policy of Canada for the French, the policy of race domination. We do not believe that Mr. Blake will accept upon such conditions the allegiance of the refractory Bleus. Their allegiance to Sir John's Government they have foresworn, and in their attempt to oust the Premier, have apparently been successful only in ousting themselves.

### THE BLOT OF SLAVERY IN BRAZIL.

History repeats itself. Less than a quarter of a century since, the world was shocked by one of the most terrible civil wars ever waged within the borders of any great nationality. In the American Republic, side by side, were States that encouraged or discountenanced slavery. Every effort to free the bondsmen was met by the slave-holding States in a defiant spirit, but the abolitionists having at length gained the ascendancy in the Republic, slavery was effectually stamped out. Fifteen years since, the Brazilian Government succeeded in passing a law, declaring that on and after July 1st, 1871, all children born of slave parents should be free. The Act further provided for the gradual emancipation of adult slaves; but the Southern Provinces of Brazil, in which slave labor upon the coffee plantations is largely used, have evaded the law; and through their combined efforts, a bill introduced into the late Federal Camaras—having for its object the immediate emancipation of the slaves—was defeated by a majority of seven. The Camaras was at once dissolved, and an appeal made to the country upon the question at issue, which resulted in an overwhelming majority for the abolitionists. The Emperor Don Pedro, in his recent speech before the Camaras, referred to the defeat of the bill in the preceding House, and recommended that it be made the first consideration of the new Camaras. The members from the Southern Provinces threatened secession, should the bill become law, and it is not improbable that we shall have repeated, in the great Empire of the South, a conflict similar to that which took place in the American Republic. Provinces and States may have rights, but their people can have no right to oppress their fellow-human beings.

### IRELAND.

The self-styled "Loyalists" of Ireland—and by the "Loyalists" is really meant the following of the Irish landlords—are proclaiming that they will commence a civil war in Ireland if the demands of the Irish people for a Home Parliament be conceded. They assert that if necessary they can put sixty thousand men in the field, and can and will "make short work" of the plans and following of Parnell. This means (1) that these "Loyalists" are unwilling to bow to the voice of the majority in political matters; (2) that they will, if necessary for their ends, resist the will of the British Crown and of the British Parliament; (3) that they are loyal so long, and only so long, as everything is as they wish it, even if their desires have to be gratified at the expense of the welfare of their fellow-countrymen. Remarkable indications of loyalty, these!

To what and to whom are the "Loyalists" loyal? Not to Ireland, for they have for long been a curse to it, not only by their unreasonable exactions, but by their fomenting of discord between the Orange and the Green. Not to the British constitution for they threaten to resist, by means most unconstitutional, reforms which are asked for and are only to be obtained in a constitutional manner. Not to the general interests of the Empire, for they propose to frustrate the intentions of men that propose to advocate the granting of some form of Home Rule to Ireland simply because the general interests of the Empire imperatively demand such a measure.

These very strangely "loyal" people affect to fear that, if plenary powers of legislation be conceded to an Irish Parliament, the Catholic majority will oppress the Protestant minority. What grounds are there for such fear? Two Presbyterian clergymen are among Mr. Parnell's prominent supporters. At the late elections thirteen Protestant gentlemen asked for election as pledged Home Rulers, and the majority of them were triumphantly returned. Whence then in this age of tolerance and intelligence arises the fear of Catholic intolerance in Ireland? Perhaps the Irish landlords may reasonably be expected to do all they can to weaken the power that intends to curtail their income; but they should use more moderate language and more respectable tactics.

On the American prairies, the scarcity of wood and coal has long been felt, but the ingenuity of the Yankee is always turned to good account. Blocks of compressed straw are now used for fuel with most satisfactory results.

This is an age of progress. The Palace of the Royal Family of Corea is now illuminated by the electric light. The comforts of civilization follow closely upon the steps of the Christian missionary.

The sorrows of the poor and impecunious poet have been sung in many a clime by many a tongue, but the writer of the "Idylls of the King" has turned his powers of versification to good account, the poet Laureate now being worth \$400,000.

The natives of Zululand have formed themselves into a temperance league, the members of which are pledged not to drink the white man's grog. This commendable self-denial upon the part of the Zululander, cannot fail to have its moral effect, and will, doubtless, be fully appreciated by the white man.

[FOR THE CRITIC.]  
DOUBLE ACROSTIC.

The Initials spell a city in our Province which has stood,  
Though not built of marble—several years since the flood.  
The Finals put together in proper order form  
What Haligonians imagine has kept them from harm,  
And also has furnished a fine easy chair  
For a class who consider themselves, "Aw! By jove! Irresistible," among  
the sex fair.

1. A name given to rejectors of the Ruling Faith  
In the time of the "Inquisition" they left nothing but a wrath.
2. Away down in Africa among the hot sands  
There is death in *this* dart from a Zulu's hands.
3. A hospital to which gladness and hope never flies  
Where the inmates go in despair to hide from all eyes.
4. A little girl of which the Royal House of Spain  
Takes careful account upon commencement of a reign.
5. A kind of robber that in olden times  
Prowled around on foot and lightened travellers of their dimes.
6. Is one trained in feats of strength, games, and sports,  
Such as the "Wanderers," Acadia Cricketers, and all those sorts.
7. Brush the dust from your Chemistry if you would find why  
A *short* prefix to alcohol is given your wits to try.

J. C. A.

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

ANSWER TO EPISTOLARY PUZZLE, PUBLISHED LAST WEEK.

Dear John,—

I saw it was useless to try *tar* to keep the rat away; besides, the whole room was as black as the face of a moor from it. I tried to *repel* that beast as I would a leper. Though I did *ban* I could not nab him. I was nearly *mad* and wanted to throw myself over the dam or into the pool with a loop round my neck. I would even *reel* and *leer* like one drunk. If I wanted a *nap* he would knock down a pan, and every time, as it seemed, *emit* a squeak of triumph, or the *delf* would be rattled as he fled along the shelf; he also made himself a *snug* bed among my guns. I got Hannah to make a trap with part of a tub, but neither she nor I, without an *iron* rod, could set it. Perhaps I did *snub* her, when she suggested we should bait it with *buns*; but, angry as I was, I did not rail or call her a *lair* as she told you. Will nothing on our part stop the pots from being invaded? I am as weak as a *reed* and as timid as a *leer*. So good-bye.

F. W. J.

TIT-BITS.

Schoolmistress (to little boy)—"Johnny, I'm ashamed of you! When I was your age I could read twice as well as you can." Johnny—"Yes'm, but you had a different teacher from what I've got."

Bobby (being the last of several knotty questions)—"Pa, can a camel go seven days without water?" "Yes." "Well, how many days could he go if he had water?" The next thing Bobby know he was in bed.

At a dinner table a gentleman remarked that A—, who used to be given to sharp practice was getting more circumspect. "Yes," replied Judge Hoar, "he has reached the superlative of life. He began by seeking to get on, then he sought to get honor, and now he is trying to get honest."

A country girl coming from the field was told by her cousin that she looked as fresh as a daisy kissed by the dew. "No indeed," was the simple reply, "that wasn't his name."

A young woman in a country town has married her brother's wife's father. When last seen she was busy with a compass and a dictionary trying to study out what relation she was to herself.

A cynical old bachelor says that "lovers are like armies; they get along well enough till the engagement begins."

Miss Angelina (to Miss Belle, her rival, just now surrounded by a bevy of admirers)—"Oh, dear, do tell me how you do your hair up so charmingly? What do you do it up on? It looks so intellectual."

Miss Belle (who wears her hair high)—"Well, I'll tell you dear. I generally do it up over brains, and (sweetly) I don't think you can buy them at the hair stores."—*Boston Journal*.

Pneumatic tubes between London and Paris is spoken of as the latest scheme. The trouble is, now-a-days, that you lie down at night to dream of some "latest" scheme of this kind, and you rise in the morning to find that one still later has sprung up in the night, like Jonah's gourd. It is expected that by this pneumatic tube scheme, letters can be carried between these two cities, 375 miles, in one hour. The cost of the enterprise is estimated at \$7,000,000.

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HALIFAX, N. S.

## NEWS OF THE WEEK.

When Sir John A. MacDonald was in New York, on his return from England, Messrs. F. W. Cox, Colin W. MacDonald, Wade, and Fuller, young men from Nova Scotia, studying medicine in Bellevue, N. Y., called upon, and were genially received and kindly entertained for some time by the old "chieftain." We may expect to hear of these four gentlemen hereafter as "dyed-in-the-wool Tories."

A series of articles, on our present Assessment Law, and our need of a new one, will soon appear in *THE CRITIC*. They are not to be written by our regular contributors, but are to be from very competent hands nevertheless. They will be well-written, instructive, and worthy of attentive perusal.

The New Glasgow glass company report a profitable year's business. A dividend of 7 per cent. has been declared.

General Barillas has been elected President of Guatemala by an almost unanimous vote.

The New England faction who have been protesting in Congress against the appointment of a joint commission to settle the fishery question, have scant encouragement from their fellow citizens in the Middle and Western States. Brother Jonathan likes fish-cakes, of which the Nova Scotian cod is an important ingredient.

It is now proposed to open the meetings of the Toronto City Council with prayer. Evidently some mollifying influence is required in the Toronto bear-garden. Respectable Torontonians shun civic honors.

The Dominion Government has issued a Blue Book entitled, "The Queen versus Louis Riel." It contains a verbatim report of the evidence adduced at the trial, and will prove excellent reading for those who believe Riel to be a martyr, although it may not confirm their preconceived ideas on this point.

Mr. La Flamme, former Minister of Justice, has been awarded \$10,000 damages in his libel suit against the *Toronto Mail*. The case will be appealed.

Germany is not to be allowed to enjoy the undisputed possession of the Samoan Islands. Great Britain and the United States have prior claims upon the group, which they have not been slow in asserting.

Italy has a deficit of \$10,000,000 which the Italian ministry propose to wipe out by the levying of additional duties. Italy may be considered as financially sound, and as having the promise of a bright national future.

The Grecian Government indignantly protest against British interference. Greece is evidently in a fighting mood; but she will find it difficult to supply herself with the sinews of war should John Bull close his purse and refuse to discount her bonds.

Halifax has many deserving institutions, none however, is more deserving of support than the Sailor's Home. It is time the managers had a building suitable to its needs. Our benevolent people should bear this in mind.

The extent of the damage wrought by the recent floods in Russia exceeds that of any year since 1875. These floods, occurring as they do in the latter part of January mark the differences of temperature which exist in places having the same latitude lying east and west of the Atlantic ocean.

Prof. E. Stone Wiggins wants the government to buy out his stormology, which he claims to be the only perfect system of predicting climatic disturbances. In view of a probable deficit of \$5,000,000 in Dominion finances during the current year, we cannot see how the government can afford to buy Wiggins out, unless, indeed, they can make money on the transaction by the brokerage on the storms foretold in other countries.

The *Herald* in a leading article points out the advantages which would result from a commercial union between Canada and the British West Indies. It is a wonder that the Continental Annexationists do not steal the *Herald's* thunder, but perhaps the fact that the Union Jack floats o'er these Islands is sufficient to deter them from so doing.

Russia and Austria are each increasing the strength of their army corps and at the same time are manufacturing war materials upon a very large scale. It is thought that a rupture between these powers will take place in the Spring, in which case Bulgaria and Servia will again become the colosseum of Europe.

The Archbishop of Canterbury will introduce in the British House of Lords a bill, having for its object, "Reform in the Church of England." This is a step in the right direction, and the fact of its being taken by such a high functionary in the Church augurs well for its good effect.

Portugal and Germany having patched up their quarrel over the Caroline Islands, have found a new cause for disagreement in the boundaries of their respective possessions upon the west coast of Africa. In each instance Germany has been the aggressor.

The late John Rouse had one of the best collections of old-time engravings and oil paintings owned in the Province. This collection is now on exhibition at the old Mason Hall, between the hours of 11 a.m., and noon, and 3 and 4 p.m., and are to be disposed of by private sale.

The American papers continue to chronicle the indications of better times. The iron trade shows a decided upper tendency which is always considered a fair omen.

President Cleveland has removed from office a number of Republicans and the United States Senate, which is largely Republican, has asked the President to state the causes for removal in each case; this Mr. Cleveland refuses to do, and the Senate is indignant.

The Hon. J. S. D. Thompson, in his speech before a large public assembly at St. Jerome, fully vindicated the course taken by the Government in carrying out the sentence passed upon Louis Riel. His remarks will be endorsed by every Nova Scotian believing in the Majesty of the law. Riel met his well-deserved fate and any attempt to make political capital out of his execution must prove an unqualified failure.

The Queen's speech may be said to be non-committal. It refers to Burmah as having been incorporated in the Empire, and approves of the union of Eastern Rometia with Bulgaria. Its reference to the Irish question is vague, but announces the intention of the Government to extend the powers of the county local boards, both in Great Britain and Ireland, and its determination to put down crime in Ireland by vigorous measures.

Mr. Collings' amendment to the address in reply to the Queen's speech dealing with allotments of land, was carried in the British House of Commons by a majority of 79, the Parnellites voting with the opposition. The vote stood, Government 250, Opposition 329. The resignation of Lord Salisbury's Government will compel Gladstone to again assume the Premiership. The defeat of the Conservative Government is due to the notice given by Sir Michael Hicks Beach to the effect that a bill would be introduced to suppress the Land League.

Dr. T. S. Covernton, who, during the recent small pox epidemic, was appointed by the Ontario Provincial Board of Health to guard the interests of the premier Province, is now in Halifax, and in conjunction with some of our leading medical men is advocating the formation of a Provincial Board of Health for this Province. During the continuance of the epidemic Dr. Covernton and his eight assistants boarded every train leaving Montreal for the West, and personally satisfied themselves as to whether or not each passenger had been properly vaccinated.

Among the graduates of the training school for nurses in connection with Bellevue Hospital, New York, are the names of Miss Kimber of Sydney, and Miss Cameron of Halifax. These young ladies, who have just completed their course, have come off with flying colors.

S. Everett Cox Esq., the publisher of the *Schuyler Sun*, at Schuyler, Colfax Co., Nebraska, was formerly of Canning, N. S.

Over sixty young men from Nova Scotia are this year studying in colleges or universities outside the province.

*Harper's* for February contains, among other interesting articles, two excellent ones on educational topics. Charles H. Ham contributes an able and suggestive article on manual training. He makes a very instructive comparison between the European trade-school and the system known as the Russian-American; and his article is especially valuable as showing the progress of manual training in America. Charles Dudley Warner treats of "Education as a Factor in Prison Reform," in an article which should be carefully studied, not only by those interested in improved prison discipline but also by all educational thinkers.

Mr. J. J. Sangster, of Guysboro, one of our enterprising shipbuilders, is now in Halifax looking after his schooner "General Gordon" which is now taking in a cargo of fish for the European market. The schooner has a good record and will probably make a quick voyage.

The tight little Island of Prince Edward Island wants nothing more or less than its pound of flesh, but this, it is bound to have. Continuous winter communication with the mainland was one of the promised inducements which led the Island to enter the confederation. This not having been provided, a deputation has been sent to England by the Island Government, to lay the matter at the foot of the Throne, with the hope that the British Government will see to it that the agreement is carried out in letter as well as in spirit. The building of a sub-way appears to be the only practical means of solving the question.

Mr. G. P. Henry is now loading a vessel for Newfoundland. The trade between Nova Scotia and that ancient colony is, thanks to the energy of such men as Mr. Henry, steadily increasing.

The King of Bavaria, who is, owing to his extravagance, in straightened circumstances, is said to be insane; he refuses to speak to anyone, saving the members of his family; and a movement is already on foot to have him dethroned. Should he be deposed, his creditors will be in a position to take action against him, which they cannot do, so long as he still wears the Bavarian crown.

The Newfoundland Government objects to the appointment of Sir Ambrose Shea as Governor of the Island, upon the ground that he is an opponent of the present Coalition administration. The British Government are to be petitioned to reconsider his appointment. Newfoundland evidently clings to the pomp and state of the old-time royal governors, and its people have no faith in a native governor.

RELIGIOUS.

BAPTIST.

The First Baptist Church at Harvey, Albert Co., N. B., has secured the services of the Rev. H. Mainwaring.

The Rev. W. Camp has received and accepted a call to the Hillsboro Baptist Church.

The Librarian of Toronto Baptist College is anxious to secure for the College Library all documents, printed or manuscript, that bear upon the history of the Baptists in the Maritime Provinces, including files of newspapers, minutes of associations, year books, historical addresses, histories of churches or associations, controversial pamphlets, copies of old church records, and manuscript letters bearing upon denominational affairs.

The fiftieth anniversary of the American Baptist Telugu Mission, including the Canadian Baptist Missions, will be held at Nellore, India, next month, continuing from the 5th to the 10th. Among the papers to be read is one on "Telugu Work in Burmah," by the Rev. U. F. Armstrong, Missionary from this Province. The fifth day of the Jubilee is devoted to "Woman's Work," with papers and addresses on the various branches of this important part of missions, by the ladies of the Baptist Missionary Union and the Canadian Mission.

METHODIST.

The Jubilee of Methodism, in South Australia, is to be celebrated this year. The first sermon was preached in 1836, and the first church was erected two years afterwards. It is proposed also to raise a Jubilee fund of \$300,000, which will be used to remove church debts, to make provision for a theological training school, and to lay the foundation for a college for women.

"The Guild of Kindness," is the name of an institution belonging to the Methodist New Connection, Great Britain. It has for its object the cultivation and development of the spirit of kindness among the brethren and sisters of the denomination primarily, and among all Christians generally.

PRESBYTERIAN.

The Free Church of Scotland has just sent out the son of a Scottish Lord with his wife, the Hon. Mr. and Mrs. Keitte, Falconer, to commence a mission among the Moslems, at Adew. Mr. Keitte has been much interested in the efforts on behalf of the Mohammedans, and has chosen this point as a most hopeful field for his self-denying labors.

The Anniversary of Fort Massey Sabbath School was held last week. After ample refreshments were discussed, a model exercise was beautifully gone through by a number of children, under the supervision of Miss Burns, and a programme of instrumental and vocal music, was well rendered. Early in the year, the pastor, Rev. Dr. Burns, offered a medal to every scholar who would repeat the Shorter Catechism, without the slightest blunder. Over a dozen succeeded in obtaining it.

The Rev. J. H. Cameron, late of Bridgewater, has received and accepted a call from the church at Bass River, N. B. He will be inducted on the 4th prox.

St. Andrew's Sabbath School held a very successful anniversary on Friday last. Addresses were delivered by Principal Forrest and the pastor, and prizes were distributed for regular attendance.

CHURCH OF ENGLAND.

The Service of Oratorio, in St. Paul's Church, on Thursday evening last was a great success. The greater portion of the "Messiah" was performed by a combination of the city choirs. The instrumental accompaniments were played by the Quintette Club. Professor Porter presided at the organ. The choruses were given with fair steadiness. There was only one point which should be considered on another occasion of the kind, and that is that the leading of the singers by the organ is against all the laws of chorus singing. Both singers and organ should be controlled by a conductor. The marking of time and phrase by the organ gives that instrument a jerky and unpleasant sound, which detracts greatly from the enjoyment of the music. Great credit is due to those who inaugurated this kind of musical performance, as well as to those who are following in their steps.

The Lord Bishop and his family arrived safely on Monday night, from England, and his Lordship was welcomed by his clergy with an address. His health is much improved.

The lecture given by Dr. Partridge, on "Halifax in the year 3000," at the Argyle Hall, as the first of the Church of England Institute course, was a genuine surprise to the Dr.'s friends. It was fresh, original, and abounded in pungent and witty satire on passing events, besides looking forward with vivid imagination to the future. Certainly, to have abolished war and religious controversy, are two notable achievements to be enjoyed in any century. The Deanery of Worcester has been offered to Canon Liddon.

CATHOLIC.

Rev. Dr. Howley has been appointed successor to the late lamented Monsignor Sears, in Western Newfoundland.

"The number of Catholics in the German Empire," says the Berlin Zeitung, "must be now above nineteen millions."

Archbishop O'Brien and Father Ellis have arrived safe in Rome.

WHOLESALE DRY GOODS.

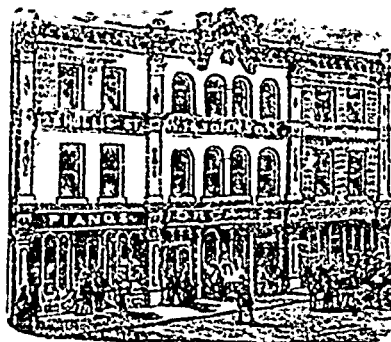
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## THE LOST STEAMER, "CITY OF BOSTON"

(The *City of Boston* sailed from Halifax, on Jan. 28th, 1870, and was never heard of afterwards. This poem was written shortly after she had been given up as lost, and is now published for the first time)—

Rude blasts and storms had o'er her deck  
Swept fiercely, and loud, and long;  
Till one—the fatal shock did wreck  
This bark with festive throng,  
A crash, a shriek, and all is o'er,  
No time to bid farewell,  
To loved ones now on sea or shore,  
Weak winds their only knell.

The moon shines brightly as before,  
The sun illumines his track;  
The waves roll on from shore to shore,  
Yet bring no tidings back  
The "Stormy Petrels" lonely flight,  
The shriek of the "Sea Mew,"  
Perform the last solemn rite,  
That hides them from our view.

No sculptured shaft now greets the eye,  
To mark the sacred mound;  
Under the waves in peace they lie  
Till the "last trump shall sound"  
No garlands deck the lonely tomb,  
No incense mounts on high;  
Unknown the spot amid the gloom,  
All pass to Eternity!

Heart-broken wife dry up your tears,  
The partner of thy joys,  
Has gone from pain and earthly care,  
Where pleasure never dloys.  
Think not on him, his fond caress,  
His gentle voice and smile;  
Prepare to meet him in that place  
In which there is no guile.

Mother, mourn not for thy absent child,  
Bright gem on high now gone;  
Think not when last on earth she smiled  
And left thee sad and lone.  
Weep not for her, thy earthly love  
Is in that better land;  
Go meet her in the realms above,  
Where sighs and sorrows end.

Father, grieve not, thy absent son  
Will return to thee no more;  
He is gone, his long voyage is won,  
He is on a brighter shore.  
The sudden call may quickly come,  
Make your election sure;  
Go meet him saved in his home,  
Place of the just and pure.

-VETERAN

[FOR THE CRITIC.]

## OUR WINNIPEG LETTER.

WINNIPEG, Jan. 11th, 1886.

Dear Critic,—At this season, and this year in particular, should Canadians exchange the most patriotic vows and well-wishes for the future prosperity of Fatherland, apart from the individual greetings with which we hail each other on the threshold of a coming year. Your humble servant joins in these expressions of solicitude, more especially with old friends by the sea.

Christmas and New Year with us have not the old-fashioned ushering in connected with past associations; the cheer and good will is there, but shorn somewhat of its exuberance and joy. In a new country, whose population has been brought together from different quarters, and the personal acquaintance of whose members only commences on a settlement in their new home, it can hardly become otherwise. Even old friends, who frequently meet out here to discuss the past or present events, seem to feel a strange awakening as to the existence of some mysterious disquieting influence, engendered, no doubt, by altered surroundings.

Nature has been stint in giving us the proper material for decorations in this locality, and scrubby spruce is the only available stand-by. We have no "culled folk" disposing of their wreaths, crosses and stars of hemlock and everlastings, and the ever useful corded hemlock, for twisting around columns and hanging festoons, etc.

There is hemlock about 400 miles from here on the Winnipeg River, running out of the picturesque Lake of the Woods, but for decorative purposes, it might as well be at the Rockies.

As Christmas is suggestive of fat meat, I speak of that first. At the meat market, we notice beef of every variety, besides, deer, elk, moose, mountain sheep, and bear (one weighing 500lbs.), and abundance of poultry, (some turkeys 25lbs. each), and game, of which partridges, duck and prairie fowl form the bulk. Of fish, we have sturgeon, pike, and white fish, from the lakes, and a smaller quantity of mackerel, salmon, etc., from British Columbia and the seaboard; but withal, the prices are rather high for a land overflowing with "milk and honey."

Amongst other things, I noticed in the eatable line, were a number of very small lobsters selling at 30c. each, one monster being priced at \$1.75. I hope the purchaser enjoyed his treat, it was worth that, however, as a museum specimen. Of course, crustacea out here are looked upon only as a tit-bit.

The public meat market, the only one of the kind in the city, is a very sensible building, standing on a square in the rear of the City Hall; it has a passage through the centre, with an entrance at each end; and when lit

up with the electric light, shining on the high walls hung with Christmas beef, makes quite an imposing display.

The Christmas card collections have been very extensive, and far above the Halifax ones in point of variety and appropriateness. The most noticeable are those of an essentially Canadian character—pieces of birch bark with miniature hand paintings and flowers; plush-covered cards, on which are arranged miniature snow shoes, toboggan, and moose, some pairs of the latter small enough to stand on a ten cent piece; others again have miniature canoes filled with artificial flowers, satin, ivory, and insoluble gelatine, all hand-painted, besides the endless lithographs; and as far as prices are concerned (I should think) some are most suggestive of booming days. This Christmas-card business has the appearance of being altogether overdone. From a mere song or leaf, secured to a card, with the sonnet's best wishes, it has extended to its present never-ending productiveness of glint and colour. They have taken the place in many cases of more useful presents. But we should not hail with disfavor anything which has the mark upon it of art's handiwork.

The New Year was ushered in with its "night-watches" and "calling sleighs" were on the move all day, and late on through the evening, while night was enlivened, or rather disturbed by the shouts of men made foolish with strong drink. But altogether, general sobriety prevailed.

The Hudson Bay Company had a large ball at their establishment on New Year's Eve, the guests being invited. In the centre of the room was a clock, in connection with which was a large bell, and as the hour of twelve began to strike, all hands joined in a circle around it, and sang "Auld Lang Syne."

Entertainments, concerts, etc., are the order of the day, and the churches are all vying with each other in the variety and choice of their subjects. I heard a great deal of Winnipeg's musical talent before coming here, but it strikes me that the *first-class singers* could be counted on the fingers of one hand. By first-class singers, I do not mean those who have been well educated in the *technique* of their art, but those who have *really* good voices of a fine tone or *timbre*, as Tyndal has it. It is not to be expected otherwise, else would our ears no longer be charmed by the few who are so highly gifted. In this respect, Winnipeg, with its 30,000 population, (as it is supposed to have) is not more fortunate than many another city in the Dominion, of the same pretensions. We have many talented professors and musicians' who are educating the people; but take it all in all, I don't think the people of Winnipeg are any more musical or appreciative of fine music than Haligonians are.

The intense cold of the last week has prevented many entertainments from being so largely attended as they otherwise would; 30 degrees below zero is rather cold, 45 degrees makes one jump around pretty lively, but when 60 degrees shows itself, it's rather too much, and it has been at that figure once, a night or two ago. I receive this from hearsay as being correct, but nothing short of the *personal* possession of a standard thermometer would make me a firm believer in these extreme low temperatures, as the ordinary cheap articles have a happy knack of going astray when these points are reached.

Now, what about the Indians? Are we to be exposed to all the horrors of an Indian war, with its wanton pillage and cruel massacres? It is hard to say. The Grits even now see the Indian on the war path, whilst the Tories are inclined to think that all goes well. That there is evidently something in the wind, is the belief of most unprejudiced men.

As I have now trespassed beyond my prescribed space. I will treat of this latter subject in my next.

Yours, etc.,

SCIRON.

[FOR THE CRITIC.]

## CAPE BRETON THE IRELAND OF CANADA.

"England's necessity is Ireland's opportunity."

Mr. Editor,—The astute Mr. Parnell and his followers, by taking advantage of the political necessities and party exigencies of Great Britain at present existing, are likely to secure from the British Parliament such legislation as will greatly ameliorate, if not entirely remove or redress many of the oppressive grievances inflicted upon and endured by unhappy Ireland for many generations. It might be contended that Mr. Parnell's course is unpatriotic, if not disloyal. So it would be, and all Christian nations and peoples would so regard it, were the legislation he seeks unnecessary, or the wrongs for which he seeks a remedy unreal and imaginary.

But the Landlord system, with its train of oppression, as practiced in Ireland and Scotland, is such a glaring abomination that the efforts of Mr. Parnell and his followers, instead of being discountenanced by civilization, have won the sympathy, endorsement, and moral support of enlightened humanity.

The "Exile of Erin," driven by tyranny and oppression from the protection of the Union Jack at home, nevertheless, seeks under its folds liberty and plenty in the Western world. That banner is yet his own. The most thrilling and inspiring pages of its history and record have been written by the heart blood of his illustrious, immortal and gallant countrymen.

In that flag he yet has the right to claim a sacred ownership, an inalienable heritage, a vested right he would most unwillingly surrender.

When he sorrowfully leaves his cherished Isle and kindred, it floats over him, and he rejoices when it meets his eye, as he gazes for the first time on the new world, when "Isle Royal," the "Ireland of Canada," CAPE BRETON rises to view.

If he disembarks in Cape Breton, he will receive a hearty welcome from a people, a surviving few of whom, like himself, "by man's inhumanity to man," became exiled from the land of the Thistle and Shamrock.

On the tombstones in the cemeteries, he will find written the history of the great majority of those people. But here he will meet many of their descendants, and here he will be shocked to find such legislative injustice practiced as perhaps has no parallel, except in deserted Scotland and unhappy Ireland, his distant home.

If he is desirous of knowing the reason, we must go back to the year 1821, and inform him that in that dismal year for Cape Breton, "Imperial Policy" saw fit to enact a law by which the fair, free and prosperous Island was deprived of self-government, and legislated into a union with a hungry big neighbor, mis-called "Nova Scotia." The so-called union was brought about, not only without the consent, but against the most earnest protests and remonstrances of the united voices of the inhabitants of Cape Breton. It is needless to add that the union has as yet resulted in disunion. That the disastrous consequences that its opponents foresaw must result, have, and are being fully realized. It was "the union of the shark with its prey." The revenues from Cape Breton have always been, and yet are, nearly all swallowed up in public works in Nova Scotia. A great many of the inhabitants of the four counties of Cape Breton being engaged in the mining and fishing industries, have consumed a much larger proportion of dutiable or revenue-producing goods than agriculturists; and have consequently, always contributed more than their share of the Provincial revenues. Those revenues have always been expended by the Legislature at Halifax in improvements in Nova Scotia proper, very little ever finding its way back to Cape Breton. Since 1867 it has fared worse for Cape Breton than previously. It is now being ground between the upper and nether millstones, Canada and Nova Scotia. The Confederation of the British Provinces joined the lot of Cape Breton with Canada, not as an independent Province, but as a part and parcel of its Nova Scotia task-master.

Since 1867, our generous co-partner, Nova Scotia, has collected from us in local revenue, not less than *Forty Thousand Dollars a year*, or seven hundred and twenty thousand dollars during the last eighteen years, in excess of all and every expenditure made by them in Cape Breton. This is how we are ground by the nether millstone.

I have not the figures at hand to justify me in stating what amount we annually contribute to the Dominion Exchequer in excess of expenditure, but venture the assertion, that we are very large creditors; that Cape Breton revenues have built many miles of the Pacific and other Western Railways, and that from Canada we have a just, right, and an indisputable claim to a Railway across the Island of Cape Breton. I also believe that the Government's necessity is Cape Breton's opportunity.

The Quebec M. P., by forming a "ring," exacted from the Government last year, Railway concessions to which they had no valid claim whatever, concessions amounting to millions. In the present crisis, the five representatives from Cape Breton can make their influence felt. Let them only place their Island home ahead of party, and, like Parnell, obtain justice from whichever party will grant it. The upper millstone has been grinding us sufficiently long. Let us have our bag at the "shoot" for a short time.

Whether Sir John McDonald or Mr. Edward Blake is at the helm in Canada, is a secondary consideration to Cape Breton, when compared with the advantages that would accrue from Railway communication.

Railways in Cape Breton we *must* have. Our resources are lying dormant and unknown, for the lack of speedy and comfortable means of travel. Our sons and daughters are leaving us to seek the employment that abounds in our own midst, if our dormant resources were developed. This we cannot have without a Railway. Let, therefore, our M. P.'s join hands, and insist on a Railway. We have in Cape Breton room and verge enough to double and treble our population, and to give homes, employment, and plenty to them all, in the prosecution of agriculture, manufactures, mining, and fishing. The incalculable value and enormous extent of our mining wealth is daily becoming more and more apparent. The extent of our valuable fishing grounds is immeasurable.

The expenditure necessary for Railway construction would be twice repaid by the increased revenues our increased population and expanding commerce would speedily produce. Who will move in the matter? Who will take the lead? Will Mr. Campbell, of Victoria, the veteran in enterprise and energy head the van? Will Mr. Paint, of Richmond, earn the undying gratitude of his constituents, by asserting their rights in this all-important matter? Will not Inverness's adopted son re-echo his sentiments of last year, and insist on the fulfillment of his just and modest demands? The Cape Breton patriot, Mr. McDougall, I venture to say, will be to the fore; and Mr. Dodd's far-famed legal sagacity and learning will always be ready to assist Come, gentlemen, take action, unite, and succeed. Let it not be again said by the Premier of Nova Scotia that any skilful politician could "always knock the heads of the Cape Breton contingent together."

West Bay, C. B., January 13th, 1886.

MAC.

(To be continued.)

[FOR THE CRITIC.]

#### EVENTS AND COMMENTS.

England is beginning to awaken to the momentous fact that she must make a change in her trade relations. The "Cobden Treaty" has run its course, and must give way to the "inevitable logic of events." Since its introduction, railroads, steam, and electricity, have revolutionized the nations of the earth in their various agricultural and manufacturing industries to such an extent that it now becomes absolutely necessary that she should abandon her "Free Trade Policy," and adopt a fairly protective tariff on all imports, or else she must soon lay behind other nations in wealth and prosperity. In the course of forty years her agricultural population has been surpassed by her manufacturing and commercial class. The natural

increase in population, with the best of her arable lands in the hands of a lauded aristocracy, coupled with a free trade policy has, for years past, caused wide spread distress and low wages amongst all classes, and especially in her manufacturing districts. Low wages means poverty, and poverty leads to crime and communism, hence it becomes a vital question to the peace and prosperity of the people of England to adopt some line of policy by which she may be enabled to compete in her various industries with the colonies and independent communities that she has planted in North America. It is plain to be seen by any person of intelligence that the growth and prosperity of the United States must be attributed to their "Protective Policy," and even the infant Dominion of Canada is rapidly progressing under the policy of "protection to home industries." Then why should England cling to her policy of "Free Trade" when her people must know that it is diametrically opposed to their best interests. To illustrate the case more clearly England invites all of the products of the United States to enter her ports free of duty, whilst "fair Britannia" must be compelled to pass through a file of "custom house officials" to see that she does not even attempt to smuggle through the lines a paper of pins; hence, as a rule, the American laborer and mechanic, by "Protection," can control fair wages and a good living, whilst the same class of people in England, under "Free Trade" are, by low wages converted into paupers and criminals. Since the repeal of the "Corn Laws" in England, the population has decreased in Ireland about three millions of people—this is partly attributable to the fact, that Ireland has neither coal nor iron with which she could have built up manufactories of her own—whilst England possessed both in abundance, and with "free corn," soon built up the most colossal manufacturing enterprises in the world. Whilst Ireland, without any chance for manufacturing at home and her agricultural products being "unprotected" has declined in wealth and population more than any other portion of her Majesty's Realm.

The Southern and Western portions of the United States have been visited with extremely cold weather this winter, and deaths from starvation and freezing have been of frequent occurrence. The people of these countries, unlike the Northern States and Canada, are not prepared for these phenomenal cold waves; and consequently the suffering amongst all classes is very great. During the past week the thermometer ranged in Nebraska, Tennessee, Texas, New Orleans, Georgia, Alabama, and Florida, from 15 to 30 degrees below zero. In Texas the Galveston Bay is frozen over with 5 inches of ice. In Florida all of the orange crops are destroyed, in fact all along the Gulf States the destruction to crops and fruits is unprecedented. Throughout the Western States the snow blockade is complete. In several of the States the legislatures have adjourned on account of the cold weather. In view of these facts, "Citizen" in the *Morning Herald* is correct in regard to an "ice palace and carnival" for Halifax this winter. The people throughout the whole country have had quite enough of "ice blizzards" for one season. Let Halifax get up an "aquatic carnival" next August or September, when the lines of travel will all be open, and at a season when Halifax will be able to "show off" to an advantage, and strangers visiting us will have an opportunity of seeing one of the most beautiful and picturesque countries on the shores of the Atlantic coast.

VETERAN.

[FOR THE CRITIC.]

#### THE CANADIAN MILITIA.

No. 1.

I have read, with attention and interest, the series of articles by "C. P. M.," entitled "Canada's Military Status," but must confess myself somewhat puzzled to discover the object with which they are written. With some of the writer's remarks—such as his opinion of the infeasibility of Imperial Federation—I cannot but concur; others seem to admit of dispute; others again seem to serve no very direct or tangible purpose, except that of ventilating the writer's political opinion, and yet a residue are tinged with the undesirable feature of exaggeration.

"C. P. M." is evidently an anti-Confederate, an Annexationist, and a Grit. I am neither of the three, and am therefore at issue on those points, as well as others, with the general tone of the articles. But every man has a perfect right to the opinions which commend themselves to his own reasons and perceptions, and I desire to be distinctly understood as not implying by those terms the slightest disrespect, disparagement, or reproach. I cannot quite persuade myself to use the word Liberal instead of Grit, because, in the first place there is, in the differences which exist between the two political parties, no *raison d'être* for the term, and in the second place, I fail to discern in the views or tactics of the party, anything to justify it. It is something like total abstinence calling itself temperance.

With regard to Imperial Federation, I think the gratuitously restless, not to say fussy, people who have forced the idea to a premature birth, have done more damage than they dream off to the Imperial connection itself. Had they been content to let the sleeping dog lie, it might—to take one view of the question which seems to exercise some patriotic consciences—have dawned upon uneasily punctilious minds that Canada was giving some slight *quid pro quo* for British prestige and protection in the facilities for Imperial purposes towards the East afforded by the grand achievement of her Pacific Railway.

So much promised, let us consider these far from uninteresting articles somewhat in detail.

By the distinction which "C. P. M." implies between "internecine conflicts" and "invasion," he apparently uses the former term in the sense which I fancy most people now ascribe to it, that of internal disturbance in



a country. It seems to me that this is the only practical light in which we can at present discuss the efficiency of the Canadian National Forces. To beg the question of invasion by the United States appears as supererogatory and as premature as to raise the question of Imperial Federation, and I trust we may be preserved from so great a calamity. There are, however, many considerations which may well inspire us with a reasonable hope that we may never be subjected to so heavy an affliction. But in order to clear the ground let us first consider that point as it presents itself to us to-day.

When Colonel (now General) Hamley wrote his splendid work, the "Operations of War," he disengaged his subject of superfluous considerations by excluding all operations previous to the period when fire-arms became of universal use. In the light of the condition of the present day we may similarly disengage ourselves of the war of 1812-13.

It is not without a thrill of unjustifiable pride that Canadians read the episodes of that struggle, but they have, after all, but little bearing on the possibilities of a like strife under present conditions.

"Five shields to one their warriors wore," sings ancient Hilding to his foster-son Faithful in the beautiful Saga, and "C. P. M." justly estimates the strength of the States as twelve to one.

Wonders may be done in the defence of a nation against very heavy odds under all, or any, or any two, of the following conditions. If it be a northern nation. If it be under autocratic rule. If it be a nation of warriors.

Russia combined two of these conditions conspicuously, and made no little approach to the third.

Montenegro has but one, but that one has sufficed to defy the efforts of the Turk. The same quality is said to have sustained the Araucanian Indians of South America against all comers.

Canada possesses the first requirement, but it would be partially neutralized by the similar conditions of the hostile border; and the third would be absolutely required to maintain her against the States.

But no highly civilized and commercial people, however high its courage, can be a nation of warriors in the sense in which Montenegro is a nation of warriors.

The preponderance of numbers might therefore be considered to determine the chances of a struggle even with a strategic position less favorable to the assumed invader. But the strategic position is of the most formidable nature. I described it as plainly, I believe, as it can well be described, in THE CRITIC, 10th January, last year. I venture to repeat it. Mr. Webster's estimate of the line of operation of the Champlain Valley is, it may be seen, though it is still one of the great lines of advance, dwarfed in importance by the extension of the frontier along the 49th parallel across the continent. Of course an assailant vastly superior in numbers could attack by every line simultaneously. "No one needs at this day to be told what masses of troops the United States can hurl upon an enemy, after the experience of the late Civil war. Their position, in view of a possible invasion of Canada, is immensely strengthened since then. With our extension of territory has ensued a corresponding weakness of frontier. Whereas, of old, the line of invasion was the Champlain Valley, to it is now added the valley of the Red River, besides minor channels of smaller streams running out of Minnesota into the Rainy River, by any one of which a well-organized, small force might have cut the Red River expedition of 1870 to pieces. British Columbia would in case of war have over against her frontiers the hostile settlement of Washington Territory, through which there is railway communication, and in fact, all along the frontier from Maine to the foresaid territory, there is a population numerically superior to our own.

But this is not all the strategic position. The whole enormous length of hostile frontier would be fed by a triple base of unparalleled efficacy. From east to west run the Union and Central Pacific. Below that another line, above it the Northern Pacific, which, I believe, is now open to Portland in Oregon. For all the Eastern and Central States the point of concentration would be Chicago; and thence to St. Paul, Glyndon, and Fargo, the communication is unbroken. I do not know whether the rail is yet completed between San Francisco and Portland, but it was far advanced when I was in those parts twelve years ago. It then only wanted about 20 miles between Olympia in Washington Territory and the Columbia River at Kalama, about 50 miles below Portland. At the present day five thousand men sent down the Red River could cut Canada in two for ever, and if the United States had as little national conscience as alarmists ascribe to them, it might have been done any time these fifteen years. Canada would perhaps have less to fear in this direction, independent, than attached to the old country."

Eastward, nothing, I fear, will ever compensate to us for the projection into Canadian territory of the State of Maine like an eye-tooth. In this respect your contributor justly estimates and characterizes the deplorable effects of the wretched Ashburton Treaty.

FRANC-TIREUR.

[FOR THE CRITIC.]  
ODDS AND ENDS.

Complaints seem to be rife in the States—I dare say in England too—of the non-attendance of the working classes at church. There is, however, no mystery about it, and the clergy, if they were not blind and obstinate, might do much to remedy the evil. But, if they think to attract the classes complained of, they must, in the first place, broaden their narrow and dogmatic theology, and open their eyes to the sort of literature those classes have placed before them, and read with avidity.

On the other hand the Rev. H. R. Haweis, a Divine who has distin-

guished himself of late years by contributions to the Reviews marked by liberality and common sense, has been boldly preaching to the students of Harvard, the non-inspiration of the Bible. This is part of what Mr. Haweis says, as reported in the *New York Day Star*, a religious newspaper:—

"The Bible is not infallible. It is simply the progressive history of the way in which man received his ideas of what God may be. If you take the Bible in this broad, historical, common sense ground, you can keep what is valuable in it and answer all questions of the scoffers. In Genesis we find the natural ideal of God held by a primitive people. You and I do not believe that God walked in the Garden of Eden in the afternoon because the noonday sun was too hot to be comfortable. These people conceived of him only as a man of greater size and greater power than themselves. We do not believe that when a sacrifice was made God came down because he smelt roast meat."

Now this sort of thing is told to the masses by such publications as the *Truth Seeker*, of New York, and the *Free Thinker*, and *Secular Review*, of London, in a manner which, while stating undeniable truths, instils hatred of religion. How much better if the clergy took the lead, and could show faith enough in their Christianity to explain the Scriptures in the rational and historical light, to which, in the end, they must bow.

A cheerful person writes to the *Herald* a series of laborious statistics (which the *Herald* discreetly gives for what they may be worth) as to the amount spent in Halifax on amusements, with which it would seem, he would like to build "113 ten thousand dollar churches, or send out 1137 missionaries to Borriboolagha," or both, I am not quite clear which.

There are, however, a good many people who yet believe in the wholesomeness of amusement, notwithstanding the cold wave of puritanism which is lowering the ethical temperature of the country, and congealing all heartiness out of it. Among them the *New York Day Star*, which I have quoted above, urges the churches to take amusements more into their own hands, and to let "prudence take the place of prudery."

Mr. Blake has been making a "great" speech. It is applauded for eloquence, a quality always at that gentleman's command. But Mr. Blake has been accorded a reputation (whether well founded or not) for a certain purity and loftiness of ideal in his politics, and I am afraid this speech strips him of the last shreds of this imputed high conscientiousness. In it patent hypocrisy is clothed in the vague sort of verbiage which characterizes Speeches from the Throne, Presidential Messages, French State Papers, and other documents in which truth has to be suppressed or distorted.

No honest man, unless he be also a great fool, can have two ideas about the execution of Riel. Whatever ground for discontent any supposed laxity or neglect of the government may have afforded, no one (not a Frenchman) with a grain of sense, a grain of conscience, or a grain of historical knowledge, will pretend that it was of a nature or extent to justify bloodshed. Without Riel there would have been no outbreak. His worthless and mercenary character has been proved. A hundred lives more valuable than his own, and countless cost and misery were the results of his vain and wicked career. He has paid the just penalty of abominable crime, and, no doubt, the invaluable precedent established is little to the taste of the French Canadian malcontent. But that the man who fifteen years ago was loudest in shouting for the blood of Riel in expiation of his murder of Scott—who was foremost in offering high reward therefor—should now be willing (falteringly and hesitatingly as, for shame's sake, I suppose, he avows it) to make political capital out of an act of the government which he knows to have been firm and righteous, destroys the last remnant of respect which one would have desired to entertain for a reputation supposed to be pure.

Good-bye, Edward Blake, I never liked you, but I should have been glad to see a good repute justified. As it is, you have come down to the dirty level of the rest. It was not perhaps your fault that you could not shine as leader of a party without policy, but it was still left to you to show yourself the good and brave man under difficulties. This opportunity you have thrown away. You are not as honest a man as Alexander MacKerzie!

One of your daily contemporaries, in giving some early Nova Scotian history, mentions the population of Halifax in 1752 as something over 4000, and compares it, apparently not with any dissatisfaction, with her 40,000 or so to-day. From 4000 to 40,000 in 134 years does not however strike one as a very brilliant or impressive progression.

And a "Blunose" writing to the same paper from Victoria, B. C., incidentally throws light on perhaps the chief cause of non-progression in the present, whatever the causes may have been in the past.

"We," (Victoria) says this writer, "have now fairly entered upon the era of development of our resources; and the day is not far distant when Victoria will be to Canada in the west what Montreal is in the east, and what Halifax might and ought to be if its people would cease wailing and whining, and predicting 'blue ruin,' and combine their brains and muscles in the development of the resources of their wonderful province."

"Victoria spent over \$750,000 in new buildings last year," the writer continues, "and many magnificent blocks are under contract for 1886." The population of Victoria, which a very few years ago was only about 5000, is now estimated at 11,000.

FRANC-TIREUR.

"It was a friend that did it," said Mr. Smith, Jr., the other day, when asked why he did not return a Quaker's blow.

COMMERCIAL.

FISH.—Since our last issue, we know of no arrivals of fish from the coast, except three lots of Bank Codfish, and about two hundred bbls. of No. 2 Mackerel. The former were placed at an advance on previous sales, but the latter could not find a purchaser, and are still unsold.

In our last issue, we advised our readers of an advance in the Cuban market, but we fear that, from the quantity now going forward that advance will be checked. We have been looking for an advance in the Porto Rico market, and we think it would have taken place had the shipments been moderate.

Pickled fish are as dull in this market as they can well possibly be. We know of no sales in any quantity, of any kind of pickled fish. We doubt very much, if at this season of the year there was ever such a stagnation or lack of enquiry for pickled fish of any kind in this market, as exists this day.

Advices from the Boston markets, up to the 22nd inst., are as follows:—Trade during the past week has been slowly improving, with a decided increase in receipts, both from foreign and domestic ports.

Pickled cured Bank Cod have been moving more freely at \$2.50 per qtl. for medium and large; Nova Scotia split Herring are in liberal receipt, and are selling at from \$1.25 to \$1.75, according to size and quality, but sales are very few.

The frozen Herring business has been brisk during the week, with large receipts. Prices have declined to 60c. per hundred in cargo lots.

Below will be found a comparative statement of imports of mackerel at Boston for the past four years for week ending January 22:—

Table with 4 columns: Year (1886, 1885, 1884, 1883) and Quantity (1076 Bbls, 2204, 2104, 3068).

Advices from Gloucester, up to week ending Jan. 23, 1886, are as follows:—The schr. Cecil H. Low, arrived from Fortune Bay, Newfoundland, with a cargo of 400,000 frozen Herring, and reports the weather bad most of the time.

Table with 6 columns: From, Pounds Codfish, Pounds Halibut, Pounds Haddock, Frozen Herring Count, and Total (144,000, 37,000, 5,000, 1,383,000).

Advices from the New York market report a light stock of fish held here, but the demand is small, and trade very quiet. Mackerel sales, in small lots, 3's \$5.50 to \$5.75; 2's \$6.75 to \$7.25 for fair; good extra 2's \$5.00 to \$8.00; 1's \$19.00.

MARKET QUOTATIONS.

WHOLESALE RATES.

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

GROCERIES.

Table listing various grocery items like Sugar, Tea, Molasses, Soap, Candles, Biscuits, Confectionery, Butter, Eggs, Tobacco, Blacking, and Fish Oil with their respective prices.

BREADSTUFFS.

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

Table listing breadstuffs like Flour (Graham, Patent high grades, etc.), Bran per ton, and various types of Corn with their prices.

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

PROVISIONS.

Table listing various provisions like Beef, Pork, American Mess, Lard, Tubs and Pails, Hams, and P. E. I. Mess with their prices.

These quotations are prepared by a reliable wholesale house.

WOOL, WOOL SKINS & HIDES.

Table listing wool and skins like Wool—clean washed, Green Hides—Ox, Salted Hides—Ox in Lots, Calf Skin, and Deer skins with their prices.

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

LUMBER.

Table listing various types of lumber like Pine, Spruce, Hemlock, and Shingles with their prices.

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

POULTRY.

Table listing poultry like Fowls, Turkeys, Geese, and Ducks with their prices.

The above are corrected by a reliable victualer.

LIVE STOCK.

Table listing live stock like Steers, Oxen, Fat Steers, Heifers, and Lambs with their prices.

These quotations are prepared by a reliable victualer.

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

FISH FROM VESSELS.

Table listing fish from vessels like Mackerel, Herring, Salmon, Haddock, Hake, Pollock, and Fish Oils with their prices.

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

HOME AND FOREIGN FRUITS.

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

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

## A MAN OF HIS WORD.

(Concluded.)

It was in this exalted mood that the Machiavelian Staveley, who one Saturday rode over to Rye Court, found his old neighbor. "Well, Staveley," Lord Rye began, "have you come to console with me or to scold me? I find that most people do one or the other nowadays."

"I don't intend to do either," answered Staveley. "I came firstly for the pleasure of seeing you, and secondly to try and arrange an amicable meeting between you and our good friend at Sheldon Park."

"The man Hobday, do you mean?" asked Lord Rye, with an air of decided disgust. "He may be your good friend, Staveley, but really I cannot admit that he is mine. Why do you wish me to meet him? I have done so once, and I don't feel disposed to repeat the experiment."

"Nevertheless, I am going, with your permission, to bring him here to-morrow afternoon. I don't expect you to like either the man or his manners; but, considering that it is in his power to—"

"To ruin me," put in Lord Rye. "There is no occasion to mince matters, and I don't wish to make any secret of the fact."

"Well, considering that he has that power, I think you would do well to listen to what he has to say."

"Ah! Another flattering proposition?" said Lord Rye, with contemptuous indifference. "I suppose you know that he calmly requested me to sell the borough to him. What does he ask for now? Something equally practical, no doubt."

"I must let him speak for himself," answered Staveley; "but I believe I may say that he is prepared to go considerable lengths—very considerable lengths—to bring about a marriage between Egbert and his daughter, who, by the way, is a remarkably pretty, amiable, and ladylike young woman."

Lord Rye laughed. "I thought so," said he; "I imagined that would be it. He may spare himself the trouble of coming here."

"And yet," remarked Staveley, "it is not such a very uncommon thing in these days for young men of good family to marry the daughters of rich parvenus."

"I am quite aware of that," replied Lord Rye; "but I happen to belong to the old school. If my neighbors choose to ally themselves with the mob, I am sorry for it and sorry for them; but I do not feel myself in any way called upon to follow their example. Bring your Hobday to see me, if you choose—"

"Thank you; I will."

"Only I warn you beforehand that it will be a mere waste of time. I can't conceive any possible circumstances under which I should consent either to strike a bargain with such a man or to accept anything that might seem to bear the faintest resemblance to a favor at his hands. Beggars on horseback are not a class of people with whom I care to deal. But by all means bring him. I won't say that I shall be glad to see him; but I am glad to oblige an old friend—and all the more as I am not likely to have many opportunities of obliging my friends in the future."

"Very well; then you may expect us about four o'clock to-morrow afternoon," said Staveley, cheerfully. And therewith the subject was dropped.

It may be doubted whether the spirit of peace and good-will was as universal among the congregation which met in Stillbourne Church that Sunday morning as it ought to have been. Lord Rye and his two sons were in their places, as were Mr. and Miss Hobday; and the efforts which each family made to appear unconscious of the other caused some amusement to Mr. Staveley, who was watching them narrowly from the background. He saw that Egbert and Josephine contrived to exchange several stolen glances, and he also saw that the latter was at last detected in the act by her father, after which she got behind her prayer-book, and raised her eyes no more until the conclusion of the service. He had to manoeuvre a little in order to prevent an awkward encounter in the porch, where Lord Rye remained some time conversing affably with his neighbors; but he managed to hold Mr. Hobday back until the Rye Court party had driven away, and then went himself to Sheldon Park, where he had been invited to luncheon.

That repast did not prove a cheerful one. Mr. Sampson had gone away for a holiday, and the master of the house, being thus deprived of his safety-valve, had nothing to do but to growl at the butler and the cook. During the intervals he employed himself in staring gloomily across the table at his daughter, who, for her part, was obviously nervous and ill at ease. It was a relief to everybody when the hour came at which it had been arranged that Staveley and his host were to set out for Rye Court.

"Now, mind," said the latter as they walked across the park, "I leave it to you to state my terms, and I want it to be clearly understood that it's only out of deference to your wishes that I offer those terms at all. My intention of burning Lord Grinstead's acceptances as soon as ever I get home is a matter betwixt you and me, and it ain't to be hinted at. They've deserved a fright, and a fright they shall have." He added, rather pathetically, "when all's said and done I shan't be able to give my girl what she wants; but there—she can't say but what I've done the fair thing by her anyhow."

His spirits rose at the prospects of a final brush with the enemy, in which he could hardly fail to get the best of it, and it was with his accustomed air of complacent aggressiveness that he entered the library, where Lord Rye, Lord Grinstead, and Egbert were waiting to receive him.

The necessary greetings were not marked by any excess of cordiality on either side. When they had been exchanged there was a short pause, after which Lord Rye and Mr. Hobday started simultaneously.

"At the request of my old friend, Mr. Staveley—" said the one.

"Staveley here has persuaded me—" began the other.

The mediator referred to hastened to interrupt them both. Nothing could be more agreeable to him personally, he declared, than the token of confidence and regard thus conferred upon him by his two nearest neighbors; unless, indeed, it might be the hope of effecting a reconciliation between them. He could not but think that, with a little concession and forbearance on both sides, an arrangement might be made which would conduce to the happiness of all concerned. He would not enter into any detailed account of the circumstances which had led to their meeting. These were known to them all, and were, of course, of a more or less distressing kind. He should allude to them no further than was absolutely necessary in order to make himself intelligible. Briefly stated, the case stood thus. A marriage had at one time been contemplated which to him he would confess, had seemed in every way desirable. For various reasons however, the parents of the young people had thought otherwise; and the what had occurred? Why, that one of them, actuated, no doubt, by a high sense of duty, had formally withdrawn his pretensions. This course had been deeply resented—and, he would add, very naturally resented—by the young lady's father, whose views had undergone some change of late, and who had felt so unexpected a rebuff most painfully.

Mr. Hobday here ejaculated "Fiddlededee!" but the speaker went on without noticing the interruption.

"I have now, on behalf of my friend, Mr. Hobday, to lay before you an offer upon which I shall abstain from making any comment of my own. I feel sure that you will all agree with me in thinking that such an offer speaks for itself. I hold in my hand certain papers which Lord Grinstead will recognize, and, without referring more particularly to their nature, may say that I am authorized to burn them in your presence upon one condition, and one only. I think you will be surprised, Egbert, when I tell you that the condition is simply that you shall once more come forward as suitor for Miss Hobday's hand."

The only person who appeared to be profoundly moved by the orator's climax was Lord Grinstead. Mr. Hobday seemed somewhat dissatisfied, and Egbert's efforts to look astounded were not crowned with complete success. He did not speak, and it was his father who replied on behalf of the family. Lord Rye was evidently enjoying the situation. A calm smile illumined his features, while he slowly rubbed his hands one over the other. *Finis Poloniae!* the great family of Denno was about to sink before the rising star of Democracy; but it would remain true to itself and to its traditions, and even in its fall would give one more striking proof that it preferred to dishonor.

"I have but a few words to say," he announced, blandly. "Mr. Hobday doubtless means well; but he does not quite comprehend—nor ought we to expect that he should comprehend—the motives which compel us to receive his advances with a—shall I say a *non possumus*? The case is not one which admits of argument. I have only to add that any pecuniary claims may either against me or my son will be satisfied in full. Of that our credit may rest assured."

"As you please, my lord," answered Mr. Hobday, with alacrity. "You had your choice and you've chosen. Hope you'll never repent of it. Now, Staveley, if you'll be so good as to hand me back those papers, I won't take up his lordship's valuable time any longer."

"One moment!" struck in Egbert, holding up his hand. "This offer, I understand it, was made to me, not to my father, and I must claim the right to be heard. If I had only had my own interests to consult, I should perhaps not have been justified in accepting Mr. Hobday's generous offer. But for the sake of my family, I feel that I ought not to hesitate. I must consent in spite of themselves. Mr. Hobday I consent to marry your daughter."

Hardly were the words spoken when the documents of which so much had been made were already in the flames; and, almost before Mr. Hobday had time to realize what had happened, his hand was being shaken and he was being warmly felicitated by Staveley. He perceived that he had been tricked, but he had the readiness to accept the situation created for him, and to make the best of it. It may be that, at the bottom of his heart, he did not altogether dislike it.

"I am a man of my word," he observed, "and when I say I'll do a thing I pretty generally manage to carry it through. Young man, I congratulate you on your luck and on your common-sense. As for you, my lord—"

"As for me," interrupted Lord Rye, in great perturbation, "you'd please to understand that this—this unheard-of proceeding is in no sense whatever sanctioned by me. The position is unaltered; the debt remains, although the evidences of it have been so rashly destroyed. I withhold consent unequivocally."

"Ah, but you see, you ain't going to be asked for your consent," turned Mr. Hobday, with a chuckle. "If you withhold it, I dare say I shall make shift to get on without it; but you might as well give in and look pleasant, in my opinion. I do assure you, my lord, that it's no sense trying to oppose me when once I've made up my mind to a thing."

And in the end Lord Rye did give in; though it cannot be said that he looked exactly pleasant over it. Up to the present day Mr. Hobday and his wife have remained at variance, and a good deal of diplomacy is called into play by their relatives in order to keep them as much as possible apart. On the other hand, Josephine has had no difficulty in winning the hearts of all members of her husband's family, that of its chief included.

The young couple are very popular, very prosperous, and, to all appearances, supremely contented. Their tastes agree, and if it were not for parliamentary duties—which he sometimes finds a little irksome, and which he proposes to free himself at the earliest opportunity—Egbert would not have a single subject of complaint in life.

Whether, at the next general election, Mr Hobday will again come forward as a candidate for the representation of Stillbourn is an open question. The subject has been judiciously kept in the background; and as, in the meantime, Mr. Hobday has entered Parliament as one of the members for a large manufacturing borough, it is possible that in this instance he may silently go back from his word. He maintains that he has never done so in any other instance, and we may be sure that his daughter and his son-in-law are careful not to contradict him.

THE END.

## THE SEA WITCH.

Nearly every man, I should think, must sometimes feel in doubt as to whether he has not ordered the course of his life after an altogether erroneous fashion; and if he be, as I am, an old bachelor, I hardly see how he is to escape such occasional misgivings. A sight, a sound, a scent suddenly takes us back to those half-forgotten days when we were young; we call to mind what once was; we realize what might be now, had not this, that, and the other thing occurred, and we find ourselves muttering under our breath, "Ah, dear me! what a mistake it has all been, to be sure!"

I believe, indeed, that it was only the lively strains of the Hungarian band which prevented these very words from being heard to fall from my lips as I stood in the doorway of a London ballroom, and watched Alice Wynno dancing with young Charles Stapleton, to whom her engagement had been announced a few days before. It so happened that I myself had often danced in that very same house, I won't say how many years ago, when its present owners were in the nursery, when heads which are bald and gray now were as curly as Charles Stapleton's, and when a host of dead people were alive and merry; and standing there unnoticed, as dogs who have had their day must expect to be, I lost sight for a minute or two of the modern young men and women who were gyrating before me, and beheld the long room thronged with ghosts, among whom one especial ghost may, perhaps, have been more prominent than the rest. I say, one can't avoid these memories and regrets. They come upon one when one least expects it, and make one feel most confoundedly foolish and uneasy. As a general thing I am pretty well contented with my manner of existence; but when one is an old man and a rich man, and when one sees Tom, Dick and Harry with their sons and daughters about them, and their houses full of friends, and with a hundred interests of life not directly connected their own persons, celibacy does somehow present itself to one in the light of a defiance of obvious duty and destiny. Why I have never married is a question which concerns no one except myself; but I own that I have sometimes doubted whether my reason was a sufficient one, and whether I should not have done better to take a wife—any wife. Dr. Johnson thought that if all marriages were arranged by the Lord Chancellor the result would be quite as satisfactory as that obtained from the ordinary English method, and I am not prepared to say that that unromantic philosopher was wholly in the wrong. There is no denying that matches of affection frequently turn out badly, while matches of convenience frequently turn out well. One can't have everything in this give-and-take world, and the sight of two young people unmistakably in love with each other, yet brought together by their elders from motives of the purest worldliness, is as rare a one as it is delightful to witness.

So I leaned against the doorway, absorbed in musings with which Stapleton and Miss Wynno were only in part connected, until a brisk voice at my elbow cried, "A penny for your thoughts, General Rivers! Do you know that you are looking quite sentimental?"

"I was looking at your daughter and Lord Charles, Mrs. Wynno," I said; for it was the mother of the bride elect who had addressed me.

"Ah, dear child!" she sighed, "it is such a happiness to me to see her happy; and I know you rejoice with us. But this makes us seem terribly old, doesn't it?"

"Well, you know we are rather old," I replied bluntly; and I don't think she quite liked it. The truth is that Mrs. Wynno is a contemporary of my own, or thereabouts; but I am bound to confess that she looks a good twenty years younger. I glanced at her after I had made this uncivil remark, and I could not help admiring the marvellous perfection of her make-up. Her face was painted, and so were her delicately traced eyebrows; but the work betrayed the touch of a finished artist. The brown hair which clustered in little curls all over her head and came down low upon her forehead was a wig most likely, though it looked uncommonly natural; but how on earth had she achieved those youthful shoulders and arms? She wore a low dress—in fact a very low dress—and I declare that the charms which she displayed might have been those of a woman of five and twenty. I was privileged to behold a set of beautifully regular and pearly teeth (false ones, I suppose) when she smiled upon me and murmured:

"But not too old to be a little sentimental sometimes, eh, general?"

"Oh, I shall have occasional fits of sentimentality up to my dying day, I expect. It's the weather—or the gout coming on; it doesn't mean anything," I retorted hastily; for something in the woman's look and manner affected me with a vague feeling of alarm.

But she said: "Ah! don't let us be ashamed of having hearts and memories. The world makes us all hard, whether we will or no; but we need not boast of it. Come and sit down in the next room, General Rivers, and we will be sentimental together for a quarter of an hour."

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FINDINGS!  
HALIFAX, N. S.

## MINING.

The efforts now being made by the Provincial Government to secure a fair representation of the mineral resources of Nova Scotia at the Indian and Colonial Exhibition, are most praiseworthy. Mr. E. Gilpin is doing his utmost to have our gold, copper, iron and coal mines so represented as to be creditable to the Province. Owners of mines, especially of gold mines, should send in their specimens at an early date, in order to insure their being forwarded in proper time. In Quebec and Ontario no pains will be spared in making the mineral exhibits A1; but if Nova Scotia does what she can do in this respect, she will not only hold her place, but take the lead as the great mineral producing Province of the Dominion.

**CANADIAN PHOSPHATE**—In a leading article upon the Phosphate Mines of Canada, the *Ottawa Mining Review* states that Canadian apatite gives a higher percentage than that produced from any mines in the world, with the exception of three small mines in the West Indies and one in Spain. The demand for this fertilizer is practically unlimited, and in the sugar beet root districts of France, Belgium and Germany, it is found indispensable. The shipments of Canadian Phosphate during the past five years have slowly but steadily increased, and were as follows:—

1881.....	15,601 tons.
1882.....	17,181 "
1883.....	17,840 "
1884.....	22,143 "
1885.....	23,908 "

**MOOSE RIVER.**—Twenty-five men are now mining in this district, most of whom are tributary. The principal work is being done on what is known as the Little North Lead. The crushing material is composed of slate and small quartz, the thickness varying from 8 to 15 inches, and the yield 6 to 15 dwt. per ton. The new lead which was discovered last November is being worked by Mr. Touquoy with five men. Eighteen tons of quartz from this lead have been put through the crusher, yielding 17 ounces of gold. The ten-stamp mill, which is run by water power, is kept busy night and day, and even with this it is found difficult to crush all the quartz that is being taken out.

The value of the coal mined in the United States in a year far exceeds that of all the gold and silver combined. From Government reports just issued it appears that the coal yield of 1884 was \$143,760,000, that of silver, \$48,800,000, and of gold, \$30,800,000, the coal product thus exceeding the combined product of silver and gold in value by \$64,160,000.

Mr. H. D. McGillivray, of Telluride, Colorado, to whom we are indebted for copies of the *San Miguel Journal*, and the *Muldoon*, two excellent mining papers, writes that a friend in Antigonish has sent him several copies of *The Critic*, which he speaks of in laudatory terms. Our mining reports, he says, have created much interest among the capitalists and practical mining men in the section of Colorado in which he is at work, and a movement is on foot to send down to Nova Scotia some expert prospectors in the Spring. Mr. McGillivray holds four claims crossing the Grand Smuggler vein, and three more in Bear Creek. He intends sending to the office some rich specimens of Colorado ore, including gray copper, brittle silver, ruby silver, etc. These our mining friends will be pleased to inspect.

**SMITHFIELD.**—*Mr. Editor*,—You have referred in your mining columns to the gold, iron, copper, and coal mines of Nova Scotia, but as yet I have seen no reference to the valuable Galena mine at Smithfield. This deposit is rich in quality and extensive in quantity. Its proximity to the railway and the comparative ease with which the Galena can be taken out, makes it one of the most desirable properties of the kind in the country. Lack of capital has prevented its being developed to the extent which the deposit warrants.

**OLDHAM.**—I note by your last issue that a very rich strike has been made in the gold mines of Tangier by Mr. Hildey, but you do not say whether or not the property had been previously worked. Such cases, I know, frequently occur, in leads which have formerly given but a small percentage of gold, and this only serves to prove that in the earlier stages of gold mining in this Province, failure was due principally to the want of practical skill on the part of the miners. Oldham, like Tangier, has been but partially mined, which is due probably to the fact that the areas are for the most part held in small blocks, the owners not having capital to work these with profit, and outside capitalists being deterred from investing on account of the difficulty in purchasing an extensive property at anything like fair figures. Holders of small properties are now realizing that they can not sell at fancy prices, and I think if they were approached by some one meaning business they would sell out. I believe Oldham will again come to the front. Another discovery, such as that made by the Donaldsons, would create a boom in gold mining that would make this locality hum as in days of yore.

During 1885, Cape Breton Co., shipped 467,577 tons of coal; Pictou Co., 363,236 tons; Cumberland Co., 378,950 tons. Of the coal producing Counties, Cape Breton is therefore in the van.

**IMPORTANT DISCOVERY.**—During the past week several important discoveries have been made in this vicinity in the shape of various valuable

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Brass Valves, Fittings, etc.,	Shovels, ALL STEEL,
Emery Wheels,	STEEL, Black Diamond,
Oilers, Lubricators, etc.,	Scales, Saws, Files,
OILS of all descriptions,	Safety Lamps and Fittings,
Pumps, Steam and Hand,	Wastes, Wrenches,
Packings and Caskets,	Wire Ropes and Screens,
Piping and Fittings,	Water Wheels,
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DECEMBER, 1885

**DR. BENNET:**  
DEAR SIR,—You will know what a nervous wreck I was when you first saw me. I had lived on in this hopeless state for years, but no comfort to myself and only a burden to others. I owe it to your treatment I am able to take up the duties of life again, and look hopefully forward to the future. Words are all too feeble to express my gratitude, &c., &c.  
M. E. ELLIS.

MINING—Continued.

lodes of Baryta found on lands of which leases have been secured by the gentlemen interested in the discovery, who purpose commencing operations shortly. We have every confidence in the success of the enterprise, as Mr. Greener, who has charge of affairs, is a thoroughly practical engineer of long and successful experience both in England and the Dominion. We trust that Messrs. Greener, Ingraham and Forbes, may be fortunate in either working the mine or in having it worked by a company. Messrs. Greener and Ingram have also discovered two valuable leads of copper ore on lands for which they have secured government leases. Mr. Greener is also interested in a coal claim in the northern part of Cape Breton, this area contains two seams of excellent coal and is situated within a mile of a good harbor. *North Sydney Herald.*

A number of Boston capitalists, represented by a Mr. Sargent, who has been in the village of Albert for the last few weeks, have purchased the Steadman property in Crooked Creek, and cleared out the beds. We understand that gold, silver, and tin have been found and that the prospects are quite good. It is said they intend putting in a steam crusher, at a cost of \$25,000. We trust they may "strike it rich" and that this may lead to further enterprises of the same kind. The prospect at present seems brighter for the development, in a partial manner at least, of our vast mineral resources which we believe require only enterprise and capital to render profitable investments.— *Observer, Harvey, N. B.*

Parties arrived from Victoria in December from Granite Creek, had been to Eagle Creek and Hino's Gulch, and report considerable excitement on account of the new strike, and that a large number of miners had proceeded to Eagle Creek and taken up claims.

It is stated that the result of operations at the west end of Silver Mountain exceeds the most sanguine expectations, and that another rich outcropping has been discovered about one hundred feet to the west of No. 2 tunnel.

The Bank of England by law is obliged to purchase all gold bullion offered to it of standard fineness at 77 shillings and 9 pence per ounce, which bullion it can have coined at the mints at the rate of 77 shillings and 10½ pence per ounce.

BRITISH COLUMBIA.—The discoverer of Granite Creek has discovered another creek which he calls the *Eagle*, and states that he thinks it will prove a much richer creek than *Granite*. Samples from rich quartz ledges have been sent down for assay.

THUNDER BAY DISTRICT.—It is reported that a mill for the reduction of silver ores will be erected at an early date at the *Rabbit Mountain* mine. There are now five working mines in the district.

A mill test, by Balbach & Sons, Newark, N. J., of 2,785 pounds of pure ore from the east end of Silver Mountain, gave 1,039½ ounces of silver, which is highly satisfactory to the owners.

COAL IN CHILI.—The only sources from which fuel can be obtained in all South America are, it is said, the coal mines that lie at the extreme southern limit of the populated district of Chili. Taicahuano is the nearest port of importance; but the towns at the mines are Lota and Coronel. The mines are entered by shafts that are immediately over the water of Lota Bay, so that the coal is drawn on trucks to the mouth of the mines, and dumped into launches and lighters, which are towed out to the anchorage of ships. It is said that it costs \$1.35 a ton to mine and deliver this coal on ship-board, and that the owner, Donna Isadora Cousino, of Santiago, who is said to be the *Cæsus* of South America, will not sell at less than \$7.50 a ton, just a shade less than the cost of imported Cardiff coal.

The success of the meetings held during the week by Capt. Gragg, in the interests of the Coxheath Copper and Smelting Co., shows that our capitalists and business men are fully alive to the importance of this great enterprise. Capt. Gragg is evidently a practical man, and is fully conversant with each detail of his great undertaking. He pointed out the special advantages offered by Sydney for fluxing copper ores, for not only was copper itself found in large deposits in the locality, but the cheapness of fuel placed the success of the now enterprise beyond the pale of mere probabilities. Capt. Gragg's explanations were listened to with interest by those present, and it is thought probable that a much larger sum than the \$50,000 which he required could be raised in Halifax without difficulty. We congratulate Capt. Gragg upon the favor with which his proposals were received, and we hope before another year rolls round the copper smelting works on Sydney Harbor may be in operation.

The new metal, gallium, melts at 81.1 degrees Fahrenheit, becoming liquid when held in the hand. Its specific gravity is a little less than six, or about half that of lead. It tarnishes but slightly in the air. It adheres readily to glass when fused, forming a beautiful mirror. In chemical characteristics the rare element gallium most resembles the abundant element aluminium.

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CHARLES J. MACDONALD,  
Post Office Inspector.  
Post Office Inspector's Office,  
Halifax, 8th January, 1886.

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## AGRICULTURE.

[FOR THE CRITIC.]

## RUFUS RUSTIC—NOTES BY THE WAY.

If there is a remote region or unexplored corner of this globe that has not been tramped upon by a Scotchman, it should be discovered, and mapped as a geographical novelty.

North, south, east, and west, acknowledge his presence. From the tropic to the poles. Climatic influence, and the opposing forces of nature, have nothing to offer as obstacles to his progress; he is cosmopolitan in its broadest sense.

He comes from a land, cold, bleak, and juicy,—a land of mountains, villages, hills and dalea,—of lochs, lakes and salmon streams. Wherever Sandy puts in an appearance, he leaves his mark; wherever he waltzes in and puts his foot down solid, the indelible point remains for generations after.

From the land of cakes, another exodus, of a different type, has, for some time, been in progress, equally persistent, a type of mammal's, strongly prepotent and impressive, giving the progeny ancestral characteristics.

Old Scotia has the honor of giving to the world the best *streak* of dairy stock known to christendom, the Ayrshire breed. While other countries were making rapid progress with these celebrated animals, Nova Scotia farmers were deliberately "waiting for the moving of the waters." It is only of late years that prize-takers have scored a record.

In the Provincial show of 1885, another breed of neat cattle was in the ring, the "Aberdeen Angus," for which the world is indebted to Messrs. Watson and M. Combie, two Scotch celebrities. These cattle are famed for their excellent quality of beef. They are hardy, docile, and hornless, hence, in a great degree, harmless. They obtain their name from the county they inhabit, none taking a higher economical rank than the Scotch "doddies." These black cattle are not here as an experiment, their reputation as a special, superior breed, is fully established. They have been winners, time and again, at all the great shows—English and Foreign—in competition with the most celebrated animals of other breeds. They are here to remain and make their mark, whatever the unlettered may say in disparagement.

From the Ayrshires, I drifted to the Devon. A lithe little man was furberishing them up with diligent and minute attention. They are a very old and distinct race, having a record of their own more complete than the modern improved breeds. Physiologically, they are well formed, color permanent, bright red, without white or other spots, neck long, deer-like. For activity, strength, and hardiness, this breed has no equal in the Province; the quality of the meat good as the best, farmers, whose object is to rear cattle for the yoke and milk combined, will find them well adapted to their means of keep. The specimens on exhibition do credit to the skill and judgment of their owner as models of the best of Devons. While in the act of fondling the juveniles of the herd, I recognized aunt Sarah's voice, and made known my presence at once.

"Oh, Rufus," she said, "I am so glad to have found you. Where is Ann Jane. I saw Ezra Sharp as I entered the hall. He was lecturing some boys on the impropriety of taking what did not belong to them. That if they attempted that game on him again, he would give them 'fits.' I enquired if Miss Charters was in the building, and he informed me in his sailor way of speaking, 'the last he had seen of her she was scudding before the wind, hull down, with you in tow.'"

"It certainly does blow here in a very unbecoming manner. Give me your arm, I wish to have a look at the Ayrshires, to ascertain if the animals here are finer than my own. We will then move in search of the truant."

"Why don't the captain exhibit some of his stock," I enquired  
"His animals, you know, are not registered, and would class with the common herds of the country. He thinks the prize list is arranged chiefly to accommodate pedigree animals, and that the small farmers are out in the cold, and would not be successful in such a contest. I am not acquainted with the rules governing these exhibitions,—they may be right, and they may be wrong. I know it is wrong to do certain things. To perpetuate acts that conflict with a law of right; and I should much regret a proposal to match any of my milkers, for a pot of butter, against the best cow in this show. If I should consent to an arrangement of the kind, it would be rather a test in the science of morality, than for the pot of butter, although, Rufus, I think I should prefer a good-sized pot."

"What is your opinion, aunt, of these Ayreshires."  
"I think they are more symmetrical than mine, and that they are a credit to the owners, but I think they are not as deep milkers. These animals have a pedigree which gives them a special privilege in the 'ring.' I should like to see their milk record. Mine, as you know, are natives, and have for some years been carefully bred and cared for. If it were a milk-and-butter test, their pedigree would fail them. The captain's views are, that farmers, such of them who are able, should make an effort to improve the native stock, and mould a strain adapted to the dissimilar sections of the Province. That much money is wasted on imported animals which are commonly not appreciated,—that they have not cheapened the meat, or helped us, as yet, to any more butter or cheese,—that our people are active enough from home,—that our fruit is highly spoken of abroad,—and why not; he says, get up a breed of Nova Scotia animals of all kinds, and meet the foreigner on his own ground."

Mexico has a land system under which about 50,000 proprietors own most of the soil occupied by 10,000,000 people. The great haciendas are hard to break up, and constitutes a barrier to progress which may serve as a warning to the people of the West, where the cattle barons and foreign syndicates are getting control of enormous tracts.

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CHARGES MODERATE.

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This concentrated, powerful and valuable fertilizer is now shipped, uncreamed, at \$25, and fine screened, \$30 per ton of 2000 lbs., ex barrels or bags f. o. b. from wharf at Cape Canso. Orders for next season are booked from this date at Halifax, No. 67 Hollis Street. One ton of this Guano spread broadcast on a field with a sowing drill or otherwise, is equal in effect to fifty tons of common lobster waste as now used, but has no pernicious emanation nor unpleasant odor. It being a fine, dry and soluble powder, its action and assimilation are immediate.

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100 half chests, Ex GOtTENBURG CITY  
210 half chests, Ex AUSTRALIA  
638 half chests, Ex CALLEDONIA  
320 half chests, Ex WETTERBY  
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3266  
5360

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Shawls, Mantles, Mantle Cloths, Dress Goods,  
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Also—A nice variety of FANCY GOODS

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Family FLOUR, Fine, Superfine and Extra C  
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Barley, Soap, Tobacco, Teas, Molasses, Sp  
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Also—A choice stock of

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Orders Promptly filled. City Goods delivered  
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At all times and upon every occasion there is nothing more suitable for a Present than a nice piece of

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Nowhere in the Maritime Provinces can you find such an assortment to select from.

**PRICES SO LOW !**

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We have on hand at the present time a very large assortment of

**New and Elegant Designs**

— IN —

**ASH & WALNUT**

**Chamber Suits,**

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that cannot be equalled in the Dominion for the price.

**ONE CARLOAD**

**Rattan Furniture**

just received. New Designs in Easy and Looking Chairs, Children's Chairs, Tables, Work Baskets, Wall Pockets, Brackets, etc. We are the sole agents for the only manufacturers of these goods in the Dominion, and are selling at Manufacturers' Prices, which are 25 per cent below all others.

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Also, fine GERMAN PIANOS, which are fully guaranteed. Also, some CHICKERING PIANOS on hand, which will be sold at

Prices to Suit the Times.

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**SMITH'S 'ANTI-PORTUSSENT,'** or Cure for Whooping Cough. It is a safe, reliable and effectual remedy. Sold at the

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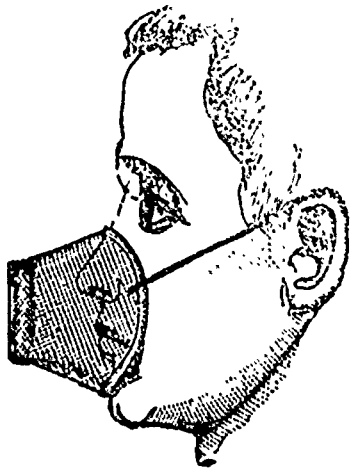
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**DISEASES TREATED.**—Catarrh of the Head and Throat, Catarrhal Deafness, Chronic Bronchitis, Asthma and Consumption. Also, Loss of Voice, Sore Throat, Enlarged Tonsils, Polypus of the Nose removed.

COME EARLY. CONSULTATION FREE.

Read the circulars, and hand them to your neighbors.

**LOSS OF VOICE AND CONSUMPTION CURED.**

Fredericton, June 19, 1884.

**DR. WASHINGTON—**

Dear Sir,—I write you under feelings of intense gratitude for your Spirometer and other instruments and medicines, which have entirely restored me to blooming health. I was given up to die of consumption, and, in fact, had no hope of ever recovering myself. Lost my voice for fifteen months. All the symptoms of consumption present—so much so, indeed, that our family physician and others gave me up to die. The change of treatment came in time to save my life, and it is for the benefit of others who are afflicted as I was that my name is allowed to appear in public print. I can heartily recommend the treatment to all who wish to be saved from the grave.

Yours truly,  
MISS JEANETTE BEVERLEY.

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Wesley Bullen, Esq., Wholesale Liquor Merchant, Firvus Street, Belleville, Ont., says—"I have been affected with Catarrh for 25 years, and after trying every available remedy without effect, took the Spirometer, which, with the medicines used, entirely cured me."  
WESLEY BULLEN.

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H. G. WILSON, 125 Granville Street.  
HALIFAX, N. S., June 24th, 1885.  
To DR. WASHINGTON, Throat and Lung Surgeon, Parlor 73, International Hotel.  
Dear Sir,—Having been troubled with weak lungs and hemorrhage for some time with every indication of speedy consumption, concluded to try your **INHALATION TREATMENT**, with the most flattering results. In fact to-day I am attending to my general business without noticing my former weakness, or that my lungs were ever affected. Your treatment and medicines are highly commended.  
H. G. WILSON.

**ANOTHER REMARKABLE TESTIMONY**  
CONSUMPTION CURED IN THE LATEST STAGE.

CAPTAIN WILLIAM SALTER,  
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**N. WASHINGTON M. D., Throat and Lung Specialist, Toronto.**  
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CAPT. WM. SALTER.

Head Office—135 Morris St.

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OF BROOKLYN, N. Y.

**FIRE. MARINE.**  
OFFICE. No. 195 BROADWAY, NEW YORK.

Statement Showing the Condition of the Company, on the 1st day of January, 1886.

CAPITAL.....	\$1,000,000 00
GROSS SURPLUS.....	3,910,483 36
	<b>4,910,483 36</b>
<b>ASSETS.</b>	
UNITED STATES BONDS.....	\$1,099,500 01
OTHER STOCKS AND BONDS.....	1,493,696 10
LOANS ON BOND AND MORTGAGE (value of property, \$722,000).....	42,750 00
LOANS ON CALL (market value, \$76,615).....	50,450 00
CASH IN BANK AND OFFICE.....	458,816 05
REAL ESTATE, UNENCUMBERED.....	748,512 58
PREMIUMS IN COURSE OF COLLECTION.....	618,132 48
INTEREST ACCRUED.....	13,326 71
BILLS RECEIVABLE FOR MARINE PREMIUMS.....	62,250 87
RENTS DUE AND ACCRUED.....	3,158 57
<b>TOTAL.....</b>	<b>\$4,910,483 36</b>
<b>LIABILITIES.</b>	
RESERVE FOR UNEARNED PREMIUMS.....	\$2,845,018 81
RESERVE FOR ALL UNPAID LOSSES.....	511,473 03
ALL OTHER LIABILITIES.....	6,793 47
CAPITAL STOCK.....	1,600,000 01
NET SURPLUS.....	714,167 42
<b>TOTAL ASSETS.....</b>	<b>\$4,910,483 36</b>

STEPHEN CROWELL, President.  
W. R. CROWELL, Vice-Pres. PHILANDER SHAW, Sec.  
E. P. BURKE, Sec. Local Dept WM. CHARTERS, Asst. Sec.

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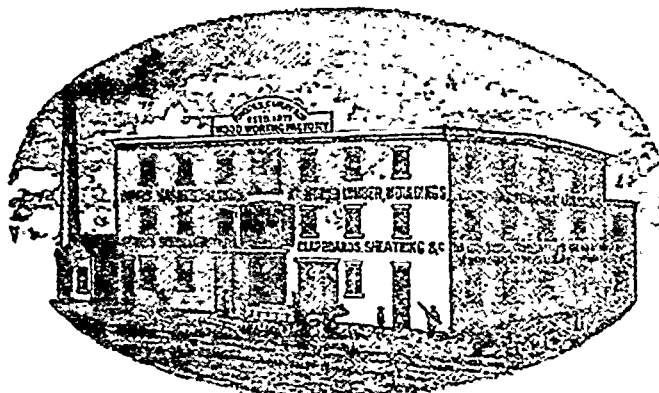
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