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

EDITORIAL NOTES.

There is apparently a fatality in the period of eighteen years in the history of France for the last century. Louis 16th was beheaded in the 18th year of his reign. Napoleon 1st was banished to St. Helena eighteen years after the conclusion of his glorious Italian campaign. Louis Philippe was driven to abdicate in the eighteenth year of his reign. Louis Napoleon's reign lasted the same period, and the now apparently tottering republic has endured nearly the same ominous number of years.

It is not, apparently, all smooth water and plain sailing with the truculent Premier of Queensland. He is it seems one of four directors of an Investment and Mortgage Company. There has been some gross mismanagement or worse, and an action has been instituted against them for corrupt acts. Public opinion was actively heaping odium on them, and Sir Thomas with difficulty got away in a steamer to China—a bourn whence many say he will not return—to avoid the writs out against him. It is thought in Brisbane that the exposure will do the colony a great deal of harm.

The general tenor of the various reports embodied in the Militia Blue Book show a steady improvement of the Force generally, largely owing to its increasing permeation by graduates of the several schools of instruction. Some reforms which have been persistently urged by the staff, however, yet remain untouched. Notable among these is the deficiency of valise and other equipments necessary to enable a force from each District Head Quarters to take the field efficiently equipped at short notice. More than one D. A. G. unites in urging the adoption of Dr. Olver's excellent valise arrangement, and it is high time this step should be taken. The reduction of superfluous bodies to facilitate the drill of every corps each year is also most important to the cohesion of the National Force. It is not to be supposed that these points do not impress themselves on the Minister, and it rests with Parliament to afford a sufficient vote for these purposes, for a slight addition to the existing force of the schools, and for the establishment of a cavalry school, and, we should say, another infantry school, in the West. It is satisfactory to find high encomiums on the efficiency of the Mounted Infantry School at Winnipeg, and it is notable that the Governor of Jamaica has applied to have a Militia officer of that Island attached to a Canadian Militia Corps, to enable him to avail himself of a course at one of our Schools of Instruction.

European Royalty has, during the last twelve months, experienced more than a common degree of affliction, and, curiously enough, it has been chiefly distributed among the greatest and most despotic houses. While the tragedies of the house of Hohenzollern are still fresh in the public memory, that of Hapsburg, whose private discords and infelicities are by no means of yesterday, mourns a culmination in the suicide of Prince Rudolf, the circumstances of which, imperfectly known as they are, seem to point to some grounds for the recent threatened action of the Crown Princess. To cap the list, the amiable and charming Czarina of Russia is reported to be in thoroughly shattered health. Her nervous system, long unstrung by anxiety on account of nihilistic plots, has succumbed to the culminating shock of the late railway accident, and reduced her to a state of complete hysterical prostration. Truly, "uneasy lies the head that wears a crown."

There is a good deal of the usual ridiculous fuss being made about the Haldimand election. Haldimand has generally been a Liberal County, and there is nothing remarkable in the recent success of a Liberal candidate. Still less does that success warrant the broad statement of Liberal newspapers, that on account of it, Conservatives may as well admit that there is an overwhelming sentiment in the country in favor of Free Trade with the United States. That the average political partizan swallows this sort of stuff with complacency, and holds his mouth open for more, leaves but a poor impression of his intelligence. Unrestricted Reciprocity has recently been defined to mean "Free Trade between Canada and the United States, without conditions regarding the world at large." This is comparatively unobjectionable, but, even so, Canadian manufactures would be slaughtered. But the United States politicians settle the whole question by refusing reciprocity, even in natural products, unless on a basis leading to annexation. What is the use of "insulting the intelligence of the people," by insistence on a cry out of which our amiable neighbors persist in extracting the vitality.

The delegation on the subject of the Short Line received from the Privy Council assurances which, if words mean what they are taken to mean, should be to a certain extent satisfactory, but as yet they are but words. Meanwhile the tone of Mr. Van Horne's utterances is anything but satisfactory. "Recently," he is reported to have said, "but pursuant to a long matured plan, the Canadian Pacific has been extended across the State of Maine to a connection with the railway system of the Maritime Provinces of Canada—an extension demanded in the public interest as well as in the interest of this Company. There is a large traffic between these Provinces and Western Ontario, making local connections in Ontario doubly important." Then he branches off into discussion of Western connections. It may not be so intended, but there is quite an air about this of assumption that the C. P. R. has done all that is necessary. Meanwhile all that is apparent is that while St. John is brought into connection, Halifax is left out in the cold, and must be till the line is built between Moncton and Fredericton. We suspect a strong disinclination on the part of the C. P. R. to build this link. Like the Allan Line, the C. P. R. seems to have no interest in Halifax, and we regard it, in this connection, with the most profound distrust. The Grand Trunk, whose interests point to Portland, is also to be reckoned as one of the enemies of the Maritime Provinces.

We do not go the full length of saying that Professorships should be invariably filled by Canadians, but only this far—that if an English or Scotch university man of preponderating eminence could be secured, it might be an injustice to the rising generation to set ourselves against him. This is, however, not the case. The salaries current here are not such as to be an inducement to the very highest calibre across the water, and none but the very highest would justify a preference in that direction. As regards the Dalhousie Professorship, we have no hesitation whatever in indicating Professor Roberts as the man who would be of the highest service to the institution. It has been mooted whether this gentleman's erudition is, in some directions, altogether as deep as that of Professors Smith and Tweedie. This may or may not be, but Professor Roberts has the great advantage of a creative genius. With it goes the magnetism and the energy which rouse enthusiasm, and this is the most telling quality a university magnate can possess. Professor Roberts is in the very front rank of the heirarchy of Canadian Poets, but the poet of to-day is no dreamer, and Mr. Roberts' intellect is of the keen and active order which is as capable of grappling with any business question as of poetical inspiration. The sound critical faculty which he possesses in a marked degree is a further recommendation. Altogether we look upon Professor Roberts as the man whom Dalhousie would do itself the most credit by electing. He will, if chosen, be emphatically the right man in the right place.

If reports are reliable there seems to be another epidemic of outrages on women in the Province of Quebec. We shall never cease to urge the unsparring infliction of the lash in convictions for this dastardly crime.

A very remarkable man has recently passed away in the person of Lawrence Oliphant. A traveller, and recorder of his travels, of remarkable scope, he was also a brilliant novelist with a deep current of theosophical thought underlying his sarcasm. His peculiar novel "Piccadilly," may almost be considered a classic. His experiences ranged from his "Transcaucasian Campaign, under Omar Pasha," and his "Journey to Khatmaudu" (Nepaul) to association with Harris, the visionary spiritualistic American preacher, whose ecstatic eloquence is still remembered in England as well as the States.

A very singular article in the *Boston Transcript*, after going into the falling off of all branches of New England commerce, actually brings geographical as well as commercial considerations to bear on an ostensible suggestion of annexation to Canada, in preference to connection with the other States "with which they are not geographically allied," and which have robbed the New England States of their trade. It is quite possible, however, that this Jeremiad may be intended to work quite the other way, and to strengthen and intensify in New England the national desire for the absorption of Canada. We do not believe all we hear or see, on the face of it.

We wonder how it is that the very American term "City Marshal" should have come into such vogue in the Maritime Provinces for the chief police officers of the cities. There would be no particular objections to it merely because it is American, but it has a smack of that sort of grandiloquence, pleasant to the American ear, but somewhat distasteful to that of the British citizen. The term is unknown in Ontario, where the functionary indicated is, so far as we know, always known by the much more direct and appropriate designation "Chief of Police." The term Marshal associates itself chiefly with the highest rank in European armies, or otherwise with the temporary organizer and director of a procession, and is quite out of keeping with the head of a body of policemen.

It is said the Imperial Government will recommend Parliament to subsidize the International Cable Company, which undertakes to lay a cable from Halifax to Bermuda, and two from England to Halifax, one direct and one *via* Lisbon. The Bermuda cable will extend to the West Indies, and they are promised to be laid during this season. We trust this is true. With a direct cable to Halifax, surely the Canadian Press might unite to deliver itself from the disgrace of getting all its cable news garbled by transmission through mendacious American correspondents, for the peculiar tastes of the American public. The Canadian Telegraph Line is also, we are glad to see, completed to the Atlantic seaboard, which, we take it, is a step towards the deliverance of Canada from the detestable Wiman monopoly.

India and the Colonies has the following editorial note, which may be of interest to many Canadian families, perhaps especially those of the Maritime Provinces:—"The *St. James' Gazette* having published a report to the effect that the Admiralty experienced difficulty in obtaining a sufficient number of candidates for cadetships in the Royal Navy, Sir Charles Mills has written to that paper pointing out that any such difficulty could be easily overcome by increasing the number of cadetships to be offered to the sons of residents in the Colonies. The idea suggested by Sir Charles is an excellent one, and, as he observes, there are numerous families in the Colonies who are anxious to see one or more of their sons, high-spirited and well-educated, in the Royal Navy, to which, under the present regulations, only very few Colonists have any chance of obtaining admission."

There are so many pulls on the Militia vote that it is the plain duty of the authorities to put a stop to any expenditure that can be shown to be ill-judged or unnecessary. There is no doubt that a portion of the vote in promotion of rifle-shooting falls short of its intent, which is the improvement of the shooting of the rank and file. The very large and undue proportion of prizes taken by officers (many of them non-combatants) and staff-sergeants, is forcibly commented on by the D. A. G. of Nova Scotia and Prince Edward Island, and his report is strongly endorsed by Sir Frederic Middleton. These officers and non-commissioned officers form a small clique of good shots, into whose hands about two-thirds of the prizes find their way, and it is rightly suggested that it is scarcely the thing for officers who make shooting a sometimes not unprofitable little business, to enter into competition for small prizes with their men.

The *Toronto Globe*, referring to the dismissal of Mr. Ross, the late Collector of Customs, says, that "it was very impolitic to signify Ottawa hostility to our neighbors in such a way," and, further, "that it was unwise to give fisheries and customs officials in general so strong a hint that they can win favor at Ottawa only by dealing in the harshest spirit with visiting fishermen." Now, every one regrets the indiscretion which led to the removal of Mr. Ross, but it was an indiscretion of the gravest nature, which might have been easily avoided by simply telegraphing to the head of department, and in the present temper of the American Government and a large section of the American people, it was a necessity to emphatically repudiate an action especially likely to be seized upon and construed into a precedent. As far as the *Globe* is concerned, its creed may be summed up in very few words:—"Lie down quietly, and let the United States walk over you at their sweet will, and don't presume to remonstrate if they dig their heels into you pretty sharply in the process." The last count of the *Globe's* indictment is in the worst spirit of man and superfluous insinuation."

The case of the Isle of Man as that of an independent legislature within the autonomy of the British Isles does not seem to have occurred to speculators on Federation. It is but a small instance, it is true, but the Island is practically entirely uninterfered with by the British Parliament, and has governed itself in peace and tranquility since 1765, when the feudal sovereignty was purchased by the British Government.

Notwithstanding the strong hold M. de Lesseps has upon the purse strings of France, as well as some on the national spirit, we believe the situation of the Panama Canal Shareholders comes to this—that they may possibly struggle on for a year or two by a slow sale of bonds, just keeping the works going without much real advance. If the great war breaks out suspension of operations is certain and failure inevitable, but there is a possible alternative in a sale to the Americans, who would be likely enough to buy them out for a sum down, and perhaps a right to some rate of interest when the works succeed. It is more than probable that the United States who are already willing to spend twenty millions on a rival and inferior canal and who scarcely know what to do with their surplus, would be willing to close a bargain of no small importance to the Pacific States of the Union.

There has for the last two or three years been no end to the advocacy of mercy to the birds of every sort and description all over the globe which are yearly sacrificed, often with ruthless barbarity, to the rage of fashion. Appeals have been made to modistes, both male and female, on the part of the Press, and on the part of humane associations, and it is sad to learn—though the fact is highly honorable to those persons—that they have in many instances attempted in vain to aid humanity. One man milliner, approached by a *Pall Mall Gazette* representative, went the length of seriously injuring his business before he was forced to abandon his benevolent efforts. But the women who choose to adorn their head-gear with the bodies, heads and wings of the hapless birds, stop their ears and steel their minds until no conclusion can be reached but that, where fashion is concerned, the female heart is as hard as the nether millstone.

Canada is daily becoming better known and appreciated in the old countries. Nothing shows this more than appreciation of some social usage, a matter in which English people are supposed to be particularly conservative. The *Lady*, a high class London ladies' paper, has the following:—"There is a pleasant New Year's custom in Canada, which, it seems to us, might be advantageously adopted by Englishmen. On the first two or three days of the New Year, the lady of the house is at home to all her husband's friends, who, not having been able to call on her ordinary reception days, come with the New Year to offer the season's congratulations, and are received with simple hospitality. In this way friendships that might otherwise lapse are kept up, and causes that may have produced temporary estrangement are passed over. The effect of this custom in Canadian towns is very curious, for during the first days of the New Year hardly any ladies are to be seen out, while the streets are full of men hurrying from house to house to fulfil the important function."

For some years, in common with many other Canadian papers of every shade of political opinion, we have urged upon the Government that in the interests of our people—especially of our business men—the Dominion rates of postage should be assimilated to those of the United States. Repeated representations have, however, we regret to say, been without effect. When the announcement was made, a fortnight ago, that Hon. John Haggart had accepted the portfolio of Postmaster-General, it was received with pleasure, as he is regarded as a progressive man, who would favor all reforms that would tend to improve the efficiency of his department, and its usefulness and acceptability to the public. This feeling was apparently confirmed when the telegram further stated that the new minister had decided to recommend to Parliament the reduction in letter rates to two cents, and the increase of a single-letter rate to one ounce instead of a half-ounce. It now appears that the hopes thus raised are not to be realised, that Mr. Haggart will not recommend the change, and that we are to continue to lag behind the United States and Great Britain in our postal rates. We believe that it would pay the country through increased business, and the postal department through augmented receipts, to gracefully yield the reform demanded by the people.

Insufficiently prepaid letters, especially those for points within Canada, should be forwarded to their addresses, if any portion of the postage is paid in advance, and the difference collected from the recipients. To meet such cases, unpaid letter stamps should be provided. We know of many cases wherein more or less important letters mailed to settlements barely beyond the limits of this city have been prepaid one cent instead of three. Though this has evidently been done in ignorance or through inadvertance, even where such letters were addressed to well-known business citizens who happened to be living at their suburban residences, they are sent to the dead-letter office, whence, after the lapse of about a month, a notification is received that such letter was there, and would be sent on upon the receipt of two cents. Besides the great inconvenience, and sometimes loss, arising from this stupid method, it seems impossible to instil into the official mind that the gain to the department in transporting such letters to Ottawa and back, must be infinitesimally small when the cost of this intelligent operation is taken from the two cents collected. The dead-letter office, as now arranged and administered, is an unmitigated nuisance to the public, and must be also to the department. It should be only for the care of improperly directed letters supposed to have valuable contents.

CHIT-CHAT AND CHUCKLES.

OUR COUNTRY.

Ah, feet that tread the rounds of life,
 Ah, thoughts that wander far and wide,
 Ah, hearts wherein are ere at strife
 A hundred passions,—turn aside
 From vain pursuits, from phantom dreams,
 The prize ye seek is near at hand;
 Though beautiful the distance seems,
 The present is supremely grand.
 Oh, land we proudly call our own,
 How fondly cling our hearts to thee,—
 Though better we have never known,
 A better thou in time shalt be.
 A child, we boast thy native worth;
 A youth, we see thee strong and good;
 A man, a monarch of the earth,
 Chief of a noble brotherhood.

H. L. SPENCER.

Experimental Philosophy—asking a man to lend you money. Moral Philosophy—refusing to do it.

ADDING INSULT TO INJURY.—First shopping fiend—Madam, that's my muff. Second shopping fiend—Why, how inexcusably stupid of me to pick up an imitation monkey-skin.

"I know we are poor, dear papa," said Evelyn, nestling her head against his shoulder, "but Athelstane is brave and hopeful, and he says that love will make a way." "I know it will," said old Hlyson, grimly; "it's made away with six tons of parlor coal and \$25 worth of gas since Christmas, and it's next winter that's worrying me."

A fatal defect—Civilian—What do you think of the new dynamite cruiser, the Vesuvius? Naval officer (dubiously)—Well, she's a pratty fair sort of a vessel. Civilian (testily)—Why, what's the matter with her? Naval officer—The cruiser is swift enough and all that sort of thing, but I give you my word as a gentleman that her dancing accommodations are simply wretched, shamefully inadequate.

The ready wit of Sheridan is recalled by that of another prominent politician on the occasion, some years ago, of the Derby being won by a French horse. The Frenchmen present, as was natural, cheered voriferously, &c., one of them shouted—"Waterloo avenged!" "Yes," said the statesman, who was present, "You ran well on both occasions."

A geyser that throws hot mud has begun operations in Dakota. It is suggested that newspapers politically antagonistic might perhaps secure the services of the geyser for a reasonable consideration. The hint is, however, superfluous, for if the mud they are in the habit of throwing at each other is not reeking hot, it makes up for it with a reek that would do credit to the most vigorous of the two and seventy, "each well defined and separate stinks," ascribed by Southey to the memorable city of Cologne.

DOWN-TRODDEN LABOR.—Patrick—"Oi've been readin' the L'bor Organ, to-day, Biddy. 'Tis starvin' we are."

Biddy—"Be away wid yer nonsense. Shure, haven't we money in our pockets, an' money in bank?"

Patrick—"Thru, Biddy; but it's gloomy Oi feel when Oi see what the Labor Organ says of our troubles. C: it we economize, Biddy?"

Biddy—"Wull, yez moight save foive dollars a year by shoppin' the Labor Organ."

Patrick—"Be jabbers, Oi wull."

"Ah, me," said Mrs. Slick, as the family doctor drove away from the door of her residence on South Park Street, "he says I've got the roomatis and am out of killer general-like, and that I must take a course of massag', whatever that means. Mrs. Jones has been throu' the mill, and she says they just scrub you, and pinch, and scrape, and pull, and rub, and mawl, and stroke, and scrunch you, until you feel as tho' they'd skin you like an eel. Well, these modern innervations may be fash'nable, but, for my part, I think sich treatment is only fit for cattle that has thick hides, and has run to fat, but for an old body like me it's downright barrabrick, and I might as well suffer from a respectable complaint as to be defatted and deroomatised by a human scruncher as has no feelin's."

WHY DOES THE SHELL OF THE LOBSTER TURN RED ON BEING BOILED?—The answer to this question in general terms is that the salts which go to make the color in the shell undergo a chemical change by being subjected to the action of hot water. This answer is hardly a satisfactory one. The matter is one which has excited more popular than scientific curiosity. It is a question for the chemist rather than for the naturalist, and that, probably, is the reason why it has not received more attention. All crustaceans undergo this change of color on being boiled. Salt water crustaceans become redder in the process than fresh water crustaceans. The addition of common table salt to the water in which the creature is boiled will conduce to greater redness. Whether it is the sodium or the chlorine in the salt that helps to this result I do not know. The creature itself has nothing to do with the change in its shell, for if the shell be taken from the living crustacean and then boiled, the result will be exactly the same. It has been suggested that red may be the basic color of the shell, and that the chemical change which takes place is merely the elimination of the other colors. The objection is that there is no evidence of removal of color shown in the water. The objection is not vital however.—*Scientific American.*

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When Lazarus lay at the gate quite alone,
 Bewailing his sores, rags and dirt;
 Fine linen was dear, and white muslin unknown
 And no one could spare him a shirt.

But things in our day are better by far,
 And we live in more genial times,
 For we, notwithstanding the rumors of war,
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 With fine work from wristband to collar
 And the best in the land such a garment might wear,
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 I heard some folk holler
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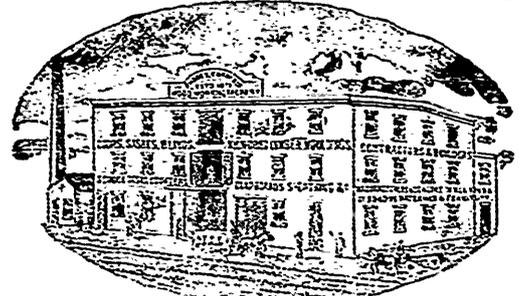
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NEWS OF THE WEEK.

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

Those who wish to secure pleasant and profitable reading matter for the winter evenings should note our exceptional offer which appears on page 15. For \$2.50 in cash we undertake to send THE CRITIC to any subscriber for one year, supplying him in addition with ninety-seven of the most readable of readable books. Those who are renewing their subscriptions, as well as new subscribers, should take advantage of this offer.

Moose are said to be unusually abundant in some sections of the country this season.

The population of Vancouver, British Columbia, not three years old, is estimated at 11,000.

Messrs. Churchill, of Hantsport, are building a steamer which they purpose putting on the route between Boston and Shelburne.

The people of Fredericton, N. B., do not want the assessment increased to provide for electric lighting, having voted against it by 342 to 126.

Toronto has a bountiful supply of the beautiful, and sleighs have been substituted for the ordinary cars of the Street Railway Company.

The lumbermen on the head waters of the Miramichi report four feet of snow in the woods, with a heavy crust, which they have to shovel through.

Vancouver, British Columbia, is now united with this side of the continent by the C. P. R. telegraph system, which is in operation as far as St. John.

We are indebted to Messrs. A. Keith & Sons for a calendar in the best taste, adorned with one of those artistic groups of dogs, of which we saw the first last year.

The Scott Act has become very unpopular in many places where it has been in operation, and the Department of State at Ottawa is besieged with petitions for its repeal.

A night school has been organized in Springhill by Mr. Robert Redpath, the mining instructor appointed by the Provincial Government. There are fifteen pupils in attendance.

There is to be a complimentary benefit concert to Miss Josie Schaefer in Orpheus Hall on the 12th inst., when no doubt the many friends of this popular singer will turn out in force.

The Steamer Esme, from London to Annapolis, has been wrecked on Barrington Head. The crew are understood to have been saved. She was going to load fruit for the London market.

The New Glasgow Enterprise says that "there is no more popular man in New Glasgow than H. F. Sutherland, who has been elected Mayor by acclamation. We congratulate our friend."

Hon. T. W. Anglin, of Toronto, will deliver an address in St. John next month on the Irish question. The proceeds will be devoted to the Parnell Defence Fund, which now reaches the sum of \$152,500.

On Saturday last the property of the Nova Scotia Telephone Company in New Brunswick was formally transferred to the New Brunswick Company, and will hereafter be managed by them. A. A. Knudson is electrician for the company.

A meeting was held in Argyle Hall on Tuesday evening, for the purpose of diffusing information as to the position and prospects of the Church of England Institute. Bishop Courtney occupied the chair. The meeting was well attended.

The Dominion Parliamentary Library has received several valuable additions during the past year. The printing of the American-Canadian catalogue is delayed until the work can be performed by the Government printing bureau.

Dr. D. H. Muir has been elected Mayor of Truro, by a majority of 235 votes over Dr. Bent. Mr. McKenzie has been elected Mayor of Sydney over Dr. McKay McLeod. Mr. Fred. Scarfe has been elected Mayor of Dartmouth without opposition.

Moncton's new electric light street service was put in operation for the first time on February 1st, and worked in a very satisfactory manner. The company have 95 arc lights on their circuits, and intend introducing the incandescent light as soon as possible.

R. E. Bossiere, of the French steamship line running between Canada and France, has arrived at Ottawa from Havre, to secure a renewal of his contract with the Dominion Government. Bossiere is prepared to improve the service by putting on a faster steamship.

The Carnival number of the Montreal Witness did not reach us in time to be noticed in our issue of last week. It is well illustrated and filled with interesting reading matter about Canada, which is calculated to remove the idea that this is a land of perpetual frost and snow.

The Montreal Carnival has been in full swing this week. The Governor General formally opened the ice palace, which is a beautiful structure one hundred feet in height, on Monday. A number of Halifax pleasure-seekers are in Montreal enjoying the festivities of this gay week.

The Ferry steamer *Mic-Mac* has been undergoing repairs for some weeks, and is to have new boilers. It is understood that she will not be finished and ready for service again until April or May. Meantime the *Dartmouth* plies between the city and the town on the other side of the harbor.

Owing to the mildness of the weather, the Curling Bonspiel which was to have taken place on Wednesday had to be postponed. The citizens generally sympathize with the curlers in their disappointment, but of course we do not control the weather and are not responsible for its vagaries.

The introduction of the water system in New Glasgow has wrought a great change in the fire department. Three new fire stations have been built and well equipped with all the necessary appliances. The strength of the department now numbers in all 57 men. During the past year \$1405.63 was expended in improvements.

An order in Council has been passed on the recommendation of Mr. Dewdney, Minister of the Interior, cancelling twenty-five more ranch or grazing leases, comprising an area of 360,000 acres, on account of neglect to comply with the conditions on which they were granted. Another set of monopolies has thus been upset.

The sub committee of the Inundation Committee of Montreal, reported last Friday in favor of a scheme for improving the Harbor of Montreal at a cost of \$3,000,000, about \$1,000,000 to be paid by the city and the rest by the harbor, Government railways, and other parties interested. The question is to be submitted to a popular vote.

All are pleased to learn that the Government has decided to grant the genial and accomodating ex-collector of this port, Hon. W. Ross, a retiring pension of \$1,500 per year. However opinions may differ as to the policy of requesting his resignation, the consensus of public opinion is that he was a faithful and good officer, who deserves well of Canada.

An appeal with which we entirely sympathize has recently been made through the columns of a contemporary in the matter of cutting down the trees at Willow Park. It can, perhaps, hardly be called an appeal for those particular trees, as the vandalism is already perpetrated; but the correspondent justly points out that it would take fifty years to restore the locality to anything like its former degree of picturesqueness.

Mayor Erratt, of Ottawa, is giving the members of the swell club who blackballed him lately a lesson that they will not soon forget. The mayor is a large furniture dealer, and those members of the club whose names are on his books have had summonses served on them. The mayor says he will show no mercy to any of them, that men who can pay club fees and have club dinners should be able to pay their debts.

The Quebec Government seems to have quietly abandoned the attempt to secure the Megantic murderer. This episode has been one of the strangest, and at the same time the most disreputable, that has ever discredited a civilized community—a criminal, and his apparently numerous friends, coolly setting at defiance the machinery of the law of a great province. We believe this disgrace to have been entirely a question of votes.

Truro is trying to keep up with the times. The rate-payers are asked this year to consider the advisability of erecting an academic building for the higher departments of the school at a cost of \$10,000, a town hall and firewards building with site included at a cost of \$5,000, making improvements in the water system to the tune of \$11,000, and to vote \$900 for the payment of bills for other improvements during the past year.

The school board recently instructed teachers that they were not to detain pupils in the school-room during any recess or dinner-hour for any cause whatever. This is a move in the right direction, and if all the teachers in the Province had similar instructions it would be of great benefit to the pupils. It is a positive cruelty to keep children sitting still for a long time, but in the past it has been a frequent mode of punishment.

A society has been formed in Hamilton, Ont., called "The Church of England Defence Association of the Diocese of Niagara." It has been formed for the purpose of opposing the ritualistic tendencies of the Bishop of Hamilton, who has aroused the indignation of many of the people by burning candles about the coffin of a late member of the church, and in many other respects running contrary to the expressed wishes of the people.

"On Saturday evening, * * *, a well known mechanic, went to his home, and after tea went out and bought a copy of the Recorder. After his return, while reading, he complained of a pain in his chest. About 9.30 he retired, and shortly afterwards asked for the doctor and priest. His request was complied with, but before midnight he had expired." The above is from the Recorder's own columns, or we should not have felt justified in re-producing it. We had not the least idea that the perusal of our contemporary was of such instantaneous and deadly effect.

The Second Subscription Chamber Music Concert of the Beethoven Trio, on Thursday, January 31st, at Orpheus Hall, was thoroughly enjoyed by the large and appreciative audience present. The opening trio by Raff-Opus 102, Mr. C. H. Porter, pianist; Herr Klingensfeld, violinist; and Herr Mahr, violincellist; was beautifully rendered. The rich tone of the instruments blended most harmoniously. Each movement was brilliantly and almost faultlessly executed, and met with well deserved applause. Miss Louise Laine followed with three songs—"Lungi dal caro bene," by Sigr. Sarti; "Faithfulness" by Brahms; and "Solvey's Song," by Greig. Each number was warmly applauded, and Miss Laine with her rich well-cultivated soprano voice and clear enunciation, is certainly a great acquisition to the musical talent of Halifax. Herr Klingensfeld's violin solo, "Spanish Dances," by Sarasata, in which he was accompanied on the piano by Herr Mahr, displayed to advantage his wonderful mastery of technique. The performance was, however, somewhat marred by the Herr evidently forgetting the music in the midst of one of the most difficult passages. He quickly recovered himself by a glance at the score, and concluded amid a turore of applause which did not subside until he had responded with an encore. "Dream Singing," music by C. H. Porter, words by Miss Havergal, was charmingly sung by Miss Laine, the audience insisting on an encore. Mr. Porter has secured another decided triumph as a composer with this song. The concluding Trio by Rubinstein, Opus 15, No. 2—was played in a masterly manner, and brought to a close an evening that was a rare treat to all those who were fortunate enough to be present.

A telephone line between Digby and Westport will be constructed early in the spring. The Dominion Government has promised \$2,000 for the laying of cables across the passages. A large portion of the stock has been subscribed in towns in the vicinity.

A subscriber who speaks of THE CRITIC as "your valuable and valued paper," in remitting his back subscription sends us 50 cents as interest. This is quite unusual among newspaper subscribers, and our esteemed friend has our best thanks not only for the amount enclosed but for the principle involved.

The Hon. John Costigan has published a letter explanatory of the alleged interference, in conjunction with Sir A. Caron, with the rights of a settler. Mr. Costigan's exoneration from the charges of his political enemies appears to be complete, and no attempt, so far as we know, has been made to refute his plain statement.

We draw attention to the advertisement on our next page of the performance this evening of the Amateur Dramatic Society. The amateur actors of Halifax with a previous increasing reputation, have been strongly reinforced within the last few months, and we predict not only success to them, but full gratification to their audience.

The new Government steamer "Stanley" on the P. E. Island service gives great satisfaction. Dr. Robertson, Liberal member for Kings, P.E.I., called on the Minister of Marine and Fisheries at Ottawa, recently, and expressed the opinion that the "Stanley" will be able to keep up communication with the mainland at least eleven months of the year.

Dalhousie College and the City of Halifax will sustain a great loss in the removal of Professor Alexander, B.A., Ph. D., Munro professor of the English language and literature, who has been appointed to the Chair of English in the University of Toronto. Prof. Alexander is a native of Hamilton, Ont., and it is gratifying to find a Canadian distinguishing himself in literature, and taking a high position in his native land. The students of Dalhousie, without exception, will regret his departure from the College where he has become a prime favorite. He will not leave until the end of the College term.

Madame Albani, who has been delighting crowds of admirers by her singing in Montreal, Toronto, and other Upper Province cities, did a graceful act before she left Montreal. Having heard of the young blind singer, Miss Tessier, her beautiful voice, and modest hopes, she consented to hear her sing. The prima-donna, after listening to several selections by Miss Tessier, exclaimed "She sings with soul." Before she left the city she forwarded an autograph letter expressing admiration of her talent, which the blind girl, who is only twenty years of age, will doubtless treasure among her dearest possessions.

The U. S. Senate has rejected the British Extradition treaty by a vote of 31 to 15.

The New York papers have despatches saying that the Canadian Pacific railway intend building a bridge over the Niagara at Lewiston.

Smallpox is becoming threatening in several parts of the state of New York, and a grand vaccination of the people is urged, in order to check the spread of the disease.

The street car tie-up in New York is about over. Many of the strikers have applied for work in the stables, and cars have been running with only one policeman to every fourth car.

It is stated that Sir Julian Pauncefote, Permanent Under-Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, has been appointed British Minister to the United States. The report is not officially confirmed.

George H. Stayner and Henry S. Ives have been arrested for fraudulently appropriating the funds of the Cincinnati, Hamilton and Dayton railroad to the extent of two million dollars, while they were President and Vice-president respectively of the Company.

A company has been formed in Detroit, Mich., to tunnel under the Detroit river. The tunnel will be begun about half a mile from the river, and run to the middle of the stream, or the national boundary line. The other half of the work is to be done by a company to be organized under the Canadian law.

A corps of American railway engineers have started for Coquimbo, Peru, under engagement to the Chilean Government, to superintend the construction of railway lines from coast cities to interior points adjacent to the Argentine Republic. The lines will penetrate to the silver mines and facilitate the settlement of the country.

The United States Senate has been discussing the question of styling their Ministers Ambassadors, which it would save trouble if they did, just as it was highly expedient to raise their Commodores to the rank of Admirals. But the debate is characterized by the *Montreal Witness* as more like one "among fifteen year-old schoolboys, or a difference of opinion in a backwoods township council, than the proceedings of a national assembly."

Bunmay, the new king of Annam, is only ten years old, and a regency has been established.

Russia is about to send a colony to a new Russian settlement in Abyssinia. Col. Aschinoff, the leader of the expedition, has received a grant of three million roubles to found a new Moscow on the Red Sea.

Dr. Hennet, a distinguished German specialist, considers the disease of the ear with which the German Emperor is afflicted very serious, and fears it may lead to meningitis. Should an abscess form, he says it may be necessary to resort to trepanning.

Sir Charles Fupper visited the exhibition building at Paris recently. He expressed regret that Canada was not taking part in the exhibition.

The electric light is making great progress in Berlin, the number of lamps now in use there being about 25,000, against 850 at the end of 1886.

Switzerland is making progress with the telephone. The system at Geneva has been put in connection with that of Berno, and five minutes of conversation can be enjoyed between the two towns for fivepence.

Newgate prison in London is soon to be demolished. A delegation of the Society of Architects lately visited the place and made an examination of the historic structure so soon to be numbered with the things of the past.

A riot has occurred at Ching-Kiang-Foo, China, during which the British Consulate and several houses belonging to foreigners were destroyed. The British man-of-war Mutine has been dispatched to Ching-Kiang-Foo to protect the lives and property of British subjects.

Twenty steamers have been detained at Glasgow owing to a strike of seamen. It is impossible to obtain a sufficient number of seamen and firemen to work the vessels. The strike has extended to Dublin, and some ship-owners have conceded the advance demanded by the men.

The Archduke Ludwig and his sons, to whom the Austro-Hungarian succession reverts, are neither notable nor popular, and there may be a possibility of some action being taken in favor of Prince Rudolf's young daughter, of the nature of the Pragmatic Sanction which seated Maria Theresa on the throne.

Queen Victoria is going to bequeath the whole of her jubilee gifts to the nation, from whom most of them came, and has added a codicil to her will to that effect. They will probably be placed in Kensington Museum after Her Majesty's death, when they will be open for all time to the inspection of the public.

There is an ugly rumor that it is intended to ask Parliament next session for an increased allowance to the Prince of Wales. The usual plea of duties performed for the Queen will be put forth, but it is felt that if that plea be sound, the Queen herself should do what is necessary. The Prince's income is estimated at \$620,000 per annum.

Circumstances point to the conclusion that Rudolf, Crown Prince of Austria, committed suicide by shooting himself with a revolver, though there are hints of foul play. He was devoted to scientific and literary pursuits and did not care for political life. He was much opposed to Bismarck and did not relish the superior airs of young Kaiser William.

The Barque Large Bay, bound for Auckland, was towed into Spithead on the 6th inst. in a sinking condition. She was in collision on Monday night with an unknown four-masted steamer off Beachy Head. The steamer sunk with all on board in about eight minutes, and the seamen of the barque estimate that there must have been about 100 persons lost.

There has been a sad state of affairs in Australia, owing to lack of rain for nearly two months. Millions of cattle are reported to have died for want of water. About the same time of the year we were being deluged with it on this side of the globe. Rain fell about Christmas, which is summer season in Australia, and the inhabitants in the country districts felt immensely relieved by it, the cottagers going out to catch it with all kinds of vessels.

TO THE DEAF.—A Person cured of Deafness and noises in the head of 23 years standing by a simple remedy, will send a description of it FREE to any Person who applies to NICHOLSON, 30 St. John St., Montreal.

AMATEUR DRAMATIC CLUB.

The first performance of this Club will be given under the distinguished patronage of His Excellency Sir John Ross, General Commanding, His Honor the Lieut. Governor, Col. Hill and Officers of the Royal Artillery, Col. O'Brien and Officers of the Royal Engineers, Col. Fenn and Officers of the West Riding Regiment and His Worship the Mayor.

ON FRIDAY EVENING, FEB. 8,
—AT THE—
ACADEMY OF MUSIC.

The first piece will be that new and ever charming Comedy,
"TIME WILL TELL!"

With an exceptionally strong cast.
And the performance will conclude with the
Roaring Farce,
"TURN HIM OUT!"

The proceeds, after meeting the expenses of the Club, will be divided equally between the Halifax Society for Improving the Condition of the Poor, and the Society St. Vincent de Paul.

The performance will open at 8 o'clock.
Doors open at 7.30. Admission:
Reserved Seats 75c. General Admission 50c. Second Gallery 25c.

The splendid Band of the W. R. Regiment will furnish the music.
Carriages may be ordered at 10.30.

Justice
SOAP

Has
no
equal

FOR PURITY IN MAKE.
FOR WASHING QUALITIES.
FOR RETAINING ITS COLOR.
FOR HEALING CHAPPED HANDS
FOR FULL WEIGHT.
FOR DELICACY OF PERFUME.

things about Mr. Justice Burbridge, who held a sittings of the Court of Exchequer in your City lately. Judge Burbridge is quite as highly esteemed here as he is in the province of his nativity down by the sea; and his public career but emphasizes the well established fact that the sons of Nova Scotia always give a good account of themselves when entrusted with responsible positions, either within the limits of their own province or in the wider range of Dominion affairs. His tenure of the office of Deputy Minister of Justice was marked by excellent judgment, sound legal knowledge, and administrative ability of a high order. The experience gained in that capacity stands him in good stead in his present position as Judge of the Exchequer, and I quite endorse the opinion expressed in the paper above referred to, that "he bids fair to become an ornament to the Bench of the Dominion."

OTTAWA.

DIXIE.

[FOR THE CRITIC.]

EVENTS AND COMMENTS.

It has been reserved for Vermont, one of the old commonwealths of "Uncle Sam's Land of Liberty," to provide a law, which may be pleasing to the "Prohibitionists," but very distasteful to those who believe that such statutes are not only a violation of personal liberty, but in reality more despotic than any laws that may be found among Russian edicts.

The clause referred to reads as follows:—"It shall be the duty of the sheriff or his deputy or any constable to search *without warrant* any wagon, carriage, cart, sleigh, sled, trunk, box, hand-box, satchel, bundle or clothing conveyed or *worn* along any road or street for intoxicating liquor," if he (the officer) on information or suspicion thinks there is a chance of finding any by so doing." This law is now in full force, and must be looked upon as one of those Puritanical freaks that have occasionally seized our New England neighbors ever since the days of the "Salem Witchcraft" of Massachusetts, and the "blue laws" of Connecticut. We hope that a second "Whiskey Rebellion" may not be the consequence of such fanatical ideas; as this would seriously interfere with gracefully seating the President-elect in his chair, which rests with one leg on the "Whiskey plank" of the Republican platform.

The Colchester *Sun* and Halifax *Chronicle* are just now having a little tilt on the question of "unrestricted reciprocity" or "commercial union" between Canada and the United States. Really the political aspects of these two countries at present are so entirely different, and so much opposed to each other, that any argument, in my opinion, either pro or con, on this subject, is a useless waste of time and paper. Both the *Chronicle* and *Sun* are mistaken in some of their deductions as to the real "cause of the prosperity of the South since the Civil War." To make a short statement of the facts, I will remark that the great manufactories of the North have nearly all been removed to the South, where bread, meat and labor are cheaper and more easily obtained than in the North, and where the transportation of the raw material is much less than when it was taken from the South, either by rail or water, to the New England States before the war. The same may be said of the foundry and iron manufactories, etc., that have sprung up in various parts of the South since the war. As to the "Tariff in the United States," it affects the producer of cotton very differently from the manufacturer. The planter or farmer has to pay a duty, on an average, of 47 per cent. on almost every article that he needs for consumption in his family, or for use on his farm; whilst the capitalist has his money protected by the government beyond its value, in his great manufacturing establishments, and yet the operative who works for him cannot go to a store and buy a yard of cotton cloth any cheaper than the farmer who raises the "raw material." If Canada possessed the climate and soil to produce tobacco, cotton, rice, sugar and other semi-tropical products, she might compete with the South in these commodities, but the laws of nature have forbidden it, and, consequently, she must content herself with the goodly heritage that she has within her borders, and press forward in the competing race for wealth and prosperity with other countries.

It was not the "wealth" alone of the "Northern capitalist" that made the South "blossom as the rose," it was her magnificent heritage of millions of acres of rich arable, alluvial lands, her great forests of yellow pine, the different varieties of oak, chestnut, walnut, poplar, ash and hickory, together with her collective beds of iron, coal, lime, plaster, marble, zinc, tin, copper and gold, as well as her rice, cotton, tobacco and sugar plantations, etc., which are not surpassed by any other country, that have been the principal factors in the rapid development of the South since the days when slavery ceased to mar one of the fairest portions of God's heritage to man.

It is too late now for politicians to speculate on the subject of "commercial union" or "unrestricted reciprocity," as the golden moment for England and Canada passed away when England refused to recognize the Independence of the Southern Confederacy during the late Civil War in the United States. If this stroke of policy (as was advocated by the far-seeing statesmen of England and the Southern States,) had been consummated, Canada and the Southern States would have long since had a permanent reciprocal trade, and their interchange of products would have added untold wealth to each section. Besides this, the power that seriously threatens the peace of this country at no distant day, would have been more properly balanced on the map of North America, and then the "tail-twisters" of the British Lion would not have been so numerous as they seem to be in the present Congress.

States; and, I presume, if this business continues as brisk as it has in the last few years, that a portfolio will have to be created by our Government in order to decide as to the amount of duty to be collected from this source of wealth to our country. Really, I can see no more harm in placing a heavy duty on "bank robbers" and "absconding debtors" than on a "yankee casket" that comes "through the lines," containing the mortal remains of some loyal Canadian that is being sent thither for burial with his ancestors.

The *Presbyterian Witness* informs us that a Catholic Bishop of Cuba has forbidden the members of his church to bury their dead in the Baptist Cemetery in Havana. I presume this might be called a "retaliatory Bull," as the Baptists do not permit Catholics nor even good old orthodox Presbyterians to participate with them at the Communion Table. I think this Bishop ought to take a more charitable view of the subject, as a "dead Catholic," who might by chance be buried in a "Baptist Cemetery," cannot possibly injure the Catholic Church any more than a "living Baptist" can by excluding Catholics or any other religious denomination from participating with them in the Communion Service.

VETERAN.

INDUSTRIAL NOTES.

The Planing mill and building material factory of Messrs E. Gibson and Sons is situated at 83 Pleasant St. in this City, close to the water's edge. Since the death of the late proprietor, Mr. Errington Gibson, the business has been taken hold of by his two sons, Mr. Fulton Gibson and Mr. Edwin Gibson, who will continue to run it under the old style of the firm of which they were members. The building was partially burnt down in June of '87, but was speedily rebuilt. Entirely new machinery has replaced that destroyed by the fire, comprising a Woodworth planer, a Re sawing machine, the only one of its kind in the Lower Provinces, Planer and Matcher, Circular Saw, large Moulding Machine, (one of the best in the city) Morticing, Tenoning, and other wood-working machines. These are run by a 40 horse-power engine with a boiler of double that capacity, and give employment to from 12 to 15 hands. The main building is 80x30 feet, exclusive of the Engine house, which is a brick enclosure adjoining the factory. The materials used and worked up into the various forms required by the builder and carpenter, are pine, spruce, birch, white-wood, &c., and a speciality is made of pins and brackets for electric lighting apparatus, in which this firm has a large business. All their machinery is of Canadian make and manufacture, and being found entirely satisfactory, adds another proof to that already established fact, that in point of manufactures in this line, if not in all, Canada can hold her own. The place resounds with the hum of industry, and doors, window frames, sashes, moulding and general building material, are turned out in large quantities. Business is reported very good, and as the Messrs Gibson are both young men well trained to their particular line of trade, they will doubtless meet with the success which their exertions merit.

The history of Soap-making may be traced back to very ancient times. The invention of soap is ascribed by Pliny to the Gauls, and he gives the Germans credit for manufacturing both hard and soft soaps. From them the Romans learned the art, but soap was for a long time principally used by them as a wash for the hair. Since that time, however, its use has become so universal, that at the present day we could almost as easily exist without bread as without soap. A visit to a modern soap factory cannot therefore be without interest. An invitation having been extended to us by Mr. C. F. Mott, manufacturer of the celebrated "Justice" soap, we gladly availed ourselves of the opportunity of visiting his factory situated on Argyle St. Briefly described, soap is a compound formed of alkalies and oils or fats. Amongst the materials used by Mr. Mott may be mentioned tallow, cocoa oil, rosin, (a small per centage only) alkalies, borax, paraffine or vaseline, and perfumes, all of the finest and purest qualities. What is technically known as a "Starting kettle," holding some 22,000 lbs., first receives the crude material. Of these enormous cauldrons there are two in the establishment, they thoroughly wash and heat the entire mass, which ready, is conducted by pumping to the next receptacle of like capacity. This is done by means of a pipe that can be lowered to the bottom of the kettle, enabling the operator to pump from one kettle to the other. This process strains out in its passage every particle of dirt or residuum. In the last kettle it is boiled "on the finish." It is then pumped up to the top story into a tank called the "re-melter," covered with felting, where the temperature can be regulated during the process. Having remained here for a certain length of time the still incomplete soap passes to a "crutcher" or mixer, where the various materials are thoroughly communicated, and the borax, vaseline and perfumes added. It is now ready to be passed to the frames and to the cutting slabs, 5 feet long by 15 inches wide, where it is cut up into the required size. Each slab will cut up into 63 pieces weighing in the green state 16½ ozs., which will scale when dry 16½ ozs. full; hence the name "Justice" soap. After being cut it goes to the drying room and is placed on racks, where it remains for a limited time until ready for packing. The bars of soap are now received by the pressing machines, both manual and steam power, the latter the invention and manufacture of Messrs W. & A. Moir, Engineers and Machinists of this city, which has been found to give unqualified satisfaction, and of which Mr. Mott speaks in the highest terms, as also of the other work done by this firm. Amongst the latest improvements pointed out by Mr. Mott were the adoption of iron frames which are now superseding the old fashioned and obsolete wooden ones, enabling the manufacturer to cool and turn out the soap in much shorter time. A 20 horse power engine with a 50 horse power boiler supply the motive power and heating. Candles of the best quality are also manufactured for the use of

I believe that "bank robbers" and "absconding debtors" make up the sum total of "Reciprocal Trade" just now between Canada and the United

gold miners, the candle machines being of the latest pattern. During the excavations at Pompeii, it is stated, a complete Soap-boiling establishment, and soap in a good state of preservation were discovered, but we have little doubt, were these ancient Pompeians to come to life again, we could give them points, and that a peep into a modern soap-making establishment, such as the "Justice Soap" factory on Argyle St., would make them open their eyes.

The annual meeting of the Nova Scotia sugar refinery company was held on Tuesday. It is said that the net profits of the year were \$213,000. Out of this the capital stock of the company was doubled. Twenty-five per cent was declared in dividends and bonus, and the sum of \$150,000 was carried to reserve account. The operations of the refinery were phenomenally successful this year. Two years ago the original company was a complete wreck and was wiped out of existence. The new company undertook a great risk, but it turned out a bozanza. They are to be congratulated upon their excellent management.

James Harris & Co., of St. John are building 50 flat cars for the I. C. R. and 75 flat cars, 55 box cars and 20 cattle cars for the Quebec Central railway. They are also converting 30 flat cars into box cars for the Temiscouata railway. The capacity of their works is three box cars or four flat cars daily.

PARLIAMENTARY REVIEW.

In giving to our readers a calm and dispassionate review of parliamentary matters, we shall as in previous years endeavor to give the pith of what is said by the members on either side of the Speaker's chair, leaving to our subscribers the responsibility of judging of the relative force or weakness of either side in the discussion of any particular question.

In opening the third session of the sixth Parliament of Canada, Lord Stanley, the new Governor General, made a most pleasing impression and it is safe to predict that both he and Lady Stanley will become more and more popular as they become known to the people.

The Speech from the throne was certainly not striking in originality or startling in its propositions, and in this respect it may prove a disappointment to some Canadians, who think that unless the Dominion is extending its territory, and taking in new provinces, or building continental railways, the country must be sinking into a lethargic state, but the truth is, that with the exception of Newfoundland and Alaska, and possibly the New England States, we have all the territory we require, and that our Continental railway now being nearly completed, we must look to great oceanic steamships lines as the proper channel to give vent to that restless progressiveness which is so characteristic of us as a people.

Lord Stanley, after referring to the pleasure which it afforded him as Governor General of the Dominion to meet his Parliamentary advisors, commented on the failure of the fisheries treaty, taking the ground that Canada must now revert to the provisions of the treaty of 1818. It is note-worthy that the Governor General in speaking of Canada and the United States refers to them as two nations, this is placing the Dominion in its proper position as a nation within the British Empire, and not as a mere Colonial possession or dependency of Great Britain.

Several government measures relative to changes in the electoral list, and laws as to bills of exchange, cheques, and promissory notes, etc., were made. The matter of subsidising fast steamers to connect Britain with our Atlantic coast and China and Japan with our Pacific coast, is to be considered, as also trade relations between the Dominion on the one side and Australia, South America and the West Indies on the other.

The report of the Royal Commission upon labor is to be laid before Parliament at an early day.

The address in reply to the Speech from the Throne was moved by young Mr. White of Cardwell, and seconded by Mr. LePine, the labor representative from Montreal East. The maiden Parliamentary speeches of these gentlemen are said to be creditable to them.

Hon. Wilfred Laurier, leader of the opposition, in commenting upon the Speech from the Throne, condemned the narrow policy of the Government in not seeking to extend trade relations with the United States. Taken altogether his remarks were moderate in tone.

Sir John Macdonald, in replying to Hon. Mr. Laurier, said that in view of the position taken by the United States authorities, he could not see that our desire for extended trade relations with that country was likely to produce any good results.

Up to the date of going to press, little business of importance had been transacted by the house.

Notice of numerous questions had been given, but the solid work of the Session had scarcely commenced.

It is generally believed that the Session will be one of the shortest on record.

COMMERCIAL.

That the condition of our winter trade very largely depends on the kind of winter weather with which we are favored has been fully exemplified this season. Severe frosts lasting a few hours, alternated with mild, "balmy" airs covering the major portion of the time, have characterized the season. The result has been that, practically, our great winter industries are paralyzed. No ice has been cut so far. Lumbermen have recalled their gangs of men and horses from the woods, where they have been "eating their heads off" in enforced idleness. Even the usual winter fisheries have been reduced to a minimum. This condition of affairs has prevented working people from

being in a position to purchase their ordinary supplies of food, fuel and clothing. Then, again, the fruit crop—particularly of apples—was, last summer, larger than could be profitably handled, and heavy losses were the consequence. The prospects for the next summer are not encouraging. In large sections of the Province the plum, apple, pear and other fruit trees, under the genial influence of the last two weeks of December and the first two of January, put forth "buds" which later frosts have destroyed, and it is generally anticipated that the crops of the summer of 1889 will be very light.

The following are the Assignments and Business Changes in this Province during the past week:—Fraser Bros., machinists, New Glasgow, N. S., admitted A. F. Fraser, partner; Fox & Sutherland, sailmakers, Parrsboro, Nova Scotia, dissolved, business conducted by Fox; Geo. McCabe, blacksmith, Pictou, Nova Scotia, assigned to J. J. McCabe in trust for benefit of creditors; H. T. Gilroy & Co., general store, Oxford, Nova Scotia, assigned to R. Wood and M. D. Prodell, in trust for benefit of creditors; Malcolm Matheson, tailor, Beddeck, sold out and gone to British Columbia; R. Taylor & Co., boots and shoes, Halifax, sold out retail business to T. G. A. Wilson; Lynch Bros., general store, Digby, N.S., Wm. B., Geo. H. D. and Thos. H. G. Lynch, co-partnership registered Jan. 24, '89; Chas. Fraser, general store, Spring Hill, assigned to C. D. Jones; McGregor & Knight, (estate of) stock advertised for sale by tender.

Bradstreet's report of the week's failures:

	Week		Weeks corresponding to			Failures for the year to date.			
	Feb. 1.	1889	1888	1887	1886	1889	1888	1887	1886
United States..	204	331	280	242	288	1606	1452	1497	1652
Canada.....	53	32	50	33	34	182	202	125	134

DRY GOODS.—In dry goods most of our wholesale houses report that they have accomplished a somewhat increased volume of business, but the complaint is general that payments are slower than expected. This is not a matter of surprise, as country merchants have had hard work to dispose of their stocks, and when they have done so it has been chiefly on credit, which is contingent upon their customers disposing of what produce they have in stock or what the coming season may bring to them. This is certainly not a satisfactory state of business, but it seems to be the best that many country merchants can do.

IRON, HARDWARE AND METALS.—The pig-iron market has been without noticeable change. Only a few lots are reported to have been sold, but at steady prices. It is anticipated that the prices of Canada plates will soon make an advance, as they are alleged to be now offered at less than they can be imported at. Warrants in Glasgow are cabled at 41s. No. 3 foundry iron at Middleborough, 33s. 6d. to 33s. 9d. Ingot copper, Chili, G. M. B. bars, and English and Spanish soft lead are stationary in the London market. The position of the United States iron and steel market is a waiting one. Orders at present are slow, but men interested in foundries say that as soon as the spring fairly opens the demand for iron in all its shapes, especially steel rails, girder iron, and heavy work generally, will be as great as they will be able to meet.

BREADSTUFFS.—The local demand for flour continues slow and the market has ruled quiet and steady without any feature of importance to note. The volume of business transacted has been slight, there being only a small jobbing demand. Boerbohm's cable says:—"Cargoes off coast, wheat inactive, corn nil; do on passage and for prompt shipment, wheat-buyers are holding off; corn quiet but steady. California wheat, off coast, 37s. to 37s. 6d.; do promptly to be shipped, 37s. 9d.; do nearly due 37s. 3d. In Liverpool spot wheat and corn are more acquired for. No. 2 Club Calcutta wheat, ex-ship, 34s.; present and following month 33s. 9d. American mixed maize ex-ship 20s. 3d. Minneapolis straight flour 26s. 6d. Australian wheat off coast 37s. 9d.; present and following month 38s. 6d. Chilean wheat do 36s. 6d.; present and following month 36s. 9d. Walla-Walla wheat, do 36s.; present and following month 37s. French country markets slow. Flour in Paris firm. Spot wheat at Antwerp quiet." In Chicago there has been a weaker feeling in wheat. The market is quiet and trading less active, quotations being by late advices 94½c. February, 97½c. May, 89c. July. On the other hand corn was stronger and moved up to 35½c. February, 35½c. March, 36½c. May. Oats were firmer and improved to 25½c. February, 27½c. May, 27½c. June. The New York market has been faint-hearted. Reports from Europe that the port of Odessa is free of ice have had a depressing effect. However it is noticeable that the "bears" talk but do not act. The *Mark Lane Express* in its weekly review of the grain trade says:—"The delivery of English wheat was heavy. Inferior grades were offered as low as 26s. and sound at 36s. Ordinary samples of 1888 corn declined 1s. Flour was 6d. lower, both for American and English. Foreign wheat dropped 1s. Corn declined 1s. The imports were heavy. They are calculated at over 150,000 quarters. Twelve cargoes of wheat arrived during the week. At Monday's market English wheats were in bad condition and declined 1s. White foreign was 1s. and red 6d. cheaper. Oats were depressed. The deliveries in London within ten days amounted to 200,000 quarters. Prices declined 3d. Corn was 3d. cheaper." It is estimated that the consumption of flour and wheat in the United Kingdom during the past week exceeded the farmers' deliveries of native wheat and the importation of foreign flour and wheat by a quantity equivalent to 929,464 bushels of wheat; consequently the supply in the United Kingdom has decreased to that extent. The amount of wheat and flour now in transit to Europe, with the visible supply of wheat in the United States and Canada, is equivalent to 53,403,734 bushels of wheat, against 54,065,081 bushels one year ago, and of corn, 17,083,609 bushels, against 10,205,763 bushels.

PROVISIONS.—Business in local provisions has been very quiet. In consequence trade has been of merely a jobbing character. The movement in pork was light, owing to the fact that packers generally are at present holding

off. The demand for lard has been fair, but it is reported that in some cases prices have been shaded to effect sales. In other lines such as green hams and flanks no change has transpired. In the Liverpool market a strong feeling has prevailed and lard has advanced 6d. to 37s., and bacon 6d. to 34s. to 36s. Pork was steady at 71s. 3d., tallow at 31s. The Chicago provision market was decidedly weak, and pork broke 22½c. to 25c. to \$11.50 February, \$11.60 March, \$11.87½ May. Lard also was weak and declined 12½c. to 15c. to \$6.87½ February, \$6.90 March, \$7 May. The hog market there was steady and unchanged.

BUTTER.—No new features have developed in the local butter trade since our last report. Really choice qualities are rare and meet with ready sale. Inferior grades—which are chiefly butters hold over by summer producers in the hopes of obtaining higher prices later on, and which certainly have not gained in flavor thereby—are freely offered, but find few takers. The Montreal *Trade Bulletin* remarks:—"Owing to a spell of cold weather throughout Great Britain, a considerable advance has lately been experienced in the price of butter there, which has resulted in the shipment of several thousand packages of Canadian butter during the past few weeks. The qualities that have gone forward consisted of Morrisburg and Eastern Townships, ranging from 20c. to 22c. as to quality, but the season is now too far advanced to make it safe to ship to England."

CHEESE.—Literally nothing is doing in the local cheese market, but, though the market is quiet, prices are firm. The public English cables show a drop of 1s. for finest September goods.

TEA.—The demand for teas, especially Japans, has been slightly better, but little business has been transacted, because holders are confident that better prices will soon rule than they can at present command. The New York market is quoted by the "Commercial Bulletin" as follows:—"Demand is a little careful for lines, and probably will be until after the auction sale; and there is also an inclination to approach invoices somewhat cautiously at the moment. It seems difficult to convince holders, however, that there is any chance against them at the moment, and offerings of pretty much all grades continue in the former moderate, careful form, with the limit of valuation kept well up. Previous rumor of quite a little deal in Pingsueys is confirmed to the extent of 4,000 packages sold on Saturday."

COFFEE.—The coffee market is dragging, the consumptive demand having fallen off considerably of late. Coffee is not a safe article in which to invest at present.

DRIED FRUIT.—The feeling in the fruit market is firm, owing to strong advices from abroad which quote an advance of 3s. to 4s. per cwt., and the market pretty bare of stock. The local demand has been slow, and the market has ruled quiet though at firm prices. There is very little enquiry for currants here, but New York advices show that the market there is strong, and prices have advanced ½c. per lb.

SUGAR AND MOLASSES.—Business in sugar has been quiet, the demand has been slow and only for small lots. In molasses the enquiry has been slightly better, but the feeling is weaker particularly for Barbadoes.

FISH OILS.—The Montreal market continues steady for Newfoundland cod oil, and prices are quoted at 39c. to 40c., smaller lots bringing more money. Halifax oil, 36c. Steam refined seal is steady at 48c. to 50c. and pale seal 42½c. to 45c. Cod liver oil 65c. to 70c. for Newfoundland, and 90c. to 95c. for Norway.

FISH.—Excessive dullness has been the characteristic of the Halifax fish market during the past week. Receipts are decreasing, as ruling prices are so low that they do not encourage along-shore holders to forward their fish to market. Some shipments to the United States and the West Indies have been made, but they were small and most of them were on speculation. None of them at present offer a probable prospect of profit. Perhaps when the Lenten season approaches there may be a better encouragement for hazarding the handling of fish, but at present there is none. Our outside advices are as follows:—Montreal, February 5.—"Green codfish is quoted firm at \$4.90 to \$5 for No. 1 ordinary, \$5.12½ to \$5.25 for No. 1 large, and \$5.50 to \$5.75 for large draft. Dry Cod \$4.50 to \$4.75. Labrador herring \$5.25 to \$5.50. Sea trout is quoted at \$10 to \$11. Newfoundland salmon \$13.50 to \$14. No. 1 British Columbia \$12.50 to \$13." Another Montreal report of the same date says:—"The demand for all kinds of salt fish continues slow and the market has ruled quiet and steady with little business. Labrador herrings have been slow at \$5.50 to \$5.65. Cape Breton herrings are scarce and unchanged at \$6 to \$6.25. Green cod have ruled quiet and steady at the recent decline. The receipts of fresh fish have been large, for which the demand has been good, and a large amount of business has been transacted both on local and country account. Fresh haddock and cod have been moving freely at 3½c to 4c. Gloucester, Mass., February 5.—"We quote Georges codfish at \$5.00 per qtl for large, and small at \$4.25. Bank \$3.75 to \$4 for large and \$3.75 for small. Shore \$4.50 and \$4.12½ for large and small. Dry Bank \$4.50 and \$4.25. Newfoundland codfish \$6 to \$6.25. We quote cured cusk at \$3.50 per qtl, hake \$2.50 to \$2.62½, haddock \$3.25; heavy salted pollock \$2.50; and English cured do \$3.25 per qtl. Labrador herring \$7 bbl; medium split \$6; Newfoundland do \$5.50 to \$6; Nova Scotia do \$6; Eastport \$5; round Shore \$4; pickled codfish \$5.50; haddock \$4.50; halibut heads \$3; sounds \$12; tongues and sounds \$10; tongues \$8; alewives \$5; trout \$15. California salmon \$16; Halifax do. \$20; Newfoundland do \$18. Clam bait \$7 to \$7.50; slivers \$6.50; halibut fins \$13." Trinidad, January 18.—"We close out the *Maggie Payne's* cargo at \$20 tierces, \$5 boxes. The *Garnet* came down from Barbadoes with a Lockport cargo which we had to store, having failed to solicit any offer for it. With the present light consumption, caused principally by the generally poor quality of late receipts, dealers are buying very sparingly and any further immediate arrivals will cause a sharp decline. Old stocks on-store are being forced off at \$15 to \$20; as the condition of the fish. There is no pickled fish in the market and all descriptions are coming into request.

MARKET QUOTATIONS.

WHOLESALE RATES.

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

GROCERIES.

SUGARS.	
Cut Leaf	6½ to 8½
Granulated	7½ to 7½
Circle A	7½
White Extra C	6½ to 6½
Extra Yellow C	5½ to 5½
Yellow C	5½ to 5½
TEA.	
Congou, Common	17 to 19
" Fair	20 to 23
" Good	25 to 29
" Choice	31 to 33
" Extra Choice	35 to 36
Oolong, Choice	37 to 39
MOLASSES.	
Barbadoes	35
Demerara	36
Diamond N	45 to 46
Porto Rico	36 to 39
Cienfuegos	32
Trinidad	35
Antigua	35
Tobacco, Black	38 to 44
" Bright	42 to 58
BISCUITS.	
Pilot Bread	3.25
Boston and Thin Family	7
Soda	7
do in lib. boxes, 50 to case	7½
Fancy	8 to 15

BREADSTUFFS.

The condition of the market remains very much the same, though the indications are even stronger of the coming corner. We have quotations under date Jan. 29th from Manitoba. "Patents \$6 55, strong bakors \$6.05 per bbl. in sacks, bran \$20.20, and shorts \$22.25 per ton, sacks extra for bran and shorts 10cts. each." These prices are cost and freight laid Halifax. Manitoba wheat is worth \$1.22 for No. 1 in Toronto, and \$1.24 in Montreal. Ontario wheat is higher than at the close of the year, and the millers in many sections say that farmers deliveries are about exhausted. Quite a number of mills are shut down, were only manufacturing at considerable loss, others have advanced their prices 5 and 10 cts. the last 24 hours. All concur in the opinion that markets have touched bottom.

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

PROVISIONS.

Beef, Am. Ex. Mess, duty paid	12.50 to 13.00
" Am. Plate	13.00 to 13.50
" Ex. Plate	14.00 to 14.50
Pork, Mess, American	18.50
" American, clear	20.00
" P. E. I. Mess	18.00
" P. E. I. Thin Mess	16.00 to 16.50
" Prime Mess	14.50 to 15.50
Lard, Tubs and Pails, P. E. Island	13 to 14
" American	12 to 13
" Cases	13.50 to 14.00
Hams, P. E. I., green	8 to 9
Duty on Am. Pork and Beef \$2.20 per bbl.	
Prices are for wholesale lots only, and are liable to change daily.	

These quotations are prepared by a reliable wholesale house.

FISH FROM VESSELS.

MACKEREL—	
Extra	20.00
No. 1	19.00
" 2 large	16.00
" 2	none
" 3 large	11.00
" 3	11.00
HERRING.	
No. 1 Shore, July	4.50 to 4.75
No. 1. August, Round	3.75 to 4.00
" September	3.75 to 4.00
Labrador, in cargo lots, per bl.	4.00 to 4.50
Bay of Islands, Split	3.25 to 3.50
" Round	2.75 to 3.00
ALEWIVES, per bbl.	5.00
CODFISH.	
Hard Shore, new	4.25 to 4.50
" New Bank	4.25
" Bay	4.12 to 4.20
SALMON, No. 1	15.50 to 16.00
HADDOCK, per qtl	3.00 to 3.25
HAKE	2.50 to 2.75
CUSK	3.00
P. LOCK	2.25
HARK SOUNDS, per lb.	30
COD OIL A	23 to 27

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

WOOL, WOOL SKINS & HIDES.

Wool—clean washed, per pound	15 to 25
" unwashed	12 to 15
Salted Hides, No 1	6 to 6
Ox Hides, over 60 lbs., No 1	6
" under 60 lbs., No 1	5
" over 60 lbs., No 2	6
" under 60 lbs., No 2	5
Cow Hides, No 1	5
No 3 Hides, each	4
Calf Skins	25
" Deacons, each	25
Lambskins	25 to 75
Tallow	3

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

LUMBER.

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

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

Flour	
Graham Flour	5.75 to 6.10
Patent high grades	8.10 to 8.20
90 per cent. Patents	5.75 to 6.00
Superior Extra	5.60 to 5.75
Extras from Patents	5.25 to 5.50
Low grades in sacks	3.50 to 3.40
" barrels	3.55 to 3.60
Oatmeal, Standard	4.55 to 4.75
" Granulated	5.00 to 5.15
" Rolled	5.00 to 5.10
Corn Meal—kiln dried	3.00 to 3.10
Iran, per ton	21.00 to 22.00
Shorts	23.00 to 23.50
Middlings	21.50 to 22.00
Mill or Mixed Feed, per ton	23.00
Oats per bushel of 34 lbs.	43 to 45
" of 48	nominal
" of 60	1.00 to 1.10
Peas	1.80 to 2.00
Pot Barley, per barrel	5.55
Hay per ton	14.00 to 16.00
Straw	11.00 to 12.00

J. A. CHIPMAN & Co., Head of Central Wharf, Halifax, N. S.

BUTTER AND CHEESE.

Nova Scotia Choice Fresh Prints	30
" " in Small Tubs	25
" Good, in large tubs	21
" Store Packed & oversalted	14
Canadian Township	22 to 24
" Western	17 to 19
Cheese, Canadian	11 to 12

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

LOBSTERS.

Per case 4 doz. 1 lb cans.	
Nova Scotia (Atlantic Coast Packing)	5.00 to 5.40
" Full Cans	4.80 to 5.00
" Flat	6.20 to 6.40
" Newfoundland Flat Cans	6.35 to 6.50

The above quotations are corrected by a reliable dealer.

HOME AND FOREIGN FRUITS

Apples, No. 1, new, per bbl	1.50 to 2.75
Oranges, per bbl, Jamaica (new)	5.00 to 5.50
Lemons, per case	3.50 to 4.50
Cocoanuts, per 100	4.50
Onions	
" American Silver Skin	2 to 2½
Dates, boxes, new	6½ to 7
Raisins, Valencia, new	6½ to 7
Figs, Eleme, 5 lb boxes per lb.	12
" small boxes	13
Prunes, Stewing, boxes and bags, new ..	6
Cranberries	7.00
Foxberries	4.00 to 4.50
Grapes, Almeria, kegs	6.50 to 7.00

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

POULTRY.

Turkeys, per pound	13 to 14
Geese, each	50 to 72
Ducks, per pair	70 to 80
Chickens, "	40 to 55

The above are corrected by a reliable victualer.

LIVE STOCK—at Richmond Depot.

Steers best quality, per 100 lbs. alive ..	4.00 to 4.25
Oxen	3.50 to
Fat Steers, Heifers, light weights	3.00 to
Wethers, best quality, per 100 lbs	4.00 to 5.50
Lambs,	4.00 to 5.00

These quotations are prepared by a reliable victualer

MAITLAND'S MYSTERY.

I.

It was nearly midnight, and still the gay party lingered on the veranda. There had been a fortnight of "getting settled" at the new post, preceded by a month of marching that had brought the battalion from distant service to this strange Texan station. The new-comers had been hospitably welcomed by the officers of the little garrison of infantry, and now, in recognition of their many courtesies, the field-officer commanding the arriving troops had been entertaining the resident officers and ladies at dinner. The colonel was a host in himself, but preferred not to draw too heavily on his reserves of anecdote and small-talk, so he had called in some of his subalterns to assist in the pleasant duty of being attentive to the infantry ladies, and just now at 11 45 P. M., he was wondering if Lieutenant Perry had not too literally construed his instructions, for that young gentleman was devoting himself to Mrs. Belknap in a manner so marked as to make the captain, her lawful lord and master, manifestly uneasy.

Mrs. Belknap, however, seemed to enjoy the situation immensely. She was a pretty woman at most times, as even her rivals admitted. She was a beautiful woman at all times, was the verdict of the officers or the regiment when they happened to speak of the matter among themselves. She was dark, with lustrous eyes and sweeping lashes, with coral lips and much luxuriance of tresses, and a way of glancing sideways from under her heavily-fringed eyelids that the younger and more impressionable men found quite irresistible when accorded the rare luxury of a *tête-à-tête*. Belknap was a big and boisterous man; Mrs. Belknap was small in stature, and soft—very soft—of voice. Belknap was either brusquely repellent or oppressively cordial in manner; Mrs. Belknap was either gently and exasperatingly indifferent to those whom she did not care to attract, or caressingly sweet to those whose attentions she desired. In their own regiment the young officers soon found that unless they wished to be involved in an unpleasantness with Belknap it was best to be only very moderately devoted to his pretty wife, and those to whom an unpleasantness with the big captain might have had no terrors of consequence were deterred by the fact that Mrs. Belknap's devotee among the "youngsters" had invariably become an object of coldness and aversion to the other dames and damsels of the garrison. Very short-lived, therefore, had been the little flirtations that had sprung up from time to time in those frontier posts wherein Captain and Mrs. Belknap were among the chief ornaments of society; but now matters seemed to be taking other shape. From the very day that handsome Ned Perry dismounted in front of Belknap's quarters and with his soldierly salute reported to the then commanding officer that Colonel Brainard and his battalion of cavalry would arrive in the course of two or three hours, Mrs. Belknap had evinced a contentment in his society and assumed an air of quasi-proprietorship that served to annoy her garrison sisters more than a little. For the time being all the cavalymen were bachelors, either by actual rank or "by brevet," as none of the ladies of the —th accompanied the battalion on its march, and none were expected until the stations of the regiment in its new department had been definitely settled. The post surgeon, too, was living a life of single blessedness as the early spring wore on, for his good wife had partaken herself, with the children, to the distant East as soon as the disappearance of the winter's snows rendered staging over the hard prairie roads a matter of no great danger or discomfort.

It was the doctor himself who, seated in an easy-chair at the end of the veranda, first called the colonel's attention to Perry's devotional attitude at Mrs. Belknap's side. She was reclining in a hammock, one little, slipped foot occasionally touching the floor and imparting a gentle, swinging motion to the affair, and making a soothing swish-swish of skirts along the matting underneath. Her jewelled hands looked very slender and fragile and white as they gleamed in the soft light that shone from the open windows of the parlor. They were busied in straightening out the kinks in the gold cord of his forage-cap and in rearranging a little silken braid and tassel that was fastened in a clumsy, man-like fashion to one of the buttons at the side; he, seated in a camp-chair, was bending forward so that his handsome, shapely head was only a trifle higher than hers, and the two—hers so dark and rich in coloring, his so fair and massive and strong—came rather too close together for the equanimity of Captain Belknap, who had essayed to take a hand at whist in the parlor. One or two of the ladies, also, were silent observers of the scene,—silent as to the scene because, being in conversation at the time with brother officers of Lieutenant Perry, they were uncertain as yet how comments on his growing flirtation might be received. That their eyes should occasionally wander towards the hammock and then glance with sympathetic significance at those of some fair ally and intimate was natural enough. But when it became presently apparent that Mrs. Belknap was actually unfastening the little silken braid that had hung on Ned Perry's cap ever since the day of his arrival,—all the while too, looking shyly in his eyes as her fingers worked; when it was seen that she presently detached from the button and then, half hesitatingly, but evidently in compliance with his wishes, handed it to him; when he was seen to toss it carelessly—even contemptuously—away, and then bend down lower, as though gazing into her shaded eyes,—Mrs. Lawrence could stand it no longer.

"Mr. Graham," said she, "isn't your friend Mr. Perry something of a flirt?"

"Who?—Ned?" asked Mr. Graham, in well-feigned amazement and with sudden glance towards the object of inquiry. "How on earth should I know anything about it? Of course you do not seek expert testimony in asking me. He tries, I suppose, to adapt himself to circumstances. But why do you ask?"

"Because I see that he has been inducing Mrs. Belknap to take off that little tassel on the button of his cap. He has worn it when off duty ever since he came; and we supposed it was something he cherished; I know she did."

Graham broke forth in a peal of merry laughter, but gave no further reply, for just then the colonel and the doctor left their chairs, and, sauntering over to the hammock, brought mighty relief to Belknap at the whist-table and vexation of spirit to his pretty wife. The flirtation was broken up at a most interesting point, and Perry, rising suddenly, came over and joined Mrs. Lawrence.

If she expected to see him piqued or annoyed at the interruption and somewhat perturbed in manner, she was greatly mistaken. Nothing could have been more sunny and jovial than the greeting he gave her. A laughing apology to Graham for spoiling his *tête-à-tête* was accomplished in a moment, and then down by her side he sat and plunged into a merry description of his experiences at dinner, where he had been placed next to the chaplain's wife on the one hand, and she had been properly aggrieved at his attentions to Mrs. Belknap on the other.

"You must remember that Mrs. Wells is a very strict Presbyterian, Mr. Perry; and, for that matter, none of us have ever seen a dinner such as the colonel gave us this evening for ever and ever so long. We are quite unused to the ways of civilization; whereas you have just come from the East—and long leave. Perhaps it is the fashion to be all devotion to one's next-door neighbor at dinner."

"Not if she be as repellent and venerable as Mrs. Wells, I assure you. Why, I thought she would have been glad to leave the table, when, after having refused sherry and Pontet-Canet for upwards of an hour, her glass was filled with champagne when she happened to be looking the other way."

"It is the first dinner of the kind she has ever seen here, Mr. Perry, and I don't suppose either Mr. or Mrs. Wells has been up so late before in years. He would have enjoyed staying and watching whist, but she carried him off almost as soon as we left the table. Our society has been very dull, you know,—only ourselves at the post all this year, and nobody outside of it."

"One would suppose that with all this magnificent cattle-range there would be some congenial people ranching near you. Are there none at all?"

"Absolutely none! There are some ranches down in the Washita country, but only one fine one near us; and that might as well be on the other side of the Atlantic. No one from there ever comes here; and Dr. Quin is the only living soul in the garrison who ever got within the walls of that ranch. What he saw there he positively refuses to tell, despite all our entreaty."

"You don't tell me there's a ranch with a mystery here near Rossiter!" exclaimed Mr. Perry, with sudden interest.

"Why, I do, indeed! Is it possible you have been here two weeks and haven't heard of Dunraven Ranch?"

"I've heard there was such a thing; I saw it from a distance when out hunting the other day. But what's the mystery?—what's the matter with it?"

"That's what we all want to know,—and cannot find out. Now, *there* is an exploit worthy your energy and best efforts, Mr. Perry. There is a big, wealthy, well-stocked ranch, the finest homestead buildings, we are told, in all this part of Texas. They say it is beautifully furnished,—that it has a fine library, a grand piano, all manner of things indicative of culture and refinement among its occupants,—but the owner only comes round once or twice a year, and is an iceberg of an Englishman. All the people about the ranch are English, too, and the most repellent, boorish, discourteous lot of men you ever saw. When the Eleventh were here they did everything they could to be civil them, but not an invitation would they accept, not on would they extend; and so from that day to this none of the officers have had any intercourse with the people at the ranch, and the soldiers know very little more. Once or twice a year some very ordinary looking men arrive who are said to be very distinguished people—in England; but they remain only a little while, and go away as suddenly as they came."

"And you have never seen any of them?"

"Never, except at a distance. Nor have any of the officers except Dr. Quin."

"And you have never heard anything of the inmates and why they keep up this policy of exclusiveness?"

"We have heard all manner of things,—some of them wildly romantic, some mysteriously tragic, and all of them, probably, absurd. At all events, Captain Lawrence told me he did not wish me to repeat what I had heard, or to be concerned in any way with the stories afloat: so you must ask somebody else. Try the doctor. To change the subject, Mr. Perry, I see you have lost that mysterious little silken braid and tassel you wore on your cap-button. I fancied there was some romance attached to it, and now it is gone."

Perry laughed, his blue eyes twinkling with fun: "If I will tell you how and where I got that tassel, will you tell me what you have heard about Dunraven Ranch?"

"I cannot, unless Captain Lawrence withdraws his prohibition. Perhaps he will, though; for I think it was only because he was tired of hearing all our conjectures and theories."

"Well, will you tell me if I can induce the captain to say he has no objection?" persisted Perry.

"I will to-morrow,—if you will tell me about the tassel to-night."

"Is it a positive promise?—You will tell me to-morrow all you have heard about Dunraven Ranch if I will tell you to-night all I know about the tassel?"

"Yes,—a promise."

"Very well, then. You are a witness to the compact, Graham. Now for my confession. I have worn that tassel ever since our parting ball at Fort Riley. That is to say, it has been fastened to that button ever since the ball until to-night; but I've been mighty careful not to wear that cap on any kind of duty."

"And yet you let Mrs. Belknap take it off to-night?"

"Why shouldn't I? There was no sentiment whatever attached to it. I haven't the faintest idea whose it was, and only tied it there for the fun of the thing and to make Graham, here, ask questions."

"Mr. Perry!" gasped Mrs. Lawrence. "And do you mean that Mrs. Belknap knows?—that you told her what you have just told me?"

"Well, no," laughed Perry. "I fancy Mrs. Belknap thinks as you thought,—that it was a *gage d'amour*. Halloo! look at that light away out there across the prairie. What can that be?"

Mrs. Lawrence rose suddenly to her feet and gazed southeasterly in the direction in which the young officer pointed. It was a lovely, starlit night. A soft wind was blowing gently from the south and bearing with it the fragrance of spring blossoms and far-away flowerets. Others, too, had arisen, attracted by Perry's sudden exclamation. Mrs. Belknap turned languidly in her hammock and glanced over her pretty white shoulder. The colonel followed her eyes with his and gave a start of surprise. The doctor turned slowly and composedly and looked silently towards the glistening object, and then upon the officers of the cavalry there fell sudden astonishment.

"What on earth could that have been?" asked the colonel. "It gleamed like the head-light of a locomotive, away down there in the valley of the Monee, then suddenly went out."

"Be silent a moment, and watch," whispered Mrs. Lawrence to Perry. "You will see it again; and—watch the doctor."

Surely enough, even as they were all looking about and commenting on the strange apparition, it suddenly glared forth a second time, shining full and lustrous as an unclouded planet, yet miles away beyond and above the fringe of cottonwoods that wound southeastward with the little stream. Full half a minute it shone, and then, abruptly as before, was hidden from sight.

Perry was about starting forward to join the colonel, when a little hand was laid upon his arm.

"Wait: once more you'll see it," she whispered. "Then take me in to Captain Lawrence. Do you see that the doctor is leaving?"

Without saying a word to anyone, the post surgeon had very quietly withdrawn from the group on the veranda. He could not well leave by the front gate without attracting attention; but he strolled leisurely into the hall, took up a book that lay on the table, and passed through the group of officers seated smoking and chatting there, entered the sitting room on the south side of the hall,—the side opposite the parlor where the whist-game was in progress,—and there he was lost to sight.

A third time the bright light burst upon the view of the gazers. A third time, sharply and suddenly it disappeared. Then for a moment all was silence and watchfulness; but it came no more.

Perry looked questionably in his companion's face. She had turned a little white, and he felt sure that she was shivering.

"Are you cold?" he asked her, gently.

"No,—not that; but I hate mysteries, after what I've heard, and we haven't seen that light in ever so long. Come here to the corner one moment." And she led him around to the other flank of the big wooden, barrack-like residence of the commanding officer.

"Look up there," she said, pointing to a dark window under the peaked dormer roof of the large cottage to the south. "That is the doctor's house."

In a few seconds a faint gleam seemed to creep through the slats. Then the slats themselves were thrown wide open, a white shade was lowered, and, with the rays behind it growing brighter every instant, a broad white light shone forth over the roof of the veranda. Another moment, and footsteps were heard along the doctor's porch,—footsteps that presently approached them along the grass.

"Come," she said, plucking at his sleeve,—come away: it is the doctor."

"For what reason?" he answered. "That would seem like hiding. No, Mrs. Lawrence, let us stay until he comes."

But the doctor passed them with brief and courteous salutation,—spoke of the beauty of the night and the balm of the summery air,—and went in again by the main door to the colonel's quarters.

Then Perry turned to his partner: "Well, Mrs. Lawrence, what does it all mean? Is this part of what you had to tell me?"

"Don't ask me now. I—I did not want to see what we have seen, but I heard queer stories and could not believe them. Take me in to Captain Lawrence, please. And, Mr. Perry, you won't speak of this to any one will you? Indeed, if I had known, I would not have come out here for the world; but I didn't believe it, even when she went away and took the children."

"Who went away?"

"Mrs. Quin,—the doctor's wife. And she was such a sweet woman, and so devoted to him."

"Well, pardon me, Mrs. Lawrence, I don't see through this thing at all. Do you mean that the doctor has anything to do with the mystery?"

She bowed her head as they turned back to the house: "I must not tell any more to-night. You will be sure to hear something of it all, here. Everybody on the piazza saw the lights, and all who were before you came knew what they meant."

"What were they?"

"Signals, of some kind, from Dunraven Ranch."

(To be Continued.)

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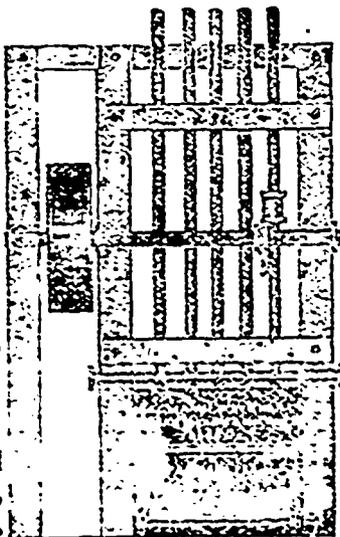
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MINING.

JUMBO LEAD.—The property at Westfield, Queens County, purchased
by Capt. John Nicholls for some of his English friends, bids fair to prove
the most valuable gold mine in the Province. It was at first looked upon
as valuable mainly for the concentrates, quantities of which, taken from two
different portions of the property, yielded on test in Boston from \$90 to
\$115.00 per ton. The shaft has now been sunk to a depth of some 48 feet,
and in addition to the concentrates quantities of fine gold have been
discovered. The lode is well named the *Jumbo*, as in places it is 75 feet
wide. There is a large stream running through the property furnishing
abundant water power. Timber for mining purposes, and wood for fuel are
close at hand, and the road crosses near the shaft—thus making the property
additionally valuable. The *Gold Hunter*, in its last issue says "Jumbo is a
Bonanza," and, under the heading of North Brookfield, continues—"Mr.
Samuel Pierce, of this place, informs us this week that they have 'struck it
rich' at Westfield in old 'Jumbo.' He counted over twenty sights with
the naked eye in one piece of quartz, and under the glass the quartz is
found to be full of fine gold evenly distributed. We understand that
Messrs Pierce and Jolly, having finished their contract at that place in sink-
ing the shaft, will now proceed to drive a drift east and west on the lead.
It is probable that the English company who have now commenced work
there, will soon have a mine in operation on a very much larger scale than
anything before attempted in this country. We now presume there is not
the slightest doubt but that Westfield will be the banner gold district in the
county, as it should, being the most central. Truly this county is under-
going a wonderful transformation."

LOCHABER.—Mr. J. C. Ashton, manager of the property of the Liverpool
Syndicate Co's mine at Lochaber, was in Halifax this week with a nice little
bar of gold weighing some 20 ozs. from 25 tons of quartz. This was the
first clean up of the new mill, and it a good showing under the circumstances.
Very good quartz is now being raised and the prospects are good for large
future returns. The mill and mining machinery run smoothly and give
perfect satisfaction.

Very few returns have so far been received at the Mines Office for the
month of January. From the Shorbrooke District Miners' Mill returns 45½
ozs. from 276 tons of quartz.

SOUTH UNIACKE DISTRICT.—The Withrow Mill returns 92½ ozs. gold
from 23 tons quartz crushed.

LAKE CATCHA DISTRICT.—The Cambridge Mill returns 12 oz. gold from
20 tons quartz crushed.

TANGIER.—The returns from the Mooseland Mill, (Irvin's) Tangier district,
for the years 1888, are 27½ ozs gold from 81 tons quartz crushed. There
are a number of men vigorously prospecting at Mooselande, and as a result
of their labors the locality is likely to prove a large gold producer in 1889.

ECUM SECUM.—The crusher was started up on the Cameron claim on
Jan: 31st. and the owners say that the first crushing will pay the cost of the
erection of the stamp mill.

South of the Cameron claim, the two Mr. Pycs and Mr. Fleet, have
found two leads showing gold and giving every indication of richness.

The time appointed for the sale at auction of the great Dufferin Mine at
Salmon River, at the Merchants Exchange, Halifax, on the 14th March next,
is drawing near, which fact capitalists in search of a paying investment
should bear in mind. Up to the end of December 65,408 tons of quartz had
been mined yielding 31,168½ ozs gold, of a value in round numbers of fully
\$600,000 We have received enquiries from abroad in regard to the
property, and if Nova Scotians are not on the alert the prize will fall into
the hands of foreigners. We would direct special attention to the advertise-
ment of the property which appears in our advertising columns.

ANSWERS TO CORRESPONDENTS—*C. F., New York.*—We know of several
Gold Mining Properties in Nova Scotia which would suit you. For say
\$50,000 you can secure a well equipped mine paying good dividends.

J. McC.—Chicago.—The Nova Scotia gold fields are well worth the
attention of the capitalist you name. We shall be pleased to furnish you
all the information in our power.

Coal.—Montreal.—The coal output of this Province is steadily increasing,
and there are still many valuable partly developed mines that may be
purchased at reasonable figures. Will send the report of the Inspector of
Mines for 1888 as soon as it is obtainable.

WHITEBURN.—They are about testing two other leads on the Graves' pro-
perty. From 25 to 30 cords of wood are being hauled here every day. N.
F. Douglas has contracted for four hundred cords of wood to be delivered at
the Graves' mill.

MOLEGA.—Capt. Brown of the Molega mill has been taking a rest to
himself by an outing in Bridgewater. The mill is running full capacity and
time, and the ore is gaining upon her. The connection between the Chester
and Crows Nest lead will soon be completed—an important item for the
mine. The ore-bodies are all looking well, and the whole concern may be
rated a howling success.

A new lead twenty inches wide was discovered on the Minneapolis Co's
property on Saturday last.—*Gold Hunter.*

The *Spring Hill News*, in a vigorous article headed "Starvation ahead," calls attention to the recent action of the Intercolonial and Grand Trunk roads in raising the freight on coal to the Upper Provinces from \$2.49 per ton to \$3.70, or an advance of 50 per cent. The effect of this advance has been to close up the Spring Hill mines entirely, and the outlook for the poor miners is blue indeed. If, as it is stated, the Intercolonial authorities are responsible for the advance, there can be little doubt but that a grave blunder has been made which the Government at Ottawa will soon rectify. We fear that the increased rate is due solely to the Grand Trunk, which has always tried to kill off through inter-provincial trade in the interest of its Portland branch. If this is the case the only course will be the immediate construction of the short line from Moncton to Mattawamkeag which is the only remedy for the hostility of the Grand Trunk.

London is going mad about Witzwaterstrand in South Africa, led on by *The Weekly Bulletin*, edited by the talented Kenneth Ffarington Bellairs. Mr. J. C. Ashton, who was in South Africa previous to coming to Nova Scotia, passed through Witzwaterstrand and was strongly advised to remain there. He reports that the "reefs" are in a kind of conglomerate and the richness of the ore may be judged from the following returns of the "Robin son mine." The mining was done by a 10 head Robby battery. July 2033 ounces; August 2454 oz.; September 3296 oz.; October 3550 oz.; November 3918 oz.; December 4100 oz. Total for six months, 19,315 ounces Gold, value £67,728. Big as are these returns, we still have reason to believe that Mr. Ashton will bless the day that he came to Nova Scotia.

We regret to see that the once profitable Stephens' Manganese Mines at Tono Cape are about to be sold under execution.

GLACE BAY MINING Co.—The annual meeting of the Glace Bay Mining company was held on Tuesday. A five per cent. dividend was declared, being one per cent. more than last year. The output of coal for 1888 was 77,000 tons, a slight increase on the previous year. An offer from J. D. Kennelly to buy out the company at 75 cents on the dollar par value of the shares, was declined.

The quicksilver mine near Oakland, Ore., is yielding fifteen flasks per month. This is the only cinnabar deposit on the coast now worked outside of California.

ORIGIN AND MODE OF OCCURRENCE OF GOLD-BEARING VEINS AND OF THE ASSOCIATED MINERALS.

By JONATHAN C. B. P. SEAVER, C. E., F. G. S. & C.

(Continued.)

Other veins in this place yielded silver ores, such as chlorobromides, &c., in conjunction with gold, and a large Stotefeldt furnace was erected some years ago, with a dry-crushing battery and other appliances, to treat such class of ores. Many other of the quartz veins in this locality might be described. One very peculiar deposit, found, I may say, almost under my own eyes, was upon the top of a small rise, upon the side of which some pieces of gold of various sizes had been picked up.

Six hundred ounces of gold mixed with broken quartz was obtained in a sort of cleft in the rock some few feet wide at the top of the said rise, and although a shaft was sunk about 100 feet or so, no defined vein or lode was found, nor any more gold so far as I have heard. I might say that a large amount of gold was obtained from the district from the alluvial, evidently traceable in most cases to the denudation of reefs, or some particular reef; and also, in some of the auriferous veins, copper, silver, and lead ores, and many other minerals also occurred, but mostly in small quantities. I might add that the formation of the district just described is upper silurian, largely intersected by igneous rocks in the form of dykes and veins, and granite country lies to the east at a distance of about three miles from the Wilson Hill Reef.

Perhaps no part of Victoria is more interesting in regard to the great peculiarity of its auriferous quartz veins than Sandhurst, and at the same time it is the centre of a most thriving mining district. The saddle reefs of Sandhurst are most unique in their mode of occurrence. They appear to be irregular deposits of auriferous quartz, formed upon either two planes of the rock that intersect one another, such as bedding and jointing, or upon an anticlinal arch in the palaeozoic strata.

There are many other peculiar modes of occurrence of quartz veins in this district and other parts of the colony. The flat reefs of Pleasant Creek is another form under which quartz veins exist in Victoria.

Many of the granites and other igneous rocks contain veins of auriferous quartz. A reef in gneissic granite at Omeo contains large quantities of very auriferous pyrites and some galena; both pyrites and gold being sometimes found impregnating the walls of the lode to such an extent as to pay the miners to crush a portion of the rock. This lode is crossed in its course by igneous dykes of quartz porphyry and diorite, and the quartz matrix of it seems to contain a large percentage of galena and silver as it approaches the dykes of quartz porphyry.

Gold is found in the same district impregnating granite in the form of small grains, and at Kamarooka it is found in thin plates in the laminations of slate. It has also been obtained from sandstone, and there is little doubt that all igneous rocks that are impregnated with iron pyrites have a greater or less quantity of gold in them, most particularly those of the diorite and granitic classes.

(To be Continued.)

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EXTENSIVE GOLD MINE FOR SALE.

To be sold at public auction by the undersigned, at the Merchants' Exchange, in the City of Halifax, on Thursday, the Fourteenth day of March next, at twelve o'clock, noon:

That extensive, valuable, and well-equipped GOLD MINE, known as the Dufferin Gold Mine, situate on the Atlantic coast, about ninety miles east of said City. Daily mail from Halifax. Telegraph office at Salmon River, four miles from the works. Salmon River harbor never freezes, and is safe and easy of access. The Mine embraces 342 acres, each 150x250 feet, all in one block. The entire area measures fifteen hundred feet in width across, and eight thousand five hundred and fifty feet along the lodes. The leases have nearly fourteen years to run, and can at any time be renewed for a period of twenty-one years, upon payment of two dollars per acre. Within this area is a belt of veins dipping on each side of an anticlinal. They have been found, by tests made on the surface, to extend upwards of 4,000 feet. The ore has been partially removed to a depth of 201 feet over a distance of about 700 feet, and to a depth averaging about 70 feet over an additional 1,000 feet in length or thereabouts. The veins are of various widths, the largest averaging about 10 feet of gold quartz.

The Mine was discovered in the autumn of 1850, but was not worked to any extent until the autumn of 1851. It has yielded up to the end of November 31,012 ounces of gold from 61,508 tons of quartz, according to the sworn returns made to the Mines Office. The gold can be produced at a cost which will leave a very handsome margin of profit.

The Mine is operated by machinery worked by water power, that power being transmitted by a line of wire rope running from the water wheel to the Mine—a distance of about 4,750 feet—and lying parallel to the outcrop of said veins, at a distance therefrom of about 50 feet. The Salmon River crosses the property twice. It supplies the hoisting and pumping power, and the same water is afterwards used to drive the crusher. The latter has 33 stamps, and there is ample water power to operate three times that number. Sixty stamps can be operated with present machinery. Of the 120 horse-power existing for pumping and hoisting only about twenty-five is used. There are about 700 acres of well timbered and well watered land owned with the Mine. This partly covers the areas, and where it does not immediately adjoin them. It is also provided with a steam plant to operate hoisting gear and pumps in case of accident to the transmission power, a sawmill, sufficient for the requirements of the property, a tramway from the Mine to the crusher for carrying quartz, and stables, offices and boarding houses sufficient to accommodate a large number of employees.

The Mine is owned, and has been operated by a partnership, and owing to the death of one of the principal owners, it has to be sold to enable his estate to be settled. A good title will be given.

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1 Real Estate worth	2,000	2,000
1 Real Estate worth	1,000	1,000
4 Real Estates worth	500	2,000
10 Real Estates worth	300	3,000
30 Furniture Sets worth	200	6,000
60 Furniture Sets worth	100	6,000
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1000 Silver Watches worth	10	10,000
1000 Toilet Sets	5	5,000

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HOME AND FARM.

HORSE-FEED, (continued).—The English system of feeding agricul-
tural cart horses, as giving by Youatt, is as follows:—8 lbs. oats, 2 lbs. beans,
20 lbs. cut hay and straw, mixed in equal parts.

Thirty-four to thirty-six lbs. of this mixture is given as a ration. This
would be too expensive in this country, where beans are so high.

Prof. Stewart, one of the most practical and successful men on horse
feeding, and a very intelligent experimenter, gives the following ration:—

Grind together 950 lbs. corn, 950 lbs. oats, and 100 lbs. flax-seed, and
feed 16 lbs. of this mixture with a bushel of cut hay, or hay and straw
mixed, as a day's feed. The Professor says of this ration:—"We have fed
this for two years continuously, and have found no ration that surpasses it.
It is well-balanced as a working ration, and just laxative enough for health.
It keeps the coat fine and glossy, and, by its aperient quality, prevents colds
and other diseases following them."

The following is a well-balanced ration:—6 lbs. cut hay (clover cut on
the green side,) 6 lbs. cut oat straw, 4 lbs. chopped oats, 4 lbs. corn meal,
4 lbs. pea meal, 3 lbs. wheat bran.

The cut hay and straw moistened and well mixed with the other
ingredients. With this, twice a week, feed 6 lbs. pulped roots, and give
salt once a week. This is, perhaps, the cheapest ration for us in most parts
of Ontario.

(To be Continued.)

The Calgary Tribune says:—"In the early part of the season farmers
were despondent because they could not get more than 25 cents per pound
for their butter, and many said that before they would make butter for such a
small price as that, they would let the calves run with the cows and thus
get rid of a great deal of hard work, and some of them actually did so, and
the consequence is that Calgary has again to import butter for local con-
sumption. Had they gone to work and packed butter last summer, they
might now have been realizing 35 cents for it." Calgary farmers may not
want the earth, but they evidently want an enormous price for their butter,
when they will not sell at 25 cents per pound. The western farmer has
big ideas, but he may yet learn to make butter and sell it at a good deal less
than 25 cents per pound, and find it a very profitable business too.

No doubt the Calgary farmers are rightly served, yet it is quite possible
their butter may be better worth 35 cents a pound than a great deal of Nova
Scotian butter is worth 10 cents.

We again urgently draw the attention of our farmers and breeders to
the certainty that Canada will be looked to by the Imperial Government to
a large extent for Cavalry Remounts, if only the requisite quality of horse-
flesh be obtainable. The scarcity of horses of the right form in England is
marked. As a matter of fact little more than two-thirds of the British
Cavalry is mounted, and the demands of the enormous continental armies
will preclude any alteration of the situation. The type of horse required
is of full barrel and well ribbed up, with clean but powerful limbs, broad-
chested, well developed in shoulder and fore-arm, with strong hind quarters,
short rather than long in the body, with thoroughly good hoofs. The head
should not be large, but the nostrils expansive, and the eye bright and
intelligent. Nor should the legs be too long. There is no reason that we
should not breed such horses, and let it be remembered, as in the case of
other products of our farming industries, that Nova Scotia is at the very
door, so to speak, of the English market, which, in this instance, *must* be
supplied if the material is anywhere obtainable.

Put the colt you are breaking by the side of a fast walking horse; it will
give it a good start toward becoming a fast walker.

In providing shelter and stalls for horses allow five feet in width per
animal where they are tied up, and three and a half feet for cattle.

To our farming friends:—You have plenty of time these winter evenings
to sit down and write us something you know, which would be beneficial
to your brother farmers. Let us hear from you.

Here is the Arab test of a good horse, which every farmer can apply.
It is simply to observe your horse when he is drinking out of a brook. If,
in bringing down his head, he remains square without bending his limbs,
he possesses sterling qualities, and all parts of his body are built symmet-
rically.

A prominent dairy authority states that if one will draw from a cow in
a close stable some milk into a sucer, leave it there exposed to the odor for
a short time, and then attempt to drink it, he will discover what a foul-
smelling fluid it has become.

At this season of the year animals need warm stables, dry platforms, and
plenty of food and drink. If good profits are expected stock should be well
looked after, both in feeding and other respects. Cows made comfortable
will winter on a much poorer ration and come out in spring in much better
condition than those fed highly but not cared for properly.

That pumpkin seeds are injurious to stock is known to many who do not
suspect the reason. They are strongly diuretic, and cause so much flow of urine
that the animal is weakened. They make fowls grow light and stop the pro-
duction of eggs whenever hens eat them freely. Fed to cows the pumpkin
with its seeds does not do half the good it will if the seeds are removed.—
American Cultivator.

The question comes to the stock-raiser, how shall I lessen the cost of producing calves? One way is to feed now milk almost wholly at the start. Give it to the young animal fresh from the cow, but never let it suck. Feed it well when young, at three or four weeks lessen the quantity, and at two months gradually wean it. In the summer season the calf will do well if weaned at less than two months' old. In winter, skim milk, after two months, will help calves a great deal. They develop naturally and easily, learn to take care of themselves, growing fairly well. The green feed does most good to an animal when it is three or four years old.—*American Agriculturist*.

Winter rye, sown near the poultry yard, makes an excellent fall and winter pasturage for fowls. An abandoned pen may be made useful by putting it into rye. Even in mid winter or nearly spring on pleasant days fowls can thus procure green food, and the result will be good healthy fowls and plenty of eggs, so says the *Farmer's Gazette*.

A contemporary gives the following advice on "How to make hens lay":—"Put two or more quarts of water in a kettle and one large seed pepper, or two small ones, then put the kettle over the fire. When the water boils stir in coarse Indian meal until you have a thick mush. Let it cook an hour or so; feed hot. Horse radish is chopped fine and stirred into mush as prepared in the above directions, and for results we are getting from five to ten eggs per day, whereas previous to feeding we had not had eggs for a long time. We hear a good deal of complaint from other people about not getting eggs. To such we would warmly recommend cooked food fed hot. Boiled apple skins seasoned with red pepper, or boiled potatoes seasoned with horse radish, are good for feed, much better than uncooked food. Corn when fed the hen by itself has a tendency to fatten rather than produce the more profitable egg laying. A spoonful of sulphur stirred with their feed occasionally will rid them of vermin and tone up their systems.

Here is something worth experimenting upon. The *American Agriculturist* says if a teaspoonful of clean wood ashes is given every third day to horses in their feed they will very rarely need "condition powders." The same amount given to cattle will have good results. Cattle and swine are frequently seen licking ashes where rubbish has been burned. The ashes given to hogs may be mixed with their salt. Ashes correct acidity of the stomach, and destroy some intestinal worms. Wood ashes are a valuable fertilizer for all crops, but especially for orchard crops. They contain all the mineral elements required by plants. The fine condition and peculiar proportion of their ingredients make their real agricultural value greater than the value computed from chemical analysis. Coal ashes are comparatively worthless, but wood ashes should never be thrown away.

Only healthy cows produce good milk. They must never be heated, or in any way misused or unduly excited.

OUR COSY CORNER.

A great deal is being written just now about corsets—much of it going into extreme views pro and con. The common sense of the matter is that the corset is a valuable support, especially as sustaining by the resistance of its necessarily stiff and substantial make, the weight of garments which fasten round the waist, which, in the absence of such intervening material, would cut in a painful and unpleasant manner. But the reasonable support of a corset, not so tightly drawn together as in any way to compress and obstruct the vital functions of the lungs and the digestive organs, is a very different thing to the insane effort for a wasp waist, in contravention not only of the laws of nature and health, but of those of the proportions bestowed by nature. Nature may be a little trimmed and restrained, but the restraint should never be carried to the point of inconvenience, not to say pain. Arms that cannot be brought close to the body by reason of extreme pressure which displaces parts of the figure, inability to stoop, or for any free and natural movement, and short breath, gasping for want of the natural play of the lungs constitute a pitiable picture. It is only necessary to hobble in boots to complete it.

Have any of our readers seen a copy of the "Modern Priscilla?" If not they should do so at once, it is such a dainty little paper, and only costs 50c. a year. Address Priscilla Publishing Co. 92 Market St. Square, Mass. U.S.A.

The spider-legged tables now fashionable are blessings to brides. They set fragile and ugly wedding gifts upon them, and some Pardiggle of a visitor is fairly certain to upset the table and break its load, and, when this is accomplished, the table can be set away in the general refuge for ugly things, the guest's bedroom, and happiness will reign everywhere.

Ornamental bands for various purposes may be easily and quickly made from ribbon by covering it with canvas and embroidering a design in single stitch either with arrasene, chenille or coarse floss. If the ground be of old-gold silk, the effect is as good as if the foundation were of metallic.

ADVICE TO MOTHERS.—Are you disturbed at night and broken of your rest by a sick child suffering and crying with pain of Cutting Teeth? If so, send at once and get a bottle of "Mrs Winslow's Soothing Syrup," for Children Teething. Its value is incalculable. It will relieve the poor little sufferer immediately. Depend upon it, mothers, there is no mistake about it. It cures Dysentery and Diarrhoea, regulates the Stomach and Bowels, cures Wind Colic, softens the Gums, reduces Inflammation, and gives tone and energy to the whole system. "Mrs. Winslow's Soothing Syrup" for children teething is pleasant to the taste, and is the prescription of one of the oldest and best female physicians and nurses in the United States, and is for sale by all druggists throughout the world. Price, 25 cents a bottle.

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34. A Golden Dawn. A novel, by the author of "Dora Thorne."
35. Valerie's Fate. A novel, by Mrs. Alexander, author of "The Wooing O'it," etc.
36. Sister Rose. A novel, by Wilkie Collins.
37. Annie. A novel, by Mrs. Henry Wood, author of "East Lynne."
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TO CORRESPONDENTS.

PICOT.—Your writing and your signature are too blind for us to make out with any certainty. The figures in your solutions are clearly legible, and therefore satisfactory. Is your name Bill, Rice, Bice or what? Give your address in full if you want credit for solutions. Please also take the trouble to write what you have to say with sufficient clearness for one unacquainted with your handwriting to read it.

G. O. FORBES.—You are the only one who has yet expressed a readiness to be entered for the proposed tourney. Unless at least a dozen competitors enter, we shall recall our offer of a prize in this line.

"DIXIE."—At the eighth move of your solution to Problem 84 you will find that 30-26, instead of 25-29, will draw.

H. A. McD.—Your solution to Problem 86 is not a forced win. At fifth move 27 23, instead of 27 24, will draw, as shown in published solution to Problem 76.

S. C. H.—Your solution to Problem 83 is correct. We have given the point to all who sent in the draw that we published.

C. E. MORRIS, Milton.—We regret that in the game won by Smith in the match with Barker, as published us on the 25th ultimo, the black man, which belonged on 10, was omitted. By supplying this man you will have no difficulty in following the game.

SOLUTIONS.

PROBLEM 86.—This position is identical with 76 by the Editor. Its correction as below was given by both A. Whyte, of Newfoundland, and S. C. H., of Yarmouth. We acknowledge our error in this instance, and thank both gentlemen for their correction. The position is as follows:—black man 11, kgs. 10, 31; white men 23, 32, kg. 2; white to play and black to win.

23 19 10-14 19 10 26-19
31-26 1-27 23 14- 7 black
32 27 11-15 2 11 wins.

VAR. I.

2 6 2 26-22 19 12 22-18
14-18 3 10 15 18-11 black
6 10 11-16 27 24 wins.

*VAR. II.

18-15 26-22 10- 6 10- 7
19 16 27 24 2 9 8 3
15- 6 22-17 13- 6 7-11
16 7 24 19 16 11
6-10 17-13 6-10 black
7 2 19 16 11 8 wins.

*This very fine variation was received from a friend in Minneapolis, Minn., U. S., A.

VAR. III.

10 7 19 10 27 18 black
11-15 18-23 22- 6 wins.

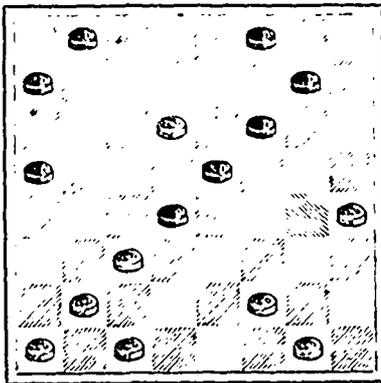
PROBLEM 87.—The position was:—black men 11, 12, 17, 23; white men 20, 30, kg. 8; black to play and win.

11-15 15 19 26-31 30 25
8 11 22-26 18 25 22-26
15-18 19 15 31-26 25 21
11 15 18-22 25 29 26-22
17-22 1-15 18 26-22 b. wins.

VAR. I.
20 16 24 19 27 18
12-19 23-27 2-26 black
15 24 19 23 30 23 wins.
26-31 27-32 31-27

PROBLEM No. 89.

By Mr. Clouset, of Philadelphia.
Black men 1, 3, 5, 8, 11, 13, 15, 18.

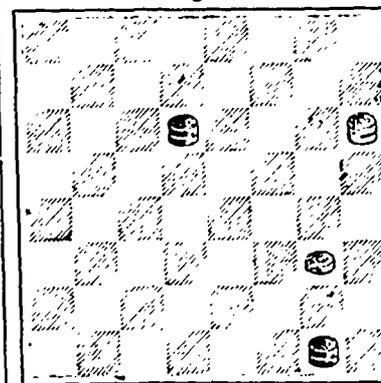


White men 10, 20, 22, 25, 27, 29, 30, 32.

Black to move and win. Being an end game this requires more consideration than most problems of its class.

PROBLEM No. 90.

By Mr. Charles Hester, of Chicago.
Black kgs. 10, 32.



White man 24, kg. 12.

White to move. What result? This is a gem.

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In diagram of Problem No. 67 the pawn on Ks. R6 should be a black one. We regret the trouble and annoyance this mistake has caused.

"W." (Halifax).—Kt on Kt4 anywhere, Q to B4 mate. Have you not overlooked Qs R at its 5th?

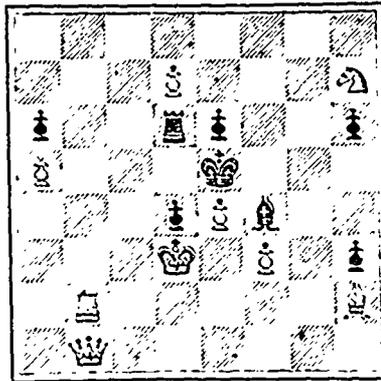
The present Sultan is one of the most enthusiastic chess amateurs in Europe. He will play the game for hours without intermission, and will not allow any matter of state to interfere with the problem in which at the time he is engaged. His Ministers often find themselves unable to approach the Imperial presence, for the reason that the Sultan is deep in a game. They and their statecraft have to wait until the Sultan has

checkmated his adversary or decided upon the next move. Abdul Hamid has his own Court chess player, a Hungarian, who receives a handsome salary for letting the Sultan win a few games off him each day. It is said that the present Court chessman's predecessor was dismissed from office because he ungenerously insisted on profiting by his superior skill, and checkmated his Imperial antagonist every time. The Hungarian master, therefore, plays a very poor game to the Sultan, and makes a point of looking crestfallen at each defeat, whereat the 35th representative of the house of Osman crows with delight and claps his hands.—Bladud.

CORRECTED.

PROBLEM No. 67.

By Rev. J. Jespersen (Svenborg).
BLACK—8 pieces.



WHITE—9 pieces.

White to play and mate in 3 moves.

GAME No. 49.

Played in the Canadian Chess Association Tourney, January 16th, 1889, between Messrs. J. E. Narraway, of Ottawa, and R. P. Flemming, of Montreal.

(Ray Lopez.)

- WHITE. Mr. J. E. Narraway. 1 P to K4 2 Kt to KB3 3 B to K15 4 B to R4 5 P to Q4 6 Kt takes P 7 Q takes Kt 8 B takes Kt 9 Q takes Q ch 10 Kt to B3 11 B to K3 12 Castles QR 13 B to B4 14 B to B ch 15 R to Q2 16 R to K sq 17 P to QR3 18 Kt to Q5 ch 19 Kt to K3 20 P to QB3 21 Kt to B5 22 R takes P 23 Kt takes R ch 24 Kt to Kt7 25 Kt to R5 26 Kt takes B 27 R to Q sq 28 R to Q4 29 R takes R 30 K to Q2 31 K to K3 32 K to Q4 33 K takes P 34 K to Q3 35 P to B4 36 P to Kt3 37 P to B5 38 P takes P ch, Wins
- BLACK. Mr. R. P. Flemming. P to K4 Kt to QB3 P to QR3 KKt to K2 P takes P Kt takes Kt Kt to QB3 QP takes B K takes Q B to Q3 P to KB3 P to KR3 K to K2 P takes B B to K3 P to Kkt4 P to Kkt4 K to B2 QR to Q sq B to QKt6 P to QB4 R takes R K to K3 R to QB sq P to B5 P takes Kt P to QR4 R to B5 P takes R P to B4 P checks P to Kt5 K to K4 P to KR4 P to KR5 P to R6 P to QR5

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