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CONTENTS OF CURRENT NUMBER.

EDITORIAL.	
Canada and America	1, 2
The Awakening of Enterprise	2
Live Projects	2
The Eleventh Century	2
Notes	1
CONTRIBUTED.	
New York Letter ..	7
Olivia Evans.	7
MISCELLANEOUS.	
Chit-Chat and Chuckles	3
News of the Week	4, 5
Industrial Notes	6, 7
Parliamentary Review	7
Cozy Corner	7, 8
Questions Drolly Answered	8
A London and Liverpool Canal	8
Commercial	8, 9
Market Quotations	9
Serial—Saddle and Sabro	10, 11
Mining	12, 13
Home and Farm	14
Chess	16
Draughts—Checkers	16

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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.

A good deal of ice, in large floes, has recently been met off the coast of Newfoundland, drifting into the steamer routes. It is stated that this movement of ice, though threatening danger to ships crossing the Atlantic, has had the effect of driving the seals inshore into the bays, and thus leading to the best seal catch ever known.

Professor Ray Lankester, who was recently dismissed from his Chair at Oxford for a sort of insubordination, quite in keeping with the insolent presumption of the man whom "science" (so-called) has rendered dead to human feeling, has taken upon himself, without a shadow of ground, to assert that the flesh of animals inoculated with chicken cholera is innocuous as food. Verily they be a nice folk—these vivisectionists!

We have on our books the names of large numbers of subscribers, whose subscriptions have remained unpaid for some years. We have now to notify all those whose subscriptions are two years or more in arrears, that unless their accounts are paid on or before the 1st DAY OF JUNE next, we shall be compelled to hand the same to our Solicitor for collection. Remit by P. O. Order or Registered Letter to A. MILNE FRASER, Manager.

An English exchange has the following:—"England submits to the levying of heavy duties on her goods by any colonies which consider protection necessary for their manufacturing interests. But it is on the distinct understanding that the same measure will be meted out to similar goods exported by other countries. It would be simply intolerable to find our cotton or iron manufactures shut out of, say, Victoria or New Zealand by hostile tariffs, while those of Germany or France were admitted free. This, and nothing less, was what the Cartwright Resolution aimed at bringing about in Canada; and, as those who supported it must have known that it would lead to separation from England, we are justified in assuming that this was their real object. It is satisfactory, then, to find that the Canadian Separatists are still in a considerable minority."

The *Ch. Guide* has taken alarm at the Imperial Federation idea, and comes out on the subject in an article which can only be construed to be plainly and squarely annexationist.

If there was ever a clear point in an international controversy, it is the point in the Behring Sea question, that when Russia, as the owner of Alaska, laid claim to jurisdiction over those waters, both England and the United States protested. The latter was particularly vigorous, and the U. S. Minister at St. Petersburg in 1822 said: "The existence of territorial rights to the distance of 100 miles from the coast," etc., "are innovations on the law of nations, and measures unexampled." Russia gave way, and a treaty was signed recognizing Behring's Sea as part of the Pacific Ocean.

M. Pasteur's vigilant and fanatical energy in pushing his empirical processes of inoculation, succeeded in fairly creating an epidemic of rabies. This having to some extent subsided, the rash and confident scientist has now seen his way to a new field of mischief. "Rabbits inoculated for chicken cholera have been," (says the *Adelaide Observer*), "taken up the rivers in steamers for distribution, and the disease has been already communicated to cattle at Blanchetown, (South Australia,) and is spreading rapidly." Tinned rabbit is being largely exported from Australia, and there is no saying what further mischief may come to pass from M. Pasteur's restless and reckless experimentalism.

We have every respect for the Bench and its dignity, which should be strenuously upheld, but we cannot but think its prestige has not been enhanced by the recent proceedings against Mr. Hawke for Contempt of Court. The recent ruling of Sir James Stephen, coincided in by Mr. Justice Field, in England, indicates that even in contempt in cases *sub-judice*, the powers of the Bench should be used with caution, while the conduct of Judges and Juries is a fair subject of criticism, (like that of any other public functionary,) after a trial is concluded. The New Brunswick Bench would, we think, have been better vindicated by an action for libel on the part of the individual judge or judges who deemed themselves slandered.

Among the numerous attractions for the coming summer in Halifax will be the World's Fair, in aid of the Art School Building Fund, to be held in the Exhibition Building during the first week of August, and the object being such a good one, it is to be hoped that many of our friends at a distance will be induced to visit us. No effort will be spared to secure attractions for the carnival week. There will be a review, excursions to the N. W. Arm and Bedford Basin, a ball, concert, etc., and the presence of the Irish cricketers the following week will prove a great inducement to many. Fares on all the trains have been arranged for at excursion rates, and a definite programme will be prepared, in which full particulars will be given.

Mr. Nicholas Flood Davin has given us in the *Week* a "vacation study" on "Sappho," which he modestly rates as claiming "no more value than every-day journalistic efforts, the best of which are like those insects which buzz into life in the morning and expatiate with aggressive energy and delight in fields where they perish as the sun goes down." Nevertheless, those who can appreciate it, will call it little less than noble. Not very much is known of the great Lesbian poetess, but much more is to be gathered from her fragments, and from the comments of great Greeks and Romans who came after her, than is commonly thought. Mr. Davin refuses to believe that she was anything but pure and highminded, and, in point of fact, there is enough to prove that she was in every way a queen among women, at least as regards genius and nobility, her personal appearance is more strictly guess work. From Plato to Swinburne all agree that she was untranslatable. Mr. Davin calls upon others, "fresher from their studies," to take up the subject, and "give us an essay of abiding value."

CANADA AND AMERICA.

Two or three incidents have recently occurred which may have a considerable bearing on the views of either country on the existing state of international questions, more particularly on the part of Canada. In the first place, the United States Customs authorities have begun to enforce the law prohibiting hiring labor in a foreign country, against Nova Scotia fishermen, and several lots have been sent back. If our fishermen do not make their contracts before leaving home, we believe they could not be stopped, and it is possible that a close enquiry into the law might reveal the fact that it does not apply to perhaps a majority of those seeking American employ. Whether or no, the mere fact of its having been attempted to be brought to bear on Nova Scotia fishermen may operate to deter many from going out of their own country, where, if there were any enterprise on the part of our people, sufficient employment ought, we should think, to be found for them.

Secondly, incoming trains from the United States are bringing back whole families from the factories and brickfields of Massachusetts, those industries having shut down to a large extent from fear that the Presidential election, if it go in the direction of loosening the protection tariff, may catch them with too large stocks on hand—at least that is the reason given to the dismissed employees. So extensive is this return of "exodites" that the *Montreal Witness* states they have increased until "extra cars have had to be put on to carry the people and their baggage back to their native places." "Very few of the passengers," the *Montreal Witness* continues, come through to Montreal, compared with the large numbers that get off at the various way stations this side of the line between St. Lambert and St. Armand."

The third incident is indirect, but may be important in its bearing. The strenuous denial of the Fisheries Treaty by the Liberal party, as it finds voice in the debates of the Canadian Commons, on the score of the absolute surrender of Canadian rights, which it suits that party to set up, may quite possibly—as Americans are well inclined to believe that Liberal utterances represent the broad sentiment of the country—have some weight in lulling, to a certain extent, the antagonism of the American irconcilables, who may lay to their souls the flatteringunction that they have once more gone well to windward of the dull Britisher and the stupid Colonist.

THE AWAKENING OF ENTERPRISE.

One of the most gratifying signs of the times is the evident awakening of Nova Scotians to the knowledge that there are within the Province all the elements necessary to build up a wealthy and prosperous country and to support a large population. While other countries have been making rapid strides in advance, we have, seemingly, been at a stand-still. We say seemingly, as in reality for some years back a quiet transformation has been going on, and the way has been paved to take advantage, in the best possible manner, of our great natural resources. The exodus of our young men has been a subject of much anxious investigation by our political economists, and has also led to unlimited newspaper controversy. We consider this "exodus" as far from an "unmixed evil," and that in many cases it has resulted in good. Change of scene, contact with our enterprising neighbors, new trials, and new conquests, must have expanded the young men's minds, and transformed them from "happy-go-lucky" individuals into pushing business men. They soon discover that other countries, without a tittle of the natural advantages of their own, are rendered by enterprise living hives of industry, and many of them eventually return home filled with work and ambition, and this is soon made manifest by improvements in their old neighborhoods. In Germany and other of the much-enlightened countries of Europe travel was considered such an important part of the education, not only of the rich, but of the poor, that all apprentices to trades had to devote some years in roaming before settling down to their avocations. The late Sir Wm. Young was such a believer in this theory that we are told he jokingly advocated sending the members of our Provincial Legislature for a trip through the States, at the public expense, wisely intimating that the knowledge acquired would result in a vast amount of good to the Province. But to return to our subject. On every side we see evidence of the awakening of our people. From the agricultural portion of the Province, especially the fruit-growing sections, intelligent men are debating the best grades of fruit to use, and miles of new orchards are being planted. In Cumberland and other counties, large tracts of the most productive hay lands have been reclaimed from the sea. Improved breeds of stock are being everywhere introduced, and competent professors of agriculture are instructing the people in the theory as well as the practice of farming. All the large manufactories have been doing good businesses, and the outlook is very bright. The mines of all kinds are being vigorously worked, and this year will see great strides made in this direction. Railroads and new systems of water communication have been, and will be opened up; telephones are being introduced everywhere, and our capitalists discovering the benefits of co-operation are forming numerous companies, all supplied with home capital. The crowds at our hotels, the numerous arrivals in our ports, the great shipments of freight, are all proofs that Nova Scotia is now thoroughly awake.

LIVE PROJECTS.

We desire to draw particular attention to the letter in our last week's issue of Mr. J. H. Townsend, on our leading article of the week before, advocating the establishment of a Mint in Halifax. As we put forth this idea with a very serious purpose, we were particularly pleased to find the subject so ably taken up. This, again, is a desideratum which should be taken up and urged on the Dominion Government by men of all parties. We, therefore, consider the last three paragraphs of Mr. Townsend's letter especially worthy of being noted. To this end we may reproduce them, and we appeal to the necessarily more influential Daily Press of the Provincial Capital, as well as to the Press throughout Nova Scotia, of all political opinions, to lend their weight to an agitation which seems to us to promise substantial advantage to the Province. Surely we can all unite together in such a cause, and the matter rightly managed, might, we venture to hope, afford the Dominion Government the opportunity of initiating a more cordial *entente* with our own. Says Mr. Townsend.—

"If my memory serves me correctly, the Branch Mint at the sub-treasury in New York is in charge of the State Assayer, who therefore controls the Assay department in connection therewith.

Why could not some joint arrangement be arrived at between the Provincial Government, who are so vitally interested in the advancement of

our mining interests, and the Dominion Government, for joint action, by which a conclusion could be reached at an early day.

The establishment of a Canadian Mint and Assay Office in the City of Halifax, and ultimately, an efficient school of mines, under the jurisdiction of the Local Government, is a programme which should be persistently kept before both Governments, and in the minds of the electors of the Province, until it is accomplished."

We will not believe that this appeal will be made in vain.

In addition to the project of the Mint, we have suggested that of an observatory in connection with Dalhousie College, a proposition which should enlist the sympathy and stimulate the public spirit of some of our rich citizens, many of whom are by no means backward in contributing of their substance to objects of public benefit and utility. Nova Scotia has been far from insignificant in the production of men who have taken high rank in science and literature, and may dwell with some pride on the fact that in the person of Professor Simon Newcombe, she has already furnished astronomy with one of its first living exponents.

This, likewise, is a subject we do not intend to let drop, and similar considerations to those we have urged in the case of the Mint, should, in this case also, tend to the united action of "all parts and conditions of men."

We have further dwelt on the expediency of creating the appointment of a Nova Scotia Emigration Agent in England, one of which we should suppose no one political party would begrudge the other the patronage, if the benefit to the Province could be shown to be likely to be what we think it would, and if the right kind of man be selected.

We have yet another suggestion to start in the minds of our fellow-citizens. One of the worst features of our good city is the unfortunate narrowness of our streets, a misfortune brought into painful prominence by the Street Railway.

The evils of this old-time inheritance have been accentuated by the short-sighted action which, neglecting the purchase of city property when it was cheaper, was content to build the station at North street, when the Intercolonial should have been pushed through to the meridian of the Citadel Hill. Water street, narrow enough in all conscience of old, has been further curtailed in breadth by the freight line to the Deep Water Terminals. If there was ever a city in urgent need of an elevated Railway to mitigate these extreme inconveniences it is the City of Halifax.

THE ELEVENTH CENTURY.

There were, it is stated in the English papers, great rejoicings on the Wemyss estates, in Scotland, on the 8th March last, over the birth of a son and heir. This heir is said to be the 28th in direct descent from Hugh, who was fourth from Macduff Maormor, of Fife, in the reign of Malcolm Canmore. There is nothing peculiar generally about young heirs, or whose births or majorities rejoicings may take place, but this long descent is remarkable enough to suggest some commentary.

Many, perhaps most people, think of Shakspeare's Macbeth as an entirely legendary fiction. It is not, however, altogether so. There is a substratum of historical fact underlying it. The murder of Duncan is the dramatic incident invented. Macbeth seems to have been a vassal of a Norwegian Prince, who conquered a part of the North of Scotland. In his absence, Duncan invaded his territory, and was defeated and killed by Macbeth, in a battle near Elgin, in 1039. Macbeth was afterwards proclaimed king, and there is some evidence that he was not by any means a bad one for his day. However, he was an usurper, and Edward, the confessor, espousing the cause of Duncan's son, Malcolm, who had fled to England, charged Siward, Earl of Northumberland, with the task of reinstating him. The great earls who governed, with almost regal power, the five or six earldoms into which England was then divided, had their own forces at command; it was therefore probably entirely by a Northumbrian army that Macbeth was defeated near Dunsinane, by Siward, in 1054. It was not, however, till 1056 or 1057, that he was again defeated and slain by Macduff and Malcolm Canmore (the large-headed) who married Margaret, sister of Edgar Atheling, the heir of the Saxon Line. The stout "Thane of Fife," the birth of whose direct descendant has just been celebrated, was therefore no myth, but a very substantial and valiant person.

Ten years afterwards, William the Norman conquered England, and during his reign, Malcolm, who was probably attached to the Saxon Line, invaded England, but was soon brought to submission by the stern and able warrior he had provoked, and did homage to the Norman monarch for his kingdom. He rose again in the reign of William Rufus, and was ultimately slain in a battle near Alnwick.

Nor is this the only connection of the eleventh century with poetry and romance. It is indeed a singularly interesting period, marked by Harold's conquest of the Welsh, and his great defeat of Harold Hardrada, the gigantic king of Norway, in Yorkshire, coincident with the landing of William, a victory which indeed led directly to the fatal overthrow of Hastings.

Earlier in the reign of Edward lived Leofric, Earl of Mercia, whose daughter Harold married, and whose wife was the "Lady Godiva," of Coventry fame. That this compassionate lady did persuade her husband to remit a heavy tax is more than probable, but not very likely in the manner related in the well-known legend, Earl Leofric having been, according to such information as we have, a somewhat beneficent and mild-mannered man for an Earl of the period, though an energetic ruler and able leader.

The whole career of Harold, the singular misfortune which enabled William to bring religious terrors to bear upon his cause, and the extraordinary resolution and ability of the great Norman, with the remarkable intricacies of the whole reign of Edward, combine with the singular pieces of romance alluded to to render the 11th century one of the most interesting periods of history.

CHIT-CHAT AND CHUCKLES.

HARD DRINKING—Mrs. O'Toole—"Shure, Mrs. Clanoy, can you tell me phwat 'meant by hard drinkin'?"
Mrs. Clanoy—"Oim not shure, but I think it's sitting on a rook and sipping cold water, I dunno."

IN BOSTON MUNICIPAL COURT—Judge (to officer, a Colt)—"Are you sure that the prisoner was drunk?"
Officer—"Is it drunk, yer honor? Shure af he ud schpoko through the lilliphone the brith uv'im ud av made the pholes etthaggor."

THE OLDEST LIVING MONARCH.—By the death of Emperor William of Germany, William III, King of the Netherlands, will become the oldest of reigning monarchs. He was born February, 1817. Dom Pedro of Brazil has been the longest on the throne, having succeeded his father, who abdicated in April, 1831. Alfonso, King of Spain, is the youngest of the list of rulers.—*N. Y. World.*

Stumpson (in answer to Talboy's greeting)—"Oh, all right, 'f 'twasn't for these East winds—"

Talboys (who's a little hard of hearing)—"Twins! My dear fellow, I congratulate you, I'm sure. I'd really no idea you were—and how are they—all there?—I hope—"

Stumpson (testily—large family already)—"I didn't say these twins"—
(shouting)—"I said the East winds!"—*Punch.*

Some of the churches in Chicago have adopted a rule for late comers which would be a blessing at all public gatherings if it could be enforced. After the sermon has begun the late arrival is quietly directed to a seat in the gallery. This rule applied once never fails to have a good effect. The fashionable McFlimsey girl who stands before the mirror until 11 o'clock before starting to her devotions will not linger again, after she has failed to wad down the aisle in her best attire.

Two friends, riding in the north of Scotland, stopped opposite a hole in a peep bank, and one said to the other:—"John, I saw a brock (badger) gang in there."

"Did ye?" said John, "haud my horse, and I'll grip him." Away rushed John for a spade. After digging for half an hour till he was well-nigh speechless, he gave it up, saying:—"I canna find him."

"Dead," said the wag very coolly, "I wad hae wondered if ye had, John, for it's ten years since I saw him gang in!"

An English general, in reviewing a corps of cavalry, suddenly stopped before a splendid looking fellow and asked abruptly:

"Which is the best horse in the regiment?"

"Number forty, sir."

"What makes you think he is the best horse?"

"He walks, trots and gallops well; is a good jumper; has no vice; no blemish; carries his head well; is in his prime."

"And who is the best soldier in the regiment?"

"Tom Jones, sir."

"Why?"

"Because he is an honorable man, is obedient, tidy, takes good care of his equipment and his horse, and does his duty well."

"And who is the rider of the best horse?"

"Tom Jones, sir."

"And who is Tom Jones?"

"I am, sir."

The general could not help laughing, but he gave a sovereign to his informant, who received it without moving a muscle.

PHYSICAL HISTORY OF SCOTLAND.—To sit on one of the Highland Hills that overlook the Firth of Clyde, and watch the ships as they come and go from all corners of the earth; to trace village after village, and town after town, dotting the coast-line as far as the eye can reach; to see the white steam of the distant railway rising like a summer cloud from among orchards and cornfields and fairy-like woodlands; to mark, far away, the darker smoke of the coal-pit and the iron-work hanging over the haunts of a busy human population; in short, to note all over the landscape, on land and sea, the traces of that human power which is everywhere changing the face of Nature;—and then to picture an earlier time, when these waters had never felt the stroke of oar or paddle, when these hillsides had never echoed the sound of human voice, but when over hill and valley, over river and sea, there had fallen a silence as of the grave, when one wide pall of snow and ice stretched across the landscape; to restore, in imagination, the vast ice-sheet filling up the whole wide firth, and creeping slowly and silently southwards, and the valley-glaciers into which this ice-sheet shrank, threading yonder deep Highland glens, which to day are purple with heather and blithe with the whirring of grouse, and woodcocks; to seal up the firth once more in ice, as the winter frosts used to set over it, and cover it with bergs and ice-rafts that marked the short-lived Arctic summer; to bring back again the Arctic plants and animals of that early time, the reindeer, the mammoths, and their contemporaries, and thus, from the green and sunny valley, of the Clyde, with all its human associations, to pass at once, and by a natural transition, to the sterility and solitude of another Greenland, is an employment as delightful as man can well enjoy.—*Dr. Geikie's Scenery of Scotland.*

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NEWS OF THE WEEK.

Subscribers remitting Money, either direct to the office, or through Agents, will find receipt for the amount enclosed 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 12. For \$2.50 in cash we undertake to send THE CRITIC to any subscriber for one year, supplying him in addition with seventy nine of the most readable of readable books. Those who are renewing their subscriptions, as well as new subscribers, should take advantage of this offer.

Women voted, for the first time, at the civic elections at Pictou on Tuesday.

Mr. Campbell (Liberal) has been returned to the Dominion Parliament for the County of Kent (Ont.) by a majority of 119.

The 63rd Rifles paraded on Monday afternoon to do military honors at the funeral of the late Major J. Scott Mitchell, their paymaster.

The death is announced at Ottawa of Mr. A. Gaudet, M.P. for Nicolet County, of cancer. Mr. Gaudet was about 40 years of age.

The collapse of the St. John Building Society will be disastrous to the depositors, who are chiefly of classes that can ill-afford to lose even the smallest sums.

Owing to the large quantity of ice floating down the St. Lawrence, the *Vancouver* and *Nestorian*, which are at Quebec, are not expected to reach Montreal for several days.

Mr. Thomas Corbett, a graduate of Pine Hill College, and who was licensed last week by the Presbytery of Halifax, has received a call from the Presbyterian church at Glenelg, Pictou County.

The opening of the new building of the Seamon's Friend Society yesterday evening was attended by His Honor the Lt.-Governor, and numerous other notabilities. This institution is a credit to the philanthropy of our city.

The Allan Liner *Circassian*, bound to Montreal with a general cargo, 27 cabin and 800 steerage passengers, was towed into Halifax Harbor on Wednesday morning by the *State of Nevada*, having broken her propeller shaft in mid-ocean.

It is estimated that fully 5,000 farmers are leaving Ontario this spring for the Northwest, and a large number are going through to British Columbia. The vacancies caused by this minor exodus from Ontario are at once filled by new comers.

The *Moncton Daily Times* says:—"The final returns show anti-Scott-Act majorities much larger than at first reported, i.e., in Huron 1310, Dundas 2,134, and Renfrew upwards of 1,000. The aggregate majority in the nine counties which rejected the Act approximates 8,000."

Gabriel Dumont, who has been lecturing at Quebec, on the ill-treatment of the Half-Breeds (which it is to be supposed consists in demurring to furnish them with a new land grant as soon as they have disposed of the previous one) will not improve his prestige by impugning the conduct of the Catholic clergy in the North-West.

The *Montreal Witness* publishes an account from the *New York Sun* of the review before the Queen of the Cavalry of the Imperial Guard at Berlin, but in an editorial, remarks that it had to excise from it "an attack on the personal appearance of the Princess Victoria of Prussia so unmanly as to put the writer's judgment out of court."

The *Lunenburg Progress* tells a story of drops of beer rotting the wood of a bar if not immediately wiped off, and caps it with another, to the effect that the bar-tender placed a piece of raw meat on the counter, and dropped on it a little imported ginger ale, when, in five minutes the meat parted into little pieces, as though hacked by a dull knife!

The *Chronicle* sets down the attachment of Canadians to their own country and the British connection as arising from "the blind prejudice of sentimentality" generally, and the desire of Conservative politicians for titles. The "sentimentality" is not a sentiment to be at all ashamed of, and the "title" imputation is absurd. How many are likely to get what is called "title"?

It is much to be deplored that the Government's desire for economy should have taken the very objectionable shape of withholding the usual grant of \$10,000 in aid of the Dominion Exhibition. This ill-judged and mis-timed piece of parsimony is particularly aggravating when Nova Scotia was looking to its being held in Halifax this year with a sanguine and reasonable expectation.

A farewell service for the Rev. John Wier, held on Monday evening last in Robie Street Church, was largely attended. Addresses were given by the Methodist ministers of the city, who referred to the esteem in which the reverend gentleman was held by them. Mr. and Mrs. Wier left Halifax on Wednesday for Tokio, Japan. They go by the C. P. R. to British Columbia, and from thence in one of the company's steamers.

Albert Webber, a roundsman employed by the Chandler Electric Company, was instantaneously killed by the electric current on Sunday night, while attempting to remedy a defect in the light, at the corner of Agncola and May streets. The palms of his hands, which had been held to the supports by the current, were charred to the bone. It appears that in damp weather the current escapes into the iron supports, which should therefore never be grasped with both hands. Another fatal accident, at precisely the same post, and under identical circumstances, resulted in the instantaneous death by the electric current, of Geo. Crocker, on Tuesday Evening. The unfortunate deceased had succeeded Webber, who was killed on Sunday night, in his duties as patrolman.

A failure, which, if the circumstances are as reported, is anything but creditable, occurred in this city last week. It was that of a book and stationery concern, which has been in business for only a comparatively short time. The liabilities are stated at from \$22,000 to \$25,000, of which \$18,000 is for borrowed money in hard cash. The stock in hand is said not to be worth more than half the difference between the amount of the borrowed cash and the total liabilities. Every one, of course, wonders what became of the money that was obtained, since it evidently did not go into the business. Some sympathy is expressed for the junior partner, who seems to have been an unassuming and hard-working man, and many are disposed to throw the major part—if not the whole—of the blame on the senior partner, who has made himself very prominent in "good works."

Lt.-Col. Jackson, D. A. G. of 'No. 1 Mil. District, (London,) retires with a gratuity of two years' pay, and is succeeded by Lt.-Col. H. Smith, Commandant of the London Infantry School. By his retirement Lt.-Col. Taylor, late D. A. G. at Halifax, becomes the second Lt.-Col. on the active list, Lt.-Col. D'Arcy Boulton, of the 3rd Cavalry, being the Senior. Two Nova Scotian officers, Lt.-Colonels Starratt, 69th Batt., and Chipman, 68th Batt., stand third and fourth. Lt.-Col. Harwood, D. A. G., of No. 6 Mil. District, retires with a gratuity of two years' pay, and is succeeded by Lt.-Col. Lamontagne, D. A. G. of No. 4 District, the charge of which is assumed by the Head Quarters Staff at Ottawa, Both Lt.-Col. Jackson and Lt.-Col. Harwood are officers of long service, and a gratuity of two years' pay is but a poor retiring allowance to men over 63 years of age, the period of compulsory retirement. They may have means or they may not, but "it is not creditable to the country," as the *Militia Gazette* justly observes, "that the possibility of being reduced to want in their old age should stare in the face any public servant."

The fourth and last subscription concert of the Orpheus Club, with the Ladies Auxilliary, was given on Tuesday last at Orpheus Hall to a very large, though not a very appreciative audience. The first part of the programme, which consisted of Gounod's "Gallia," a charming sacred musical composition, was rendered by the club in excellent style, the closing chorus winning well-merited applause. Miss Schaefer sang the solos with great precision, and in her last solo, "Jerusalem, O turn thee to the Lord thy God," displayed great taste and power. Miss Schaefer's voice has much greater breadth, and is more flexible than it was a year since, but there is still a marked rigidity in the manner in which she delivers her tones, which practice alone can overcome. We should like to have heard this young lady sing in something which afforded a better opportunity for a display of feeling than does Gounod's "Gallia," but this no doubt we will have in some concert yet to be given. Cowen's "Sleeping Beauty," which formed the second part of the programme, is in many ways a remarkable composition, but when rendered simply as a musical work, without regard to dramatic effects, and with a pianoforte as a substitute for an orchestra, it must be owned that it fails to win that appreciation to which, under other circumstances, it is entitled. Mr. Payne did splendid work as accompanist, but the interludes, when performed upon a piano, are decidedly tedious. The soloists were Miss O'Dell, Mrs. Taylor, Dr. Slayter, and Prof. Currie, and although they received no encores, it may be said that each and all sang admirably. Miss O'Dell, in her solo, "A Cloud," and Mrs. Taylor in "The Spinning Wheel," displayed those qualities of voice which have made these ladies so popular with the music-loving public of Halifax. The chorus work in the fourth scene was excellent. Mr. Porter deserves the thanks of Halifaxians for having given them an opportunity to hear this composition, and although it is as a rule considered as beyond the capabilities of many vocal clubs, it must be confessed that the Orpheus Club came through the ordeal with flying colors, notwithstanding the drawbacks under which the composition was rendered.

The Centennial of the Presbyterian church in the United States takes place next month in Philadelphia.

The President has appointed Melville B. Fuller, of Chicago, to be Chief Justice of the United States. The nomination seems to give general satisfaction.

The *Boston Post* speaks very sensibly and reasonably on the Fisheries Treaty, and deprecates the unreasonableness and designing factiousness of Senator Frye, and the ring of Gloucester fishing capitalists.

At a school exhibition in Ohio last week, the floor gave way and precipitated a full audience of about 400 people about 20 feet. About 50 persons, chiefly women and children, were seriously injured, and several killed.

The circular of J. H. Bates' advertising agency, (38 Park Row, corner of Beekman St., N. Y.) indicates great facilities for advertising, and it is evidently well worth the while of advertisers, particularly on a large scale, to bear Mr. Bates' address in mind.

The *New York Sun*, which is nothing if not desperately American, waxes frantic about Canada having to "come into the Union, or starve out in the cold," and is ridiculed by the *Chicago Canadian-American*, which concludes an article thus.—"Canada is warm, and contains a warm-hearted people, who have a warm admiration for their relatives in the United States, notwithstanding the ravings of such cranks at the *New York Sun*."

Mr. H. H. Warner, (of "Safe Cure" notoriety) is a remarkable instance of American energy and enterprise. He had amassed a fortune previous to his engaging in the manufacture of his patent medicines, which have made him much wealthier. He is an energetic and public-spirited citizen of Rochester, and takes so strong an interest in science that he has erected an observatory, one of the telescopes of which cost \$13,000, and in connection with which he awards munificent prizes.

The Irish County Government Bill has been rejected on the second reading by 282 to 195.

There are persistent rumors that the Tories intend to produce a Home Rule Bill themselves.

The House of Lords, adhering to its characteristic obstructionism, has thrown out the Women's Suffrage Bill.

Russia is credited with inciting a Greek rising in Macedonia in order to bring about a crisis in the Eastern question.

China, it is said, now supplies one-third only of the tea consumed in England, India furnishing the greater part of the rest.

The new iron-clad *Victoria*, 10,500 tons, 12,000 horse power, built on the Tyne, left Newcastle for Chatham about a fortnight ago.

The House was amused the other day by the close of a debate while Mr. Smith was speaking, on the motion for closure of Mr. Biggar.

For once, a French duel has proved fatal to one of the combatants. M. M. Dalpuis and Hautb, art critics, fought in the Bois de Boulogne, and the former was killed.

Spain has made it, by absolute legislation, compulsory to light the theatres of Madrid by electricity, to the total exclusion of gas. Six months are allowed to carry out this important reform.

Lord Randolph Churchill has extended another *pas* in his eccentric *contre danse*, and has now apparently broken with the Tories altogether, and struck up intimate relations with Mr. Chamberlain.

The wife of the painter Herman Kaulbach, of Munich, has received the gold medal of the order of merit of the Bavarian crown for having at the risk of her own life saved a young man from drowning.

Mr. Labouchere says that the Prince Imperial of Russia is so weak, both mentally and physically, that in less exalted circles he would be regarded as being within measurable distance of congenital idiocy.

Out of 28 members of the Commons who are eldest sons of peers, 24 have signified their approval of Mr. Curzon's scheme for the reform of the House of Lords. Hardly a single peer now defends a purely hereditary principle.

Sir Andrew B. Wakley, formerly Mayor of Liverpool, is said to have offered £250,000 towards the building of a cathedral in that city. It is, however, also stated that he denies this. Probably he is a large subscriber towards that sum.

The report is confirmed that the Pope has issued a decree, condemning the plan of campaign as illegal, and the practice of boycotting as contrary to justice and charity. His holiness is said also to object to the extortion of contributions to the former.

Mr. Balfour is reported as saying, in the debate on the Irish County Government Bill, that when there should be an equality of conditions, (apparently the cessation of social warfare,) he would be one of the first to execute what was desired by the people.

The visit of the Queen to Berlin has, on the whole, been a success, and even the "man of blood and iron" seems to have been conciliated, notwithstanding the rubbish published by the New York *Sun* correspondent, who is, as the *Montréal Witness* says: evidently a lick-spittle of the Berlin jingo "court circle."

The new composite sloop *Melita*, 8 guns, 970 tons, 1,200 horse power, has been launched at Malta. She is the first ship built there, and was laid down to afford continuous work to the artificers of that dockyard. The *Melita* was christened by the Princess Victoria Melita, second daughter of the Duke of Edinburgh.

The Queen is the first English sovereign to accept Austrian hospitality since Richard Cœur de Lion, whose enjoyment of it was not altogether voluntary. It is also singular that he of the Lion Heart should also have been the only one who ever before visited Florence, which he passed through on his way to Palestine.

Sir Frederick Roberts is instituting a new order of things in the army in India. The issue of rum is to be discontinued, and henceforth raw spirits will not be served to any troops arriving in India. The canteens will be abolished, and a substitution will be had in refreshment rooms supplying the non-intoxicants, with reading rooms attached.

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This season we have an immense Stock of the very Finest Imported Materials, at Prices never before heard of in this city.

Finest Worsted Trowserings and Suitings,
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Business Suits, \$12.00; Pants, \$3.00.
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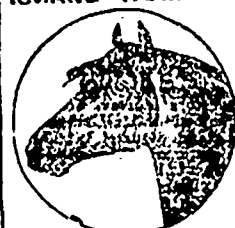
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INDUSTRIAL NOTES.

The Glendyor woollen mills, situated at Mabou, Cape Breton, continue running on full time, with a steady demand for the tweeds and homespun produced. There are employed within the mill from fourteen to sixteen hands, besides several indirectly employed outside. Of these seven to eight are married men with families, and the others are girls. The output for 1887 was about (30,000) thirty thousand yards. Besides this the mill does a considerable amount of custom work in the way of dyeing and dressing homespun made upon hand looms, and in carding wool for home spinning. Last year in this way were handled about fourteen hundred pieces of homespun, and over (12,000) twelve thousand pounds of wool. The mill was built anew in 1883, and was furnished with new and improved machinery, and the owners are making from time to time such additions to their plant as the increase in their business calls for. The latest addition is a powerful rotary fire pump, driven by water power, which can be started at any hour, day or night, and will throw over one hundred gallons of water per minute, one hundred feet from the nozzle. The owners are practical men, who have been in the business from their boyhood, being sons of the late Donald McL. McDonald, who started and owned the first fulling mill in Cape Breton in 1848, and the first shingling machine in 1855, but who was called away in the prime of life just when he was preparing to greatly extend his business. The men employed have been (with one exception) working for the firm for periods varying from five to twenty years, and the female operatives, as a rule, remain from two to four years. The mill is situated in a very picturesque glen, and with the surrounding buildings, including the neat cottages of the owners and workmen, together with the residence and workshops of Mr. D. T. Black & Son, blacksmiths and carriage makers, make a pretty little village, well worthy of a visit from traveller or tourist.

The cheapest and best wood cook in the market is the Ridgewood, made by A. Robb & Sons, Amherst N. S. Ask your dealer for it.

A CURIOUS NEW INDUSTRY.—Under the above heading *Chamber's Journal* calls attention to a new industry in its present number, (April) "An industry which is quite unique in more than one way. In the first place its raw material can be found everywhere in illimitable quantity, while it costs nothing, and will convey itself, free of expense, to the place where it is dealt with. Can any other industry or manufacture be started on such advantageous terms as these? And another curious point in the new industry is, that the raw material, universal as it is, and of great bulk withal, is perfectly invisible." Not to mystify our readers, we may state at once that this new industry is nothing more or less than the method of obtaining pure oxygen from the atmosphere. Oxygen is the most widely diffused element in nature. It enters into the composition of air and water, is found in nearly all earths and rocks, and forms more than one half the bulk of animal and plant life. Indeed, it may be said that oxygen forms one half the globe and its belongings, although, of course, combined with other elements. It forms one-fifth of the air we breathe, the other four-fifths consisting of an inert gas called nitrogen. It has long been the dream of chemists that oxygen might be produced direct from the atmosphere by separating its atoms from the atoms of nitrogen, with which it is associated, but not combined. Indeed a plan existed in theory, but unfortunately, when reduced to practice, was found to be encumbered with many difficulties. But the new process we have reference to has been found to be a commercial success, and this has been assured by the patient conquest of numerous practical difficulties, and the fact of its being at last placed before the public as a merchantable commodity. A few years ago Messrs. A. & L. Brin, pupils of M. Boussingault, a distinguished French chemist, conducted a series of experiments by which pure oxygen was isolated from the substance called baryta, otherwise the oxide of barium. This resulted in the erection of suitable apparatus in Paris, and the formation of Brin's Oxygen Company at Westminster, London, where any quantity of pure oxygen can be obtained at a cheap rate by any one who requires it. We might enumerate many of the uses to which it can be applied, but a few will perhaps suffice. Oxygen or lime light, a light so intense and beautiful that it is frequently confounded with that of the electric arc. It is used largely in all theatres for the purpose of scenic effect, and is the common illuminant of the optical, or, to call it by its old name, the magic lantern. It will be used largely in the practice of medicine, and being truly one of nature's remedies, its value as a hygienic agent will be without par. What is commonly known as a "change of air" means the exchanging of a foul atmosphere for one containing the proper proportion of oxygen which nature has determined as being the best for our respiration. For the first time the doctor has at hand a ready means of obtaining this antidote to disease. Siphon bottles, charged with oxygen, instead of with carbonic acid gas, as in the case of aerated waters, are now supplied for the use of patients, and there is high authority for saying that sufferers from gout, dyspepsia, rheumatism, etc., are greatly benefited by its use. But one of the most important of its applications has yet to be told. It is found that if contaminated milk, a fruitful source of disease, is oxygenated with pure gas, the germs of disease, if present, are at once destroyed, and the richness of the milk developed, and its taste improved. Milk thus treated will keep fresh for a fortnight or more, for all putrefactive changes are at once arrested. This fact alone would ensure, if nothing else would, the success of this new and important industry.

Don't be deceived by any imitations, though they may be patented, but be sure you get A. Robb & Sons' New Farmer's Boiler. It has a rim that extends four inches clear of the sides, thus carrying the water away from the side plates. It is no high-sounding advertisement, but a real improvement.

ELECTROLYSIS OF COBALT SALTS.—Mr. Alexander Watts, author of "Electro-Deposition," "Electro-Metallurgy," etc., has recently completed a series of papers in the *Electrical Review*, on the "Electrolysis of Cobalt Salts," in which he has given the results of a great number of experiments with this interesting metal, and has endeavored to explain the probable reasons why cobalt has not received much recognition at the hands of the electro-plater. From Mr. Watt's point of view, this metal should take its place as a substitute for nickel for coating various articles, its superior whiteness, and the readiness with which it may be deposited by electricity, being urged in its favor. The papers referred to are concluded in the current number of the journal referred to, and may prove of interest to some of our readers.

The Acorn Range is the easiest and cheapest range to keep in repair in Canada. It is made by A. Robb & Sons, Amherst, N.S.

[FOR THE CRITIC.]

NEW YORK LETTER.

Certain philanthropic ladies in New York are having a great project under consideration. It is to build a large hotel for the accommodation of women who are obliged to earn their living. Allotted to each one will be a large room, neatly furnished, and with an open fireplace. They will have all the cheerfulness and comforts of a home. Some years ago the late A. T. Stewart built a large hotel on Park Row, but it proved an utter failure, owing to the restrictions that were placed upon the women. Studying this failure and its cause, these ladies are determined to conduct their new movement on a more successful plan.

The proprietors of large stores lose annually from 10,000 to 50,000 dollars worth of goods from the thieving propensities of shoplifters. It is not the poor or humble class of women who pilfer, but elegantly dressed ladies. Rather than pay for some costly article, they will adroitly steal it. Humiliation follows soon enough. Detectives, stationed at each counter, catch them in the act, and exposure is the result, though many are never caught, escaping with their stolen booty, the loss being on the merchants.

Few are aware of how much money is earned by professional whistling. The greatest whistler is Mrs. Alice Shaw, who earns a comfortable competence. She is in great demand at the private entertainments given by the wealthy.

Melton Prior, the English war correspondent, and special artist of the *Illustrated London News*, is visiting New York at present. In appearance he is a small, modest looking man. His face is greatly sunburned, owing to the warm climates in which he has sojourned. Unassuming in his manner, one finds it almost impossible to realise that this man has passed through so many exciting scenes. In thirteen years he has fought and sketched thirteen wars.

Fencing is greatly practiced by the young ladies of New York. Even more so since Prof. J. Hartl, of Austria, brought out his nine beautiful pupils from Vienna. Their uniform is a bewitching costume, consisting of a short kilted skirt. A padded vest of chamois skin, from the waist to the neck, is worn over a sleeved jersey. Red stockings and slippers complete the attire of these graceful and striking young women. They go through a programme of fencing exercises with a grace and dexterity that astonishes the audience who witness it. It is a very healthy exercise for women, and the artist Griboyedoff is amply justified in introducing such a healthy pastime as the art of fencing for young women.

Madame Dies Debar, a so-called spiritualist, has created a dismal time of it for herself and husband. Playing upon the credulity of a few spiritualists, by pretending to hold communication with the dead relatives of her visitors, she was not long in getting within her toils a wealthy aged lawyer, Luther B. Marsh. Knowing that he was a widower, and very wealthy, she made him her victim. She even went so far as to produce a picture for him of his departed wife, painted by the spirits. This delighted the misguided old man, and he at once threw open his house to receive her, and not only received her husband and two little girls, but he actually deeded the house to this fraud. The members of the New York Bar, determining to protect one of their number, had Madame and her husband arrested for swindling, and obtaining money under false pretences. They now languish in prison without any hope of being set free.

This is the second time in nine years since Mrs. Scott-Siddons has delighted with her presence a New York audience. She is as charming as ever. Time has not aged her beautiful face or form. She gives a series of readings in Steinway Hall. After listening to her one feels loathe to let her retire. She is accompanied by her adopted son, Henry Waller.

The second daughter of Sir Lionel Sackville West is to be married to a young French gentleman. Although her home is in Washington, where she is a great pet in society, she is not unknown in New York circles. She is a classic-looking brunette, of a tall and stately figure, more of the Spanish mould than French. Her face is very captivating, and her manner charming. Her conversation is always carried on in the French language, though she can speak several other tongues.

Paul Blouet (Max O'Rell) returns home after a very successful lecturing tour in this country. Americans will soon have an idea of what his impressions were concerning them, as his book is soon to be published.

OLIVIA EVANS.

PARLIAMENTARY REVIEW.

DOMINION.—The House of Commons, as a mark of respect to the memory of the Hon. Thomas White, adjourned from Monday until Wednesday of last week, thus affording members an opportunity of attending the funeral,

which took place in Montreal. Mr. White was a conscientious worker, and under his direction the affairs of his department were conducted in a methodical and business-like manner. When it is stated that the correspondence of the department involved the opening, reading and answering of two thousand letters per day, it can readily be understood that the labor of the Minister of the Interior in seeing that this work was properly done, was indeed heavy, and there cannot be much doubt that Mr. White was a martyr to hard work, and that his early and sudden demise was the direct result of excessive and laborious work. The Minister of the Interior was a man of marked ability, and was without exception one of the ablest debaters, as well as one of the most popular members of the House of Commons. Sir John Macdonald is said to have been so out up by his death that he found it impossible to move the adjournment of the House when he rose for that purpose, and Sir Hector Langevin seeing that the Premier was deeply affected, quietly rose, and made the motion for the adjournment, which was seconded by the Hon. Mr. Laurier, in a neat sympathetic speech. Coal and coke have been removed from the list of articles which Canada is willing to admit duty free when the United States agrees to act reciprocally. This action is unquestionably supported by the owners of our coal mines, most of whom believe that the home markets in Canada are far and away more certain than would be the markets along the Atlantic coast in the United States, should coal be placed on the free list in both countries. After many years of hope deferred, the Western Counties Railway Company has at length arranged to float its bonds upon the English market for a little more than \$4,000,000, and now we may fairly hope that the missing link will be completed and continuous railway communication between Halifax and Yarmouth become a fixed fact before the close of the year. Importers of goods that are stamped with fraudulent trade marks will now have to be on the *qui vive*, as Parliament has just enacted a law making all such goods liable to forfeiture. The Budget speech is always looked forward to with interest by the members on both sides of the House, and since Sir Charles Tupper has been Minister of Finance, a new element of life appears to have been thrown into what otherwise would be considered dry facts and figures. Sir Charles, in a vigorous speech, occupying two hours and a half in delivery, made it quite evident to all who heard him, that he was master of the situation. In dealing with the expenditure of 1886-87, he pointed out that the estimated deficit had been changed into a surplus by the heavy imports of iron which were made in view of the increased duties placed upon that metal. For the year ending July 1st, 1888, the Minister of Finance estimates a deficit of \$1,000,000, the expenditure being \$37,000,000, while in the following year he estimates a surplus of \$1,000,000, with a corresponding reduction in expenditure. Sir Charles declared it to be the intention of the Government not to add materially to the public debt of the country, which, he said, would only be increased by the amounts deposited by the Canadian people in the savings banks. Referring to the iron industry, he claimed the protective policy adopted by the United States had in twenty-six years made the Republic one of the greatest manufacturers of iron in the world, and if Canada would but pursue a similar policy, the results would be similar. In speaking of the changes in the sugar duties, Sir Charles said that the imports of West Indian sugar into Nova Scotia had more than doubled since the duties were changed, the imports for nine months of the present fiscal year being 33,000,000 pounds. Referring to the manufacture of cotton, the Minister of Finance said, that during the past ten years the manufacture of cotton cloths had been increased ten fold, that a capital of \$8,000,000 was now employed in this industry, and that nine thousand persons were engaged in the manufacture of cotton. This phenomenal development was in a degree noticeable in many other industries. Sir Charles, in referring to inter-provincial trade, gave statistics to prove that in the past ten years the trade going had doubled, while that between the east and west had increased in an equally satisfactory ratio. In concluding his speech, he criticised the policy of the Liberal party in supporting, first commercial union, and next unrestricted reciprocity with the United States, which he characterized as ridiculous chimeras, at the same time he urged upon the House the policy of the Conservative party, which, having faith in this young Dominion, was resolved to build upon the northern half of this continent a country of which posterity would have just cause to feel proud.

OUR COSY CORNER.

In buying gloves choose the brighter shades of tan in preference to the darker, for they clean much better. And notwithstanding the numerous instructions for cleaning gloves at home, it is much wiser to send them to a professional scourer. The charge for cleaning is small, the work is well done and no unpleasant odor remains. Always mend your gloves before they are cleaned, and be certain to use a fine needle. If you are near a glove-maker, obtain, if possible, some of the regular glove thread, which is much better than silk. All large dealers in gloves will give one a few extra buttons, so there can be no excuse for their absence.

Everybody who wears laced shoes in the house or in the street during warm weather has sighed in despair at the price charged in the shops for the long, broad, silk shoe-laces tipped with metal; but if one has the spare time pretty laces may be made at home at small expense. Instead of the regular lace use a flat silk braid, and in removing the shoe simply loosen the braid without unlacing it. The same rule applies to silk laces for corsets; they are expensive—that is, for such small belongings; and the braid, which answers just as well, is decidedly cheaper.

Fine jet or bead passmenterie needs to be cleaned with a soft brush, mended and remended. Fine jet is always a pretty decoration for an evening bodice, and sometimes two or three designs may be used on a single

bodico and the effect will be one of great brilliancy without a continuous pattern. If the jets are very uneven, some of the beads having fallen out and left a thin background, than take the time to remove them in a regular design—that is, mend some places with jet and leave a series of lines or curves with no beads upon them, filling in these spaces with steel, gold or amber. The effect will be novel and the jet will gain freshness by the contrast.

The real art of economy consists in getting a good article to start with, giving it proper attention while in use and considering its possibilities when its days of service seem nearly ended. The story of how a velvet gown began life as a dinner toilette years ago, how it was altered to suit the various modes, how its train made two velvet *toques* and its sleeves helped decorate a poke bonnet, and how at present it is utilized as a tea-gown, is an illustration of this truth. Mankind has always understood this, and femininity will soon learn that to know what one wants is wisdom, and to know how to care for it so that it will be of greatest use is the first principle of economy.

QUESTIONS DROLLY ANSWERED.

The following droll questions, with their responses, were originally taken from an English work printed in 1511, by Wynkyu de Worde. Only one copy is known to be extant. The title of the book is "Demands Joyous."

Demand.—What bore the best burden that ever was borne?

Response.—The ass that carried our Lady when she fled with our Lord into Egypt.

Dem.—What became of that ass?

Res.—Adam's mother ate her.

Dem.—Who was Adam's mother?

Res.—The earth.

Dem.—How many calves' tails would it take to reach from the earth to the sky?

Res.—Not more than one if it be long enough.

Dem.—What is the distance from the surface of the sea to the deepest part thereof?

Res.—Only a stone's throw.

Dem.—What is it that never was or never will be?

Res.—A mouse's nest in a cat's ear.

Dem.—Why do men make an oven in a town?

Res.—Because they cannot make a town in an oven.

Dem.—How may a man discern a cow in a flock of sheep?

Res.—By his eyesight.

Dem.—Why doth a cow lie down?

Res.—Because it cannot sit.

Dem.—What is it that never freezeth?

Res.—Boiling water.

Dem.—Which was first, the hen or the egg?

Res.—The hen, at the creation.

Dem.—How many straws go to a goose's nest?

Res.—Not one, for straws, not having feet, cannot go anywhere.

Dem.—Who killed the fourth part of mankind?

Res.—Cain, when he killed Abel.

Dem.—What man getteth his living backward?

Res.—The rope-maker.

Dem.—Who were the persons that made all, that bought all, and lost all?

Res.—A smith made an awl and sold it to a shoemaker, who lost it.

Dem.—Why doth a dog turn round before he lieth down?

Res.—Because he knoweth not his bel's head from the foot thereof.

Dem.—What is the worst bestowed charity that one can give?

Res.—Alms to a blind man, for he would be glad to see the person hanged that gave it to him.

A LONDON AND LIVERPOOL CANAL.

A ship canal between London and Liverpool for large-class vessels is proposed by the *Liverpool Journal of Commerce*. The distance between these two cities is about 200 miles. There are already some small canals on the route that are proposed to be utilized. The principal reason urged for the building of such a canal is for national defence, but it is also designed for the passage of merchant vessels to and from the Mersey and the Thames and the whole of the midland counties. In the event of war it would enable gunboats, torpedo vessels and ordinary ships of war to be conducted from the North Sea to the Irish Channel, on emergency, without their being exposed to attack by an inferior or superior naval force. Vessels of war by such a canal could be concentrated at pleasure for the defence of the Mersey and Thames, whichever might be threatened and in need of support. The canals on this route could be widened, deepened, and utilized for the enlarged canal for war vessels and commercial vessels. There would be numberless towns and cities built up along its line that would be great marts of trade and industry. There is a proposed intersection of this lateral canal at Birmingham by another canal connecting the Humber and Severn rivers. This would unite, in the manner indicated, the ports on the North Sea and English Channel with those on the Bristol Channel and Irish Sea. This would make a complete and grand system to accommodate the requirements of trade and commerce. It would be a boon to the agriculturists, the manufacturers and the tradesmen, and to the colliers, and a sure and convenient means of defence and offence for the nation.

COMMERCIAL.

The state of trade has undergone no actual change, but the spring business is developing under the influence of warmer weather and the consequent better condition of the country roads.

Prices have, as a rule, been steady. Payments continue to be in general fairly well met, though it is undeniable that renewals are asked for rather more frequently than is desirable.

There is considerable friction just now between builders and contractors, and their workmen. The representatives of the latter demand for their clients rates of wages that the employers have granted temporarily, but it would seem, with a quiet determination to better the *status*—according to their own views—as soon as possible. The peace between the two parties has been specious, but its hollowness was revealed during the past week. A prominent builder imported a lot of men from England, and was ready to tell the "old hands" that their valuable services could be dispensed with. To his surprise, the "newly-imported" were *non est inventus*. Enquiry developed the mournful fact that the "Union" had induced the new men to seek labor elsewhere, and had paid—it is reported—their passages and other expenses to any place on this continent to which they chose to go. In this case "the Union" triumphed, but the reflection that "tramp" artisans may thus be developed arises. What is easier, for instance, than for a foreign mechanic who has a taste for travel, and no appetite for work, to get some one to bring him out here to "work." The next process is to be "induced" by the Union to "move on" at its expense to some other place where another "labor organization" will pay his expenses further on, and so on *ad libitum ad infinitum*.

Owing to the French fishermen being prevented by the Act recently put in operation by the Newfoundland Government from obtaining herring for bait on the shores of that island, except that portion known as the French Shore, comprising Bay St. George, Bay of Islands and Bonne Bay, they are unable to catch or buy any at other places, and are forced to resort to the above named Bays for their necessary supplies of bait. The result is, that they will absorb all the catch there taken, which will withdraw from this market thousands of barrels that have hitherto come here. This is likely to prove an important factor in determining the value of salt herring during the coming year, if not longer. Bays and ports on other than the "French Shore" are open to American fishing vessels for the purchase of bait, on the payment of \$1.60 per ton for the season, and Canadians without payment, and they will doubtless take all the herring that is caught there. A recent report from Bay St. George states that there were already fifty sail of French fishing vessels there waiting for bait, and that their number is likely to greatly and rapidly increase.

The following are the assignments and business changes in this Province during the past week:—McGregor & Knight, books and stationery, assigned in trust; W. H. Isnor, livery stables, Dartmouth, removed to Halifax; McDonald, O'Brien & Cooke, contractors, Oxford, dissolved, Thos. Cocke retiring; F. D. Corbett & Co., ship brokers & com., Halifax, Geo. S. Campbell admitted partner; Sheffield & Wickwire, genl. store, Canning, sold out retail business to Kinsman & Newcomb; John P. Murdoch, genl. store, Bridgetown, admitted Burton D. Neily partner, as Murdoch & Neily.

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

	Week:		Prev. Weeks corresponding to			Failures for the year to date.			
	April 21.	week	1887	1886	1885	1888	1887	1886	1885
United States	193	181	153	172	193	3,736	3,807	3,986	4,123
Canada	26	30	20	27	21	662	455	470	689

DRY GOODS.—The dry goods trade has been fairly active, and a steady tone has prevailed in all staples. Commercial travellers report that country merchants are holding stocks that are on the heavy side, and show little or no inclination to examine fall goods. A fair amount of orders are sent in, but they are generally small, and mostly of the sorting-up kind. However, as the spring has been very backward, and trade has, despite this drawback, been as good as could have been expected, hopes are reasonably entertained that the ultimate result of the season's trade will not be disappointing.

IRON, HARDWARE AND METALS.—Trade in these lines has been fair, though not showing any of the features of a "rush." Stocks of pig iron are reported to be very low, and prices are firm in all lines. Warrants are cabled from Glasgow at 38s. 8d. London cables tin at £136, and Chili bars at £50.

BREADSTUFFS.—There was a better demand for flour, and the market was more active and very firm, with somewhat higher prices asked in some cases. In strong bakers' flours especially a very good amount of business has been accomplished. Beerbohm's cable says:—"Cargoes off coast—wheat firm; corn, nothing offering. Do. on passage—wheat and corn quiet, but firm. Liverpool, wheat, spot, inactive; corn do., strong. Liverpool, standard California wheat, including club white 6s. 6d. to 6s. 9d. Mixed maize 5s. 4d. Walla Walla wheat, off coast, 32s. 3d. Wheat in Paris rather easier, at 42s. for April and May; flour do., at 35s. 3d." In Chicago the corn market has been strong and more active. Latest figures received were 55½c. May, 54½c. June, and 55c. July. The wheat market was quiet, but prices were firmer and improved ½c., being 81c. May, 82½c. June; 83c. July. Oats were stronger, and moved up to 32½c. May, 32½c. June, 32½c. July. The New York wheat market was stronger and improved. At Toledo wheat was unsettled, and at Milwaukee it was easier and fell off. 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 52,777,418 bushels of wheat, against 69,034,814 bushels one year ago, showing a decrease of 16,300,000 bushels; but on the other hand Russia is a sharp competitor with us in supplying Europe with wheat. Although the Baltic ports have been closed by ice, and navigation in the Black Sea has been interrupted much of the time during the past four months, yet the imports of wheat into the

United Kingdom from Russia, from January 1, 1888, amounted to 3,404,000 cwt., against 3,758,000 cwt. from the United States; and the probabilities now are that the export of wheat from Russia during the next three months will exceed that of the United States.

PROVISIONS.—A fair amount of business has been done in local provisions, and the market was more active. There has been a fair enquiry for pork, and several sales of small lots are reported; chiefly, it would seem, to fishing vessels, which are fitting out. Hams and bacon have moved off fairly well at steady prices. The demand for lard continues good. In the Liverpool provision market bacon was stronger, and advanced 3d. to 38s. 0d. to 41s. Lard was weaker, and fell off 3d. to 40s. 6d. Pork was steady at 67s. 6d., and tallow at 26s. 6d. There was a weak tone in the Chicago provision market, and pork steadily declined. Latest quotations were: \$13.60 for May, \$13.70 June, and \$13.77½ July. Lard was inactive and weaker, being quoted at \$7.92½ May, \$7.95 June, and \$7.87½ July.

BUTTER.—The movement in butter has been very moderate, being confined entirely to supplying local wants. It appears, however, that stocks have been well worked down, and the supply on hand at present is comparatively so small that holders can handle it without trouble. New goods offering meet a steady sale, and fancy packages command full prices.

CHEESE.—The market for cheese has been quiet and without change, there being no business to speak of. The present is what may be termed a time "between seasons," and, therefore, little can be looked for from it. A few small lots of fodder-fed cheese have been shown, but buyers did not show any interest in them, so far as could be learned. The cable remains at 55s. for colored, and 60s. for white.

APPLES.—The season is now about over, and dealers are working off their held over stock as fast as possible, but at prices which show a loss.

DRIED FRUITS.—There is now but little desirable dried fruit on the market, it having been pretty well cleaned out in anticipation of expected arrival of new lots. Valencia raisins are steady, because it is expected that the supply of currants will be very small, owing to the demand for them in France for conversion into light wines.

TEA.—There has been no actual change in the tea position. Buyers' prices are low, because the advent of new teas is near at hand, but, on the other hand, holders have steady ideas, as they know that stocks in hand are limited, and they think not more than enough to bridge the consumptive demand until the new crop arrives. Meanwhile a private letter received in this city on Tuesday from Yokohama, Japan, states that the agents there of the steamers connecting with the C. P. R. have refused to contract for the conveyance of miscellaneous goods, on the plea that all their available freight room is fully engaged for some months to come to carry tea. Reports from both China and Japan indicate that this season's crop will be of excellent quality, and very large. The season for the new crop will shortly open at primary markets.

SUGAR AND MOLASSES are nominally unchanged, but there can be no question that sugar prices are not held as firmly as they were a short time ago. It is reported that refineries are "shading" figures, and that this is because the indications are that at points of production planters are willing to negotiate on lower terms than they were last year.

FISH OILS.—Our Montreal correspondent writes:—"The reports from the seal fishery are, on the whole, fair. There are some old lots of steam refined seal oil offering here at 48c., but new oil may be expected in two or three weeks. We quote prices 47c. to 48c. on spot. Newfoundland cod oil is quoted at 35c. to 36c. for small lots. The reported sale of a round lot last week was not Newfoundland but Nova Scotia, and the price is said to have been 31c., smaller lots being quoted at 33c. Cod liver oil is quoted at 65c. to 70c."

FISH.—The local market continues dull and lifeless, with no stocks worth speaking of in hand. Some herring have shown themselves along our shores, but they are so small as to be practically useless for any purpose. However, in the absence of anything better, the waiting bankers have been forced to try what they can do with them, and about twenty-five sail are reported to have baited with these small fish at Dover, and to have sailed thence on Monday last to make an attempt to catch something with them if possible. Quotations for all kinds of fish here are unchanged, but must be regarded as purely nominal. Our outside advices are as follows:—Montreal, April 30.—"The fish season here has practically closed, and little or nothing is doing. There are a few offerings of both cured and fresh, but buyers are careless. Good fat herring could be easily placed, but as they are not obtainable, and nothing else seems to be enquired for, the trade remains about feature." Gloucester, Mass., May 1.—"Georges codfish continue well from the vessel at \$2 75 by the firms, and \$2.25 for outside vessels. Last sales of Bank halibut 7c. and 5c. per lb. for white and gray; Georges 5c. and 6c. We quote shore mackerel at \$20 per bbl. for 1's; 2's, \$17.50 to \$18; 3's, \$15. Bay 1's, \$17.50 to \$18; 2's, \$16. Bloaters, \$25. We quote Georges codfish at \$4 per qtl. for large and \$3.50 for small; Trawl Bank, \$3.50 for large; Shores, \$3 87½. Large Dry Bank, \$5; medium, \$3 75. Cusk, \$3; pollock, \$2.25; slack-salted do., \$3; haddock, \$2 50; and hake, \$2 37½. Labrador herring, \$5 to \$5.25 per bbl.; medium split, \$4.50; Newfoundland do., \$5; Nova Scotia do., \$5 to \$6; pickled codfish, \$6.50; haddock, \$5.50; tongues, \$6; sounds, \$12; tongues and sounds, \$8.50; newwives, \$3.25; trout, \$14 50; Halifax salmon, \$20; Newfoundland do., \$18." Havana, April 27, (cable).—"Fish have again slackened off, the decline being to \$6 for codfish, and \$5 for haddock and hake. The market is very dull." Barbadoes, April 13.—"Lotting rates for codfish are now at \$20 for large, and \$17 for medium. A quantity of inferior and old stock affects the local market, as low rates for these can only be obtained now. A large quantity of previous landings of herrings that are spoiling in store interfere with the sale of a good article. Split, ox a recent arrival, are held at \$3.50."

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.

SUGAR.	
Cut Leaf	7½ to 6
Granulated	6¼ to 7
Circle A	6½
White Extra C	6½
Extra Yellow C	5¾ to 6½
Yellow C	5¾
TEA.	
Congou, Common	17 to 19
" Fair	20 to 23
" Good	25 to 29
" Choice	31 to 33
" Extra Choice	35 to 38
Oolong, Choice	37 to 39
MOLASSES.	
Barbadoes ..	33 to 34
Demerara ..	34 to 36
Diamond N. ..	42 to 43
Porto Rico ..	33 to 34
Cienfuegos ..	30 to 31
Trinidad ..	31
Antigua ..	31
Tobacco, Black ..	38 to 44
" Bright ..	42 to 58
BISCUITS.	
Pilot Bread	2.60 to 2.90
Boston and Thin Family ..	5¼ to 6
Soda ..	5¼ to 5¾
do. in lb. boxes, 50 to case ..	7½
Fancy ..	8 to 15

BREADSTUFFS.

PROVISIONS AND PRODUCE.

Quotations below are our to-day's wholesale prices for car lots net cash. Jobbers' and Retailers' prices about 5 to 10 cents per bbl. higher than car lots. Markets quiet and steady. Breadstuffs are sold fine. Cornmeal quiet; Oats quiet. Flour strong and dearer.

FLOUR.	
Graham	4.40 to 4.60
Patent high grades	4.75 to 5.00
" mediums	4.45 to 4.60
Superior Extra	4.20 to 4.35
Lower grades	3.60 to 4.00
Oatmeal, Standard	3.55
" Granulated	6.00
Corn Meal—Halifax ground	3.55 to 3.65
" Imported	3.55 to 3.65
Bran, per ton—Wheat	23.00 to 23.50
" Corn	21.00
Shorts ..	25.00 to 26.00
Middlings ..	26.00 to 28.00
Cracked Corn ..	26.00 to 30.00
" Oats, per ton ..	26.00 to 30.00
" Barley ..	nominal
Feed Flour ..	3.10 to 3.25
Oats per bushel of 34 lbs., retail ..	43 to 45
Barley " of 48 " ..	nominal
Peas " of 60 " ..	1.40 to 1.10
White Beans, per bushel ..	2.45 to 2.50
Pot Barley, per barrel ..	6.00 to 5.40
Corn " of 56 lbs. ..	75 to 85
Hay per ton ..	13.00 to 14.00
Straw ..	9.00 to 12.00

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 ..	10.50 to 11.00
" Am. Plate, " ..	11.00 to 11.50
" Ex. Plate, " ..	12.00 to 12.50
Pork, Mess, American ..	18.00 to 18.50
" American, clear ..	19.00 to 19.50
" P. E. I. Mess ..	17.00 to 17.50
" P. E. I. Thin Mess ..	15.50 to 16.00
" Prime Mess ..	13.00 to 13.50
Lard, Tubs and Pails ..	11 to 12
" Cans ..	12.50 to 13.00
Hams, P. E. I., green ..	8 to 8½
Duty on Am. Pork and Beef \$2.25 per bbl.	

Prices are for wholesale lots only, and available to change daily. These quotations are prepared by a reliable wholesale house.

FISH FROM VESSELS.

MACKEREL.	
Extra ..	14.50
No. 1 ..	13.50
" 2 large ..	12.50
" 2 ..	12.00
" 3 large ..	9.50
" 3 ..	9.00
HERRING.	
No. 1 Shore, July ..	4.25 to 4.50
No. 1, August ..	3.25 to 3.50
" September ..	3.25 to 3.50
Round Shore ..	5.50
Labrador, in cargo lots, per bl.	3.25 to 3.50
Bay of Islands, from store ..	2.75 to 3.00
ALBIVIVES, per bbl ..	4.75 to 5.00
CODFISH.	
Hard Shore ..	4.00 to 4.15
New Bank ..	4.00
Bay ..	4.00
SALMON, No. 1 ..	14.00
HADDOCK, per qtl. ..	3.00 to 3.25
HAKE ..	2.50 to 2.75
CUSK ..	2.75 to 3.00
POLLOCK ..	2.25 to 2.50
HACK SOUNDS, per lb. ..	30 to 35
COD OIL A ..	22 to 25

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

LOBSTERS.

Per case 4 doz. 1 lb. cans.	
Nova Scotia (Atlantic Coast Packing) ..	4 70 to 5 25
Tall Cans ..	4 60 to 5 00
Flat ..	6 00 to 6 25
Newfoundland Flat Cans ..	6 25 to 6 50

The above quotations are corrected by a reliable dealer.

LUMBER.

Pine, clear, No. 1, per m.	25.00 to 28.00
" Merchantable, do do ..	14.00 to 17.00
" do 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

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

BUTTER AND CHEESE.

Nova Scotia Choice Fresh Prints ..	22 to 25
" In Small Tubs ..	22 to 24
" Good, in large tubs ..	20 to 22
" Store Packed & oversalted ..	19 to 18
Canadian, new ..	22 to 25
" Township, old ..	16 to 20
" Western ..	14 to 16
Cheese, Canadian ..	13

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

WOOL, WOOL SKINS & HIDES.

Wool—clean washed, per pound ..	15 to 20
" unwashed ..	13 to 15
Salted Hides, No 1 ..	5 to 6
Ox Hides, over 60 lbs.; No 1 ..	6
" under 60 lbs., No 1 ..	5
" over 60 lbs., No 2 ..	5
" under 60 lbs., No 2 ..	5
Cow Hides, No 1 ..	5½
No 3 Hides, each ..	4
Calf Skins ..	25
" Deacons, each ..	25
Lambskins ..	25 to 75
Tallow ..	2

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

HOME AND FOREIGN FRUITS.

Apples, No. 1 Varieties, new, per bbl.	3.50 to 4.50
Oranges, per bbl, Jamaica (net.) ..	7.00
" per case, Valencia ..	5.50 to 6.00
Lemons' per case ..	5.00 to 5.50
Cocoanuts, per 100 ..	5.50
Onions, Egyptian, new, per lb.	½
Dates, boxes, new ..	5 to 5½
Raisins, Valencia ..	6½ to 7
Figs, Eleme, 5 lb boxes per lb.	11 to 12
" small boxes ..	6½ to 7½
Prunes, Stewing, boxes and bags ..	none
Grapes, Almeria, kegs ..	none

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

POULTRY.

Turkeys, per pound ..	16 to 18
Geese, each ..	none
Ducks, per pair ..	none
Chickens ..	none

The above are corrected by a reliable victualer.

LIVE STOCK—at Richmond Depo..

Steers best quality, per 100 lbs. alive ..	4.25 to 5.00
Oxen ..	3.50 to 4.50
Fat Steers, Heifers, light weights ..	3.00 to 3.50
Wethers, best quality, per 100 lbs ..	4.50 to 5.00
Lambs, scarce ..	3.50 to 4.00

These quotations are prepared by reliable victualer

SADDLE AND SABRE.

(Continued).

"Don't cackle about what you don't understand, young 'un," rejoined Hobson, good humoredly. "If I knew Shere Ali had gone that road, if I really had some grounds for supposing he had taken it; I would push on at once. As it is, I am not going to march my men off their legs in pursuit of a will o' the wisp. You, no doubt, think Englishmen can beat these Pandies at anything. When it comes to running away, I tell you they're not in it with these fellows."

Charlie thought there was a lamentable want of dash about his leader; but Hobson had not hunted down the broken Sepoy army in the great Mutiny time without learning how very hard they were to come up with when they did not deem it expedient to fight, and how they were served by their intimate knowledge of the byeways of the country.

"It's weary work," continued Hobson, "but there is nothing for it but to make such inquiries as one can, and if we can make out nothing about Shere Ali and his band, patrol the main road."

"Like policemen on their beats," said Charlie, with a face of extreme disgust.

"Just so," rejoined Hobson. "However, you needn't be down on your luck. I don't know why, but I have an idea that you are destined to be face to face with Shere Ali one of these days."

"What makes you think that?" asked Charlie.

"I tell you I don't know. Psha! that's not quite true. It's not much given to dreaming, but I had a confused dream the other night, in which you and a tall Pandie figured prominently."

"And what were we doing?"

"Well, your best to kill each other," replied Hobson.

"And how did it finish?"

"That is just what I can't tell you. It was most annoying. I awoke in the middle of it, and I was most anxious to see the finish of that fight."

"But who was getting the best of it?" said Charlie, with great interest.

"It was anybody's battle," replied Hobson laughing. "Don't think me bloodthirsty, but I did want to see it fought out."

"Well," returned Charlie, "I need scarcely say I should have preferred your being able to say it was six to four on me when you left. Sorry, too, he is so big. Have you ever seen him?"

"No; but I've seen lots of his sort. They run tall, these Bengalee Sepoys. I had our old bugbear Shere Ali and you in my head, which, with that remarkably tough mutton we dined on yesterday, would quite account for my vision."

"And where were you?" asked Charlie.

"Oh, you seldom see yourself. Don't you recollect that when you do, according to Scott's 'Legend,' you sleep in a 'bluidy plaid' ere long. But—holloa—what's this? It looks like a runner from head-quarters." And as Hobson spoke a peon was seen coming along the road at the sling-trot with which the native usually accomplishes the task of letter-bearing.

When he reached Hobson he stopped, made a low salaam, and handed him a letter. The Captain tore it open, and, as he glanced hastily over it, exclaimed, "My dream is about to come true. Hurrah! No more of this tiresome game of 'catch who can.' We are recalled, and are to be mounted. The chief says that the fiat has gone forth that Shere Ali is to be suppressed at any price. It seems he has been throat-cutting on a somewhat extensive scale of late, and the Government are determined to take him dead or alive."

"Only give us horses, and we will soon account for him," cried Charlie, who, as an ex-Dragoon, believed implicitly in mounted men, and held that a regiment of Hussars could go anywhere and do anything. "But it will take a long while to make them."

"Put your cavalry ideas on one side, young 'un. Remember, we are only mounted infantry, and our horses are hacks, not chargers."

Charlie made no reply. He comprehended but one idea of a soldier on horseback, and that was evidently not Hobson's. Still, if they only did get at Shere Ali, it wouldn't, he thought, much matter how. Charlie was burning for that fight of which Hobson had dreamt. "When shall we march?" he said at length.

"A little before daybreak to-morrow; and we will get back to head-quarters as quickly as possible."

On the arrival at the cantonment, Charlie and Hobson found their work cut out for them, and for the next month were busily engaged in organizing the mounted infantry. The regiment was picked for men who could ride; and they found no lack of volunteers, the only difficulty laid in the selection, for the British soldier, in his anxiety to vary the monotony of his life, in some cases over-estimated his equestrian capabilities. The authorities were urgent for the departure of Hobson's command as soon as possible; and there was therefore no time to teach those to ride who had not some knowledge of it. Shere Ali was increasing in audacity week by week, and seemed ubiquitous in the Deccan. He had of late taken care to ensure there being no evidence against him by the wholesale murder of those he had robbed, after the manner of the Thugs; and there was, consequently, no actual proof of his being the author of some of the atrocities laid to his charge. He was said to be at the head of a numerous band of desperadoes, and to boast openly that he would not be taken alive, and neither asked nor gave quarter. The question of Shere Ali had become that of the apprehension of a great marauder,—the laying hold of a Rob Roy or Schinderhannes, and the interest increased in intensity with the constantly recurring stories of the dacoit's audacity and ferocity.

But a Nemesis attends these human tigers, and they mostly die violent

deaths. The buccaneer chiefs, who made their victims walk the plank, chiefly "found a rope on it" before their course was run. Sooner or later some one revolts at the doings of these blood-stained monsters, and either betrays them to the powers or rids the world of them; and it is the conviction that this awaits them, and can only be averted by the terror they inspire, that makes them, once launched on their career, insatiable in their lust of blood. Shere Ali knew that his life was forfeit, and said grimly that when his time came his spirit would depart well attended.

Hobson's men at last satisfied the Colonel's critical eye; and, with young Devereux as his subaltern, the Captain is once more despatched in pursuit of his wily foe. There has grown up in the breasts of Hobson, and such of his men as were with him on his former expedition, a feverish thirst to settle accounts with Shere Ali, such as a keen shikarri might feel to come face to face with a "man eater," such as some years previously pervaded the Central Indian Field Force on the subject of Tantia Topee. That sagacious chieftain was always dodging backwards and forwards across the Nerbudda, in a perfectly maddening manner, determined to fight only on his own terms, which, as a good strategist, meant when the chances were much in his favor. Again and again did one or other of the English leaders think themselves certain of his capture, only after two or three forced marches to find the wily Asiatic had once more slipped across the river. Shere Ali was enacting the great drama over again on a small scale, but with no abatement of the murder and outrage that characterized the great rebellion.

"There, Hobson," said the Colonel, as he bade the detachment farewell, "I hope you will have the luck to capture the scoundrel; there are so many parties out on the same errand, that it is impossible he can evade you all. Depend upon it, Shere Ali's career is about run."

"My fellows are keen enough, sir. He's cost us too many long tramps not to make us eager to bring him to book, and this time he won't beat us for speed."

But Shere Ali proved more irritating to his enemies than ever upon the occasion. Detachments of cavalry and mounted infantry were, as they thought, closing in upon him on all sides, when suddenly the famous dacoit vanished, no intelligence of his whereabouts possible to be arrived at. Where he had gone, or what had become of him, nobody knew. Vague rumors there were that he had broken up his band and fled into Bengal. Weeks went by, and, all efforts to learn anything concerning him proving useless, his pursuers were reluctantly recalled, but not before the leaders of the various parties had confessed to being unable to discover any trace of him.

"Fairly beat, sir," said Hobson, when he reported himself to his chief on his return. "I learnt for certain that I was within forty miles of Shere Ali. Did it in seven hours, only to find him fled—where to it is impossible to conjecture. If the earth had swallowed him and his followers they could not have more utterly vanished."

"We shall hear of that fellow again before long," said the Colonel grimly, "and I hope hang him before we've done with him."

The chief proved a true prophet; ere a month had elapsed an outrage was perpetrated between Jubulpore and Nagpore which eclipsed all previous exploits of the kind. A treasure-chest under escort of an English officer and twenty Sepoys was lured into an ambush and slaughtered to a man. Except during the great Mutiny, it was rarely that the native dared to raise his hand against the life of the white man, and it was regarded as a striking instance of Shere Ali's audacity that he should have ventured to slay a Feringhee. For that he was the author of this crime none doubt although none of the luckless escort lived to tell the tale of their disaster. Even in the worst days of Thuggee, the votaries of Bhowanee had never ventured to cast the dastardly *roomel* around the throat of the white man. Nor had the dacoits previously ever ventured to attack the dominant race. It had been the proud boast, before the terrible outbreak of Fifty-Seven, that an English lady could travel all through the Indian Peninsula with a further escort than her native servants in perfect safety. No wonder that cry for vengeance went forth against this wholesale murderer, and the Pres both English and native, were unanimous in demanding the life of Shere Ali. For once the blood-thirsty dacoit had committed not only an atrocious crime, but a grave blunder. The massacred Sepoys were recruited for the Presidency, and had friends and relatives scattered far and wide across the country which Shere Ali had chosen for the scene of his operations—none quicker to see this than the Colonel of the Rifles.

"The beggar has overreached himself this time, Hobson. Some of the dead men's relatives are sure to betray him sooner or later. As for the being no witness to his last crime, that doesn't matter—we've enough against Shere Ali to hang him three times over." And so the fiat went forth that Shere Ali was to be hunted down, and once more patrols of mounted infantry and cavalry were despatched to scour the country.

"Remember," thundered the fiery old Commander-in-Chief at Madras, "I will have that man dead or alive, and you will march to-and-fro through the land like so many Wandering Jews till you get him."

"Gad, Charlie," said Hobson, when that speech reached his ears, "is devoutly to be hoped that some of us will lay hold of him before he is for Sir Timothy is a man of his word, and that means dacoit-hunting for life." So once more the roads were scoured in all directions, villages searched, and heavy rewards offered for any intelligence that might lead to the arrest of Shere Ali, but again that mysterious personage had disappeared. One thing only was to be ascertained concerning him, namely, that he had dismissed the main body of his followers for the present, and retired to only a few of the most trusted to his stronghold, but where that stronghold was no man apparently could tell; it was rumored that the secret of whereabouts was jealously guarded, and utterly unknown to the bulk of the band, only a few well-tried retainers being aware of its locality—ruffians the most part as deeply blood-stained as himself.

But the patrolling and vigilant search for Shere Ali ceased nowhere upon that account. "Sooner or later his necessities will compel the tiger to leave his lair," argued the Commander-in-Chief of the Presidency, "and then will come the hunter's opportunity."

CHAPTER XXXIX.

"AN ENEMY HATH DONE THIS THING."

Dick Kynaston was not the man to await the tide of events upon finding himself involved in an awkward scandal. Innocent though he was, he saw at once that it would be difficult to make the world believe that he had no knowledge of his partner's practices. One thing, however, was quite clear to him, that there was no time to be lost in publicly repudiating all partnership with Furzedon in racing matters. No one would believe that he was not implicated in the affair unless he broke off all relations with Furzedon. Indeed, as the Major pondered over Norman Slade's story, the more indignant he became that he should have been such a mere puppet in the hands of his clever young friend. What, he, the knowing Dick Kynaston, the shrewd man about town, who knew the ropes, who was up to every move on the board—he to be hoodwinked by this young pawnbroker, and find himself mixed up in one of the most shameful Turf robberies he had ever heard of! He would ask Mr. Furzedon to call upon him for the last time, give him a piece of his mind, and tell him that in future they would be strangers to each other.

The Major gradually churned himself up to a very pretty state of indignation. Although by no means particular, he was honestly angry that he should have unwittingly become involved in such an ugly scrape as this promised to become. He was quite aware that his own racing career had not been of that blameless, chivalric nature at which no stone can be thrown. He was reputed a sharp practitioner, and the world cannot pretend to decide where such gentlemen draw the line. Straight-going, humdrum folks fail to see much difference between what is termed "picking people up," by which is meant taking advantage of them, and picking pockets, and the Major, although his code of morality was otherwise, recognized this feeling. But, perhaps, what moved his wrath more than anything else was the blow to his self-love; the idea that he should have been so completely overreached by a young gentleman whom he certainly deemed quite, but no sort of match for knowing Dick Kynaston, and yet he had been bamboozled into playing jackal to this young money-lender. He could not help showing his indignation in his letter, although when he sat down to pen his note to Furzedon, asking him to call the next morning, as he wanted to see him on a matter of business, nothing was further from his intention.

These temperate epistles we pen in our hot wrath are not read quite in the same light by their recipients, and if we only kept them till the next morning we should usually modify them considerably. I recollect submitting a studiously worded missive of this description to a friend, and exclaiming triumphantly with reference to the offender, "He can't say anything about that." My friend's eye twinkled as he replied, "Only that there's a good deal of east wind in it."

Now this was exactly what struck Furzedon when he read the Major's note. Dick Kynaston was wont to write in an off-hand, jovial fashion, but this time Ralph saw at a glance that the language was iced.

"I wonder what the deuce is up," he muttered; "there is a screw loose somewhere, and Kynaston evidently thinks I am to blame for it. I don't want to break with the Kynastons, more especially with the lady. She has been of some service to me already in a social way. She has given me several useful introductions, to say nothing of hints. She understands the game of society so thoroughly, I would sooner trust to her advice than that of any one in England. She first made me understand that to a man with money, tact, and a pretty wife, all society is attainable. What can have gone wrong, for that the Major thinks I've 'upset the coach' is evident in every line of his letter?"

Ralph Furzedon made his way to the Major's house next day, and was promptly shown into Kynaston's sanctum. He was a little surprised at the Major's curt good morning, and saw at a glance that gentleman was seriously disturbed, and meant coming to the point with scant preamble; so, like the polite young man he was, Furzedon asked no questions, but left his companion to open the ball.

"I have sent for you, Mr. Furzedon," commenced Kynaston with considerable hauteur.

"Sent for me, Major Kynaston? What the devil do you mean?" interrupted Ralph sharply.

"If you will be good enough not to interrupt me you will know in five minutes," was the equally sharp rejoinder. "In the first place, I am credibly informed that, instead of being an idle man-about-town, living on your own means, you are in reality a money-lender."

"Even if that were so, which I don't admit, I should fancy there was nothing in the position to shock Major Kynaston," replied Furzedon sarcastically.

"I am not in the least shocked. I know half the money-lenders in London; but I don't associate with them. Do you understand?"

"Perfectly; though I do not see how your remark applies to me."

"Don't you?" returned Kynaston. "Then I will put it a little plainer to you. I no longer intend to be on visiting terms with Mr. Furzedon, Messrs Jordan & Co."

Furzedon winced; but his hardihood did not as yet fail him.

"And who dares to say that I am Jordan & Co.?"

"One who seems to have a good deal more than that to allege against you—Norman Slade."

(To be continued.)

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THE IRON INDUSTRY - Reports from New Glasgow show that a powerful company, with some \$4,000,000 at its back, is about commencing the erection of large smelting works at that place. The iron and coal fields in Pictou County are of enormous extent, and New Glasgow is particularly well situated for the opening of large smelting works. It is at present a great manufacturing centre, but with a wisdom that other towns would do well to imitate, it has voted many privileges to the new company in the way of exemption from taxation, etc. These large deposits of iron ore have lain unworked for years; and the fact that they are now about to be developed is due mainly to the masterly way in which Sir Charles Tupper introduced and carried the change in the iron tariff. The advantages that may arise through the opening of these large works are almost incalculable. Employment will be furnished to thousands of miners, mechanics, and laborers; the farmer will find an unlimited home market for his products; the traffic on the railways and waterways will be enormously increased; the coal mines will be pushed to fill orders; and the disbursement of large sums of money in wages, the erection of buildings, and the manufacture of machinery, will add greatly to the wealth of the Province. The days of wooden ships seem numbered; and it is reported to be the intention of the new company to go into the building of iron ships. If the names of some of the gentlemen at the back of the company could be published, it would create quite a sensation, as they are noted as the most enterprising capitalists in the world. From its infancy Nova Scotia has been spoken of as a country of great mineral wealth. In spite of this fact, little headway, outside the development of coal and gold, has been made. Great capitalists have invested their millions in developing the mines of other countries, but for numerous reasons, the most baneful being the apathy of our own people, the claims of this Province have been overlooked. Now that capitalists are knocking at our doors, it is our duty to give them every encouragement, and New Glasgow, by its wise policy, furnishes a good example of what action should be taken. Turning from New Glasgow to the Londonderry Iron Co, we find that this company is pushing operations. On the 14th April last, the first pipe was cast in a new pipe foundry, which is running on a small scale at present. The scale will be increased as fast as possible, orders now on hand being sufficient to keep the works running briskly for the present. The usual run, when in full working order, will be about 25 tons a day, and this capacity may be increased if necessary. Every department of these large works is running full time, and orders have often to be filled by waiting over time. In Cape Breton, the movers in the iron works have lost so much time in trying to secure a monopoly, that they are now third on the list. This is most unfortunate, as the deposits of ore in Cape Breton of the highest quality are miles in extent. In Guysborough County iron ore exists in large quantities. Also, at Upper Stowiacke, in Colchester County, which gives every promise of proving one of the best iron districts in the Province, is near Margaretsville, in Annapolis County, where the facilities for smelting and shipping the ore are unsurpassed.

GOLD MINING.-As all the old gold mines are doing well, there is a general disposition to be quietly contented, and as a consequence there is little or no mining news this week. The Malaga Lake district (a comparatively new one) is attracting the most attention; and the two new mills being put up there, speak well for the faith of the owners of the properties, in the value of the district. We desire as much mining news as possible, and hope that our correspondents in all parts of the Province will rouse themselves and send in regular reports.

SOUTH UNIACKE.-Jno. J. Withrow and others, of Rawdon, own the Withrow Mine, are putting up a ten stamp mill, only one battery which is to be used at present. An eight inch lead on the property is good for 2 ozs. of gold to the ton, and a smaller lead yields a still higher average.

The following are additional extracts from the Report of the Inspector of Mines:-

HANTS COUNTY.-Renfrew.-Work has been carried on throughout the season at the Empress mine. The main shaft is down about 380 feet, and the drifts of the bottom level are about 400 feet long. This mine is a fine example of overhead stoping, and there is a large amount of ore blocked in the Foundation lead. From the bottom level a crosscut has been driven South to the Hay lead, finding the lead of good size with a good workable "hulk," making the work easy and cheap. This ore will be hoisted to surface through the main shaft on the Foundation lead. This quartz yields well in the mill, and a small force of men can supply quartz to keep the mill running steadily. A new pump has been put in the main shaft. The owners of the mine contemplate building a new mill of 20 stamps, and making other improvements in the working of the property. The Free City property was worked for a short time, but was bought by E. C. McDermott and associates, who contemplate re-opening during next season.

Mount Uniacke.-Several of the old properties, comprising a large number of areas, were bought by the British and Colonial Land Association, who are working them as low grade properties. They built a new 20-stamp crusher of the latest designs, with the best modern improvements. They also has sets of Frue Vanners for making concentrates, crackers, etc., and driven by a fine Corliss engine. Promising discoveries of gold-bearing lodes have been reported from several parts of this county: as South Uniacke and Central Rawdon.

QUEEN'S COUNTY.-Brookfield.-The Brookfield Mining Co. have been working steadily during the season, and getting good returns from the lead. The new lead tested during the season is a low grade ore body,

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some places 12 foot wide, and can be mined by hulking. To handle this ore will necessitate additional stamps.

Whiteburn.—This district has been a busy one for mining, prospecting and building. The success of the McGuire lead has stimulated the work on other properties. During the season three mines and three mills have been at work.

Malaga.—This new district has received a great deal of notice during the past season, and bids fair to become a large and important one. A large amount of money has been spent in developing different properties, and a road built to connect with the Brookfield road. A good number of promising leads are now in shape for regular mining work. It is expected to have a 20-stamp mill running by the early summer.

YARMOUTH COUNTY.—Carlton.—The Hale and Ross property was sold to Hatfield and Uhlman, of Carlton. The workings were carried down 100 feet deeper, and the slopes worked east to follow the good ore. Considerable prospecting was done in the district, and discoveries of gold-bearing leads reported.

Kemptville.—The Cowan Company resumed work during the summer. They turned their power at the engine house to operate pumps and machinery to develop the rich leads in the swamp. They resumed work in the Cowan mine proper during the early winter. The Kempt Company were busy all the season developing their property. They had the misfortune to lose their crusher and engine house and hoisting works during the fall by a fire.

The age and origin of the gold in Nova Scotia is an interesting question, and is most ably discussed by Rev. Dr. Honeyman, D.C.L., in a paper read before the Nova Scotia Institute of Natural Science, on the "Geology of Halifax and Colchester Counties, Part II." It is published in the proceedings of the Society for the years 1886-87, and we take the liberty of reproducing the portion of it referred to above. We would strongly advise our readers to secure copies of the proceedings, and peruse the whole of the Doctor's article. Having arrived at the Waverley Gold Mines, the Doctor proceeds to discuss the age and origin of the gold from that position:—"The similarity of one of its (the Waverley) gold deposits, led us into a similar discussion 21 years ago. I now consider the questions with the advantage of observation and experience since made and acquired. At that time we knew nothing of the Gay's River Gold Field, and consequently any opinion that would extend the time of production of the gold into the Carboniferous Period might have been maintained. As far as our gold fields are concerned Gay's River Gold Field disposes of this view as altogether untenable. The gold existed in the Lower Cambrian rocks of Nova Scotia before the beginning of the Lower Carboniferous Period. How far back in Pre-Carboniferous time is now the question. Another opinion has been advanced, viz., that the gold existed in the Archean granite (Laurentian Gnoisses) and that the gold deposits are beds derived from these granites with gold, converted into auriferous quartz by the metamorphism to which the strata has been subjected. This makes the auriferous quartz to be of Lower Cambrian age. This opinion has not met with much acceptance. The generally received opinion is that the lodes or beds are true veins, and therefore formed subsequent to the formation of the strata which contains them.

Our researches in the west—Annapolis and Digby—have led us to the conclusion that the metamorphism of the gold-bearing rocks was chiefly effected previous to the Middle Silurian Period, i.e., during Upper Cambrian and Lower Silurian time, and hence the term "Cambro-Silurian (Lower)" was applied to the rocks in question—Vide Paper Trans. 1884. This view of the age of gold would still, in a sense, accord with the Murchinsonian view of the Age of Gold, or with another view that gold might be viewed in the light of a "Lower Silurian Fossil."

Thus much for the "age of gold." When I examined the so-called "Barrel quartz," 22 years ago, much of it lay exposed by the removal of the overlying quartzite bed. It lay in an almost horizontal position on a soft bed of unctuous green argillite, which much resembled a talcose schist. It lay like a number of branchless hemlock trunks, or as others described it like a "washing board." The miners regarded it as an "overflow" of melted igneous rock, and expected some time to find the vent or dyke. It was never found, and after the "barrels" were removed the mining was done. The general opinion was that the veins were of igneous origin, and came up from the molten interior in the manner of lava. One difficulty in the way seemed to be that the rocks containing the quartz veins had not sufficient solidity to furnish open rents (vents) for the passage of molten material. If the veins had been in the granites they might have been otherwise. Some of the most important leads have been found to end, e.g., Hattie lead, Wine Harbor, and attempts to find a continuance downwards have been fruitless. There was no passage from the regions below.

I have yet to notice a very interesting locality in Colchester County. On the south branch of the Stawiacko River Cambrian quartzites are observed, having a very interesting gold vein. The quartzites are grey and contain numerous cubical crystals of pyrites. This is traversed by a vein of auriferous quartz, which measures one inch and upward. This vein is crystalline throughout. These crystals are often arranged in *geodes*. One in my possession has numerous long six-sided prisms with pyramidal terminations clear as crystal. Another has crystals with gold projecting from a crystal. There are no fewer than 7 signs of gold in a piece not more than an inch square where distinct crystals are seen crossing and recrossing from either quartzite wall. In another small specimen the vein goes into corners, the gold following. I cannot conceive anything more conclusive in support of the Hydrothermal Theory of the production of auriferous quartz veins. The veins seem to be too small for working.

RIGHT HERE IN CANADA

What Your Friends and Neighbors Say on a Matter of Vital Importance.

Below will be found a sample of the multitude of letters of encouragement Messrs. H. H. Warner & Co., of Rochester, N.Y., daily receive. The subjoined unaltered testimonials are from your friends and neighbors, ladies and gentlemen you know and esteem for their honor and straightforwardness, and who would scorn to be a party to any deception. What has been done for others can be done for you, and it is fully, nay suicidal, to longer suffer when the means of recovery lie at your very door:

International R. R. Dining Saloon, ALEXANDRIA, Nova Scotia, Jan., 1887.—In October 1884, I was taken down with bleeding of the kidneys, or some of the arteries leading from them. One day, while lying I felt something giving away in the region of my left kidney and immediately after I commenced to pass blood in matter water. Three doctors could not stop the flow of blood. I got "Warner's safe cure," and began taking it unknown to the doctors, and about the 10th of December the bleeding began to get less, and in two or three days the dropsy began to set in my legs and feet. By this time I was reduced to a mere skeleton, suffering from cramps in my legs, feet and hands, also the hiccoughs. My flesh became like a piece of white unpolished marble, cold and no signs of any moisture. I here wish to say that I did not take any of "Warner's Safe Cure" from the 20th of December until March following. They tried all they could to check the dropsy, but had to resort to tapping at last, which was done every thirteen or fourteen days until the 23d of March. Then I was given up as hopeless, my spiritual director giving me the last dying rites of my church. I told them, fear not, I would, with the help of God and "Warner's Safe Cure" come out all right. I then began taking "Warner's Safe Cure" every three hours night and day, and "Warner's Safe Pills" also, and dieted as directed, and to the surprise of the doctors, my family, friends and the public, I was able to get out by the 1st of May for a short walk or a drive. I still continued to take "Warner's Safe Cure" and now I feel as well in health as I ever did. No more trouble with dropsy, cramps, hiccoughing, or kidneys, and consider myself a sound man again. The catarrh in the head, of which I was badly affected, also disappeared. These are all the facts of my case, as but few can tell who know how low I was. As a reference I will mention the name of Mr. J. Rogers, with the firm of Evanson & Mason, of Montreal, who knows my case in full.

J. P. Hamilton

Toronto, Ont., (166 Wilton Ave.) Jan. 31st, 1887.—For ten years I suffered from quinsy and relaxed throat, being confined to my room for weeks at a time. I was at last induced to try "Warner's Safe Cure" and with a most beneficial result I may say I have not suffered in the slightest from quinsy since.

Wm. S. Gibson

Toronto, Ont., Sept 19, 1887.—I suffered severely with lame back, at different times, for three years. My physicians said that my kidneys were affected, and treated me for Bright's disease. I obtained no relief, however, until I commenced taking "Warner's Safe Cure."

L. D. Bally

Supt. Protection Police and Fire Patrol Co. of Canada.
HAWKSBURY, Ont., March 27, 1887.—I have been terribly afflicted with chronic Bright's disease. My body swelled so I could scarcely move about and my eyesight was so affected so that I could hardly distinguish objects across the room. I had a distressing cough from the pressure of water on my lungs, and was in danger of suffocation whenever I attempted to lie down. My limbs were so swollen that I could not bend my joints or sit on a chair. The valves of my heart refused their office. At times circulation seemed entirely suspended so that I was incapable of moving a limb, and at others the increased action of my heart would cause such a pain in my head as words are inadequate to describe. Then again my stomach refused all nourishment and I was growing weaker every day. The physician who attended me said there was no hope; he could do no more for me and that a few days would see the end. At this stage I resorted to "Warner's Safe Cure" and "Warner's Safe Pills," and with most satisfactory results,

although it was some two or three weeks after I commenced their use before much decided improvement was manifested. My recovery then was very rapid. My weight from dropsical swelling was then 132 lbs. and is now reduced to 107, about my normal weight. Analysis showed 90 per cent. albumen with a quantity of tube casts, and is now reduced to 10 per cent. I am so far recovered as to be able to attend my domestic duties, taking moderately long walks and visit friends as formerly. "Warner's Safe Nervine" has so far corrected the action of my heart that the severe pain in my head has entirely left.

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HOME AND FARM.

DRAFT HORSES VERSUS TROTTERS.

There has been a lively discussion going on in regard to the respective merits of the various breeds of horses during the past year. This reached its culmination this winter, when Mr. Wood, a distinguished farmer in New York, advocated the breeding of draft horses for profit, rather than trotters. As soon as his addresses appeared, the discussion waxed warm. Participants, all the way from Nova Scotia to California, defended their respective breeds. The main discussion was on the profit of the business. Mr. Wood maintained that, for the farmer, the draft horse was the more profitable to raise and sell, while his opponents held there was more money in raising trotters.

It is barely possible that, with some modifications, both parties are right. It is certain that it would be about impossible to dispense with the draft horses. As to the usefulness of "Trotters" or "Runners," it might be urged that they could be dismissed with, without any serious inconvenience to any one save "Sporting" men. This would be restricting the meaning of "Trotters" too narrowly. By "Trotters," some writers mean those horses which make fast roadsters. It is well to bear in mind these two meanings, for by the first definition, only those would be bred which would be trained for the race-course. The second meaning would include those which filled a very useful purpose, and for which there is a constant demand by the business of the world. However literally "Trotters" would be restricted by the first definition, the second would be covered by Roadsters.

The advantages of raising draft horses, it is urged, are:—(1). Their early maturity for market. (2). Their certainty for finding a market, as they are always in demand. (3). The certainty of breeding good ones. (4). They require no training, save being broken to drive.

The advantages claimed for trotters are their high price, which it is claimed is far above that of any other horse.

The advocates of draft horses maintain that the disadvantages or risks in raising trotters are enormous:—(1). The trotter has to be kept until he is five years old (slow returns). (2). That it is the exception that brings the high price, and that most of them only turn out second-rate horses. (3). That the risks of injury to the colt are greatly increased on account of training. And (4). That training is expensive.

Undoubtedly, a really fast horse is valuable. This value is purely due to their scarcity, and this scarcity is in its turn proof evident that they can not be bred with certainty. With greater care and skill this objection may be fairly overcome, but with it the price of fast horses will fall. They must be kept twice as long, or nearly twice as long, before selling, thus making their cost double after their birth. They require a skilled driver to train them, hence their value is partly dependent on the skill of others besides the farmers.

Farmers make money by either course, and it is in many cases purely a question of taste. If the farmer likes one or the other style of horses, he should in general let his taste govern him. If he has had experience in breeding one or the other kind, that should influence him some. No cast-iron rule can be laid down to govern all farmers.

DAIRYMEN'S ASSOCIATION.

The last annual meeting of the Dairymen's Association of Nova Scotia was held in New Glasgow, in March. It is to be regretted that these meetings are not more largely attended than they are. Very few were present, and not all of these farmers.

The addresses and discussions were valuable, and deserved large audiences. A paper by Mr. A. C. Bell, on the breeding of live stock, was especially commendable. Mr. Sydney Clarke, of Tatamagouche, a student in the School of Agriculture, read a paper on the care of cattle. He gave also a brief abstract of some analyses of milk, which he had made at the Provincial Agricultural School. The Secretary, Mr. P. C. Black, of Falmouth, read a valuable paper on the same subject.

Two very lively discussions arose. One was—"Does farming pay?" The other was on Creameries. The former discussion was opened by Mr. Townsend, of New Glasgow, who maintained that it not only was not as profitable as formerly, but that it was growing less so every year. Mr. Ross also supported this view. Mr. A. B. Black, the president, defied any one to show that feeding cattle for beef paid during last year. Messrs. Lawrence and McKean, both from Inverness Co., C. B., maintained that, excepting the very extraordinary drouth experienced the past year, farming was quite as profitable as ever it was with their county. The latter gentleman had found considerable profit in the production of beef during the past year. Nearly every one in the meeting took part in this discussion.

In the debate on Creameries, it seemed to be the universal opinion in the meeting that they should be started in various parts of the Province, and that properly managed, they would score a profitable investment. There was not so unanimous an opinion on how this should be accomplished, some maintaining that unless they could be made to pay without a grant, they would be of little benefit. A resolution, asking aid from the Legislature, was passed with some opposition.

The Rev. A. C. McDonald, who has taken great interest in the society since its beginning, was present, bidding his friends farewell, as he was soon to start for the West. The society passed proper resolutions of regret and wishes of success in his new field, together with a memento which they presented to him.

Other interesting and instructive papers were read by Mr. McKay, of Hopewell, and others, of which we cannot give abstracts. Farmers should

attend these meetings, and should send fifty cents to the secretary, thus becoming members, and obtaining a copy of the Annual Report.

PLUMS.

"Nothing is more favorable to the growth of the black knot than neglect. We have seen trees growing in the grass in some uncultivated door yards transformed into a mere mass of black knots, while trees in neighboring gardens under good cultivation were entirely exempt. In our specimen plum orchard, it does occasionally make its appearance, but we constantly remove it. Our preventives and remedies are good clean culture and prompt amputation."—Ellwanger's and Barry's Catalogue.

Probably no other cause has exerted such a depressing influence on the growth of plums as this single one; although it is the almost universal testimony of fruit growers, that with good attention and proper care it could be completely checked. Only a few years ago, that veteran fruit grower, Mr. J. J. Thomas, of the *Country Gentleman*, said in effect, what is quoted above as the testimony of Messrs. Ellwanger and Barry. It is a fact within the observation of every one who has seen the plum receive any cultivation and care whatever. Unfortunately, however, it is the custom to set out the trees, and let them take care of themselves, except during the fall when the fruit is ripe. They have to contend against grass and weeds to get their share of food from the soil. They are allowed to starve not only for fertilizers, but even water is denied them.

By good cultivation is meant more than just a little care in digging around the trees once a year, although this would be acceptable to many a plum tree in Nova Scotia. It means the same as good cultivation does when applied to any other crop. It means the soil should be deep, fertile, pulverized, when the tree is planted, not a hole a couple of feet in diameter, with just room to crowd the roots in, but all the surrounding soil; that it shall be regularly stirred or mulched, and shall receive its proper quota of manure. In this way the tree is kept healthy and vigorous, is therefore less liable to disease, and is much better able to overcome it when attacked. In case the tree is attacked by black knot, immediately on its discovery cut it out roughly; if on a branch (which is usually the case) cut it off some inches below the knot, and in all cases burn the knot after removing it. Some recommend an application of turpentine to the wound; but if the knot has been thoroughly removed, as well as the adjoining wood for some inches around it, the best thing to apply is something to exclude the air, as clay, or better still, grafting wax, covering the wound completely. By taking the knot as soon as it appears, this does not make a serious wound.

NOTES.

It does not pay to plow clay land wet. Better wait two days longer, to spend that much more time in getting it mellow every time it is plowed for the next three years, besides injuring the land seriously. It would be a greater injury to the crops to have the land puddled, than it would to have to be two days later in getting it in.

Do not set a hen where the other hens can disturb her or break her eggs. A little trouble will save considerable disappointment. When she wishes to set, give her a nest separate from the rest of the fowls, and plenty of food and water, and dust all within easy access.

A rusty plow is what the careless farmer pulls out of the fence corner to plow with. It draws much harder, and does the work not one-half as well if the soil is light, and will scarcely work at all in some soils. All this for what would have been only a few moments work when last used, the plow should have been thoroughly cleaned, wiped dry on the mould-board and land side, oiled or greased thoroughly, and kept in a dry place. Some barns are so dry that the greasing may be unnecessary.

How often, in riding through the country about this season of the year, or earlier, the mowing machine, the plow, and the harrow, may be seen lying where last used the previous year. The snows of winter have for very shame tried to hide them. It is the farmer who leaves his tools out, this way, who never nails on loose boards to protect the cattle in the stable, who is ever crying out "Farming does not pay," and such farming does not pay, or at least it pays more than it should; for such shiftlessness in any other business would make the person a beggar.

It is often said, that a cow which gives from twenty thousand to thirty thousand pounds of milk per year, must be an enormous eater, but she can well afford to eat enormously since she gives from three to ten times what our best common cows do, and she only eats a fraction more at the outside. The great bulk of what most cows eat goes to maintain life. It is only a small portion that makes milk. Now, with double this small portion, the trained cow gives double the return.

Do not leave sheep out in cold rain storms. It injures them, affects their health, and weakens the wool.

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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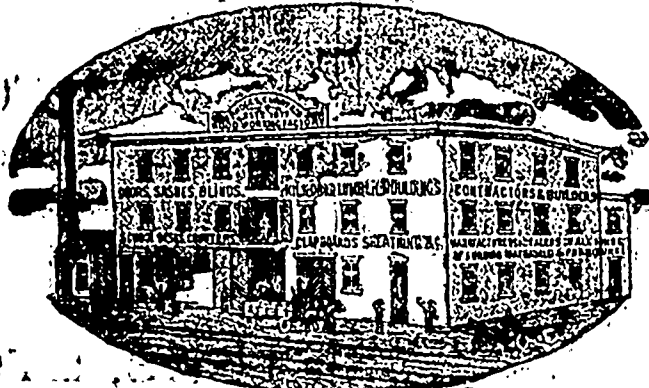
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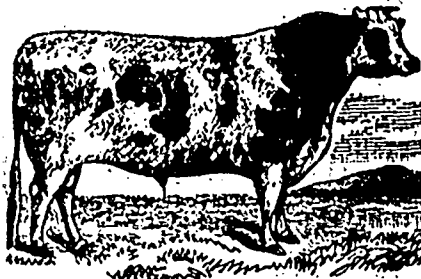
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CHESS.

The proprietors of THE CRITIC offer two prizes—to consist of books on Chess—to those subscribers who shall send in the greatest number of correct solutions during the current year. No entrance fee required. All communications for this department should be addressed—**CHESS EDITOR, Windsor, N. S.**

TO CORRESPONDENTS.

Columbia Chess Chronicle.—Vol. I. Nos. received with thanks. Kindly forward index which failed to reach us.

Toronto Week.—Your issues of the 5th and 26th ult., have not come to hand.

E. S. C.—Thanks for problem. After much anxious study, we finally deciphered your hieroglyphic post-script.

F. Mackie, (Eng)—Correct solutions of 18, 19, 20, and 21 received.

(Correct solutions of Nos. 24 and 25 received from J. W. Wallace, H. B. Stairs, Mrs. H. Moseley, and F. W. Beckman.)

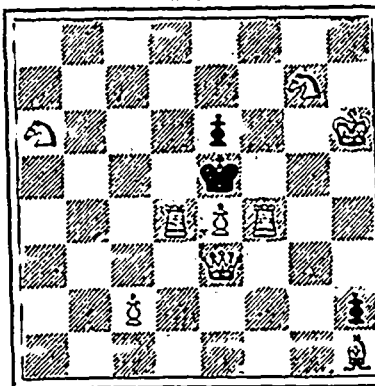
Solution to Problem 26.—R to QB2.

Solution to Problem 27.—B to QR8.

(Correct solutions of both the above received from Rev. C. E. Willets, J. W. Wallace, H. B. Stairs, Mrs. H. Moseley, and C. Cutbill.)

PROBLEM No 29.

By G. N. Cheney from "Chess-Nuts." **BLACK.**



WHITE.

White to play and mate in 2 moves.

ON PROBLEMS.—'Tis true that a beautiful position is liable to be impaired by an obvious solution, at the same time, when composing, care should be taken that difficulty does not predominate to the detriment of beauty. Key-moves, in particular, should be well hidden without being separated from the theme. A problem is formed before the key is made, the key is the last touch given to it, and if the key is weak, it detracts from the merits of the problem. It may happen that in order to make a difficult key the position must be altered. It is in thus altering that injury may be done to the beauty of the position; composers, therefore, must be cautious in considering the effect of a single change, and make provision for a good key when carrying out their conceptions in the main.

The first step for a young composer is to study the known gems of compositions. Take, for instance, a number of prize two-movers; analyze and endeavor to discover the idea, or theme, that underlies each composition, and the exact duty of each piece and pawn—if this one is to prevent a dual, or a cook; and mark how the powers of the pieces are utilized, as much as possible in their position:

To come to the practical part of the subject: there are two methods in the art of composition; the first is to arrange the men on the board to effect mate, and then to put them back to squares from which they can be played to the original position of mate. The second, and more advanced plan, is to conceive an idea, theme, or combination of themes, and to illustrate it on the board.—**T. B. Rowland.**

CHESS IN SPRING.

Chess in the mountains. Foaming lynn flies down
Over red granite steps, by giants hewn:

We dreamers hearken, where huge turrets frown,
'To the wild waters' tune.

We watch the dark-blue pool, for ever calm;

We mark the falcon in mid-aether soar;

While the free wind brings up its pleasant psalm
From some far mountain-shore.

Quaff we the manzanilla festucine—
Dash the bright flask into the wave away;

Then range the ivory pageant, half divine,
'Mid floating shadows grey.

And thou, sweet maiden, loop thy golden tresses
Back from the mystic field of endless strife.

Thought lurks within thy blue eye's dark recesses.
Chess is a mimic life.

DRAUGHTS-CHECKERS

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

TO CORRESPONDENTS.

We have received many attempted solutions to Problem 11, but none of them have been correct and complete. This problem has brought us into communication with several players with whom we were previously unacquainted, but whom we are glad to know. In the hope that checker friends in the Upper provinces may attempt it, we further extend the final time for solving this problem for a fortnight, and trust that in that time all our old and new friends will try to reach the correct solution. We repeat the position which is as follows:—black men—5, 9, 13, k., 16; white men—21, 23, 26, k., 7. Black to play and win.

W. Halifax.—If you will call on the editor of this column he will show you a stronger line of defence for black in problem 11.

LYNCH, Shubenacadie.—Congratulations on being the first to correctly solve problem 11.

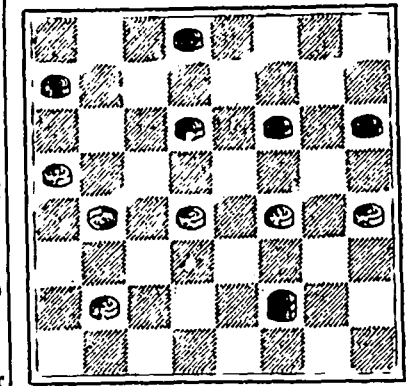
SOLUTIONS

PROBLEM 20.—Correct solution to this problem received from Mrs. H. Moseley. The position is:—black men—1, 4, k., 11; white men—5, 10, k., 18. White to move and draw:—
18 22 13 9 2 6 14 18
4—8 16—20 (a) 20—24 32—27
22 17 9 6 6 9 10 6
8—12 11—8 24—28 1—10
17 13 6 2 9 14 5 1
12—16 8—3 28—32 drawn.
(a) If black here plays 3—8, white follows with 2 6, and then black 8—3,

and 6 2 by white draws by continuing this line of play.

PROBLEM No. 23.

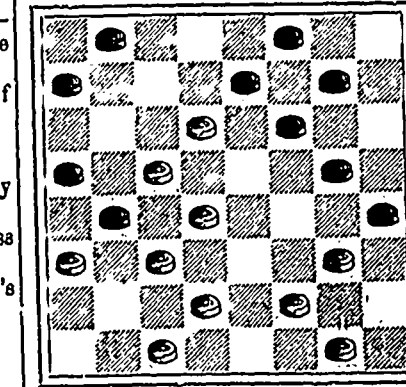
By D. McGregor, Doune, in the Glasgow Herald.
Black men—2, 5, 10, 11, 12; k., 27.



White men—13, 17, 18, 19, 20, 25.
Black to move and win.

PROBLEM 24.

By the late E. R. Jacques, Malvern.
Black men—1, 3, 5, 7, 8, 11, 13, 16, 17, 20.



White men—10, 14, 18, 21, 22, 24, 26, 27, 30, 32.

White to play and win.

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