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THE CRITIC.

The Welfare of the People is the Highest Law.

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CONTENTS OF CURRENT NUMBER.

EDITORIAL.	
Who is Responsible?.....	2
Why Don't we Sell our Sea-Fish in Ontario?.....	2
The Labor Question in the United States.....	2
The French Crown Jewels.....	2
Notes.....	1
CONTRIBUTED.	
Poetry—Maria Elizabeth Jane..... Addison F. Browne	6
The Canadian Militia..... "Franc-Tireur."	6, 7
Events and Comments..... "Veteran."	7
Our Winnipeg Letter..... "Sciron."	7, 8
The North-West Indians..... "Sciron."	7, 8
Diagonal Puzzle..... "C. A. C."	8
Fredericton—Seasonal Notes..... "M. H. C."	8
MISCELLANEOUS.	
Tid-Bits.....	3
News of the Week.....	4
Religious.....	5
Market Quotations.....	5
Political Review of the Past Week.....	9
Serial.....	10, 11
The Maritime Patron.....	12
Mining.....	13, 14

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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.

New and improved ferries are the order of the day. A balloon ferry to cross Niagara River over the Falls is the latest proposal.

"Imperial Federation," the organ of the Federation league, published in London, Eng., gives a list of 160 books and essays bearing on the cause supported by the League. Most of the writers are British, Canadian or Australian; among them being Edward Blake, Sir Francis Hincks, the late Alpheus Todd, Bourinot, Sir A. T. Galt, and the Marquis of Lorne.

Lieutenant-General Callija has gone to Cuba as a poor man; but if he follows the example of his predecessors who have held the office of Captain General, he will come away a millionaire. Spanish officials in Cuba have peculiar methods of grinding money from the people, and it is no wonder that the Cubans occasionally enter a mild protest or indulge in a potty revolt.

The value of time is clearly demonstrated by Dr. S. A. Allibone, in his "Dictionary of Authors," when he shows by a time table (taking days in a year 313, and working hours in a day 8) that 5 minutes lost each day is, in a year, 3 days, 2 hours, 5 minutes; 10 minutes is 6 days, 1 hour, 10 minutes; 20 minutes is 13 days, and 20 minutes; 30 minutes is 19 days, 4 hours, 30 minutes; 60 minutes is 39 days, 1 hour.

In the foggy, damp and rainy atmosphere of London, the umbrella is in daily requisition. Its use as a protector is, however, considered of small moment compared with its usefulness to those who, under its folds, are enabled to ignore their political or social enemies. The umbrella is now dubbed the "avoider," and in its new service is found useful in the vicinity of Westminster.

A late number of the *Scientific American* contains an account of a new kind of brick, said to have been recently patented by Messrs. Blininger and Hasselmann, two German chemists. The mixture consists of clay, iron filings, table salt, potash, and elder or willow wood ashes. The whole is heated to a temperature varying from 3,362 to 3,632 deg. Fahrenheit. At the end of from 4 to 5 hours the argillaceous mixture is run into moulds, then rebaked in the ovens (always protected from the air) at a temperature of 842 to 932 deg. Fahrenheit. The product may be variously colored by the addition of different chemicals. These bricks resist the action of acids, and are well adapted for sewers, etc.

Commercial men in the United States are beginning to realize that the trade of the thirty-five million people living in South America is worth looking after. This trade has hitherto been principally monopolized by Britain, but the Americans hope to secure a portion of it by arranging commercial treaties with the South American States.

Few people realize the amount that is required to conduct a newspaper business. The *London Times*, which is valued at \$125,000,000, provides work for a small army of employes, ranging from the editor in chief down to the printer's devil, aside from which, the paper manufacturer, the vendor of newspapers, bookellers, machinists, and a host of others have to be paid from its earnings.

Advocates of the eight-hour movement will do well to consider the advisability of mechanics and others going to work at an early hour. If the time saved by the workman is to be taken during the early part of the day, society will reap no great benefit from the change, but if taken from the work hours of the afternoon, workmen and their families will have time for recreation and improvement which is now denied them.

A recent copy of the *Scientific American* contains the following:— "A box stall in the corner of Stephen H. Merritt's barn, in Dutchess Co., N. Y., serves for an ice house. The ice slides in at the window easily, and is taken out by a door in the feeding alley in the summer. A foot of sawdust upon loose boards and sticks provides drainage. The ice is also surrounded by eight inches of sawdust on the sides, and a foot on top. He says he has all he needs for dairy and other uses.

The Duke of Connaught will remain two years in India in order that he may familiarize himself with the composition and effectiveness of the Indian army. His Royal Highness, when he steps into the shoes of the Duke of Cambridge and assumes the responsibilities of commander-in-chief, will bring to the office a practical experience which cannot fail to be of service to the Empire. Princes of the blood find no royal road to distinction other than that which all men have to travel.

The use of the French language in the Canadian House of Commons is slowly but surely being discontinued. Our French-speaking statesmen and politicians evidently realize that they cannot hope to catch the ear of the country if they address the House in the French tongue. It will probably be many years before the use of two languages is done away with, but it is gratifying to note that each year the members from Quebec speak more frequently in English and less frequently in French.

A writer in the *Toronto Week* has given some interesting facts with respect to the Government Insurance Bill now being framed by Prince Bismarck. This bill is to provide for the levying of a small tax upon all German subjects living within the German confederation, and promises each taxpayer in the event of accident a small weekly allowance, and at death insures to his heirs a direct grant of money. Bismarck has evidently realized that insurance can be provided at a much lower cost than is generally supposed.

A few decades since, we were taught that the English language contained 40,000 words; in later years we learned that it included 100,000 words; but we are now informed by the publishers of Murray's new and complete dictionary of the English language, that it contains 240,000 words. Talk about French and German in our public schools after this. Why it will take our boys and girls at least ten years to learn to spell and correctly use the 15,000 words in common use. When they are to master the remaining 225,000 we leave for our pedagogues to decide.

The French Bureau of Intelligence at Paris has, through the instrumentality of Capt. Jaraw, a retired Danish officer, obtained full and detailed information as to the organization of the German army, the equipment of the troops, the construction of fortifications, etc. Captain Jaraw, who has been acting as a French spy in Germany, has been a frequent contributor to the military journals in the latter country, and has in virtue of his connection with the press been afforded excellent opportunities for securing the information which the French military authorities desired to obtain. Jaraw was recently tried for high treason in Leipzig and sentenced to twelve years' penal servitude.

The German government proposes taking the census of tramps; the information thus collected will certainly have about it the spice of novelty, and the ordinary schedule of questions and answers will have to be somewhat varied. Fancy a tramp being interviewed as to his name, age, place of birth, place of residence, amount of property—real or personal—etc. It would be more to the point to ask him: "how long he had lived upon his wits, from what particular class of people he received most aid, and whether he found sleeping under a hayrick conducive to his health." These questions the tramp might answer correctly if it were possible for him to tell the truth.

WHO IS RESPONSIBLE?

The people in the Provinces down by the sea have watched with curiosity the progress of the Riel agitation, and have with a few exceptions, arrived at the conclusion that the movement was of a political, rather than of a mere national or race character. So far as the execution of Riel is concerned, they have no reason to condemn the Government, but they have good reason to demand a searching investigation as to the causes of the Metis rebellion, and to hold the Government responsible for any sins of omission or commission of which it may be proved guilty. That the Half-breeds had grievances has been tacitly admitted upon all sides, but that the grievances as set forth by Riel in his so-called Bill of Rights were such as the Government could not entertain, cannot for a moment be allowed. As set forth by the Half-breed leaders, these grievances were:—Delay in issuing patents for their lands, refusal to depart from the system of survey which prevailed everywhere else in the Territories, to meet their peculiar views and circumstances; failure of the authorities and others to give them as large a share as they thought they were entitled to in contracts of various kinds; delay in settling their claims to receive grants and to set aside reserves for the maintenance of schools and other institutions to be managed by their clergy.

Louis Riel claimed for the Metis one-seventh of all the lands in the North-West, or to that proportion of the proceeds to be derived from their sale. This, in view of the fact that Canada had twice paid for these lands, first to the Hudson's Bay Co., and secondly to the Indians, was a proposal which no Government had any warrant for entertaining. The fact is, the Metis claimed all the privileges and immunities of their Indian cousins, and at the same time demanded to be treated as white settlers. Their dual position was in a great measure the cause of the delays so bitterly complained of by them; and if the Government's failure to acknowledge the Metis as both white settlers and Indian wards was the sole cause for the North-West rebellion, our people will be prepared to weigh the facts and place the responsibility of the outbreak upon the shoulders of those by whom it was brought about. As leader of the Opposition, the Hon. Edward Blake should probe this matter to the bottom, ascertain the facts in connection with it, and present his verdict of guilty or not guilty, according to the evidence adduced, even though that evidence should prove the Government to have done the best under the circumstances.

WHY DON'T WE SELL OUR SEA-FISH IN ONTARIO?

A New Brunswick commercial writer says that the reason why the trade in fish between the Maritime Provinces and Ontario and Quebec is not growing, is that we lack the means of cheap and speedy transit. The freight trains travel so very slowly that merchants are averse to using them for distant markets; and the charges for express trains are said to be so high that the cost of sending a car-load of fish from St. John, N. B., to Toronto is more than the first value of the fish. It is contended that Boston and Portland, owing largely to injudicious railway management, are now supplying with fish of every kind the markets in our Upper Provinces, which ought to be supplied more cheaply by the fish dealers of the Maritime Provinces. That the trade of the places down by the sea should thus be handicapped, is a circumstance to be regretted. Now that attention has been called to it, we hope our representatives at Ottawa will speedily effect such changes in the management of our Intercolonial road that such restrictions on intercolonial trade will be removed, and will not be allowed to recur hereafter. The markets for sea-fish in Ontario and Quebec are fair, steady, and well worth having, and should naturally be in our hands, not in the itching palm of avaricious Uncle Sam. We in the Maritime Provinces have surely weight enough in the councils of the country to secure these markets. If not, we need some new blood in the Commons and Senate of Canada.

THE LABOR QUESTION IN THE UNITED STATES.

What the land question has long been to the peasantry of Ireland, the labor question is fast becoming to the toiling masses of the United States. In the case of the Irish people, indeed, the question has more than once been one of starvation or exile, and so may practically be considered to have been one of life or death. An alternative so inhumanly awful is not, it is true, presented to the laboring classes of the great American Republic; but their present and impending condition is unsatisfactory enough to call for thought and comment.

In the country south of us, we have of late years witnessed workmen's strikes of enormous magnitude, and most calamitous in their effects. We have seen great mines closed down, and in some instances flooded by "strikers"; we have seen long-continued suspension of work in great mills, factories, and workshops; and through all this, thousands and tens of thousands of men have been idle for months, and not unfrequently their families in consequence have been rescued from the brink of starvation only by the generosity of the charitable. The accounts given in the press of the suffering in Ohio and Pennsylvania during the recent strikes there, probably give no adequate idea of the widespread and awful distress which then prevailed in the mining districts of these two States.

The startling figures lately published by representatives of the Knights of Labor, which is a powerful and widely extended organization of laborers, tell us that the unemployed in the United States are to be numbered by tens of thousands. They seem almost incredible when read in view of the apparent activity of trade, and the fair share of prosperity that the country seems to be enjoying. They are certainly sufficiently alarming to excite deep concern in the mind of the thoughtful and reflective observer.

Observing men must needs notice that something is wrong in the prevailing conditions of the labor element in several of the United States, and in the present relations of labor and capital. Communism, the secret enemy of modern civilization, begins to rear its unscrupulous head—the sure harbinger of social disruption and political revolution.

THE FRENCH CROWN JEWELS.

The approaching sale of the crown jewels of France, naturally calls attention to that most simple, as well as perfect and beautiful form of matter, the diamond. The gems which are to be sold will, it is estimated, bring \$40,000,000, which will be converted into a fund for aged workmen. The famous Pitt, or Regent, diamond valued at \$1,000,000 will not be sold; nor will a large number of others, of artistic or historical interest, valued at \$2,600,000. Many of the most valuable diamonds have a career,—some of them an adventurous one. The Orloff diamond, purchased for Catherine II of Russia, had been stolen from the eye of an Indian idol by a French deserter at Pondicherry. The Regent diamond was obtained from a slave who had purloined it from a mine, by carrying it in a wound which he made for the purpose in one of his legs. After the process of cutting, which lasted two years, this purest of diamonds was bought by the regent Duke of Orleans in 1718 for \$675,000. The kings of France wore it in their crowns, until Napoleon placed it on the hilt of his sword. Thus it came to be captured by the Prussians at Waterloo, and restored on the re-instatement of the Bourbons.

The monarchs of France shewed their national weakness for display in their passion for valuable gems. Between the years 1476 and 1774, the number of diamonds enumerated among the crown jewels was 7,482. During the reign of Louis XV. it became fashionable at court to wear costumes, buttons, and sword hilts sparkling with gems. It is little wonder that the starving peasantry of France were maddened at the sight of wealth beyond their powers of comprehension, idly sparkling on the sword-hilt of some passing courtier! Whatever we may think of the socialist's envy of his wealthy neighbor, we cannot withhold our sympathy from these oppressed wretches who paid a tax on the very salt which they consumed, while the luxurious nobility enjoyed immunity from public burdens. Napoleon I. bought up all the crown jewels that his agents could trace, and soon brought together 37,393 precious stones. The selling of these jewels, and the appropriation of their value to the benefitting of the poor, is but a restoration of wealth to the descendants of its former rightful owners.

In his speech at Mandalay, Lord Dufferin told his Burmese hearers that it was the intention of the British Government to unite Upper and Lower Burmah under one government. For the present, General Prendergast and the 18,000 troops under his command would continue to enforce order, but he felt confident that in the course of a few months a strong civil government similar to those of Madras and Bombay could be formed. The chief positions would be occupied by Britains, while all the minor posts were to be filled by Burmese officials.

The Toronto Chamber of Commerce has been discussing the improvement of St. Lawrence navigation. The Lachine and Welland canals have been enlarged at a considerable cost, but there are canals between them, at Beauharnois, Cornwall, and Williamsburg, which are so shallow that vessels carrying more than 17,000 bushels of grain cannot proceed down the river farther than Kingston. The trans-shipment thus rendered necessary gives an advantage to the American ports Oswego and Ogdensburg. That the Montreal route is seriously affected thereby may be seen from the fact that the tonnage of American vessels passing through the Welland canal for American ports increased during the last four years from 47,000 tons to 104,537, whilst that of American vessels bound for Montreal fell from 332,000 to 142,000 tons.

The prospect of the settlement of the Fisheries Question is far from encouraging. The President and Senate, who evidently are anxious to settle the difficulty, have not the power to frame a treaty which affects the United States revenue without the consent of a majority of the members in the House of Representatives. In the latter House the members are too busily engaged in furthering their own private interests, and in securing, in view of their re-election, large appropriations to their respective constituencies, to take the necessary time and trouble to investigate the merits of the Fisheries Question. Under these circumstances we have nothing to do but to protect our inshore fishing grounds, and the Government of the Dominion is evidently fully convinced that this is the only course to pursue.

Mr. Moody has among the evangelists of the United States one contemporary who, like himself, has the faculty of impressing the masses. Sam Jones, the great revivalist, is now at work in Chicago, and his converts are daily increasing by scores. Not long since, addressing an immense audience in Chicago, he suddenly stopped, and after a pause, in which perfect silence prevailed, he requested that all those present who had before leaving their homes knelt down and offered up prayer should stand up. Of the 8,000 present but 11 persons stood up; whereupon the evangelist leaned against a pillar as if for support, his countenance assumed an expression of the deepest agony, when suddenly resuming his standing position he cried out: "All those who believe in prayer, stand up." Not a person in the crowded hall remained sitting, and Sam Jones, having thus riveted the attention of his hearers, led off in one of those bursts of song which at once thrill and delight audiences of the character described.

DIAGONAL PUZZLE.

1. The town talk.
2. A fish.
3. The last syllable of a canine exclamation.
4. A sine.
5. A painted enigma.
6. A parsonage.
7. A sweet morsel.
8. Country cousins.

The initials read downward and the same letters read diagonally will elucidate the burning question of the day.

C. A. C.

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

Answer to Diamond Puzzle published last week:—

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TIT-BITS.

"I beg your pardon, sir; but is not your name Smith?" "No, sir; my name is Montrose." "Excuse me. My mistake." "Certainly. Don't mention it. It's not very flattering to one's pride and self-respect," Mr. Montrose added, with a smile. "to be classed among the great plebeian army of Smiths; but such mistakes will occur. Er—will you favor me with your name, sir?" "Yes. My name is Smith."

Aunt—"Has any one been at these preserves?" (dead silence) "Have you touched them, Jemmy?" Jemmy—"Pa never 'lows me to talk at the table."

A wasp went buzzing to his work,
And various things did tackle
He stung a boy and then a dog
And made a roo-ter cackle.

Then on a commercial agent's cheek,
He settled down to drill!
He prodded there for half an hour,
And then he broke his bill.

A WELCOME INVENTION.—The time will never come when the head office of a railroad will not receive at least one visit per week from the man with a patent car-coupler. During the last fifteen years he has called about four times a week, and that average is being maintained in a way to wear out hall carpets as fast as manufacturers can desire. The couplers are not all alike, but the inventors are. The programme is as regular as if it had been adopted by a large majority. The inventor asks for the president of the road, and is shown to the office.

"Good morning. Is the president in?"

"No, sir; he won't be in until after dinner. Anything special?"

"Well, rather special. I have invented—"

"Ah! a patent car-coupler. You must go to the general superintendent."

"It's the biggest thing of the kind ever heard of."

"Yes, I know, but you'll find him four doors down the hall."

The inventor opens the fourth door, and a clerk inquires, "What is your business?"

"Well, I had a lame foot last summer, and couldn't do much of any work, and so I set about it and—"

"Invented a car-coupler, of course. The general superintendent is not in. The third door to the left for the assistant."

The third door opens to reveal an attendant ready to inquire what is wanted.

"Well, being I had got to come to town to buy myself some hickory shirting, I thought I might as well bring along—"

"Your patent car-coupler. We were expecting you. Go down to the yardmaster."

"Everybody in our town says this is the biggest thing ever invented, and I reckon—"

"Right this way to the yardmaster's office."

The yardmaster isn't in. The train dispatcher won't listen. The gate-keeper has no time. The depot policeman may look at the invention some other day. When he entered the depot with that patent coupler under his arm, his mind was made up to let the Michigau Central or Lake Shore put it on their cars for \$50,000 cash down. Two hours have done the business for him, and as he starts up-town the coupler is recklessly thrown under a seat in the waiting-room, and he hopes from the tops of his boots that somebody will steal it before he gets back.

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MAYORALTY, 1886-7.
HALIFAX, 4th March, 1886.
In deference to the wishes of a large number of citizens, who have personally waited on me with requests that I should allow myself to be re-nominated to the honorable and responsible position of Mayor of this city for the third and last consecutive term I have, after mature consideration, decided to give my consent to the same.
It is exceedingly gratifying to receive so many expressions of confidence and good will, coupled with assurances of material assistance, not only from my friends and former supporters, but from some gentlemen who have hitherto considered it to be their duty to oppose me, and in response, I have only to say, that if again elected, I shall strive in every way to advance the best interests of the citizens of Halifax.
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NEWS OF THE WEEK.

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

The commission appointed by the Provincial Government to make enquiries as to the treatment of the poor folk in Digby County has only served to convince those opposed to the system of farming out the paupers, that whatever may be said respecting the question no person can believe that in farming out the poor the comfort and well-being of the unfortunate is made the first consideration.

According to the Provincial Librarian's Report, Mr. Akins has dowered the Historical Society with the two, if not the three, oldest books in the library. These are *De Origine Urbis Venetiarum*, by Bernardo Justiniani, a beautifully printed volume published in Venice in 1492, of which the value is doubtless enhanced by the recorded fact that it had successively belonged to two noted bibliophiles; *Libertas Germanie*, a brochure published at Straßburg in 1519, to combat the pretensions of Francis I. to the Imperial throne of Germany; and an elaborately illuminated misal, date unknown, but thought to belong to the 16th or the first half of the 16th century. The handsome gift of Vice-Admiral Sir J. E. Commerell to the Legislative Library was noticed in THE CRITIC last summer. A vote of thanks to the gallant donor was unanimously adopted by the Legislative Council last week.

In a Chinese Sunday School, in New York, each pupil is provided with a teacher. In the event of one of the teachers being absent, the young Chinese is obliged to remain without instruction, as each pupil looks upon his or their teacher as their property, and is jealous of any one who attempts to share in the lesson being taught.

In an encounter between the British troops stationed at Suakim and the rebels, 30 of the latter lost their lives. It is probable that the strength of the British army of occupation will gradually be reduced.

The Dominion Government is evidently determined not to permit American fishermen to use our inshore fishing grounds with impunity. The New England fishermen have belittled the privileges enjoyed by them under the Washington Treaty. Probably they will learn to appreciate them when driven off by the cutters which Captain Scott is now having fitted for the service.

The R. A. and R. E. Amateur Dramatic Club will appear on the boards at the Academy, on Monday and Tuesday evenings next. The reputation of the Club is such as to insure large audiences.

The Presbyterian *Witness* of last week contains an article on the Salvation Army meeting, held about a fortnight ago in the Academy of Music. After stating what took place, the editor concludes:—

"While this is a faithful report of one meeting I attended, other meetings must have been widely different, for I have heard men of excellent judgment speak commendingly of them. Let what I have reported go for what it is worth. If I were to judge of the Army by that one long meeting, I would be constrained to speak very unfavorably of it as an evangelizing body. A Fire Brigade's sleigh ride, or a Volunteer Parade, has as much religion in it as the greater part of the performance on Monday night. Still, I fondly hope that this was an exceptional and rare performance. Especially do I hope that the services on the Lord's Day are free from the folly so obtrusively manifest on Monday. Otherwise, may God in his mercy save our land from such evangelism."

We fondly hope that the editor of the *Witness* will in future refrain from harshly censuring an organization of which he acknowledges he knows but little. Had the editor been imbued with the spirit of fair play, he would have attended more than one meeting, so that he might be in a position to judge whether the "commendation" of his friends proved them to be men of excellent judgment.

In our issue of last week, a correspondent threw out a suggestion with respect to the old City Hall, which, in the event of Dalhousie College being purchased by the City, should be borne in mind by those interested in the Sailors' Home. The present city building could be easily remodelled as a Seamen's Home, and in respect of site, there could be none better found in the city.

The donations towards the Mansions House fund, for the relief of the unemployed of London, have been most liberal, but according to those best qualified to give an opinion, the genuine workmen are loath to accept the charity offered.

The programme of a complimentary concert given to Miss Emma Thursby, in New York, has been got up in most artistic style. It may be seen at the ware-rooms of S. Sichel & Co. By the way, this enterprising firm should endeavor to again secure the services of Miss Thursby. A Halifax audience knows good singing when they hear it, and their recollections of the concerts given last summer, in which Miss Thursby took such a prominent part, would induce them to go and hear her again, if opportunity offered.

A wonderful raft of deals, weighing 8,000 tons, is now being built six miles below the Joggins, Cumberland. It will be towed to New York late in the spring.

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

An æsthetic decorator, in New York, having been called upon to furnish the establishment of a Fifth Avenue millionaire, astonished his employer by attaching one of his finest velvet pile carpets to the ceiling. The millionaire was delighted with the effect, and the decorator has gone off to Washington post-haste, to take out a patent for his new and original idea, which he claims will revolutionize household decoration.

Senator Alexander has the bump of originality very largely developed. He proposes that Sir John A. MacDonald be appointed Viceroy of Ireland. We fear that even the chieftain, with all his suavity, would find it difficult to settle the Irish question satisfactorily.

Labouchere's motion, which was aimed at the hereditary peers, was lost in the British House of Commons by the narrow majority of thirty-six. If this vote may be taken as an indication of the feelings of the people, it sounds the death knell of hereditary peerage and the abolition of the House of Lords.

The fortifications in and about Halifax are to be greatly strengthened, and it is probable that the Garrison will again be increased to two regiments.

The United States Congress is at a loss how to expend the surplus millions of the Republic. One thing, however, it has been decided to do, and that is to expend during the ensuing eight years \$77,000,000 in supplementing the work of education, which is under the control of the State Legislatures.

The St. John Board of Trade are endeavoring to secure a subsidy from the Dominion Government towards the establishment of a steamship service between St. John and the ports on the Basin of Minas. St. John business men have the reputation of being wide awake. They certainly have a keen eye to business with respect to the proposed service.

The consumption of spirits in Canada averages one gallon per head of the population. This is less than the consumption in 1872, but greater than that during the hard times of 1877-78.

One out of each thirty-six persons in Great Britain is a pauper, and yet the value of the real and personal property in the United Kingdom exceeds \$43,000,000. Somebody must have more than their fair share of wealth.

Eighteen-eighty-five will be long remembered by Englishmen as remarkable for its rain-fall. According to the meteorological reports no less than 155 days were put down as rainy.

With a half-billion dollars in the Court of Chancery, and fifty thousand expectant heirs, the London lawyers must enjoy a continual feast. The heir who succeeded in proving his right to property, after it has passed into Chancery Courts, will indeed be fortunate, if he finds anything left to him after the lawyer's fees are paid.

The managers of the Parisian theatres and Concert halls are raising a protest against the extent to which the dead head system is carried. They claim that the free list of Paris costs the managers \$800,000 annually.

Young men who have the right to vote and who have not yet sent in applications to have their names placed upon the official voters lists, should do so at once, as there is no time to be lost.

The snowstorm on Tuesday evening last prevented the customary procession of the various Irish societies being carried out. The turnout on the evening of Wednesday was most creditable to those taking part in it. The memory of St. Patrick is always fresh in the minds of the Sons of Ireland.

A compromise has been made between the Toronto Street Railway Co. and the drivers who were out on a strike. The street cars are again running as usual.

It might have been supposed that the phlegmatic Dutchmen would have escaped the Socialistic fever now so prevalent in European cities, but late reports show that the Socialists have gained a footing in Amsterdam and are threatening the authorities with revolution should they not at once provide work for the unemployed.

The Steamship *Oregon*, built some three years since, was run into off New York harbor by an unknown schooner, and sunk in the course of a few hours. The passengers were taken off without loss of life. The *Oregon* was one of the fleetest of the ocean grayhounds. She was built for the Guion Line, and subsequently purchased by the Cunard Co.

Rumors as to Gladstone's intentions with respect to Ireland are said to be without foundation. Some of the members of his Cabinet are, it is understood, dissatisfied with his Irish policy. The cost of expropriating Irish land would not be less than \$750,000,000.

Correct answers to the Diamond Puzzle published last week were received from Miss Annie Salter, 49 Hollis St., City; Miss Ethel Dimock, 9 Carlton St. do; Mrs. J. S. Dimock, 84 Agricola St. do; R. A. and R. E. Mess, do; E. M. P., 72 South Park St. do; W. Owie Brown, 7 Dreden Row, do; J. A. Bennett, 52 Birmingham St., do; A. A. Buchanan, Business College, do; Douglas Clark, Cor. Cedar and Chestnut Sts. do; R. Ladd, Lovett House, do; G. H. Paton, 264 Gottingen St. do; Miss Julia Jones, Windsor; Miss J. E. Thompson, do; T. R. Woodworth, do; "Numskull," do; Miss Lucy H. Sherman, Port Mulgrave; Amos. B. North, Canning; A. W. S., Hubbard's Cove; B. E. Logan, Acadia Mines; C. A. Snyder, Mahone Bay; E. Larder, Bridgewater; A. D. Curtis, Dartmouth; George Creed, South Rawdon; R. E. Fuller, Amherst; Eugene Macdonald, Antigonish; "Honesty," Bridgetown; S. C. Alward, Butternut Ridge; N. B. and V. B. Thorne, Hamlock Corner, N. B.

RELIGIOUS.

CATHOLIC.

Canada's first Cardinal, Archbishop Taschereau, is quiet, sodate, perhaps more profound than brilliant, and of marked executive ability.

The Roman Catholic Lenten Services are being very largely attended. This indicates that the religious earnestness and fervor which has hitherto characterized the most of the Catholics of this country, is not growing less.

Archbishop O'Brien's Lenten circular was read in the Churches of the Halifax Diocese on Sunday last. It has many strong points.

METHODIST.

The Rev. Joseph Hall, of Stellarton, is about to enjoy a trip to the old country.

On the first Sunday in February, the Rev. John Philip, M. B., pastor of St. James Street Church, Montreal, received two hundred persons on trial for membership.

From fifteen to twenty Missionaries are about to sail from New York for Africa, to reinforce Bishop Taylor's band of workers.

The net increase of the Methodist Episcopal Church, South, for the past year, it is said, will not fall below 50,000. This is a most unprecedented increase.

The result of fifty years' work in the Fiji Islands, is that there are now 700 Wesleyan churches, 1,236 chapels, 55 native ministers, 1,785 local preachers, 26,889 communicants, and 40,651 Sabbath school children.

PRESBYTERIAN.

The Rev. Wm. Grant, of West River, P. E. I. has received a call from the Presbyterian church at Cow Bay, C. B.

The late Kaspar Auch, of New Orleans, has bequeathed about \$30,000 to the Presbyterian churches of that city, to care for the poor.

The Rev. W. A. Mason, of P. E. Island, is seriously ill with brain fever.

On Tuesday last, the Presbytery of Halifax met in Fort Massey church. Delegates to the next General Assembly were appointed, and some minor matters received attention.

We have received a report of Erskine church, Montreal. The pastor, Rev. L. H. Jordan, reports that the congregation is in a prosperous condition, financially and spiritually.

BAPTIST.

In the State of Illinois, fifty-one years ago, there were 200 Baptist churches, with 2,500 communicants, now there are 855 churches, 75,040 communicants, and 685 pastors.

The Baptist ministers of Chicago have adopted a resolution, pronouncing it impracticable to raise \$300,000 debt on the University of Chicago, and recommended that steps be taken to erect a new building.

CHURCH OF ENGLAND.

The Lord Bishop of the Diocese will hold an ordination on Sunday next, in the Bishop's Chapel, when Mr. C. E. Lowe and Mr. D. Morner will be admitted to the Diaconate, and Rev. W. C. Wilson, of St. George's, Halifax, and Rev. Samuel Davies, of Cape Breton, will be advanced to the Priesthood.

Churchmen are looking forward with much interest to the elections which take place at Easter to the vacant Parishes of St. Paul's and Dartmouth. Dame rumor has it that there is a likelihood of Rev. Dr. Hill's return to Halifax, and that he would not be indisposed to resume charge of his old Parish, if he could get it.

Lord Robert Montague, who left the Church of England for that of Rome, in 1871, has returned to his first love.

The Rev. Dr. Hillier, Baptist minister, of Exeter, England, has been ordained Deacon by the Bishop of Exeter.

The Rev. Thomas Green, a distinguished Presbyterian minister, of Chicago, has applied to the Bishop of Illinois for Holy Orders.

The Rev. Alfred Brown, formerly of this Diocese, and son of the respected W. M. Brown, of this city, has been appointed Rector of Paris, Ontario.

MARKET QUOTATIONS.

WHOLESALE RATES.

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

GROCERIES.

Table listing various grocery items such as Sugar, Tea, Molasses, Soaps, Candles, Biscuits, Confectionery, Butter, Cheese, Eggs, Tobacco, and Fish from vessels.

BREADSTUFFS.

PROVISIONS AND PRODUCE.

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

Table listing various breadstuffs and provisions such as Flour, Bran, Pea Meal, Feed Flour, Oats, Hay, and various meats.

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

PROVISIONS.

Table listing various provisions such as Beef, Pork, American Clear, P. E. I. Mess, and Lard.

These quotations are prepared by a reliable wholesale house.

WOOL, WOOL SKINS & HIDES.

Table listing various wool and hide products such as clean washed wool, green hides, and salted hides.

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

LUMBER.

Table listing various lumber products such as Blue clear, Merchantable, Spruce, Hemlock, and Shingles.

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

POULTRY.

Table listing various poultry products such as Poultry, Turkeys, Geese, Ducks, and Lamb.

The above are corrected by a reliable victualer.

LIVE STOCK.

Table listing various live stock products such as Steers, Oxen, Fat Steers, and Wethers.

These quotations are prepared by a reliable victualer.

FISH FROM VESSELS.

Table listing various fish from vessels such as Mackenel, Herring, Salmon, and various other fish.

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

HOME AND FOREIGN FRUITS.

Table listing various home and foreign fruits such as Apples, Lemons, Cocoanuts, Onions, and Grapes.

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

[FOR THE CRITIC.]

MARIA ELIZABETH JANE.

This very small girl with a name very long
On a bright, clear winter day,
Was looking out wistfully watching a throng
Of children in gayest of play.

Down the long hill to her home quite near,
On a track as glittering as glass,
She could see them a coasting with laughter and cheer—
Oh, how swiftly the sleds would pass!

And our little girl thought, "how nice it would be
For me to go out there and coast!
The air is so thrilling in here, you see
I am almost ready to coast."

So, Miss Lena her doll being soundly asleep,
Was laid in a dainty French bed;
And Maria prepared for the hillside steep
With never a feeling of dread.

In pretty, warm mittens, with soft woolen hood,
As red as the old rooster's comb,
And in cloak with bright trimming; our fairy maid stood
On the walk in front of her home.

And here where 'twas left by her big brother Ned,
By the fence just outside the gate,
She beheld his brain now, steel-rimmed sled
That would go at a wonderful rate.

"And now," said Maria Elizabeth Jane,
"I guess I see what to do!
This sled's awful big, but to me it is plain
One may ride just as well as could two!"

No body was near as she tugged at the sled,
And got it at last in the road;
And then, in a trice straight onward it sped,
With only a wee precious load.

Soon the coasters were startled and terrified grow,
When they heard our little girl cry:
"Get out of the way or I'll run over you!
Now see 'see' how fast I go by."

They hardly had time her warning to heed,
For she passed in a glitter of light,
And the runners rang clear as with arrow like speed,
She flew round a curve out of sight.

"The child will be killed," some wildly declared,
And others cried, "what shall be done?"
But Maria, being rather too young to be scared,
Considered her slide only fun.

And the sled true and strong ran safely along
Down the hill and the level road o'er;
While the shouts grew faint from the following throng,
Till at last she could hear them no more.

But she finally stopped in a snow-bank deep,
And still from her sled never fell;
And how she managed her balance to keep,
I am surely unable to tell.

To find her the boys ran nearly a mile:
The first one was big brother Ned—
And the moment she saw him she said with a smile:
"Will you please draw me home on this sled?"

ADISON F. BROWN.

[FOR THE CRITIC.]

THE CANADIAN MILITIA.

VI.

DISCIPLINE.—The basis of the theory of Discipline for the Canadian Militia is that of the Imperial army, whose traditions are, of course, carried out in the "Permanent Corps," and more or less embodied in the "Regulations and Orders for the Militia of Canada." The "Permanent Corps" are the A. B. and C. batteries of the "Regiment of Canadian Artillery"; the "Cavalry School Corps" (Quebec), the "Infantry School Corps" at Fredericton, St. John, (2), and Toronto; and the "School of Mounted Infantry" at Winnipeg. A. B. and C. batteries, and Schools of Artillery Inspection are placed respectively at Quebec, Kingston, and Victoria, B. C.

In these "Permanent Corps" the traditional discipline is strictly maintained, and no doubt the moderate spirit of it should permeate the Volunteer Militia. But it is inevitable, in the nature of things, that there should be a difference in this respect, *i. e.*, that there cannot be that absolute exclusive distance between officer and man that prevails in the Imperial army. To strain at it, as some officers—especially young officers of good social standing—do, is simply to violate natural conditions, and to cultivate conceits of the prestige of rank. The volunteer officer should be the friend of his men, as well as their leader. How much respect he may command in the latter function will *entirely* depend on his capability, but not on that only; it will depend also on his sympathy and unselfishness. It has ever been my aim in corps to which I have had the honor to belong, to inculcate the principle that the Canadian Volunteer Militia should initiate and cultivate its own traditions, which cannot be altogether those of the Imperial army, but *should be* altogether those of the most honorable emulation in all military proprieties. It is notorious that the best disciplined volunteer corps the world over are those which are mainly composed of persons conventionally called "gentlemen," "Noblesse oblige." If the volunteers of Canada are supplied only by the thoroughly willing and enthusiastic, those who have the military 'esprit' strong in them, and who take pride in military duties and proprieties, there would be little need of the severe and stand-off demeanor on the part of officers. A few kindly admonitions in the beginning, say of an annual drill, will induce cheerful endeavor to merit approbation. Take one frequent annoyance in raw corps, the neglect

to salute officers. I have always found that an explanation on mustering, friendly without any compromise of authority, will obviate all trouble on such scores. It requires to be set before the recruit that if he enters into an engagement for a certain service, he owes it to his own self-respect to comply with its requirements, and that it is not as a gratification to personal pride or vanity in officers that a salute is required, but for the general order and dignity of the service at large, and that a private who conscientiously discharges his part of the general duty, has the sincere respect and consideration of his officer to quite as great an extent as the good officer can have from his appreciative private. If, in fact, the officer, as well as knowing and doing his duty with calmness, firmness, and energy, respects his men, his men will respect him. But it is expedient that the officer should know his own duty, or if he is not at first quite well posted, that he should make it apparent that he is improving himself as fast as circumstances will allow.

In fine it is ruinous to the respect due to an officer that he should so carry out his duty or instruction as to convey to his men the idea that he is rather showing off his own position and qualities, than simply doing his duty to them.

Admonitions for shortcomings in details should not be given with imperative impatience as if the routine were habitual, and faults therefore inexcusable. A few days drill in a year has to include every thing, from the "position of the soldier," to the exercise of his judgment in skirmishing, and his steadiness in the brigade. As many days at least would, in the spring "setting-up drill" of the regulars, be devoted to squad drill alone for trained soldiers. If therefore, the volunteer sometimes forgets to bring himself to "attention" when he speaks to his officer, it should be considered that the habit of a life-time is not adequately counterbalanced by a week in camp, and a few evenings drill at his company head-quarters, and a very quiet reminder is sufficient.

It cannot be forgotten that almost every Canadian volunteer serves his country at personal loss, sacrifice, and inconvenience; neither can it be overlooked that the private is often "as good" as his officer. All these considerations lead to the principle that Volunteer Discipline cannot be quite like Army Discipline, and should induce on the part of officers, tact, discretion, and consideration for the feelings of their men, as well as the most earnest endeavor to qualify themselves to gain confidence by their proficiency. This solicitude will not be found to endanger authority. On the contrary, obedience will be rendered far more cheerfully and ungrudgingly when your men see that you are not so uneasy as to your position as to resort to the "haw-haw" style of command to maintain it.

DRILL.—A standing cause of inefficiency is the want of simplification of drill. The "Field Exercise" of 1870 was of course an immense advance towards simplicity, but it is again behind the day. There are always men behind the times—men who cannot, do what they will, shake themselves clear of the old stiff-stock and pigtail traditions—who are unfortunately permitted to meddle with the revision of drill books, and spoil them. The work of such men may be traced in the senseless and graceless additions made to the Bayonet Exercise between 1870 and the later editions; and in the retention of the more complicated of the two old forms of countermarching. The retention of countermarching at all is an absurdity.

The number of battalion movements was reduced in 1870 from, as far as I remember, about 100 to 60, and great simplification was brought to bear on the residue. For instance, the abolition of Deployments on Rear or Centre companies cut away a mass of useless rubbish at once. But there are yet movements which might be spared, even to go no farther than battalion drill, while the whole squad drill requires clipping and pruning.

Lord Wolseley, in his "Soldiers Pocket Book," says that the worst drilled Militia regiment knows enough drill for field movements, and is unsparring in his depreciation of "barrack-square" drill; and he is right, for the fact is that the day of close and rigid formation is gone. Loose formations and the simplest, quickest, and most direct movements are the desiderata. Some motion natural to a human being was accorded to the soldier in 1870, and room enough to stand in the ranks, but greater freedom is required yet. "Set up" was not, I suspect, of much consequence at the capture of Batoche. The fact is, the Volunteer has not time to become well "set up," in the present military acceptation of the term, and it is nearly time that a new and simpler code of drill should be devised for Volunteer infantry. The present squad and company drill may not be so much amiss for regulars, who are all the year round at it, but it is waste time to the Volunteer. The formation of "Fours" is perfection in well-drilled men, but the rural Volunteer cannot attain perfection in eight days. The Balance Step certainly steadies a man, but it is quite possible to get the Volunteer to march at once in quick time without that stately, but somewhat ridiculous preliminary. Again, the "Turnings" are a stumbling block, and might be much simplified. For instance, retain the "Right-about-turn," (left being never used) and call it simply "About-Turn," but model the "Right" and "Left-Turn," and "Half Turn," somewhat on the American plan. I should lay it down "Right-Turn." Raise the fore-part of the right foot, and turn to the right on the right heel, assisting and steadying the motion with the left foot. I am only giving rough and partial ideas. I would of course work them out in details if I were required to do so, but it is only allowable here to occupy enough space to give instances.

An entirely new system of the formation of the company seems to me to be desirable, one which would more readily adapt itself to modern exigencies. I should be inclined to let the company stand in four ranks, which would obviate at once the complications of the formation of fours. It should also stand at very loose files. Of course I am considering such large companies as I have sketched, 100 strong. Each section of 25 would form a rank, and the skirmishers and supports would be thrown out and reinforced by one rank after another, each section under its own officer.

The 30 inch pace is too long, and the quick time laid down in the drill book is not quick enough. In point of fact paces can be regulated by music, or by beat of drum; at least it would if bands were better time-ists than they often are.

These are, of course, the merest rough notes, intended only to suggest ideas and outlines—but the excess of formality will have to be abandoned in the end, and the sooner new ideas are promulgated the better.

FRANC-TREZUN.

[FOR THE CRITIC.]

EVENTS AND COMMENTS.

I am pleased to see that the "Grangers" have selected the columns of THE CRITIC in which to ventilate the views and opinions of this most important branch of a nation's strength and wealth. Ever since God's promise to Noah that "seed time and harvest should continue while the earth remained," farming has been and will continue to be the occupation of a large majority of the human race. I notice all through the pages of the Bible many references to the husbandmen; and in ancient history I find Cincinnatus, although a patrician, was twice called from the plough to serve his country, and after his victories over the enemies of Rome he immediately resigned his imperial office and returned to his agricultural labors, followed by the applause and blessings of his country. Scotland's "famous child of song and sorrow," said of himself: "The poetic Genius of my country found me, as the prophetic bard Elijah did Elisha, at the plough, and throw his inspiring mantle over me." Then too I can recall the name of Washington, who was "first in war, first in peace, and first in the hearts of his countrymen," who after a long war, through which the Independence of the United States was achieved, laid down his arms and the honors of office and sought the charms of a quiet life on his farm at Mount Vernon. So that glancing along the highway of time we find some great men in all ages who were patrons of husbandry. The Grange is comparatively a late order amongst our Agricultural brethren. Its growth is not spasmodic, but is quietly and steadily increasing in numbers, and must at an early day become quite an important factor in the political affairs of this country. The day is fast dawning when farming will be conducted on scientific principles, bringing to her aid agricultural colleges and schools for the education of the sons and daughters of farmers. In the local and general legislatures of the Dominion but a small proportion of the representatives are farmers. Why is this? Because the farmers, although largely in the majority as electors, are not as a class united as they should be for combined action, consequently they must be subjected in many cases to oppressive taxation, and other burdens from which there is no appeal, except through an equal representation in the different Legislative bodies of the country. Then let our farming people unite under the "Grange Banner" with the Plough for their symbol, and they will be enabled to check many of the evils of unjust legislation, especially "monopolists" and "speculators," for it is this class who "toil not, neither do they spin," yet when they come to "shuffle off the mortal coil" they leave behind them marble palaces, railroad, mining, banking and other stocks worth millions of dollars, most of which have been wrung from the "toiling masses" through the agency of shrewd lawyers in the halls of legislation.

The Grits would like just now to dismount from their Ariel "stalking-horse," but they seem to be very much like "Paddy" on the steed that was running away with him, and on being told to jump off, replied, "be jabbers how can I get off the back when it's all I can do to haul on."

The Presbyterian Witness tells us that one Joseph Beaver has been thrust into the "debtors prison" in New York, there to remain the balance of his life for a debt of one hundred dollars, contracted twenty-six years ago. In this connection it may be said to the credit of successful journalism that the editor of the New York World has paid the debt and that Joseph Beaver is once more a free man.

This seems to be the day of phenomenal wonders in the material as well as the physical world. Her Majesty Queen Victoria has laid aside state formality, and has most royally entertained plain Mrs. Phelps, (wife of the United States Minister) at Windsor Castle.

VETERAN.

[FOR THE CRITIC.]

OUR WINNIPEG LETTER.

WINNIPEG, MANITOBA, Feb. 12th, 1886.

DEAR CRITIC,—I propose, in this letter, to give you a slight idea of how we pass our winters. I do not mean any class in particular.

In the first place, we must mention the cold. Its general effect upon the human constitution has formed quite a theme for would-be enthusiasts and panegyrist of this country, and, consequently, among outsiders, there is a prevalent opinion, that though the cold is most intense in these latitudes, it is not felt so keenly as in the milder parts of the Dominion; and I have never seen this statement or seeming anomaly in any way refuted by us here, through a fear, perhaps, that those intending to immigrate, may be tempted to direct their course to a more congenial clime.

The truth may as well be told at the outset, for all the advertising, booming or enticing advantages held out to new comers will never make an unfavorable country good, nor will counter-schemes of opposing parties ever deery a good field for settlers; either may certainly have an influence at first, but this will only be transitory.

Winnipeg has been a field for all the wildest vagaries of speculation and a great deal of harm has been done to this country in general by mercenary individuals who have pictured it as a very Eden, where all who entered trod on enchanted ground. Those halcyon days are gone, in good reason, for they existed only in the wonderful imaginations of a few.

Those who have come here on such glowing representations find that the world is pretty much the same all over, I mean the world outside of those countries where the population is so dense that the people continually jostle each other in the struggle for existence.

The advantages which offer in a new country are counter-balanced by disadvantages. Take it all in all, man is as much here as elsewhere the architect of his own fortune.

Since the boom has settled down, it has left Winnipeg and the country surrounding, like flesh that has been seared by a red hot iron, and it will be quite a little time before the healing process is fully complete. But it will come, and even now, the wave of depression (according to competent authority) is receding, and we begin to see the light through the falling mists.

It is wonderful the enthusiasm that seems to pervade all classes, when speaking about this *new found land*. Only the other day, I came across a new comer, who was not in very affluent circumstances, and waiting till the spring to obtain work in his line, praising and extolling the country, as if he had been paid to do it, or was connected with some booming scheme. One frequently hears the remarks—"A wonderful country!" "A great land!" "The backbone of Canada!" "The greatest spot under the sun!" And all this from people who have no special interest in the country, save as it gives them a living. Of course, I should have added to these exclamations the words "one of these days," as it is the future all look forward to with feelings of confidence.

This prevalent unrecurrent of hopeful enthusiasm can be put down to the stimulating tonic like effects of the climate. The most hypochondriacal individual, after a short sojourn here, seems to get his spirits buoyed up by the almost mystic power of a dry and bracing atmosphere. How different in this respect is the enervating and relaxing action of a humid climate. We pity Nova Scotians and others for their misfortune in this connection. Life to us would be unbearable, if to the level flatness of the prairie was added a climate such as theirs.

I am afraid I am falling into an error, which I have just been blaming in others, and while "booming" the climate have also been digressing somewhat from the subject on hand.

Our sensations of heat and cold greatly depend upon the amount of moisture in the air, even as much as the actual temperature. A relatively high degree of moisture always produces chilliness.

On account of the extreme dryness of the air here, the body is robbed most unconsciously of its caloric, and a person would freeze before he was aware of it. When one comes up here from the Lower Provinces, and dons the same winter clothes that he did there, and finds them a long way insufficient, he begins to think there is a mistake somewhere, and seeks out the heaviest woolen underclothing that can be obtained; and let him or her remonstrate at first at the absurdity of the idea of sleeping between blankets, a few nights of restlessness, when to move out of the exact centre of the bed would send a cold chill through one, which of itself is quite sufficient to convince that the discarding of sheets in winter is a good idea. Happy will the sleeper be (if his bedroom has no stove, and no healthy bedroom should have) if the blankets are large enough to tuck in all around and cover his head, leaving a small opening, of course, for breathing. Then he will have the great pleasure of seeing his breath in the morning issuing out like escaped steam from an exhaust pipe. If he be of a philosophical turn of mind, then is the time to cogitate on the "conservation of energy." Especially will this blanket covering be necessary or suggestive if the individual is at all inclined to be bird headed, or too advanced in modern ideas to wear a nightcap. It is laughable to hear some people assert that they never think of covering their heads, although they find themselves under the blankets on awakening in the morning.

A number of log shanties can yet be seen about Winnipeg, some of a more pretentious size have been converted into comfortable, but not handsome, dwellings. Quite a number are to be seen at the site of old Fort Garry.

Next to the log house, for warmth, I would class a substantially built brick house, not as they are generally built, but with good thick walls, with a hollow space between the inside and outside shells. Next in order, we have the frame house, built to suit the severity of the climate, and to keep out both heat and cold. Then we have the brick veneered, and last, but not least in number, the modern rattletrap, built to rent.

The brick veneered construction having proved a delusion and a snare, their erection is now prohibited. The veneering was built on a portion of the sill which projected to secure it, iron holdfasts being used here and there throughout to hold the bricks to the walls. Besides being comfortless, there was great danger when a fire occurred, of the whole of the brickwork coming down.

Of course, amongst the monied class, there is no difficulty in having comfortable houses in the winter; with them it is only a matter of putting the hand in the pocket for more coal or extra stoves; but this class being the minority in all communities, it is not of them I make particular mention. Some of the houses I have been in, belonging to the upper classes, I have noticed a stove in almost every room, besides a base burner in the hall. With hard coal at \$10 per ton, and tamarac at \$5 a cord, and the cost of cutting added, it will be seen that the item for heating a dwelling is an important one; \$20 to \$30 per month during the cold weather is not an unusual cost for a house of ordinary size. Of course, one can economize by banishing comfort and warmth, and becoming niggardly to a high degree. (I wish my boarding house lady could see this).

As this letter has drawn out to more than its usual length, I will continue the subject I have taken in hand in my next.

I frequently hear little episodes about the rebellion from individuals who were active participants of the attacking force. One of these, i.e., the noted charge at Batoche, is worth noting, although it does no great credit to the General in command. "The General was aroused from a quiet smoke or something of the kind, by the cheering of the men, and interrogated his orderly—'Who had ordered the men to charge?' The reply of the man (which he gave with a military salute) was—'I don't know, sir,' which was quietly appreciated by those within hearing distance. The General made no reply, but smiling, mounted his horse and rode off to join the now thoroughly exasperated men."

All those whom I have spoken to on the subject, who were in the campaign, condemn the delay made in not charging at Batoche as soon as ground was gained. The advance made in gaining ground, and then retreating and giving up advantages the same evening, had a most discouraging effect upon the men, as well as making it appear to the rebels that fear was one of their motives. There is also a question whether as many lives would have been lost if the rush had been made earlier. The thing now is, who ordered the charge? General Williams, who had something to do with it, is dead. There is a general impression that a preconcerted move was arranged amongst the men themselves, if orders were not forthcoming. It may be that the order and this resolution were simultaneous. The truth will hardly be known. It makes little difference how the deed has been done; but this same affair has caused no little bickering amongst some of our militia officers, who thought they were losing their share of the credit of bringing about the finale. I have a few others which I will refer to at some future time.

Yours, etc.,

SEIRON.

[FOR THE CRITIC.]

THE NORTH-WEST INDIANS.

II.

In considering the Indians of the present generation, we behold a curious blending of the wild, untutored being, with the dissimulating characteristics of our modern civilization. Side by side, and even in the same individual, we find both striving eagerly for the mastery. None can doubt the issue. Perhaps in no country in the world do we find the aborigines so loath to depart from their native condition, in the face of so much that has been and is being done to divert them to our mode of life.

Their old nature clings to them through all, like the paralyzing arms of the octopus. For generations their wild life has become natural, and all the influences of education, example, or restraint, will never completely eradicate it. Only through their children have we a hope of our exertions being crowned with success. The Indian Mission schools are doing a good work in this respect; but alas! it is with regret we have to record the fact just ventilated through the press, that the young girls, after receiving a slight glimpse of the path that is to lead them to a better life, are sold by their simple, untutored parents to the noble white man for a life far worse than slavery—one of shame. How bitter and how cruel is our boasted civilization betimes!

It is due to the influence wrought upon the children that we are able to look to-day with something of pride at the Ontario Indians; and the red man is now more than ever taking the advantages which education offers, and contesting with his white brother many positions formerly open to us alone.

To give an idea how the old life seems suddenly to crop out, an old resident of Ontario told me not many years ago, the following ridiculous incident:—"I had occasion to visit an Indian family in the country, who lived in quite comfortable style, and had all the appearances of being as civilized as any of their neighbors. On entering the house, imagine my surprise at finding all the furniture of the principal rooms, even to the carpet, removed to an outhouse, and a tepee or wigwam of birch bark erected in the centre of the floor, whilst under its shelter were my lord with his wife (squaw now forsooth) sitting cross legged smoking their pipe of peace." Perhaps the white man's fire-water had something to do with this sudden transformation.

From a life of freedom, to what have they come now? Confined to the close limits of a reserve, kept within its bounds by restraint, they are brought back and punished, if found roaming abroad as in days of old. Their willingness or unwillingness to keep strictly within their reserves, is also a pretty fair index of their state of mind; for when they mean mischief, or when restlessness is upon them, their first move is to break bounds, and then like wildfire, the word spread abroad that a certain tribe is off their reserve, requiring a counter move on the part of the Mounted Police, who have to bring all their judgement and firmness to play in dealing with the runaways.

The question of arms and ammunition in the hands of the Indians has been a vexed one; and although a law has been passed inflicting a heavy penalty on any one supplying them in this line, they obtain all they want from across the Border, and many are possessors of Winchester rifles. Why these latter weapons are in such request, has been a puzzle to many, for all the game that is now met with, can be easily brought to earth by much less effective arms. Those who are crying out against the Government at their delay or apathy in not disarming them, know little of the serious danger attending such a measure, and would have an Indian war precipitated, beside which the late rebellion would be a mere shadow. The Indian, and not the Metis would then be the prime mover, a far more relentless and blood-thirsty foe. No one understands this present position of affairs better than Col. Irvine, Superintendent of the North-West Mounted Police, at Fort McLeod, near the Boundary Line. In him, the Government has a man with

a good judgement and cool head, ready to brave any danger, as are also the officers and men under him. They obtained a bad name through the late trouble—first for allowing affairs to make such a headway without a decisive move on their part; and second, on account of Col. Irvine's retreat, and holding out at Prince Albert. Without going into the details here; those who know best say the Police are not to blame. They were bound hand and foot and recognized only as police to prevent smuggling of whiskey into the Territories; and yet all their forbearance was looked upon as timidity. Now, thanks to a better policy, they have been invested with more active authority, which, if placed in their hands before, would probably have crushed the rebellion at its very inception, when Riel first commenced his disloyal proceedings. No one can say the Police have ever acted in a cowardly manner on any occasion, and few have any idea of the dangers those brave fellows have undergone and are undergoing to keep the country in a settled condition. A record of their adventures would fill many volumes. No greater injustice has been done those who were actually through the fighting than the refusing them medals, not that the true spirit of a soldier craves any recompense for duty, yet why should any partiality be shown in the matter? Who were the heroes of Cut-Knife Creek? The Police! And who formed the vanguard on almost every occasion? The Police! And where would the others have been, if they had not the assistance of those experienced men as guides? Even in the chase after Big Bear, difficulties had to be overcome, which, if experienced by a more pretentious force, would have occasioned no end of applause and comment. One of Major Steel's scouts told me, that on that exploit, in one place, they had to cut a trail through the woods for 40 miles, and this was one only of the many trials they had to endure. As an Irishman said—"The mosquitos were somethin' tremendous. When one came between you and the sun it threw a shadow over your whole face, and their buzz was like the hummin' of a telegraph pole." And believe me, these pests and the black flies are not the least evil to be apprehended in "beating the bush," for like the wild berries, they seem to attain a greater size the further you go north.

It is said the Indians laugh at the police and the red coats, whilst they fear the rifles, "black devils," as they call them. These latter would come in for their share of derision, if they were placed in the position of the former, and had to use all their forbearance. Let a second outbreak occur, and the redskins will know who to fear. They dread in the field more than any one the scouts who assume the same tactics as themselves, and meet them in their cunning and single-handed style of warfare.

As to disarming the Indians. This could only be effected in time, and never, so long as they are kept so close to the Border. There should be no Boundary Line for the Indian on his marauding or warlike expeditions, and no distinction should exist between the whites from either side, and the red man should be made to know it. This would, no doubt, cause complications at times, but it would have saved the States many valuable lives in the past, and would, perhaps, in the future, preserve many for us.

SEIRON.

(To be continued.)

[FOR THE CRITIC.]

SESSIONAL NOTES.

FREDERICTON.—The preliminary platform on which the Opposition propose to take their stand for the coming election contest, may be found in the following resolution, proposed by Mr. E. L. Wetmore last week:—

"Resolved, That Mr. Speaker do not now leave the chair; but Resolved, That in the opinion of this House, large measures of reform are urgently called for in the public interests, which reforms should embrace, (among other reforms looking towards a reduction in the public expenditure), a reduction in the number of members in the Executive Council; a reduction in the number of Departments in the Executive; a reduction in the number of Clerks and Employees in the Public Offices; a change in the mode of doing the public printing, whereby the cost may be largely reduced; and also the making of such changes in the Governmental, Legislative, and Departmental machinery of the Province, as will ensure a substantial reduction in the cost thereof."

Unfortunately, the previous motion, "that the Speaker leave the chair," to which the above was an amendment, was given precedence; but I presume the vote of 29 to 10 represents the relative strength of the two parties, and shows what would have been the result, had the amendment been voted on.

A rather curious incident happened in the House last Tuesday evening, and as it is fresh in my memory, I think I can give almost the exact words employed. Solicitor General Ritchie had been belaboring Mr. Hanington pretty severely, and felt that an oily word or two might calm the troubled waters. Mr. Ritchie, (who is a Roman Catholic) said—"But of course it is politically that I differ from my honorable friend; I have a great respect for him personally. He's a good high churchman, and I like him all the better for it,—and I am one too, though perhaps a little higher than he is." (Laughter). Mr. Hanington—"We both believe in Episcopacy, at any rate." Mr. Ritchie—"Yes, and almost in the Apostolic Succession." Mr. Hanington—"Hear, hear."

Mr. Hibbard, a member for Charlott County, made a "general confession," on Wednesday evening, of his actions in 1883, when he deserted Mr. Hanington, after having promised to support his Government. Among the atrocious crimes with which he charged members of the late Government, were his being requested to move the Address, and his being offered a cigar! He also blamed the ex-Attorney General for "leading" him to a meeting which nobody but a nincompoop or Mr. Hibbard would have mistaken for anything else but a caucus. His inconsistency is only surpassed by his littleness of mind.

M. H. C.

POLITICAL REVIEW OF THE WEEK.

DOMINION.—Thursday, March 11.—Robertson (Hastings) introduced a bill to amend the criminal laws providing for the extension of the term of imprisonment of burglars to ten years, and McCarthy a bill to extend the time of voting at elections from nine to eight o'clock.

Landry (Montmagny) moved his resolution about Riel, and spoke in French. He denied that he was in collusion with the government in regard to the motion. He objected to the execution on four grounds, 1st, because the jury recommended Riel to mercy; 2nd, because time was not given for the medical officers to form a sound judgment as to his sanity; 3rd, that General Middleton considered Riel a belligerent; and 4th, that political officers were not now punished with death.

Sir H. Langvin referred to the difficulty of his position as a French-Canadian representative in the ministry for the past four months. He was accused of being a traitor for the first time in twenty-nine years.

Friday, March 12.—Landry's resolution of censure was taken up after the introduction of some bills.

Hon. Mr. Royal accused Amyot of attempting to mislead the house regarding the witnesses on Riel's behalf. He claimed that the Half breeds had been treated worse between 1873 and 1878 than they had ever been treated either before or since that time. He charged evil-disposed white men who formed the so-called "Farmer's Union" with having fanned the discontent for purposes of their own. The *Globe* newspaper had helped to incite the rebellion. He declared his conviction that Riel had been justly hanged.

Gigault condemned the Government for allowing the sentence to be carried out. 1st. Because the revolt had been caused by bad administration of the North-West affairs. 2nd. Because Riel was insane. And 3rd. Because the Government had disregarded the Jury's recommendation to mercy.

Wallace, replying to charges against the Orangemen, said, that of the 2,000 lodges in the Dominion, not more than six had ever brought the question of Riel before them, or expressed any opinion. They had brought no pressure in any way to bear on the Government.

Cameron, (Huron), declared that Riel's execution was a judicial murder. Riel might have been a great criminal, but if so, there were greater criminals sitting upon the treasury benches. He denounced the Government for refusing to produce all the papers relating to the North-West affairs, and claimed that Riel had not been fairly tried, and that his insanity had been established.

Monday, March 15.—Landry's motion being far down the list of the order of the day, Sir H. Langvin moved that it be given precedence.

Mr. Blake objected, on the ground that the Government had not brought down some papers needed, and the motion was consequently dropped.

In answer to a question, Hon. Thos. White said the gross amount received from land sales in the North-West in 1884 was \$640,295, and in 1885, \$242,049.

Thompson, replying to a question, stated that the reports of Drs. Valade and Lavali, in regard to Riel's sanity, were received by the Government before Nov. 12th, the date of the order in council, informing the Sheriff of the North-West that the Government declined to interfere with the sentence.

The house passed to notices of motion, and Farrow moved that it is expedient to provide for the payment of members and senators absent from sickness.

Langvin moved in amendment that the Landry resolution be taken up. Blake, Mills, Casoy, Laurier, and Mitchell, strenuously opposed the amendment, which was, however, carried by a vote of 105 to 61.

Curran said that Laurier and his friends had gone over all Quebec, denouncing the Government for hanging Riel, and had caused the Ministers to be burned in effigy. They did not then consider it necessary to have the official papers before them. He claimed that the evidence to establish Riel's sanity was overwhelming.

Couriel admitted that the opponents of the Government had no ground to stand on, unless it could be shown that Riel was insane. He believed he was not responsible for his actions, and would, therefore, support the resolution.

Wood, of Brockville, discussed the three arguments advanced by the opposition, and declared his intention of supporting the Government.

Tuesday, March 16th.—Rykert spoke to the Landry resolution. He said that the effect of moving the previous question was to bring a direct vote on the resolution of censure of the government. He showed that the Macdonald-Cartier government never proposed an amnesty for Riel in the first rebellion. He quoted from McKenzie's speech some years ago to show that McKenzie took the broad principle that no acts of the government justified rebellion.

Brehard declared that the French would not be put down by other nationalities.

Laurier then spoke to the question. He declared that many bitter calumnies had been written against the French by English-speaking journalists. He denied that the French-Canadians were aiding and abetting rebellion, and that the party national was a French party.

PROVINCIAL.—March 10.—The bills to amend the act to incorporate the Shipowners Marine Insurance Company of Windsor, and the Greenwood Cemetery Company of Pictou, were read a third time and passed.

A number of petitions were presented asking for aid. The following bills were introduced: to amend chap. 108 of Revised Statutes of "Barristers and Attorneys;" a bill to legalize jury lists and panels and assessment rolls and revisor's lists for the present year; to divide Millford polling section in the county of Guysborough; to incorporate the Union Packing Company of Woods Harbor, Shelburne; and a bill to amend chap. 67 of Revised Statutes "of fences and impounding cattle."

The Attorney-General presented the report of the committee on the

subject of the rules recently passed by the Supreme Court judges. He stated that the objections to those rules were very numerous, the principal one being that suitors appealing to the Supreme Court might have only the judgment of one judge on the matters argued. He moved an address to the Lieut. Governor praying that the rules be annulled. Speeches were made by Messrs Weeks, Bell, and Longley, supporting the resolution. The address then passed.

Messrs Church, Bell, White, Corning, Patterson, McNeil, and Haley, were appointed a committee to consider the correspondence submitted in relation to the financial position of the Province in the Union.

Thursday, March 11.—Mr. Bell introduced a bill to legalize assessments in the township of New Glasgow; Mr. Ross, a bill to enable school section No 1, Lunenburg, to borrow money; Mr. McDonald, a bill to amend the Act relating to the Provincial road and bridge grant; Dr. Haley's bill to amend chap. 29 R. S., so that property in school sections should be assessed for school purposes where the property lies, and not where the owner resides, came up for consideration. Considerable discussion took place, and resulted in the bill passing its second reading by a vote of 18 to 15.

Friday, March 12.—The bill incorporating the Maitland Telephone Co. passed the final reading.

A bill concerning Chebucto and Mayflower divisions, Sons of Temperance, was introduced. The following were also introduced: a bill to authorize the International Coal Company to open up a road from its mines at Bridgeport to Sydney; a bill to amend chap. 61, of acts 1875, in regard to municipalities borrowing money; and a bill to change the boundaries of polling districts numbers 5 and 11, in Antigonish.

Mr. Hockin asked for information regarding the number of copies of the Revised Statutes, 5th series printed, and the number sold up to the beginning of March.

Mr. Blair requested a statement showing the number of different breeds of cattle imported into this Province since January, 1884, upon which bonuses have been paid by the government, the amount of bonuses in each case, to whom paid, and the cost of the importations in each case.

Mr. Whidden asked the government for a statement of all monies paid to date on account of the Nictaux and Atlantic railroad.

Mr. Bell called the attention of the House to the fact that several important changes had appeared in the Revised Statutes that had not been sanctioned by the House. He gave notice of a motion that the Statutes be referred to a committee for correction.

The bill to revise and amend the act incorporating the Cape Breton Railway Extension Company passed, as did also a bill to divide Millford polling section.

Monday, March 15.—Mr. White introduced bills to incorporate the N. S. Fire Insurance Co., to amend chap. 180 R. S.; and to amend the Act incorporating the Catholic Temperance Union.

In reply to Mr. Whidden, the Premier stated that the total amount of subsidy paid to the Nictaux and Atlantic Railway to date was \$122,549.88. The sum of \$4,196.53 has been paid for inspection, etc. In addition to these amounts, the Government has paid on account of the diverge to Queen's Co. \$2,215.24, and on account of Shelburne Co. \$2,226.72.

Several local bills passed the third reading. Mr. Pipes introduced a bill to amend chap. 92 R. S. of the prevention of frauds on creditors by secret bills of sale.

Mr. Longley presented a bill to amend chap. 108 R. S. of Barristers and Attorneys.

Mr. Weeks also introduced a bill to amend the same Act.

Tuesday, March 16.—Mr. Buchanan introduced a bill to amend the Act incorporating the Town of Sydney; Dr. Haley, a bill to amend the Acts incorporating the Windsor and Grand Pre Marine Insurance Co.'s; Mr. Munroe, a bill to change the Boundaries of Wards 1 and 2, Annapolis Co.; Mr. Corning, a bill to establish a Parish in the County of Yarmouth; Mr. Pipes, a bill to amend the Judicature Act, and a bill to amend chap. 112 R. S. of Escheats; Mr. White, a bill to amend chap. 112 R. S.; Mr. MacCoy, a bill to amend the Judicature Act, relating to the presence of Reporters in Courts, and the taking of Evidence; and Mr. Fielding, bills amending chap. 92 of Acts of 1884, and respecting Public Charities. By the passage of the latter bill, the Board of Charities would cease to exist after July 1st, and all the powers, rights, and duties exercised by the Board would devolve upon the commissioner of Public Works and Mines. An additional official who must be a physician, will be attached to the department. Mr. Bell moved that the standing committee on law amendments be appointed a committee to investigate the Revised Statutes. From the discussion that ensued it appeared that the 5th series contains many errors, the correction of which will take considerable time.

He.—That was a shocking tragedy, wasn't it?

She.—What was it?

He.—A man without the slightest provocation killed a woman he had never seen before in all his life.

She.—He had never been introduced to her?

He.—No. He knew nothing about her.

She.—Then he was certainly a very rude man.

"Why don't you finish eating your hash, Tommy?" asked a Brooklyn mother of her boy, who suddenly laid down his knife and fork as he caught sight of the servant dishing out ice-cream.

"Impossible, ma," replied the lad.

"Why?"

"Cause it's crowded out to make room for more interesting matter," answered Tommy, who had been working in a newspaper office during his vacation.—*New York Journal*.

COUNT WALDEMAR.

(Continued.)

As I marched out of the house between the two rivals I felt that I had displayed a tact for which everybody owed me some thanks; but my self-approval was not destined to last long. Just as we reached the limits of the small domain, Count Waldemar, who all this time had been only too evidently struggling with inward wrath, stopped short, drew himself up to his full height, and, looking over my head at Balfour, ejaculated—

"Sir!"

"Do be quiet," I whispered entreatingly; but he never heeded me.

"Sir!" he repeated. "Just now you have said that I was rude. Before the ladies I could not notice your words, but now I must ask you what you have meant?"

"Exactly what I said," answered Balfour, curtly.

"In Germany we consider such speeches an insult."

"Do you? Well, really I can't help it. If a man dislikes being called a boor he ought not to behave boorishly."

Count Waldemar told me afterwards that Balfour had been sneering at him and trying to provoke him, all the evening through, otherwise he would not have lost his temper even after so direct an affront as this. As it was, his self-control deserted him entirely. He took two strides towards the offender, caught him up in his arms like a baby, held him for an instant poised aloft, and then, with one mighty heave, tossed him clear over the low bank by which we were standing into a conveniently adjacent clump of cactus-bushes.

I am sorry to say that, shocked and indignant thought I was at this deed of violence upon the person of a friend and a fellow countryman, the first emotion that took possession of me was one of most unseasonable mirth; and this, gaining strength by reason of my efforts to conquer it, soon mastered me, so completely that I was fain to sit me down upon the grass and hold my sides, while Count Waldemar, all his ill-humor dispersed in that one explosion of wrath, woke the echoes with peal after peal of uproarious laughter, and from the cactus-bushes below arouse the maledictions of the outraged Balfour.

To a man smarting both mentally and physically as Balfour must have been doing, such conduct as this may well have appeared as inexcusable as it was exasperating. I suppose that under any circumstances he would have been very angry; he was simply furious now, and satisfaction he vowed he would have.

How we got back to the hotel I can hardly say. I dare say we were a sufficiently comical trio—Count Waldemar still shaking with laughter, Balfour bristling with thorns like a hedgehog, and I insisting with vain volubility upon the necessity for mutual apologies. All I know is that, when I went to bed that night, I closed my eyes upon the prospect of having to play the absurd, not to say hazardous, part of second in a duel.

IV.

It was Count Waldemar who, despite my entreaties and protestations, would have it that I must act as his friend in the carrying-out of this piece of murderous folly. He was very sorry to put me to any inconvenience, he said; but since he was not upon speaking terms with any other man in Hyères, he could not help himself; and when I declared that no duel should take place at all with my consent, he simply answered that that did not concern him, he being the receiver, not the giver, of the challenge. He added, as a matter of detail, that he had no intention of apologizing for the hasty act into which his temper had betrayed him on the previous evening, and that he did not in the least regret it.

"I have seen very well, last night, that Mrs. Seymour is more fond of him as of me," he sighed; "but when she shall hear how I have sitted him in the meed of those thorns, then must she certainly laugh. Yes, I shall have my *revenge*."

And with this unworthy sentiment he lounged out into the sunshine, while I went up-stairs to see what I could do with the other fire-eater.

I found Balfour deep in conversation with a certain M. de Beaulieu, a young Parisian, who was reluctantly spending a few weeks in the South in order to soothe the last moments of a wealthy and asthmatic aunt. I was sorry to see him there, for I had guessed the cause of his presence even before Balfour, rising from his chair, said—

"If you come from Herr von Ravensburg, perhaps I had better leave you with M. de Beaulieu, who has kindly consented to act for me in this matter."

"Nonsense, my dear fellow! pray don't stir," I answered, determined to wake light of the whole business if I could. "I certainly do come from Count Waldemar—that is, in a sort of way, you know. I mean, I did not tell him I was coming; and my only object in doing so is to suggest that you and he should make up your difference in a friendly way."

"I don't quite see how that is to be managed," observed Balfour, quietly.

"Now, Balfour, be reasonable. For goodness' sake, don't let us have a row. You see, the fact is you were both in the wrong: you provoked him, and he forgot himself; each of you will surely admit that much. Very well; you have only to acknowledge, frankly—"

"Mr. Clifford, what would you do if a fellow twice your size chucked you into a small plantation of prickly-pears?"

"Well, I can't exactly say upon the spur of the moment; but one thing is certain—no Englishman is expected to fight duels in these days."

"No man who professes to take a licking is ever expected to fight. For my own part, I have lived so much abroad that I have become a little fore-

ign in my habits; and as I am a particularly good shot, and a very fair swordsman, and have already been out three times, I see no reason why I should not prevent your German friend from insulting strangers for the future."

"Why, you bloodthirsty young ruffian, do you mean to say you would kill the man?"

"Not if I can help it, but I mean hitting him, I can tell you. And if I were you, Mr. Clifford, I would keep out of the quarrel. You can do as you like, of course; and it is no business of mine; but I think it is only fair to warn you that all this will probably end by getting you into a mess with the police."

That was all I obtained from Mr. Balfour, who now left the room. For one brief moment I did think of following his advice—of declaring that I washed my hands of these two young idiots and their broils, or, better still, of packing up my portmanteau and taking the afternoon train to Nice. But it was only for a moment. Upon further reflection I felt that I could not leave poor Waldemar thus basely in the lurch; and so I sat down sadly, and began to use my poor powers of eloquence upon M. de Beaulieu. That gentleman heard me out very patiently, and then convinced me, by a few brief but pithy sentences, that nothing short of an abject written apology would satisfy the wounded honor of his principal. At the end of a quarter of an hour I had actually consented, on Count Waldemar's behalf to a hostile meeting with pistols at daybreak; and to this hour I cannot see what alternative course was open to me. Some vague hints I did venture to throw out with reference to blank cartridges, and the possibility of satisfying wounded honor without risk to life or limb; but upon this M. de Beaulieu became so angry, and I asked me with such an air of outraged dignity what I took him for, that I was compelled to retreat hastily from that position.

Thus it came to pass that, after a disturbed night, I found myself stealing out of the Hotel d'Orient about the hour of sunrise, accompanied by three other malefactors, whom, at the dismal moment, I most warmly commended in my heart to the devil. I don't know what I have done that I should be forever getting into these discreditably scrapes; I don't know why such troubles should come upon me more than upon other inoffensive members of society; but, as a fact, they do.

Silently we plodded up the stony hillside, and through the woods of olive and cork-trees that clothed it. The branches overhead and the scanty herbage at our feet were glistening with dew; the air was still and crisp; the sunlight fell upon a pale blue sea and upon a white sail or two in the offing.

It seemed monstrous that two young fellows in the prime of life should be setting out to kill one another on such a lovely, peaceful morning; and we all of us, I fancy, felt the influence of the scene in a greater or less degree. I can answer for it that one of the party, who is neither a rich nor a specially generous man, who gladly have signed a check for a thousand pounds there and then, at the imminent risk of having it subsequently dishonored, if by that means he could have obliterated the events of the two preceding days.

But as that could not be, and as Providence did not think fit to intervene in the person of a gendarme or any other *deus ex machina*, we pursued our way without let or hinderance, and presently reached the entrance of a little dell, shut in on every side by rocks and trees, where we all instinctively came to a standstill. The light might have been better, M. de Beaulieu said, surveying the spot with a critical eye; but one could not have everything, and it was a pretty place for the purpose—a very pretty place. This Frenchman's spirits appeared to rise with the approach of the combat, and he set about measuring the distance—only twenty paces, alas!—as briskly and cheerfully as if he had been making the requisite preparations for a cotillon. Balfour and Count Waldemar stood a short space apart, each with his eyes fixed upon the ground, while I, with the pistol-case under my arm, seated myself upon the stump of a tree, shivering a little, and feeling as utterly miserable as I ever felt in my life.

At this supreme moment a distinct sound of approaching footsteps fell upon my ear. I wheeled round, and found myself face to face with heavens and earth!—Mrs. Seymour and Miss Grey.

"Good morning, Mr. Clifford," said the former, without any demonstration of surprise. "It is not a delicious morning for a walk? Is that Mr. Balfour? And Herr von Ravensburg too! Dear me, what can you all be doing? And what have you got under your arm?"

"A—a botanical case—or rather, I should say, a paint-box. I mean really don't know; it doesn't belong to me, but to M. de Beaulieu. Here, catch hold of it," says I, thrusting the horrid thing into the hands of its owner, who had now joined the group, looking very blank. "Are you—out for a walk too?" I continued, with an insane simper for in truth I hardly knew what I was saying.

"As you see," answered Mrs. Seymour, demurely. "A walk in the early morning gives you a capital appetite, does it not? And, *apropos*, I want you all to come back and breakfast with me."

A prompt and general murmur, like a response in church, testified the unanimity with which we declined this kind invitation.

"Oh, but I will take no refusal," insisted Mrs. Seymour. "You could possibly have any engagement at this hour of the day, and I do not intend to let you escape. Miss Grey shall take charge of Mr. Balfour, I will look after Mr. Clifford, and the two other gentlemen shall walk between us, so that we may not lose sight of them."

There was nothing to be done but to surrender to this determined lady—I don't deny that one of us was no very reluctant prisoner—and so the tragedy was converted into a farce, and we marched down the narrow path way, two and two, in somewhat ludicrous procession—first Balfour and Miss Grey; then Count Waldemar and M. de Beaulieu, the latter ineffectually

striving to conceal his murderous implements under an overcoat: finally Mrs. Seymour and myself.

"Well Mr. Clifford," began my companion, as soon as we were fairly under way.

"Well, Mrs. Seymour?"

"Of course I saw that she knew what we had been about.

"I should have believed this of a great many people—of Count Waldemar for instance, who is a foreigner, or of Mr. Balfour, who has lived so much abroad—but not of you."

"Go on. Blame me, and you will be quite in the fashion. That is what everybody invariably does under all circumstances; and I have long since given up self defence as a mere waste of time. I am quite prepared to admit that everything has been my fault from beginning to end, and to apologize to you all round. It was I, of course, who brought an unfortunate German all the way from Würtemberg to Hyères upon a fool's errand; it was I who flirted with two young men to that extent that one of them had to ease his feelings by plunging the other head over heels into a cactus-bush; it was I who—"

"Mr. Clifford, you are excessively rude, and begging your pardon, excessively silly too. I never was accused of flirting before in my life. I can make allowance for Herr von Ravensburg, because he is—well, because, for many reasons, it is not unnatural that he should misunderstand things; but that you, who particularly pride yourself upon your insight into human nature and the causes of people's actions should not have seen long ago that Mr. Balfour is engaged to my cousin, Miss Grey, is more than I can comprehend. The engagement would have been announced before this, only I did not want it talked about just at first, because Mr. Balfour is not very well off, and my people rather objected to the match. Now, however, every thing is settled; and when Count Waldemar has apologized, as I intend him to do before breakfast, I hope we will all shake hands, and forget how foolish some of us has been. But I must say I shall have some little difficulty in pardoning you for doing your best to kill the two firmest friends I have in the world."

"Will you tell me how on earth I was was to prevent a man who refused to apologize from fighting another who insisted upon an apology?"

"How? Oh, in a hundred ways. You had only to inform the police, or to send a line to me. Nothing could be more simple."

"Quite out of the question—altogether contrary to etiquette," returned I trying to look as if I had had a large experience of duels. "Ladies know nothing about these affairs. Bye-the-bye, may I ask how you managed to arrive upon the scene so opportunely?"

"I shall not answer any question which might get innocent people into trouble. But I may mention that if you had not yet laughed in that unseemly way, the night that Count Waldemar behaved so disgracefully, my maid would not have run out into the garden to see what was the matter."

"Oho! Is your maid that very well-dressed lady whom I sometimes see walking with Balfour's man on Sunday afternoons?"

"Never mind. Will you go on now, and entertain M. de Beaulieu, please? And may I ask you to send Herr von Ravensburg to me. I have a few words to say to him."

The nature of these few words I was enabled to surmise by the guttural ejaculations which reached me, every now and again, as I descended the hill beside the Frenchman. Just as we approached the house, Count Waldemar brushed past me, looking a trifle crestfallen, and hurried up to the couple who were waiting for us at the door. I was too far off to hear what passed; but the count's utterance were always embellished with so much pantomime that it was easy to form a pretty accurate guess at what he was saying, so long as he was anywhere within range of eyesight. I saw him standing, hat in hand, before Miss Grey, rigid as to his legs, but violently agitated from the waist upwards. I saw him fling his arms about wildly, and feign to tear out his hair by handfuls. Then he turned to his late antagonist, bowed three several times most profoundly, indulged in a little more gesticulation, and finally seized him by both hands, and almost shook him off his feet. Balfour did not look more than half pleased; but Count Waldemar was not so man to be abashed by a little coldness. Having accomplished his task, he faced about, and came striding back towards us with his wonted cheerful tranquillity very nearly restored.

"Now I have made all good," said he, in the tone of a man who expects to be thanked. "Mrs. Seymour, I hope you are content mit me?"

Mrs. Seymour laughed. "Let us go into breakfast," she said, without replying to the count's question.

I cannot say that the breakfast was in any sense a success. Our hostess charming, and did all in her power to set us at our ease, and Count Waldemar, as usual, talked a great deal; but, upon the whole, I think everybody was glad when the repast came to an end. I, for my part, was conscious that, however excusably, I had made a fool of myself: M. de Beaulieu barely disguised his dissatisfaction at the same conclusion of the air in which his services had been enlisted; Miss Grey never opened her eyes, and Balfour was evidently rather sulky. I suppose those thorns still stung a little.

He and his fiancée seized the earliest opportunity that offered to escape to the garden, and immediately afterwards M. de Beaulieu took his leave. On this I said I thought I would go out on to the veranda, and smoke a cigar, and, as neither of the two remaining members of the company offered objection to my departure, I suited the action to the word.

It was very pleasant out on the veranda. The air was warm, yet clear; the stony, hilly landscape was beautiful with numberless delicate gradations of color; a silvery ribbon of surf fringed the blue sea, which stretched away towards the far horizon to meet as blue a sky. In the garden at my feet standard roses, yellow, pink, creamy, and white, were drinking in the

sunshine; and every now and then I caught a glimpse of Balfour and Miss Grey pacing slowly side by side among the myrtles and tamarisks. Surveying this idyllic prospect with quiet contentment, I fell into a pleasant day-dream, which, by an easy transition, resolved itself ere long into a refreshing slumber. When I awoke it was to find Count Waldemar and Mrs. Seymour standing before me hand in hand.

"My dear Mr. Clifford," said the former, oratorically, "you have once done me the great kindness to present me to Mrs. Seymour; permit me, in return, to present to you the future Graf von Ravensburg."

It is always a little difficult to know what to say upon these occasions, and the difficulty is perhaps rather specially great to a man who has been caught asleep, and has not had time to reassemble his ideas. However, it can matter very little what his remarks may be so that he makes them short, and relieves the lovers of his presence with all convenient despatch; and in this branch of my duty I did not fail.

Mrs. Clifford, to whom I communicated the news later in the day, received it with some strong expressions of disapproval.

"I do not remember ever to have heard of a more ill-omened and unsuitable marriage," said she. "An Englishwoman of good birth and fortune to ally herself with a German adventurer! What possible chance of happiness can she have?"

To a certain extent I confess that I shared my wife's apprehensions. Looking at the utter dissimilarity of their ways of life and thought I could not but foresee that Count Waldemar and his wife would have need of much mutual forbearance; and no one knows better than I how limited is the stock of that useful quality accorded to most mortals. The match did not sound a promising one; but then, as everybody knows, the most promising matches often turn out badly in the long run, and *vice versa* Marriage, which has more than one attribute in common with death, resembles it especially in this, that no human being can venture to predict what manner of life is likely to succeed to it.

I am glad, at all events, to be able to state that, when I saw the Count and Countess von Ravensburg in London, a few days since, they both looked remarkably cheerful and contented.

THE END.

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THE MARITIME PATRON,

AND ORGAN OF THE

Maritime Provincial Grange—Patrons of Husbandry.

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

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

The Secretary of the Maritime Provincial Grange received from the secretary of Morning Star Division (for Queens and Lunenburg Counties) a report, neatly printed on a sheet of convenient size, of a session of that division held at Hebbville, in the County of Lunenburg, on Thursday 8th October last. Though late 'tis better late than never, to mention and comment upon several points and subjects suggested by or treated of in this Report.

We highly commend the appointment of a committee to make such arrangements for sessions so that the laborers shall be profitably employed and that no time shall be wasted.

The subject, "How the Grange organization may benefit farmers," laid over from a previous session, and taken up, discussed and passed clause by clause, is one eminently well worthy of the careful and earnest consideration of every Grange of whatever grade. Farmers should know that whatever their feeling toward the Grange it deserves and works for their benefit. The Committee on Temperance presented the following report:—

"In our opinion, no man can be a successful Patron of Husbandry who uses intoxicating liquors as a beverage. We would therefore most earnestly recommend all patrons to abandon the use of intoxicating drinks, and use every effort to establish the principles of total abstinence. We further advise that husbandmen discountenance the use of tobacco in its several nauseous forms"

To the great credit of Morning Star Division be it recorded that this report was adopted. We are tempted to enlarge upon these subjects of importance in a moral, social, and economic point of view, but we lay them aside for the present.

This Division recommends "that no money be at present expended for Grange Libraries." There will be much difference of opinion on this point. We shall be pleased to receive expressions of opinion with reference thereto.

The subject of Fire Insurance was introduced by the adoption of the report of a committee which recommended "that this Division express its opinion in reference to Fire Insurance in the now existing companies, and the one proposed for the Maritime Provinces." After discussion, it was moved, seconded and resolved, "That we extend the sense of this Grange to brother J. Burns in reference to the insurance measure by him proposed for the Maritime Provinces." We have not learned what "the sense of this Grange" with reference to this subject was, but we are in duty bound to point out that the "insurance measure" referred to—an act similar to a statute of the Province of Ontario—providing for the formation, and regulating the operation of Mutual Fire Insurance Companies, will not, as it is hoped and generally believed, facilitate the formation of a Maritime Grange Mutual Fire Insurance Company. On the contrary, while we have a Dominion Grange Mutual Fire Insurance Association, an institution of which the Order has every reason to be proud, and which, having a Dominion Charter, enables Patrons of all parts of the Dominion to unite for mutual insurance from loss by fire—the "insurance measure" we are asked for, will of necessity, separate patrons in the several Maritime Provinces on this important interest. No company can insure against losses by fire in more than one province, without the special permission granted in and by a Dominion charter. Before leaving this subject we deem it advisable to quote the following language from a letter received from the manager of the D. G. M. F. I. A. "If the patrons (of Nova Scotia) wish to establish a company of their own, we shall not object, but will probably withdraw our whole business from that province, as we do not wish to enter into a conflict with members of the Order in Nova Scotia." A bird in the hand may be found to be worth half a dozen in the bush.

The question, "has the Wholesale Supply Co. done all for Granges that we could expect?" was referred to a committee who reported as follows: "As far as your committee has been able to ascertain, the said company has given every satisfaction possible to shareholders and granges generally, not only by promptly filling all orders, but by disposing of produce consigned to it to the best advantage, and paying for the same forthwith.

Another committee considered the question, "what would be the best means to encourage cooperation in the Grange?" and reported, "that in the opinion of your committee, the manager of the business branch of each sub-Grange should be prompt and courteous in all dealings with its members, and should promptly remit all monies in his care to the Wholesale Supply Co., in order that confidence may be permanently established between granges and the said company." This report, though relating only to one cooperative institution, is of general application, for, if cooperation is satisfactorily conducted in one direction, confidence in the cooperative system, as applied to and by the Order, will be insured.

The important question, "how should we best advise farmers to educate their sons?" was answered by a committee to which it was submitted as follows: "Make all available use of existing resources; take for example a good periodical relating to the required subject, and if not sufficient send to a superior school or college."

This is most excellent advice in a nutshell, and of very general application. "Make all available use of existing resources;" first, applied to

agricultural education for instance, we have our district schools, our grange agricultural periodicals, and the special facilities offered, as far as Nova Scotia is concerned, at the Truro Normal School. Let us make the most use of these, and the Agricultural College, and Model and Experiment farm at Sackville, N. B., will follow in due time. In the evening a very successful public meeting was held at which, what we should judge to be most excellent addresses, were delivered, showing the advantage of the grange as an educator, as a means of elevating the farmer morally, intellectually, socially, and professionally, for mutual aid and improvement general and for the advocacy of and insuring the farmers rights. The speaker who advocated the "encouragement of plowing matches" should be applauded. Good plowing is essential to good farming. We regard this as a Most Division Grange Session worthy in its main features of imitation.

Important subjects were concisely presented in the form of questions referred to, considered and reported upon tersely and comprehensively before being presented to the Grange. That these reports were all adopted is complimentary to the committees.

The holding of public meetings is also to be commended as a means of making ourselves known to and gaining the sympathy of the public and cooperation of all farmers.

REQUISITION.

To JAMES N. LYONS, Esq.

Sir,—We, the undersigned Ratepayers of Ward Five, beg to request that you will allow yourself to be nominated to represent us in the City Council. We feel that you are well fitted, and possess those qualities so much needed to guard the interest of this large Ward, and should you accede to our request, we pledge ourselves to use every exertion to secure your election.

- Frank Eden, Michael Conroy, E. Dockrill, Peter Hogan, Joseph Estano, Craig Brothers, Joseph H. Margeson, M. J. Griffin, John P. Griffin, A. N. Brennan, C. Hoskin, R. F. McColl, John F. Kelly, P. F. Hroydrick, Thos. B. Granville, Jos. S. Cashes, Donald A. Campbell, M.D., Manley Beale, Thomas A. Mosher, Patrick Connolly, Joseph Johnson, Gabriel Edmunds, M. A. Reddy, Andrew Hubley, Joseph Quinn, M. D. Logan, Edward Moran, Avery F. Buckley, Howard Bigh, James Griffin, Michael Murphy, James Shand, John A. Hancock, J. E. Butler, D. Driscoll, George Davis, Richard Symonds, M. J. Donovan, J. K. Matthews, Sias Hubley, Robert Lindsay, James O'Brien, Daniel Cronan, Thos. Crockett, J. R. Siteman, W. A. Conrod, J. E. DeWolf, A. Duffield, James Foley, Ino. Denoe, Joseph Mulcahy, J. R. Gordon, Neil Fraser, Rufus Sayer, Eugene Boreham, John Reardon, C. E. Tyler, W. T. Kennedy, John Peters, F. H. Theakston, Isaac Melvin, Daniel Melvin, Edward McLaughlin, William Cunningham, John S. Bowser, George Monaghan, Jas. P. Monaghan, John R. Findlay, Michael O'Brien, John Menger, K. M. Wilkie, James Carr, Alex. Frizzle, Wm. Wilson, James Brown, George Hibbets, John Dorey, Chas. R. Cox, Wm. Rhuder, B. W. Heals, F. Southall, F. H. Elliot, John R. Peaver, W. H. Havill, Edward Cashen, Wm. Cerbin, W. H. Hamilton, Samuel Ayers, Adam L. Miller, Thos. Layton, P. A. Fahcy, A. Graham, W. T. Foster, David Cook, Wm. Hood, John Connors, Wm. Judge, Wm. Hancock, E. H. Hancock, W. H. Bashford, F. D. Schrage, J. Finn, K. McFartridge, M. D., Wm. Hemsworth, Frank Graham, Thos. J. Doherty, Chas. DellaTorre, Chas. W. McGinn, W. H. Clayton, J. D. Fisher, T. V. Woolrich, Theodore Larsen, D. Livingston, F. J. O'Connor, Ino. R. Rawley, Wm. Fitzgerald, Abraham Young, Wm. Grant, A. S. Larder, I. A. Chipman, J. C. Merrill, J. E. Irish, Ino. R. Murray, Geo. M. Toomey, Miner T. Foster, Jas. F. Cowen, James Scott, D. H. Pitts, Shaftford Bros., Robert Wallace, Frank S. West, R. F. Keltie, Peter O'Hearne, William Topie, R. C. Lockhart, William Vincent, Ino. J. Murphy, Geo. B. Maling, John S. Blagdon, George C. Warner, Jas. W. Lockhart, R. M. Lockhart, John Mahoney, Henry Lovett, Edward McMurray, Walter P. O'Hearn, Edmund O'Donnell, Thomas Martin, W. P. Downey, John Chisholm, H. C. Harrison, Thomas McCarty, John Lepine, J. McN. Gabriel, Jos. R. Bennett, C. L. Eaton, John D. Vison, George B. Smith, Richard Underwood, Jeremiah Toomey, Ino. J. Pender, Thomas Harvey, James Purcell, W. Mountain, John W. Austen, Alex. Kelley, John Causey, Wm. Emmett, Wm. Lovegrove, Wm. J. Heenan, J. C. Ashwood, A. Fraser, Ino. A. Grant, Ino. C. Russell, G. G. Gray, Jas. Baxter, John Meagher, Gilbert Murray, Wm. Messervey, Alex. Moody, Herbert Gammon, W. Davies, Robt. T. McPine, Geo. N. LePine, J. C. Dumaresque, E. B. Maxwell, John Cashman, James Heenan, George Graham, James McLearn, Jr., Jas. S. McLearn, Jr., W. S. Rogers, C. S. Harrington, A. P. Davidson, J. J. Hopewell, James Wallace

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REPLY.

38 GOTTINGEN ST., March 13, 1884. GENTLEMEN,—I am too sensible of the honor you have done me in presenting so numerous a requisition on me to accede to your request though I must confess that a seat in the City Council has few attractions for me personally. Recognizing, as I do that it is a duty that every man owes to society to devote a portion of his time to any talents that he may possess, to the good of the community in which he lives, should his fellow citizens request his services as their representative I accept the nomination and place myself on your hands, promising that if elected, I will give the best attention to the interest of the ward and the city. Our ward has not in the past had the influence in the City Council that its size, the number of its ratepayers and the amount of assessment justifies it to. If you succeed in electing me, I will endeavor to have justice done to our ward in this and other respects, without neglecting the larger interest of the city as a whole. I remain, gentlemen, Very truly yours, J. N. LYONS

THOS. MAJOR FAMILY GROCER Spring Garden Road. Our object is to keep on hand the very best class of Groceries.

To the Electors of Ward Five. GENTLEMEN,—In response to very liberal influential requisitions, I will be a candidate for a seat at the City Council, vacated by the resignation of Ald. Longard. As a resident of the Ward, and always a deep interest in its prosperity, I shall endeavor by every means in my power to secure such measures as will tend to secure for its share of the benefits of our civic government. Respectfully requesting your votes and support on election day (24th April), I remain, Yours very truly, SAUL MCKAY

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MINING.

MOUNT UNIACKE.—There are now twelve miners working on tribute at the Mount Uniacke mines, some of them have made a good thing out of it. We were shown last week a pretty little brick weighing six ounces which was the result of the labor of two men for three weeks.

The first clean up at the Crow's Nest mine has fully borne out the favorable expressions of the experts who visited it some months since. Thirty seven tons of quartz were put through the mill and yielded seventy-five ounces of fine gold. We congratulate Dr. Fraser and his associates upon the result. The locality of the mine is one that will before long be favorably known.

RAWDON.—It is correctly rumored that Mr. McNaughton has struck a rich streak in the Rawdon mines. Full particulars have not yet come to hand, but our informant, who is a reliable authority, assures us that at least one thousand ounces of gold have been taken out during the past fortnight. Messrs. Long, McLeod, and McNaughton have no reason to complain of the indicator in their wheel of fortune, somehow it always points to a prize.

A CONFIRMATION.—A. A. Hayward, Esq., manager of the Renfrow mines, has written to the Halifax Herald advocating the sinking of a test shaft. His letter, which appeared in last Saturday's issue of the Herald, fully confirms all that has appeared in THE CRITIC with reference to this important enterprise. Mr. Hayward is a practical miner, and his recommendation is most timely. The mining journals throughout the United States have given wide publicity to this test shaft question, and they will doubtless be prepared to give the same publicity should deep mining prove successful in this Province.

PLANS.—If gold miners in Nova Scotia would take the trouble to draw out and preserve accurate plans of their mining operations, they would do more to further the mining interests of this country than would at first appear. So far as we know, Mr. Lawson of the Montague Mines, is the only one who has thought it worth while to make a plan of the shafts, levels, etc., which he sunk and drove in the Lawson property. Mr. Baker of the New Albion is evidently alive to the importance of this data, as he spares no pains in making accurate measurements, so that from his plan one may readily note the deflection of the veins. A most curious fact in connection with the New Albion mine is the varied dip of the leads, all of which apparently tend towards a centre not yet reached.

DEEP MINING.—Go where you will, the one topic of conversation among mine owners and mining men is, the proposed test shaft, the sinking of which will probably prove whether deep mining will pay in the gold fields of Nova Scotia. So far as we can learn, there is but one opinion as to the advisability of the shaft being sunk, although there is some difference of opinion as to the aid to be granted by the Government towards the enterprise. Our miners should evince their interest in this matter by memorializing the Government, and thus bring matters to a head. The Government we feel certain will, if the matter be properly represented, do its best to meet the wishes of our practical mining men; and as we have faith in the result of the experiment we would urge our mine owners to be up and going, otherwise another year must elapse before the test shaft can be sunk.

Mr. C. E. Billings, of Billings & Spencer Co. of Hartford, Conn., after great deal of patient experimentation has succeeded in producing drop-castings in copper. Pure copper connectors, screws, and other parts of technical apparatus have hitherto been unattainable, owing to the difficulties experienced in casting copper. It has been the practice to add to the copper a small proportion of tin to insure a homogeneous and smooth casting, but the tin interferes with the conductivity of the metal; its presence is therefore undesirable.—*Scientific American.*

The following are the complete returns to the Mines Office for the month of February:—

	Tons Crushed.	Oz. Gold.
Dare Hill.....	840	612
Rawdon Mine.....	95	305—10
" Bars & McNaughton.....	60	135
Caribou.....	274	149—13
Stormont, Guysboro.....	44½	84½
Lake Catcha.....	13½	13
Waverley.....	43	28

New Brunswick.—A deposit of stibnite, carrying sixty per cent. ofimony, has been discovered in Albert county, and miners will be at work on it in the spring to test its extent.

The amount of gold extracted from silver bullion annually amounts to about \$3,000,000.

At the annual conference of miners, which took place at Birmingham, England, recently, among the topics discussed was the appointment of a Minister of Mines.

In China it is claimed there are enormous coal measures, prodigious deposits of iron, vast veins of copper, great tracts of galena, chrome, plumbago, cinnibar, cupreous nickel, zinc, pyrites, manganese, etc., found in every section.

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MINING—Continued.

MICA IN CANADA.—It is within the past two years that mica of the best quality, known as *Muscovite*, has been discovered in Canada in marketable sizes, and in paying quantity, and to-day we know of several deposits capable of being developed into fairly productive mines. Two in the county of Frontenac, Province of Ontario, show well-formed, large crystals at the surface embedded in white quartz; another in Wakefield, county of Ottawa, has been uncovered, and numerous crystals have been exposed, which, though small, are of excellent quality; in the Lake Superior and Lake of the Woods districts, good mica has been discovered in paying quantity, and a company has been formed in Winnipeg to work an important deposit in the last mentioned locality. In British Columbia also a fairly good quality is known to exist, but no attempt has yet been made to prove the size of the available crystals, or the extent of the deposits in that Province. Some small amount of development work has been done on a deposit about 60 miles from Berthier, east of Montreal, but work has for some time been suspended at this point for reasons unknown to us. The Villeneuve mine in the county of Ottawa, of which mention has been frequently made in these columns, has been worked continually during the past year, and has produced many thousands of pounds of mica, perfect in quality, and in sizes varying in dimensions from the ordinary sized sheets used in stoves up to plates measuring 14x12 inches. This mine yields a steady output, and with a little more development will be capable of yielding an almost unlimited annual production. Some specimens of mica have been forwarded from the Villeneuve mine to the Colonial and Indian Exhibition, and we will be much disappointed if they are not pronounced by judges to be of equal quality to any that is produced in any quarter of the globe. Samples that were sent to the Antwerp Exhibition last year created much surprise among the mica dealers of Europe, some of whom expressed a preference for its quality before what they had been receiving from East India and North Carolina.—*Canadian Mining Review*.

METALLURGICAL OPERATIONS.—At the present time one of the most important questions in connection with the mining interest lies in the direction of metallurgy. The appliances and improvements lately available for mining ores are fully equal to the requirements. The diamond drill, the air compressor, the steam hoisters and steam pumps, are marvelous results of human skill and ingenuity, wonderfully adapted to the object to be attained, but when the ore leaves the dump for treatment, it does not meet the same advancement and improvement. The matter of mining ore was more readily understood and comprehended than metallurgical process necessary to secure the best results. While metallurgical science is necessarily of slower growth, there is no reason to doubt its final success, as numerous experiments now being made to indicate the attention which this subject is attracting. In many cases where failure has been attributed to the mine and to mining operations a closer inspection will reveal the fact that a costly plant for treating ores, totally unadapted to the work required, is chiefly responsible for the disastrous results. The wide variety of ores to be treated makes the task more complex and difficult, but it by no means follows that it is impossible to secure a complete and satisfactory solution of the important problem.—*Chicago Mining Review*.

The report of the London mint shows that 67 tons of gold and 195 tons of silver were coined in 1884.—*Ibid.*

The value of the mining product of Colorado for 1885 is estimated at \$22,500,000 gold and silver.—*Ibid.*

Many miners from New Mexico and Arizona are on their way to the Honduras gold fields.—*Ibid.*

NEWFOUNDLAND COPPER MINES.—At Little Bay mine, operations have been resumed on an extended scale, under a new and energetic manager. It is reported that fully 200 men are now at work, and when spring opens there is prospect of 700 or 800 men being employed. The prospects of the mine are said to be excellent, and such as fully warrant a large increase in the mining force. Further, it is also stated that a new and valuable discovery of ore has been made at Bett's Cove, where of late little mining has been done. All this looks hopeful. A rise in the price of copper ore is only wanted to give another "boom" to our mining industries which the depression in the copper market had greatly checked. The glut which caused the depression, it is believed, has now been to a great extent relieved, and better times are confidently anticipated when the spring season opens. Last summer a number of mining engineers visited Newfoundland, with a view of reporting on certain mineral deposits. We understood that all of them were very favorably impressed with the mining capabilities of the country, and predict that when developed the island will take a prominent place as one of the world's great mining centers. The mines at Placentia are well spoken of, and in that quarter there is likely to be considerable activity ere long, as mining capitalists have taken the matter up. The Brigus gold field too has been examined by more than one mining expert with very encouraging results. The quantity of auriferous quartz in that region is very great, and it is highly probable that before many months elapse, we shall hear of gold mining being actively carried on. All this is very cheering, and will have some effect in relieving the present depression. The day is not distant, we believe, when mining capital, on a large scale, will find profitable investment in Newfoundland, and when this industry will furnish employment to a large number of our people.—*St. John's Mercury*.

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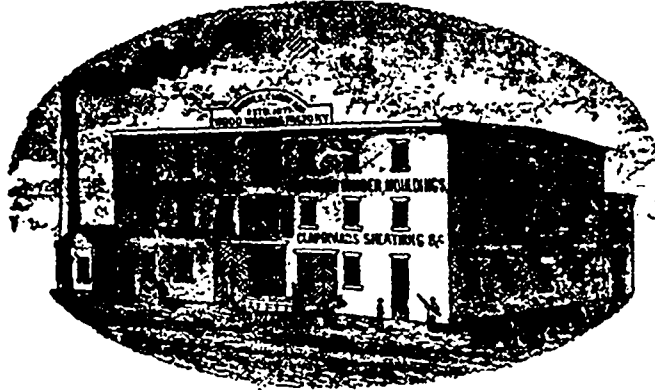
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