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THE CRITIC.

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

The Japanese Government has requested the Italian Government to appoint a lawyer to proceed to Japan to act as the legal adviser of the Japanese authorities.

Owing to the spread in Japan of what we are pleased to call civilized customs, European and American manufacturers are finding a ready sale for their wares in the Island Empire. Almost every Jap of note now carries a watch, and the decided preference that is shown for stem winders, proves that the mongolian appreciates a convenience quite as much as does his caucasian brother.

The residents of several of the eastern counties of Ontario, the larger number of whom are of French origin, have expressed a desire to have these counties incorporated as a part of the Province of Quebec. The idea of a third or central province between Ontario and Quebec with Montreal as its capital, has several times been mooted, and it is not at all beyond the range of possibility that it may yet take definite shape.

An American firm in Newark, N. J., manufactures 150,000,000 corkscrews annually. Just think of it, have the people taken to drinking stimulants, or are these corkscrews sold for the convenience of those who take kindly to patent medicines containing twenty to forty per cent. of alcohol? If we could only cork up the mouths of some people and screw the truth out of the public, we should find that nine out of ten periodically resort to a pet tonic which their physicians have neither ordered nor analyzed.

The two Frenchmen who recently camped out for three consecutive days on the summit of Mount Blanc, are being lionized in Paris, and M. Vallot, who projected the expedition, has been invited to read a paper upon the subject before the French Chamber of Science. From what we have read of M. Vallot's mountain expedition, he has little to tell the world, having that the cold on the top of the mountain was nearly sufficient to make flint of marrow, and that the wind blew at such a rate that it was impossible to make headway against it.

The number of successful burglaries which have been carried out of late in various parts of the Maritime Provinces, should lead persons to be a little more cautious than they have hitherto thought it necessary to be. Locks and bars are but preliminary precautions, and these in a proverbially honest neighborhood are too often overlooked. Persons in possession of large sums of ready cash should be careful not to let the fact become known, as such knowledge invariably stimulates avarice, which is followed by covetousness to possess by means fair or foul.

One of the most pleasing epic-poems which we have read of late is the "Black Prince," by Douglass B. W. Sladen, who is the foremost among Australian poets. Mr. Sladen's style is forcible, and his insight into the characters of the historical persons he refers to, proves him to possess a clear knowledge of human nature. In the portions of the poem describing the wars in France, and the famous Picard field, Mr. Sladen displays a power which at once rivets the attention, and fairly fascinates the reader. The poem is one that should be read by every school-boy and school-girl interested in the deeds of the brave Black Prince.

A new portable and unsinkable lifeboat has just been patented by Mr. Robert Chambers, of Dumbarton, and, as it only occupies one-fourth of the space usually taken up by an ordinary ship's boat, it will probably find favor in the eyes of ship owners. The boat, which is 26 ft. long, and capable of accommodating 40 persons, is but 14 inches in depth, but is fitted with waterproof canvas wash-boards, which are raised perpendicularly when required by galvanized iron stanchions and rails. Should this boat prove stout enough to weather a heavy sea, it will be an important addition to the life-saving apparatus of the world.

Miss Agnes Ramsay, the lady senior in classics at Girton College, is spoken of as a simple unaffected girl of twenty, but, as she is just now the rage in London, she is not likely long to retain her sweet simplicity. Fancy a girl of twenty to whom the Queen has sent her photograph, who has been introduced to the Crown Prince of Germany by the request of the heir apparent, and whom the Archbishop of Canterbury and the Secretary of State are invited to meet at dinner, keeping a cool head and preserving the even tenor of her way without being spoiled. The thing is impossible, and Miss Ramsay, blue-stocking though she may be, will suffer if she long continues the pet of society.

Abdur Rahman, the Ameer of Afghanistan, has not much faith in false prophets. Not long since, one of his subjects predicted in his presence that the Russians were about invading the land, whereupon the Ameer, taking the man at his word, ordered him to ascend to the top of a tall tree near by and remain there until the Muscovites put in an appearance. Guards with fixed bayonets were placed beneath the tree to prevent the prophet's descent, and he finally, after days of suffering, died, a victim to hunger and thirst. If Wiggins could only be made to stand on the topmost height of Asphatoggan and be kept there until one of his Atlantic cyclones comes along, he might realize a fraction of the suspense and anxiety which his lunatic forecasts cause.

The Nizam of Hyderabad has won his way to the hearts of the British people by his proffered pecuniary assistance in strengthening the defences of India. The astute Mahomedan ruler declares that he has taken note of the fact that while the Indian revenue remained almost stationary, the public expenditure has steadily increased, and, as the money had been expended in strengthening the northwestern frontier against a possible Russian attack, he desired to contribute two million dollars for the same purpose, as the safety of his kingdom was dependent upon the continued supremacy of the British in India. The old Nizam further said that in event of war his Mahomedan troops would aid the British. This good news from India has caused very general satisfaction, and it is whispered that the polished Irish Governor General, Lord Dufferin, has, by delicate diplomacy, made the Nizam the warm ally that he is.

An eminent French scientist named Professor Velpeau, believes that consciousness is retained by individuals for a longer or shorter time after decapitation. In proof of this, he states that by a preconcerted arrangement before the execution of Dr. Pummerass, that criminal agreed to wink the eyelid of his right eye if he understood what the professor whispered in the ear of his bodiless head, while the lid of the left eye was to be kept widely open. After the guillotine had done its work, Professor Velpeau picked up the head of the victim and whispered the words agreed upon, whereupon the lid of the right eye closed, while that of the left remained wide open. We do not vouch for the truth of this story, because we know it is a difficult matter to tip a wink to any person with one eye while the other remains quiet even when the thorax, abdomen and limbs are properly attached to the cranium, but aside from this, the question of consciousness after decapitation opens a wide door for speculative thought.

DISASTROUS COLLAPSE OF THE GREAT WHEAT DEAL IN SAN FRANCISCO.

The extent to which modern speculations are carried, has just been well exemplified in San Francisco, where a gigantic attempt to "corner" the wheat market, has ended in the ruin of the principal manipulators.

Rapid communication by rail and steamship, the facilities for sending instant instructions by the telephone and telegraph, almost, as it is said, annihilating time and space, and the buying and selling of stocks, grain and provisions, on margins, without actual delivery, give speculators the oppor-

tunity of carrying out schemes that, in their magnitude, are almost beyond belief.

William Dresbach, the leading manipulator in the last great wheat deal in San Francisco, made some fatal mistakes in his calculations, and the result was, that instead of winning millions, he found himself bankrupt, with some nine millions of dollars in liabilities. His assignee, Charles R. Stone, has filed a schedule of the liabilities and assets of the insolvent, which proves both interesting and instructive reading. "Corners" have over and over again been made illegal in different States, and they are known to be most detrimental in their effects on the trade of the country; but the law is easily evaded, and so, as in the case of Dresbach, when the promoters of the deals are "hoist by their own petard," their downfall is rather enjoyed by the general public.

We will give a few examples, culled from Dresbach's list of liabilities, and from them, some idea may be formed of the magnitude of his transactions, and an inkling given of the way in which a wheat deal is manipulated.

Of secured loans for borrowed money evidenced by notes secured by wheat, there were the following:—

"C. B. Kaufman \$100,000; Searles & Stone \$385,656.97; Staub & Cooper \$75,475; Chas. F. Reed \$650,000, on notes held by the Nevada Bank; Mrs. Abby M. Parrott \$301,500; Starr & Co. \$42,000; London, Paris and American Bank \$92,000; Blum, Baldwin & Girvin \$306,952.13; making a total of \$1,953,584.10."

A long list of wheat contracts follows, and we copy one or two as fair samples of the balance:—

"Contract with Searles & Stone, whereby William Dresbach agrees to receive 7,100 tons of wheat, deliverable at seller's option during the year 1887, at \$1.90 per cental. As security for the fulfillment of this contract, an amount equal to \$8 per ton was deposited in the bank, and an additional amount, equal to \$5 per ton, was paid to Searles & Stone. These amounts have been forfeited by failure to receive the wheat. Further liability is undetermined and in dispute.

Contract with Blum, Baldwin & Girvin, whereby William Dresbach agrees to receive 1,000 tons of wheat, deliverable at seller's option during the year 1887, at \$1.97½ per cental, said contract to be subject solely to the rules and regulations of the San Francisco Produce Exchange Call Board Association. As security for the fulfillment of this contract the sum of \$5,000 was deposited in bank by William Dresbach. Further liability is undetermined and in dispute."

Of Call Board contracts, there are no end, and the miscellaneous liabilities and bills of exchange would alone fill a column of THE CRITIC.

The total liabilities are only approximated, as many of the Call Board contracts are disputed, but a fair estimate would place them about as follows:—

Money borrowed on wheat.....	\$1,855,444	10
Borrowed from Nevada Bank.....	6,553,111	56
Losses on contracts.....	300,000	00
Losses on cargoes en route.....	535,000	00
Estimated other losses.....	200,000	00
Total.....	\$9,443,555	66

The grand total makes a very respectable showing, and Mr. Dresbach can congratulate himself upon the fact that, if he has failed, he has done so nobly.

The assets consist of hundreds of thousands of quarters of wheat in different ports in England, most of which is held as collateral security, and cost two shillings a quarter more than it can now be sold for.

The list also gives a statement of fifty-seven vessels bound for Liverpool, Queenstown or Falmouth, carrying 594,763 quarters of wheat. The value of this wheat, for which Dresbach drew on the consignees, is given in the statement of liabilities. The largest number of these cargoes was consigned to Henry Coubrough, London, and a few only to John Ten Bosch & Co. Nine of the ships were consigned by Blum, Baldwin & Girvin to their correspondents in England, the firm advancing on them 30 shillings per quarter. In all cases the amount advanced exceeds the present value of the wheat, and the assets, therefore, are of no value. Fifty-four thousand bags in Greenwich Dock warehouse are valued at \$3,240, and 6,820 tons wheat on ships in harbor at \$150,040. This wheat is figured at about actual value of \$1.10 per cental. Ships have a lien on this wheat to secure fulfillment of charter.

The creditors will derive very little satisfaction from perusing the list of assets, as most are of the same worthless character. When it comes to cash on hand, which amounts to \$278,46, it will be seen that Mr. Dresbach did not make his assignment until all available means to avert failure had been exhausted.

Speculators in margins should be able to read a valuable lesson in this failure; but all fools are not yet dead, and so the bucket shops, those great sinks of iniquity, which yearly cause the ruin of thousands, will continue to be liberally supported, while many of their poor dupes will, in the end, find themselves inmates of prisons or poor houses, or numbered amongst the suicides of the land.

RED TAPE.

Among the fossil proclivities of old civilizations which cling to and clog the wheels of progress, not many have accomplished more mischief to peoples and Governments than what is known as "Red Tape." Its tantalizing influences are perhaps not quite so universal or so powerful as of yore, for Dickens did not show up the way "how not to do it" altogether in vain, and Macaulay's brilliant description of the negotiation of the peace of

Ryswick is, to the reader of history, a satire yet more pungent and powerful than that of the great novelist; but like many another scotched snake, it seems capable of wriggling on till sunset; and like other tape-worms, propagates itself by segments, despite new departures, in offshoots of the older countries. To illustrate our meaning—it is not very surprising that Her Majesty's Navy used (or did a few years ago use) twice as many books in a ship as are really necessary, or that "War Office Forms" (though the books of a Regiment are comparatively few and simple) are of an aggravating complication. But it is astounding that, if you procure the most trifling article, say a copy of the Field Exercise, from the Militia Department at Ottawa, value about thirty cents, you have to fill up two or three portentous forms in triplicate, before your infinitesimal contribution can be received.

But apart from minor nuisances, which are only passing and trivial, "Red Tape" is answerable for courses of action which may involve grave consequences to the public service of a country, or even extend to its foreign relations. Thus, a suspicion of "Red Tapisism" seems to underlie the hesitation of the Indian Government to accept, in the frank spirit in which it is offered, the magnificent proposal of the Nizam of Hyderabad to contribute six hundred thousand pounds in three years towards the defences of the Indian frontier. It is to be hoped that a higher and nobler sentiment may preserve the Indian Government from committing the terrible mistake of throwing back in his teeth the Nizam's far-seeing generosity.

Something like "Red Tape" again seems to have prompted the foolish hesitation of the English Parliament to subsidize the C. P. R. Mail Route. Fortunately, a broader spirit prevailed. Had it been otherwise, it would indeed have been a case of "penny wise and pound foolish" stultification with a vengeance!

It seems that "Red Tape" nearly succeeded in adding to the sacrifices it counts, that of Sir Edward Bruce Hamley, the most scientific strategist in the British Army, who was to have been compulsorily retired, it is stated, at the age of sixty-three; owing, as we gather, to a failure to find a post for him within one of the periods prescribed by Retiring Regulations. As to whether the failure was of purpose or not, some ugly rumors are afloat. We have more than once recorded our opinion of the absurdity of cast-iron rules for compulsory retirements at ages arbitrarily fixed; rules which are rapidly heaping up such a Retired List as no nation has yet seen. There were hints in this case of the adverse influence of Lord Wolseley, the latest edition of whose "Soldier's Pocket Book" has been said to contain a sneer at "an incompetent commander," which, it is hinted, was directed against General Hamley in his service in command of a Division in Egypt.

We can scarcely credit scandal of this kind; yet we remember that, in an earlier edition of the same work, Lord Wolseley made the remark that "the worst Staff Officer he ever knew was one who had passed the most brilliant examinations." It is, of course, possible that an accomplished theoretical strategist might not be quite as good as his reputation when tried in the field. But there is, so far as we know, no evidence of this in regard to Sir Edward Hamley, and the outcry raised in his favor seems to discountenance the supposition. However this may be, the case seems to have been so strong as to call forth a new Royal Warrant relaxing the inflexible absurdity in cases in which the public service would benefit by the retention of an officer otherwise due for retirement. It is to be hoped, in the interests of the Imperial Services, that the new Warrant is the first stroke of a death-knell to a most absurd and vicious system.

THE TRIPLE ALLIANCE.

That which has, from the first threatenings of European discord, due to the uneasy ambition of Russia and the fretfulness of France, been plain enough to common sense, seems to have practically commended itself to Prince Bismarck and Signor Crispi, and, no doubt, also to the Emperor and King Humbert. In fact, both Germany and Italy seem in these days to be more gifted than England herself with the useful quality which used to be considered an almost peculiarly English attribute. We are thinking of the obvious expediency of a close alliance between Germany, Austria, and Italy. There is little doubt that the recent visit of Signor Crispi to Fredericksruh has had the conclusion of this measure as its result; indeed, the Italian Prime Minister has substantially acknowledged the full accession to it of his country. Some of the English papers speak of this agreement in a highly sensible tone. Without being sanguine enough to look upon it as an absolute guarantee of the maintenance of peace, it is regarded as a strong incentive to caution on the part of the two disturbing countries against hastily rushing into war; and it is certainly most desirable just now that they should be furnished with some powerful check on sudden impulse. It is satisfactory to find it added that the combination has the best wishes of the English people, and who are, of course, anxious that the peace of Europe shall not be wantonly broken; and that although it does not suit Great Britain at the present moment to associate herself very closely with any foreign country, there can be no doubt on which side she would be found if a struggle were precipitated into which she should find herself drawn. This feeling is undoubtedly the correct one, for, in view of what we must always consider the unnecessary and ill-advised tension of her relations with Russia, and the scarcely-veiled hostility and aggressiveness of France on almost every point in almost every part of the world, her avoidance of entanglement, if war once breaks out, would seem to be in the highest degree improbable. It is therefore very desirable that the natural sympathy of England should find such expression in the English press as to leave no doubt of it in Paris and St. Petersburg. For those cabinets could not by any possibility blind themselves to the almost certain issues of a war in which the alliance opposed to them should not be triple, but a "quadrilateral," to say nothing of the antagonistic contingencies which might arise to Russia in the direction of Turkey and the Slavonic States.

CHIT-CHAT AND CHUCKLES.

A maiden speech—"I will."

We regret to learn that the Chicago Anarchists have disbanded. We have always thought they would hang together.

Professor Lockyer says that only 6,500 stars are visible to the naked eye. Professor Lockyer never sat down suddenly on a pavement.

"Bridget, did you get the flowers that I am to wear to-night in my hair?" "Yes, mum, but—" "But what?" "I've mislaid the hair, mum."

Customer (to baker's boy): "Is your bread nice and light, sonny?" Baker's boy (confidentially): "Yes, ma'am; it only weighs ten ounces to the pound."—Puck.

Puddler is disturbed in mind. "I see the paper says," he remarked, "that some of the men at Wimbledon are shooting off their ties: Foolish fellows! They will be shooting off their heads if they are not careful!"

Miss Winnarotta Singer, the daughter of the sewing machine millionaire, is worth more than \$1,000,000 in her own right. But notwithstanding this, and the fact that she is about to marry the Prince de Seey Mouthollard, she cultivates her talent for painting as assiduously as though her bread and butter depended upon it.

The natural gas burns absolutely without smoke, dust or odor. Beautifully decorated tiles used in the construction of a fireplace are not stained or soiled after a whole year, although they may have been in contact with the flames of the burning gas for months. The most delicate furniture and fabrics are not injured by being kept in a room heated by it.

A prominent Kentucky lawyer is noted for the size of his feet. He is not at all sensitive about them, however. He has himself named his shoes after two Ohio River steamboats, and when he gets up in the morning calls over to the boy who does his boot-blacking: "Jim, bring me 'The Indianola,' and then go back and bring me 'The Pride of the West.'"

If you have any original matter, essays, articles, poems, sketches, short stories, or pen-and-ink drawings that you wish published, send two-cent stamp to The Managers' National Literary and News Bureau, Box 722, New York, and they will send you a circular explaining how, and on what terms, they will dispose of your manuscript to newspaper or magazine publishers.

Teacher: "The class in ancient history will please stand up. Miss White, what was Ceres goddess of?" Miss White: "Goddess of matrimony." Teacher, sarcastically: "I am surprised at your ignorance, Miss White. Where did you learn that?" Miss White: "From the book. It is printed here as plainly as can be." Teacher: "What does it say?" Miss White: "Ceres, goddess of husbandry."

A gentleman hunting for land in Dakota came across a boarded-up claim-shanty with half-a-dozen boards across the door, upon which were the following touching inscriptions:—"Four miles from a nayber. Sixty miles from a postoffice. Twenty-five miles from a rairoad. A hundred and atey from timber. 250 feet from water. God bless our home. We have gone east to spend the winter with my wife's folks."

A well which, according to the accounts given of it, must be a wonder of the first magnitude, has been discovered near Harlom, Columbia County, Ga., about thirty miles from Augusta. A noise can be distinctly heard down in the well resembling the sound of a swarm of bees, and a glance down plainly shows that it is boiling furiously. A lighted torch was let down in the well to see if it contained gas, but without result. This well was dug about one year ago, and has been acting like other wells until about three weeks ago, when it began to boil, and has continued to boil incessantly ever since.

Miss Fay, who has received several flattering notices in leading London papers, was giving a "Spiritualistic" seance at Blackburn on Tuesday; but the performance came to a sudden termination, for some people in the audience struck lights. Miss Fay was supposed to be floating across the room in semi-darkness, but as the figure passed over the heads of the audience was caught, and lo! the Spiritualistic object was found to be nothing but a dummy of worsted and gauze, manipulated by wires, while Miss Fay herself was seen to have climbed to the roof. There was a disturbance after this, the platform was stormed, and the police had to be called in.

Jay Gould—"Want a yacht, oh? Well, you've got to make the money to buy it. I'll take a walk down the street."

Son George—"Yes, father."
"I'll slip on the pavement."
"Yes, father."
"And I've myself brought home in an ambulance."
"Yes, father."
"Then stocks will drop, and you buy."
"Yes, father."
"Then I'll go out on the front pavement and dance a jig."
"Yes, father."
"Then stocks will go up, and you sell."

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NEWS OF THE WEEK.

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

William Burton, Robert's son, of Northeast Margaree, committed suicide a few days ago, by hanging from the limb of a tree.

The Cable Company has now established direct communication with Halifax, and new offices have been opened in the Queen building.

Dr. L'Esperance, of Arichat, who was unfortunately addicted to drink, took, by mistake for brandy, a heavy dose of laudanum, which resulted fatally. The circumstance requires no comment.

Rideau Hall, the residence of the Governor-General at Ottawa, narrowly escaped being burned to the ground on Monday last. The fire was extinguished not, however, without having damaged the parlor and room adjoining.

Snow has fallen to the depth of many inches in the Northwestern States, and a less depth in Ontario, Quebec and New Brunswick. So far, our snow in Nova Scotia has come in the form of rain, which, at this season, is preferable.

A steamship plying on the upper Canadian lakes was recently blown to pieces by the bursting of her boiler, and thirty five people were reported as having been killed. The inspector of boilers for that district should be interviewed.

A young named Murphy was burned to death while sleeping in a barn near Windsor last Saturday night. The origin of the fire is unknown, and the owner, Mr. Francis Palmer, is estimated to have lost property to the value of two thousand dollars.

Mr. Robichau has been re-elected to represent the County of Digby in the provincial legislature. His majority, though not as large as that which he obtained in the June elections of 1886, is still large enough to prove that he is popular among his constituents.

Last week an attempt was made to wreck a train upon the Fredericton branch of the New Brunswick railway, which was discovered in time to prevent an accident. Is flogging too severe a punishment for those guilty of making cold-blooded preparations to wreck trains and destroy human life?

Among other things, Prince Edward Island can boast of what is probably the smallest chartered bank in the world. It is known as the Farmers' Bank of Rustico, and it is just what its name implies, a bank for the farmers of Rustico. The total paid up capital amounts to less than nine thousand dollars.

Gordon and Keith's new factory is now about ready for occupation. It is only about two months since their former factory was burned, and the firm deserve credit for the enterprise they have exhibited in having the new building erected in such a short space of time; it means steady work to a score or more of men for the ensuing winter.

During the past week a chapter of horrors has been recorded in the Maritime Provinces, among the most appalling of which was that of the burning to death of widow Greer, her son and adopted daughter, in their home near Fredericton. One son escaped from the burning building without even having been able to warn his relatives of their danger.

At length it has been definitely settled that Judge Augers is to occupy the gubernatorial chair of the Province of Quebec. Judge Augers is a man of strong political bias, but it is not probable that he will allow his political sympathies to interfere with the discharge of his duties as chief provincial magistrate. His opponents believe he will, but his friends, who know the man best, have every confidence in him.

Mr. John A. MacDonald, of Baddeck, C. B., has been re-nominated by the Liberal Conservative Convention of Victoria to contest the seat for that County, recently made vacant by the court, owing to bribery having been indulged in by Mr. MacDonald's agents. It is to be hoped that the coming campaign will be fought out upon strictly party issues, and that boodle and boodle-agents will be conspicuous by their absence.

Halifax promises, musically speaking, to be a pleasant place during the coming winter. In addition to the musical societies which were in operation during last season, we are to have a new Oratorio Association under the presidency of the Rev. Dr. Hole and the leadership of Professor S. Porter. There is plenty of room for the new society, and we trust its success will be such as to warrant its being made a permanent organization.

One of the most deserving institutions in the City of Halifax is the dispensary, which, by its kindly and timely care of the sick poor, ameliorates and oftentimes prevents great suffering. Next Sunday every man in Halifax, who has the right to the name of man, will be called upon for his annual contribution towards the support of the dispensary, and it is hoped that the call which is to be made in the churches will meet with a spontaneous and liberal response.

Monday last was a sorry day for Montreal, the wind blew a hurricane throughout the day, and the fire-alarms were constantly calling out the men to extinguish conflagrations in different parts of the city. At least two hundred and fifty thousand dollars worth of property was destroyed, and many persons rendered homeless. As the fires are supposed to be the work of incendiaries, the City Council has offered one thousand dollars reward to any person who may give information which may lead to the arrest of the guilty parties.

Judge Taylor has been appointed chief justice of the supreme court of Manitoba, in place of the late Chief Justice Wallbridge.

A good many Halifax pedestrians complained bitterly of the state of the sidewalk on the east side of Hollis Street, between Bishop and Morris Streets. Crossing this sidewalk are several disused cobble-stoned driveways, over which the pedestrian has to pick his way as carefully as he would have to upon a rocky sea shore. If the Alderman in charge of this section of the city would give this matter his attention, a long suffering public would be grateful.

Murders are fortunately rare things in this peaceful land, but perhaps this fact makes us take a deeper interest in those which do occur. Just now the community at Musquodoboit are busy discussing the murder of a man named Peter Doyle, who was evidently approached from behind by some cowardly villain, and shot in the back from a few yards distance. Doyle's death was probably instantaneous, but who it was that fired the fatal shot is still a mystery. Doyle's wife and hired man were the last persons who were known to have seen him alive, and, as it was through the wife's intimation that the whereabouts of the body was discovered, a strong suspicion rests upon these persons.

The North Sydney *Herald* says:—"The Uisge Ban Falls are situated on a stream which empties into the Baddeck River, and were discovered last season. Since that time another fall has been discovered further up on the same stream as the original one, whose perpendicular height is 126 feet. Last week Mr. J. J. Forbes, of this town, while in Baddeck, and accompanied by Mr. Anderson, proprietor of the Bras d'Or hotel, followed the stream, which has its source in springs on top of the mountain, and discovered still another fall, which quite equals, if it does not surpass the first two. It is about 150 ft. high. It is a difficult climb to reach the top of this fall, but Mr. Anderson proposes making a road which will enable tourists to see the falls without difficulty."

Mr. John R. Clarke, who is unquestionably one of the most powerful speakers that it has been our privilege to listen to for many a day, lectured twice in the city during the present week. His first effort, "To and Fro in London" was a most interesting description of many of the great buildings for which London is famed, the lecturer incidentally referring to the noted men and women who were in any way connected with them. Many of Mr. Clarke's periods were beautifully rounded, and as he possesses a strong, clear voice, and has an impressive style of delivery, he frequently won well merited plaudits from his auditors. The lecturer can scarcely be classed as a man of culture, indeed, in the use of metaphor and simile, he is decidedly commonplace, but his keen sense of humor, his high appreciation of noble character, and, above all, his unmistakable sincerity give him a power over his audiences, which cannot fail to elevate and improve the moral sentiment of those whom he may address.

Charles G. Francklyn, formerly the New York agent of the Cunard Steamship Company, has been seized and thrown into jail on a warrant, for misappropriation of funds. Mr. Francklyn is president of the famous Horn Silver Mine, and it is supposed that it was in connection with this enterprise that the misappropriated funds were used.

The Duke of Marlborough, who is in bad odor in English society, has recently been the recipient of most marked attention from the leaders of fashion in Newport, R. I. The editor of a New York journal called *Truth*, undertook to make public some alleged facts respecting the Duke's past life, whereupon Marlborough instituted a libel suit against him. The plea set up by him in this suit have now in turn been seized upon by the editor of *Truth*, who has instituted a suit against Marlborough, and claims \$25,000 damages.

A club has been formed in Athens to promote the confederation of Bulgaria, Servia, and Roumania.

Kitab, a town in Central Asia, has been totally destroyed by fire, fully half of the inhabitants perished in the flames.

The Royal Clyde Yacht Club at Glasgow have resolved to challenge for the America's cup in the name of Charles Sweet. The new champion will be a cutter.

The fifty Spanish soldiers who took possession of Poxape, one of the Caroline Islands, have been massacred by the natives, and six priests suffered a like fate.

France has abandoned her designs upon the New Hebrides, and has evacuated the military posts. Henceforth Great Britain and France are to be joint protectors of the Islands.

The Government of India has prohibited the wholesale slaughter of plumaged birds, which, for many years, has been carried on at great profit to those trading in ornamental feathers.

Evictions in Ireland are met with most determined opposition, scalding water and hot pitch being poured upon the bailiffs when they attempt to force an entrance into the houses of the tenants.

Heretofore goods exported to China have been passed through the customs houses directly on arrival, but the Chinese Government has now consented to the erection of bonded warehouses for storage purposes.

The graziers business in Ireland is in a very bad state. They find it impossible to sell their cattle and sheep even when offered at exceedingly low prices, and bankruptcy will, in many cases, have to be resorted to.

Poverty among the lower classes in the city of Vienna is said to be very extreme, and a fund is now being raised to supply a daily meal for 4,000 school children, who are said to be emaciated from want of nourishment.

Spurgeon has withdrawn from the Baptist Union. He says:—"To pursue the union at the expense of the truth is treason to Jesus."

China is re-organizing her army, and German officers are to be employed to discipline it and otherwise bring it up to a proper state of efficiency.

Rev. C. H. Spurgeon has refused \$90,000, which he was offered if he would deliver one hundred lectures in the United States. Nine hundred dollars a night is a heavy offer, and speaks volumes for the popularity of the great Baptist divine.

It is stated that the death of Lady Brassey which was reported several days ago, was most tragic. Maddened by fever, she jumped overboard from the yacht, and her husband, who quickly dived after her, was with difficulty rescued from sharing the fate of his wife.

It is reported that the people of the Russian Caucasian Province of Gorgia are agitating for Home Rule. The report can scarcely be considered newsy, since the people about the Caucasus have been engaged in a vigorous Home Rule demonstration ever since the Russian absorption commenced.

It is said that the European powers are about to ratify an agreement to the effect that the Suez Canal, with its approaches, is to be regarded as neutral territory in the event of war. The Egyptian Government is to enforce this agreement, but if unable to do so she is to be backed by the other powers.

Russia is going to reduce her import duties upon British goods twenty per cent., as a recognition of the free admission of Russian grain into the British markets. A reduction of ten per cent. is to be made upon imports from France, but Germany will have to pay the full figure, one object being to cripple German trade.

The Moscow *Gazette*, referring to the results of the recent manoeuvres of the Russian reserves, excites renewed distrust. After declaring the entire success of the measure similar to mobilization, the article concludes:—"Russia, as well as France, can now say, we are ready." The tone of the article is explicitly official throughout, and is a menace to Germany.

The unemployed workmen in London have taken to street parading, and much uneasiness is felt by shop keepers, who are taking measures to protect their property. It is estimated that there are at least 50,000 blacklegs in London. These always incite the unemployed to riot, taking advantage of the confusion to loot the shops while the police are otherwise occupied.

Excavations in Jerusalem on ground belonging to the Russian Government has resulted in the discovery of remains of the ancient town wall, and the position of the gates of the town during the lifetime of the Saviour, through which the Saviour passed to Golgotha. Grand Duke Sergius, President of the Palestine Society, invites subscriptions to a fund for the purpose of preserving these relics.

Dynamite cannot be handled with impunity, as clearly shown by the terrible accident which resulted from its explosion recently in Peru. A large amount of dynamite was being passed through the custom house, and while undergoing inspection one of the cartridges exploded, igniting many others. Fifteen people were instantly killed, and at least a score of others are supposed to be fatally injured.

Much uneasiness is now felt in Germany as to the health of the Crown Prince. His father, the Emperor William, is ninety-two years of age, and in the event of both father and son dying within a measurably short period, the crown would fall to young Prince William, the eldest son of the Crown Prince. Prince William, who is now twenty eight years of age, would, it is thought, be an aggressive monarch, and if this proves to be the case, the peace of Europe would not long be preserved.

Sir Wilfred Blunt, who was formerly an English Conservative, but who is now a Liberal and a strong supporter of Home Rule, recently went to Ireland and undertook to address a proclaimed meeting at Woodford, County Galway. The police attempted to break up the meeting, and upon Sir Wilfred taunting them with cowardice, he was seized and thrown into jail. The British Government make no distinction between English and Irish home-rulers when they attempt to speak in defiance of the law.

The steamship *Gaelic*, just arrived at San Francisco from Hong Kong and Yokohama, reports that on September 15th the Chinese transport *Waylee* was lost in Pescadore. Two hundred and eighty Chinese and five Europeans were lost. The steamer *Anton* is reported as having encountered a typhoon, when the second officer and 24 Chinese were washed overboard and drowned. All shipping arriving at ports near the China Sea has suffered considerable damage from the typhoon. Jardine Mathison & Co. have concluded a contract to supply \$3,000,000 worth of war materials to the Chinese Government, and a China American bank has also been established.

GOLD MINING PROPERTY
FOR SALE AT
15 Mile Stream Gold District.

Lease No. 89, containing 36 Areas, and adjoining the Egerton Gold Mining Co, who are now working.
Eight Leads have already been found on this Property.

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The citizens of Halifax are hereby notified that the NOVA SCOTIA TELEPHONE COMPANY (Limited) is now constructing a Telephone Exchange in the CITY OF HALIFAX, and Instruments will be put in at the following Rates:—

\$30.00 Per Annum for Business Places.
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For further information, address
B. F. PEARSON, Secretary.

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THE OLDHAM GOLD DISTRICT

Is known as one of the most reliable Gold-producing Districts in the Province, and

The STIRLING MINE

As one of the best in the district.

The whole of this valuable property, consisting of ninety five and a-half areas, is now offered for sale, together with all the shaft houses and mining buildings erected thereon. There are several noted leads now opened up on the property, all gold bearing, and investors now have an unequalled opportunity of purchasing a thoroughly reliable gold mine. For Terms and Particulars enquire at

THE CRITIC OFFICE,
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The British American Manufacturing, Mining and Milling Co.

Are prepared to furnish the above MILLS at short notice and on reasonable terms.

These Mills have been tested with all the other mills now in use, and are superior in their operation to any other, especially as regards refractory ores. Several tests made with this Mill at Yarmouth show a great saving over the Stamp Mill. Also, in cleaning up, which can be done in from Twenty-five to Thirty Minutes. It will perform the work of a 15 Stamp Mill, and do it better.

For testimonials intending purchasers are referred to The Manager of The Essex Gold Mining Co., Tangier, N. S.

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Information for Investors in Nova Scotia Gold Mines. Estimates obtained for Air Drills and Air Compressors for Mines and Quarries, and Steam Drills for Railroad Contracts.
Reference: Commissioners of Mines for Nova Scotia Address Letter or Telegram, BEDFORD STATION, HALIFAX CO., NOVA SCOTIA.

A SYSTEM OF DANGER SIGNALS WANTED.

To the Editor of the Critic :

Sir,—In commenting upon the frightful accident on the Chicago and Atlantic Railroad, which resulted from the onrush of a train upon one just disabled, and brought to a stand-still by the breakdown of its engine, a Montreal journal remarks bitterly upon the absence of a brakeman with lantern to have been sent up the line to warn approaching trains. Now, I would ask, have we not yet supplanted the brakeman and his lantern by something better and more automatic?

We need information here, as to the general service of electric signals in cases of stoppage of a train. If it be difficult, sometimes, for the train servants at the point of stoppage or disaster, to reach the electric handles of communication from their distance along the line from such point of stoppage, could not this be remedied by making those connections more frequent?

It is suggested that a row of electric lights might be supplied, and at every lamp post the means, under lock and key, of instantly illuminating all the lamps of the section which included the stoppage or accident. The lights should be sufficiently numerous to give instant warning to all persons on that section that an accident had occurred, and all trains would be stopped with the smallest possible delay.

If it were desired, from the seriousness of the break, to send the news at once beyond either of the including stations, the station master would do this by instantly continuing the electric illumination one station further, for every alarm, in the special nature of each case, is really wanted for a certain distance, but not beyond.

The row of electric lights must be reserved for this special purpose, and not allowed to be used for anything else, under any pretext. The lights could be colored as desired.

There could be no better warning, when all trains ought to stop on a selected distance, than general and instant illumination along that distance.

But we have no right to start trains so close upon one another's heels, that even the necessary precaution of a general stay of movement on the line becomes in itself a danger.

We want, let us say, more conscientious deliberation in the managers, and very much better training and discipline in the hands, on many of the lines of this continent.

Yours, &c.,

CANADIAN.

CASTINE AND BARON CASTINE.

"His step is firm, his eye is keen,
Nor years in broil and battle spent,
Nor toil, nor wounds, nor pain, had bent
The lordly frame of old Castine."

Whittier.

The ancient town of Castine, at the mouth of the Penobscot, though small, is one of the most interesting places in Maine, and, I may say, New England. In it there is a great variety of grand and beautiful scenery. The view from old Fort George is one of the finest I ever saw. It may be ranked with those of the Bay of Naples, and from the Citadel of Quebec.

It has not only superior natural advantages, but a remarkable historic interest. The Indian name of the place was Pentagoet, and it derived its present name in the region once included in Acadia. It had the flags of five nations float over it. The Plymouth Pilgrims established a trading post there as early as 1626. It was afterwards seized and held by the French for a number of years. At one time the Dutch held it. The site of the old French fort is now easily identified.

Baron Castine was the most prominent figure there during the French regime. He was a native of Boarn, on the edge of the Pyrenees. He came to Canada at the age of fifteen in Carignan's regiment, and when the regiment was disbanded, he went into the Acadia woods and took up his abode with the Indians. He conformed to their habits, and became a chief among them, and was regarded as their tutelary god. He carried on a large and profitable business. His business was largely with his New England neighbors, whom he hated, but was willing to trade with them for his own advantage. He was a decided adherent of the Church of Rome, and had a chapel built and resident priest, and expressed a strong desire to have the Indians converted. It seems he needed to be reformed himself. A priest at Fort Royal, who knew him well, said: "He himself has need of spiritual aid to sustain him in the paths of virtue." Parkman, in one of his histories, writes:—"He usually made two visits a year to Port Royal, where he gave liberal gifts to a church of which he was the chief patron, attending mass with exemplary devotion, and then, shriven of his sins, returned to his squaws at Pentagoet." Perot, the governor, maligned him; the motive, as Castine says, being jealousy of his success in trade, for Perot himself traded largely with the English and Indians. This, indeed, seems to have been his chief occupation, and, as Castine was his principal rival, they were never on good terms. Castine complained to Dononville. "Monsieur Perot," he writes, "will tell you everything. I will only say that he (Perot) kept me under arrest from the twenty-first of April to the ninth of June on pretence of a little weakness for some women, and even told me that he had your orders to do it, but that is not what troubles him; and, as I do not believe there is another man under heaven who will do meaner things through love of gain, even to selling brandy by the pint and half-pint before strangers in his own house, because he does not trust a single one of his servants. I see plainly what is the matter with him. He wants to be the only merchant in Acadia."

Just after this Perot was recalled, and his successor received special instructions in regard to Castine. The new governor was directed to require him to abandon "his vagabond life among the Indians," and to give up all trade with the English and attend to effecting a permanent settlement, and

to lead a life "more becoming a gentleman." He afterwards married a daughter of the chief of the Penobscots. When Andros was royal governor, in 1688, he attacked Castine's establishment and seized everything of any value that could be found, except a small altar with its pictures and ornaments. Its proprietor escaped to the woods, and Andros sent a messenger to him by an Indian, that he would restore his property to him on the condition that he became a British subject, which he refused to do. Castine afterwards regained his ascendancy at Pentagoet. In 1697 a plan was devised to capture New England and drive out the heretics. Boston was the central point to attack, and Castine was appointed to fill an important position in that undertaking. He was to move at the proper time with a large body of Indians and Canadians. The enterprise failed, and Castine and his forces remained idle for some time at Pentagoet waiting for orders to move, but the orders never came. The Indians were thus kept for some time from scalping the inhabitants on the borders. It is a noticeable fact that none of the descendants of Castine can be identified, though special pains have been taken in this respect. Dr. Wheeler, the historian of Castine, told me that he had corresponded very extensively to find traces of them, but had not succeeded.

In the war of the Revolution Castine was held some time by the British, who built Fort George, which was one of their strongest points. Sir John Moore, who was killed at Corunna in 1809, and who, afterwards became the subject of Wolfe's poem—

"Not a drum was heard," &c.

was an officer there at the time.

In the war of 1815, the British took possession of Castine. They quartered the officers on the inhabitants, but fairly compensated them. A manuscript orderly book, kept by one Patterson, was lately found, which contains some very interesting information, from which I copy the following. In this is a record bearing the date of Feb. 5, 1815.—"It appearing in the proceedings of the court of inquiry, of which Lieut. Col. Gantlett, of the 62nd Regiment, was president, that several lodgers of the house of Mr. James Perkins were guilty of a most unprovoked outrage toward Col. Harney, of the 29th Regiment, on the evening of the 22nd of Jan., ult., and using abusive language to Capt. Stanus, of the same command, on which occasion Messrs. Long and Rhode appeared to have been most forward movers. Gen. Gossolin, with a view to preserve good order and regularity in this garrison, directs that Mr. Rhode move from this date, and upon no account is he or Mr. Long, who has already absconded (disliking the result of the investigation) to return, so long as the British shall continue in possession of this place. The other persons concerned will give security for their ordinary behaviour. The cause of this disturbance having originated in the neglect and want of inclination on the part of the landlord to provide suitable furniture for the British officers' apartments, though he accommodated five merchants in his house seven days after the arrival of Harney, the Major-General, therefore, directs that his license to retail liquor be withdrawn, and in addition, a number of officers be quartered in his house."

At this time Castine was a British port of entry, and a number of thousand dollars were collected as duty. When the war closed, and the forces evacuated the place, this money was in the hands of Lord Dalhousie, of Halifax, and having written to the Home Government in regard to his disposition of it, he was authorized to apply it to the use which he, in his judgement, thought best. Being an earnest Christian man and a warm friend of education, he decided to appropriate the money to the founding of an institution of learning, where the Christian religion would be prominently recognized. This was the foundation of the college in Halifax, which bears his name. This "Castine fund," so called, was the nucleus of the endowment of this institution, which has done so much good. The grand new building just opened is the most appropriate material monument that could be erected to his memory.

In Castine is a flourishing normal school, which sends out annually a number of highly qualified teachers, which institution has a liberal State appropriation of money.

At an early period there was a paper published in Castine, called the *Eagle* . In glancing over a number for June 5th, 1810, I noticed the marriage of Napoleon Bonaparte to the Dutchess Marie Louise of Austria. What events have occurred since that time?

(REV.) JOHN MOORE.

A TRIP TO THE EASTERN GOLD DISTRICTS.

(Continued.)

(From our Staff Correspondent.)

BEAVER DAM DISTRICT.

This district is five miles from Shoot Harbor, and I had intended visiting it, but Mr. Irwine, the amalgamator at the Dufferin Mine, had just returned from putting through a crushing at the Beaver Dam mill, and gave me such full particulars that a special trip was unnecessary.

Mr. Yeaton is in charge of the mine in which Mr. Pallister and other Halifax merchants are interested.

Six or eight leads have been tapped on the area, varying in thickness from two inches to a foot. Six men are employed, and the deepest shaft is down only eleven feet. A four stamp mill, run by water power (now limited, but capable by a small outlay of being made abundant) has been erected, and Mr. Irwine crushed from seven to eight tons of quartz, which yielded two ounces to the ton. This is a very favorable showing, and Mr. Irwine is convinced that Beaver Dam is a very fine property.

AN ISLAND MINE.

Mr. Hart is somewhat interested in mining, and showed me a lot of quartz taken from leads on Big Soft Wood Island, in Shoot Harbor, about

seven miles from the town. The quartz was filled with galena and other minerals indicative of gold, but no gold was visible. Thirty leads show at low tide, both at the east and west sides of the island, which is pretty good evidence that the leads run across it. These vary in thickness, from six inches up to three feet, and the samples shown were knocked off the surface of the leads. A company, composed of James Dywer, of Halifax, P. J. Cope, Sr., P. J. Cope, Jr., F. Cope, P. Purcell, John Murphy, John F. McKenzie, and C. C. Hart, have taken up the property, which will be prospected at once. I had desired to see Mr. John F. McKenzie, who is largely interested in mining, and who, I was informed, had samples of the ore from Beaver Dam and Loch-a-ber districts, but I failed to run across him.

The post office is at Sutherland, and on my return, I found my way blocked by dozens of the young men and women of the town, all waiting for the opening of the mail. As was only natural, there was any amount of flirting, all by the light of the moon. One sweetly fragile young thing, with brilliant flashing eyes, was evidently very angry, at least I judged so, from her remarks, which were—"Look here, Sam Jones, if you do that again, I'll slap your mouth!" I could only sigh—for their folly, and walk mournfully into the house, where I was soon snoring in the most comfortable of beds.

FROM SHEET HARBOR TO UPPER MUSQUODOBOIT.

Promptly at 5 in the morning I was out of bed, and performed my toilet by lamp light. This made it the bluest of blue Fridays to me, and the discomfort was heightened by the fact that I had a bad attack of Dufferin Mine, and my legs almost refused to perform their office.

A smoking breakfast was devoured with a keen relish, and shortly after six the stage drove up. Two sportsmen occupied the front seat with the driver, and I scrambled in and took my place beside the mother and baby, who acted as a buffer between me and the pretty girl. In my politeness I gave as much room as possible, and made the 28 mile journey partly seated on the iron rail of the seat. I now fully agree with Byron.

"That iron is a caukering thing."

It was a cold, raw morning, with a north easterly wind accompanied with fog; but that did not dampen our spirits, and we bowled merrily along. The sportsmen proved capital companions, and the size of their game bag reminded me of my own exploits in the shoo'ng line—it consisted of two black ducks.

The baby was delightfully quiet, and on my complimenting the mother, she informed me that she had given it a dose of soothing syrup just before starting. For this she was duly lectured by one of the party, and promised never to offend again. The road was very rough, and the bushes had so encroached on the narrow way that they struck us in the face in passing, and splashed icy dew all over us, but this was only cause for laughter. Suddenly, both hind wheels went into a hole with such a thump that we thought the axle must have broken. The only remark elicited from the pretty girl, was—"I'm glad I didn't have my tongue between my teeth." It was so suggestive that we laughed for a mile or more. A birch partridge was sighted a few rods ahead, trying to sun itself on a log. Now, all was excitement. The driver stopped the stage, the sportsmen jumped out, and there was a great hunt for cartridges. They were finally found, the gun loaded, and then the partridge getting tired of waiting to be shot flew away. On we drove, and soon put up a spruce partridge, which lit on a spruce tree, and quietly blinked at us as we passed. The driver stopped, the sportsmen again alighted, and disregarding the jehu's advice to "knock the blamed thing down with a stone," took steady aim, for an age, it seemed to me, and brought down the bird—and such is sport. No wonder game is growing scarce, when the woods are filled with such "pot hunters."

KILLAG GOLD DISTRICT.

A few miles out we passed the road leading to the Killag District, where Mr. George Stuart has erected a mill, and where he is still vigorously prospecting for a rich lead that the boulders prove must exist somewhere in the district.

That his perseverance will, in the end, be rewarded, there is little doubt; but few men would have had the pluck to stick to it as Stuart has.

My not meeting Mr. Stuart was a great disappointment to me, as he is one of our most intelligent miners, and I had expected to receive from him much valuable information in regard to several districts which I had intended visiting. I found that he was in Guysboro County, with no prospect of returning for a week; and in his absence, there would be little use of my walking into the mine, which is only a few miles from the coach road.

We passed several comfortable settlements on the road, which are favorite resorts for sportsmen; and at one place where we stopped to water the horses, we encountered a most comical little miss. She approached the stage to deliver a letter, and all our efforts to make her smile were futile. The seriousness depicted in the little face, combined with the costume of long pantaloons down to the feet, short skirt, hair drawn back in two little pig tails, and her measured tread were comical in the extreme. She delivered the letter to the driver without a word, and without moving a muscle of her face; she then turned most deliberately, placed her hands behind her back, and marched off at the same slow pace. Life with her was evidently a most serious business. Our women passengers shrieked with laughter, and even the half-stupefied baby had to smile. "It is a long road that has no turning," and we finally emerged from the woods to see the Musquodoboit Valley lying before us in all its beauty of quiet stream, rich interval land, comfortable homesteads, and hills widening out on either side, and clothed to their summits with brilliant forests.

The rocks were now perfect, and we were soon at Upper Musquodoboit. Here, I stopped at Fiske's, and had the pleasure of dining with the "school teacher," whom I found a bright, intelligent, and most agreeable young lady. Would the scholars say the same?

CARRIBOU GOLD DISTRICT.

It is nine miles to Carribou, and Mr. Fiske drove me over. Farmers as a rule are most obliging, and Nova Scotian farmers exceptionally so. In all my experience I have never found one unwilling to go to considerable trouble for—a consideration. The great principle underlying the law of contracts is fully instilled into their beings.

As we neared the mines the remains of the old tramway, over which Mr. Hyde used to haul ore to his water mill, was encountered; the Heatherington and Caffrey crusher buildings passed, and log cabins, some in use, and some tumbling to decay, proved that we had reached another mining camp.

The Carribou district is noted as a very rich mining locality, and one of the most valuable boulders ever found in Nova Scotia was discovered here by William Bruce. Mr. D. Touquoy owns some very good property in the district. One lot of 24 areas bounds the Lake Lode property on the east, west and north, and has been prospected, showing three gold bearing leads. Another block of 49 areas lies about 125 feet from where Robert Wright and others have just made a rich strike. It is west of the Caffrey and Heatherington areas, and Mr. Touquoy has in past years taken a large amount of gold out of the several leads that he has developed and worked. I was shown a fine sample from one of the leads, which has averaged 8 ozs. to the ton. The property is not now being worked, as Mr. Touquoy has all he can attend to in his fine mine at Moose River. B. G. Gray, Esq., Barrister, of Halifax, owns or controls a number of areas known as the Heatherington property, which have yielded a large amount of gold. Of late years the areas have been principally worked on tribute, and knowing miners have long had their eyes on the property. Some of these areas were lately forfeited, and were at once taken up by some old hands, who have already "struck it rich." The Caffrey property was once quite noted. It was the source of considerable litigation, its owner having traded it for a large farm in Quebec Province. He discovered just after making the transfer that the farm was heavily mortgaged, and only managed to get his mine back after a protracted suit. The details of the suit were ludicrous in the extreme, a sort of "diamond cut diamond" business, the defendant being the well known "Carribou" Cameron, who amassed an immense fortune in the Carribou gold district of British Columbia. The crusher is now reported to be owned by Geo. Stuart, W. L. Lowell and others.

Mr. Fiske left me at the Lake Lode Crusher, where I met an old mining friend, Dan McDonald, who kindly conducted me around, and gave me a full account of the district.

LAKE LODGE COMPANY.

The Lake Lode Company is a Boston corporation, Mr. Sawyer being the managing director, and Mr. Wadsworth the manager in charge of the mine. Geo. Stuart, Mr. Gladwin, and others, sold the property, which consists of some eight or ten areas, and it has proved a fortunate investment for the purchasers.

Two shafts have been sunk on the main lead, (which is reported to be 16 feet in thickness,) the deepest now being down 160 feet. About 60 feet in all has been tunneled along the lead from both shafts, and Dan McDonald has just contracted to connect the two shafts by a tunnel, so that all the ore may be hoisted from the shaft nearest the mill. The company have determined not to be wrecked by unnecessary expenditure for surface plant, and are grinding out good profits from a five stamp mill. As Mr. Wadsworth wisely says, "you can get as much machinery as you wish to pay for, but we want gold and are bound to get it." Twenty men find constant employment at this mine.

WRIGHT-MCDONALD PROPERTY.

A walk of about a mile brought us to the old Heatherington property, and here, upon some forfeited areas which Robert Wright, S. D. McDonald, of Renfrew, and C. S. MacDonell, of Oldham, had secured, we found a party of men under Mr. Wright sinking a shaft and hoisting some very rich quartz to the surface. I saw two tubs dumped, and the quartz was so peppered with coarse gold, and small nuggets were so plentiful, that I was reminded of the McGuire mine at Whiteburn.

Mr. Wright was naturally in the best of humor, and said they had been working about a month, but had been greatly troubled with water. The shaft was about 15 feet deep, and the lead varied from 7 to 10 inches. The lead is on what is known as the saddle, and the rich pay streak they had struck had been overlooked by Captain Warren when he had worked the same property. Mr. Touquoy, in past years, had been tributing near the present find, and secured four ounces to the ton out of the ore. Captain Warren took the property from him as soon as he could, but never made it pay.

This is only another example of the great care and knowledge required in gold mining. The prospects are so bright that steam pumping and hoisting gear will at once be placed in position. The quartz is now being crushed in the old Caffrey mill.

A WALK THROUGH THE WOODS.

It was twenty minutes of five, and I had still an eight miles walk before me in order to reach my destination at Moose River.

McDonald led me well into the trail, gave me a few instructions, and then I hurried on my lonely way. There is not a house between the two camps, and the path is through the heart of the forest. My only fear was that night would overtake me, and this hurried my steps, which were rather impeded by satchel and ulster. In places the path was a quagmire, detours had to be made around windfalls, and babbling brooks crossed on slippery sapplings. The solitude was intense, almost painful; not a living thing was to be seen, not even a bird, and my hopes of seeing a moose or some large game were sadly disappointed. The loneliness was increased by passing a deserted mining camp, the roofs of the old log houses caved in, and the small clearing filled with a rank growth of weeds. Diverging paths were

encountered, but trusting to luck I kept to the best beaten way, and finally emerged on the Mooseland road, my first landmark. Following this road for half a mile I again struck the trail in the middle of a barren, and hurried across it into the woods. Night came on rapidly, it was difficult to see the path, and I had almost determined to camp where I was, when I noticed the tracks of a man and dog. The moon also came out bright and clear, and in a very short time the path widened to a road, and I soon after saw before me what I know must be the Moose River mill. A clear stream blocked the way, which I crossed, and then feeling that my walk was about over, I had a refreshing wash in the cool stream. Then putting on my ulster to avoid cold, I threw myself on the bank, and smoked the pipe of peace, feeling supremely happy. Moose River as seen by moonlight is picturesquely ugly, by daylight it is simply ugly. It is a typical mining camp, a mere clearing in the forest with nothing to relieve the monotony of its situation. One long street flanked with log houses and a few more pretentious dwellings, and paved, "a la corduroy," with poles, leads from the water mill to that monument of folly, the large crusher building of the Montreal Company. From the main road a side one, also flanked with log cabins, leads down towards the Moose River, and the last house but one, a neatly shingled *casa* of two rooms, was the camp of Mr. Touquoy, and my destination. (To be continued.) ADIOS AMIGO.

COMMERCIAL.

The volume of general business is eminently satisfactory. Banks are apparently earning good profits, and money is in healthy demand at firm rates.

We are pleased to read the following in a recent issue of the *Montreal Trade Bulletin*:—"Before the new branch of the Halifax Bank (Merchant's Bank of Halifax,) started in this city, the banking business was already suffering from too many competitive institutions of the kind, and we really cannot see where there is room for it. Still we understand that it is doing a good business, and performing some marvellous feats in showing our old fogies of bankers how to draw blood out of a stone. We are informed that this wonderful newcomer can buy exchange in New York, bring it on here, and sell it to customers of Montreal banks cheaper than the latter can. It is also stated on the best authority that the new bank professes to make collections in the Lower Provinces, below what other banks can do for." We hope that this branch may prosper, and long continue to "show the old fogies of (Montreal) bankers" how business can and should be done.

A New York financial paper prints an interesting article, showing how small a proportion of cash, in proportion to the amount of business done, is actually used in the regular transactions of trade in our day. That the demand for money has not kept pace with the increase of commerce, is attributable to the fact that modern ingenuity has wonderfully simplified business operations by methods which reduce the use of money in large transactions to what is required to settle balances. The report of the New York clearing-house for the year ending September 30th, will enable the reader to understand this, and may be summarized as follows:—This report shows that the amount of the exchanges during that time rose to the huge total of \$34,872,848,786. By "exchanges" is meant the checks, drafts, etc., held by one bank and payable to another, and which are presented for payment at the clearing-house. These documents are, of course, not paid in cash, only the differences between the amount of the documents held by each bank and the amount of the drafts upon it being settled by that means. The total of such balances settled with cash during the year amounted to \$1,569,626,325. Thus we see that business transactions aggregating nearly thirty-five thousand million dollars were settled with something over one and a half thousand millions, the ratio being almost exactly $\frac{1}{4}$ per cent. of cash to paper. This is easier calculated from the daily average figures than from those given above. The average daily exchanges were \$114,337,209, and the balances \$5,146,316. Of course these figures do not include all the checks and drafts cleared within each bank, being drawn by one depositor in favor of another customer of the same bank, which documents also fill the place formerly taken by money. It should be remarked that the clearing-house is a purely modern institution, and that the transactions settled by its means would, under the old methods of doing business, be liquidated with cash. Therefore all arguments to the effect that more money is needed in proportion to the amount of business done are at fault. Even the balances at the New York clearing-house are to only a small amount paid with actual cash, \$8,986,325 out of the total of \$1,569,626,325 being legal tenders, the remainder being certificates for gold held in the vaults of one of the banks. Only $\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. was actual cash; the remainder represented cash actually held, however.

The troubles of the contractor for the new City Hall have not decreased during the week, but all concerned are extremely reticent, and it is difficult to get a true idea of the situation. It seems, however, that his embarrassments have mainly grown out of transactions in New Brunswick, and that he is seriously crippled thereby. Whether he will be necessitated to throw up his contract on the City Hall is not certain, we believe, but the chances favor such a conclusion. And here we may remark that there is a good deal of more or less outspoken dissatisfaction felt and expressed with the course of the City Board of Works in *re* this contract. It appears that the contract was awarded to Mr. Milliken without his being required to give any bonds to complete the work, the Board thinking, or rather deciding, that the withholding of 15 per cent. of the expense for labor and material was a sufficient guarantee that the work would be done, although the tender under which the contract was entered into was lower than many believed that the work could be done for. We greatly fear that the affair will result in serious loss to the city.

When the new Province Building, (now the Post Office and Custom

House,) was to be erected, the first contractor was the late George Lang who undertook the work for \$100,000. After he had built the basement the first two stories, and part of the third, he failed, and was obliged to throw up the contract. The Province was then obliged to accept the tender of Mr. Brookfield to finish the building for \$175,000. It was stated at the time that the Province lost about \$150,000 by the transaction, and we have never seen the figures satisfactorily denied or controverted. At present it looks very much as if Halifax is to have a similar experience. At any rate the progress of the work has been so slow, and the season is now so far advanced, that it will soon be necessary to erect sheds, so that the masses of material that have been gathered on the Grand Parade may be sheltered from deterioration by the rigors of our winters.

The Board of Works owes it to its own members and to the citizens, to speedily place before the City Council and the public a true and full statement of the position. If we are to sustain a heavy loss, as many apprehend, let us know it, that we may prepare, man fashion, to meet it. If we are to escape this calamity our minds should be at once relieved by a full and free statement of the facts. We are not disposed to censure or condemn the Board of Works or any of its members unheard, but, under the circumstances, we feel that the citizens have a right to expect them to rise to explain.

We would recommend the Committee on the City Prison to make rigid enquiry into the personnel of the keepers and under-keepers of that institution. Is it true, as is openly stated, that some of these are old and crippled, so that they could not prevent prisoners from taking French leave whenever they choose to do so? Is it true that one of them is of an domineering disposition and violent temper, who was discharged from the employ of the City Railway Company for that reason, who habitually uses obnoxious and obscene epithets, who, on a recent occasion, struck a prisoner on the head with a heavy padlock attached to a bunch of keys, knocking him senseless, because the man did not move quick enough to suit him? Is it true that the fellow who was recently sentenced to five years in Dorchester for assaulting a keeper, was previously taunted and goaded by that keeper into committing the act? If one tithe of the stories, that are circulated on presumably good authority, respecting the management of the City Prison, are true, a radical change is imperative. If they are not true, they should be easily disproved.

Again, how are persons confined in the County Jail treated? Unpleasant stories are abroad, and an investigation should be had. If all is as it should be, the public will be gratified to know the fact. If not, reform will be the "order of the day."

The Treasury Department of the U. S. has decided that sawed square pine timber imported from Canada is dutiable at the rate of \$2 per 1,000 feet, instead of the rate of 20 per cent. ad. valorem, as charged by the collectors.

The following are the assignments and business changes in this Province during the past week:—Delong Bros., general store, New Germany, dissolved, Isaac B. Delong continues; C. Douglas & Co., milliners, Pictou, dissolved; Peter McMillan, restaurant, Yarmouth, assigned to Bowman B. Law; Jas. E. Nickerson, general store, Upper Stewiacke, assigned to Duncan R. Croelman.

DRY GOODS.—Travellers are now about all out, and their principals report that, as a rule, they are succeeding well and taking satisfactory orders. Buyers are on their way to Europe and the continent to purchase their spring goods, and the ladies, especially, will feel some curiosity as to the styles and patterns that will be produced.

IRON, HARDWARE AND METALS.—This trade has been rather quiet, and prices are unchanged, so that there is nothing special to note. Some houses report a decidedly brisker business in heavy lines, and better enquiry for general goods. Remittances have somewhat improved. The demand for nails is better, and orders have been coming in freely from all parts of the province. The stock of nails throughout the country is reported to be light, while the demand is active. Makers are, therefore, kept busy in filling orders, especially for horse-shoe nails.

BREADSTUFFS.—The flour market has been fairly active and steady, and a good average business has been accomplished. Strong flours continue to be in special demand, but the supply is equal to the call at present. In England, the feeling is a shade better. Beerbohm's cable says:—"Cargoes off coast, wheat firmer; corn, nothing offering. Cargoes on passage and for shipment, wheat firmer, held higher. No. 2 spring wheat, for prompt shipment, 29s.; California wheat, to be shipped promptly, 32s. 6d.; nearly due, 30s. 9d. Mixed American maize, prompt shipment, 21s. Liverpool wheat and corn, spot, upward tendency. Danubian maize, ex ship, 22s. 9d.; prompt, 22s. 3d. American mixed maize, ex ship, 23s. 3d." An easier feeling has prevailed in Chicago markets, and values have averaged somewhat lower. Wheat there closed at 71 $\frac{1}{2}$ c. for November, 73 December, and 73 $\frac{3}{4}$ for January. Corn at 41c. November, December and January. Oats were 32 $\frac{3}{4}$ October and November; 33 $\frac{3}{4}$ December, 33 $\frac{3}{4}$ January. At the seaboard wheat was about steady, and corn was stronger. At Montreal the export statistics show a large increase in flour which promises to be maintained. The *Gazette* reports a new departure in the export of flour as now taking place, as the barque *Jane Kilgour* is loading a full cargo of flour for Dundee, Scotland.

PROVISIONS.—Since our last report the enquiry for pork has been fair, as lumbermen are preparing to provision their camps for the winter's operations. In Liverpool provisions were unchanged. Quotations there are, pork, 75c.; lard, 33s. 3d.; bacon, 41s.; tallow, 23s. 3d. The Chicago markets have been easier, and rather lower. Pork declined, \$11.97 $\frac{1}{2}$ for January, and lard easy at \$6.07 $\frac{1}{2}$ for November, \$6.10 December, and \$6.15 January. Meats fell off 5 cents. There was no change in the hog market, and the cattle market was dull.

BUTTER.—The butter market has ruled quiet and unchanged, trade being

limited to jobbing lots. The local demand, however, was fair, and fancy goods realize full prices.

CHEESE.—The market for cheese has remained dull and inactive, with an easy tone current. The New York *Commercial Bulletin* says:—"The tendency of the market continues in buyers' favor, and there is more pronounced evidence of weakness all along the line. The very limited number of orders received keep shippers very largely at a standstill, and absence of demand is, of course, the main cause of the ruling condition of affairs, but the loss of tone is contributed to by the decline in country markets, amounting to about 1c. as against last week, and unpleasant reports from the Liverpool auction sales, which, without any price mentioned, are advised as going quite low, with more to follow."

FRUIT.—The apple market is rather firmer in tone, and an advance in price is anticipated by holders. The market for Valencia raisins remains firm, with an advancing tendency as to prices. Fine, sound Malaga fruit remains unchanged in Spain, and a late cable quotes 21s. and 22s. free on board. Last week it was reported that several Spanish houses were cabling for bids, but it turned out that it was for damaged fruit, and buyers are cautious. The shipments of Malaga fruit are, so far, short of last year. Currants are firmer, the market being practically bare. An advance in prices has been accomplished in Greece. Dates are lower. The crop of Turkish filberts is about a failure, and prices are firm, with an upward tendency.

SUGAR AND MOLASSES.—The refined sugar market is steady, with a fair volume of business for granulated. In New York, the price of granulated and of yellows has advanced. Raw sugars of all kinds may be reported stronger. The reported deficiency of the European beet crop is causing an advance there, and a speculative feeling is beginning to display itself. The *Montreal Trade Bulletin* says:—"Last week we reported sales of raw beet root sugar amounting to about 6,700,000 lbs., and also stated that other large sales of raw on spot were impending. These latter which consisted of Brazilian have since been put through, aggregating about 8,700,000 lbs. on p. t.; making a total of 15,400,000 lbs. of raw sugar, which have changed hands within the past ten days. The sales of Brazilian sugar consisted of four cargoes, amounting to between 40,000 and 50,000 bags, and the prices, although p. t., are said to be in the neighborhood of 11s. per cwt. here. These last sales were made by the St. Lawrence Sugar Refinery to the Canada Sugar Refinery, which seems to indicate that the former company does not expect to be in running order as early as expected by some of our dealers." According to M. Licht, a well known authority, the total sugar production of the world for 1886-87 was 4,948,000 tons against 4,325,000 tons for the corresponding period in 1885-86, showing an increase of 623,000 tons. The above figures are for metric tons of 2,204 6 lbs. each. Molasses has been more active, and Barbadoes is quoted in Montreal at 37c. A lot of 600 puns of Trinidad has been sold there at 27c.

TEA AND COFFEE.—A feature of the tea market on this side of the Atlantic is the shipment of about 3,000 packages recently from New York to Great Britain. Advices from London report an advance of 1d. to 3d. per lb. on finest first crop blacks. Agents in the Montreal market have received instructions to withdraw their offerings of black teas held on London account, owing to the strength of the English market. The coffee markets are steady, but quotations are not changed.

FISH.—The fish arrivals have been very small, and there appears to be no promise of improvement. Predicating on this basis, the supplies that come to hand are bought by shippers here and put into store, in the hope that a demand for them will arise as time passes. However, outside markets remain dull and inactive, and the fact is, that nowhere in the West Indies does fish command prices within 10 per cent. of the figures that are now being paid here for them. Mackerel have not put in an appearance on our coasts in the usual and anticipated quantities. A few hundred caught by hand that were brought to this port were purchased at 65 cents per dozen, to be packed in ice for the American consumptive market. We cannot change our quotations for barrelled mackerel this week. Codfish hold the same position that they did at our last report. The dry fish market, upon the whole, remains unchanged. Hard fish command outside quotations, and when offered, are readily purchased. Herring continue scarce on our coasts, and all coming forward find ready sale. Dealers are looking forward to the Newfoundland fall fishery to supply their absolute requirements. Our outside reports are as follows:—Montreal, October 24.—"The fish market has been fairly active, and about steady all round. Labrador harrings have been in good demand, but the market has been weaker, and sales of round lots have been made at \$4.50, but we quote \$4.50 to \$4.75 with single barrels changing hands at \$5 to \$5.25. The receipts of green cod have been larger, and sales have been freely made at \$4.50. Finnan haddies have been coming in freely, and sell at 7c." Gloucester, Mass., October 25th.—"Last cargo sales of shoro mackerel \$14, \$16.50 and \$24 per bbl., for 2's, 1's and extra 1's. Last sales of Bank halibut 7½c. per lb. through, cargo lot. George's codfish are selling from the vessel at \$3, and Bank at \$2.65 and \$1.45 per cwt. We quote best George's codfish at \$4.75 and \$3.75 per qtl. for large and small; Bank \$3.50 for large, and \$3.25 for small; Flomish Cip \$4; Shores \$4 and \$3.50 for large and small. Dry Bank \$4.12 to \$4.25. Cusk \$3; pollock \$2, slack-salted do. \$2.75; haddock \$2.50, and hako \$2, Boneless and prepared fish 3½c. to 5c. per lb. for hako, haddock and cusk. and 5c. to 6½c. for codfish, as to style and quality. Smoked halibut 6c. to 9c. per lb.; smoked salmon 15c. per lb.; haddock 6c. per lb. Medium herring 16c. per box; tucks 15c.; lengthwise 13c.; No. 1's 12c. Smoked mackerel 11c. per lb. Canned do., fresh \$1.50 per doz; canned trout \$1.50; fresh halibut \$1.25; salmon \$1.75; lobsters \$1.75; clams \$1.75. Newfoundland herring \$4 per bbl. Nova Scotia large split \$5; medium \$4; Labrador \$5.50; trout \$14.50 per bbl.; pickled codfish \$5; haddock \$4; halibut heads \$3.25; tongues \$6; sounds \$11.50; tongues and sounds \$8; slowives \$3.25; California salmon \$15; Halifax do. \$17."

MARKET QUOTATIONS.

WHOLESALE RATES.

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

GROCERIES.

SUGAR.	
Cut Loaf	8½
Granulated	7½ to 7¾
Circle A	7
White Extra C	6¼ to 7
Extra Yellow C	5¾ to 6
Yellow C	5¼ to 5¾
TEA.	
Congou, Common	17 to 19
" Fair	20 to 23
" Good	25 to 29
" Choice	31 to 33
" Extra Choice	35 to 38
Oolong—Choice	37 to 39
MOLASSES.	
Barbadoes	30 to 31
Demerara	30 to 30
Diamond N	38 to 40
Porto Rico	30 to 31
Cienfuegos	28
Trinidad	28
Antigua	28
Tobacco—Black	37 to 44
" Bright	42 to 55
BISCUITS.	
Pilot Bread	2.60 to 2.90
Boston and Thin Family	8½ to 6
Soda	5½ to 5¾
do in lb. boxes, 50 to case	7½
Fancy	8 to 15

BREADSTUFFS.

PROVISIONS AND PRODUCE.

Quotations below are our to day's wholesale prices for car lots net cash. Jobbers' and Retailers' prices about 5 to 10 cents per bbl. higher than car lots. Markets quiet and weak. Breadstuffs are selling at current cost.

WHEAT.	
Patent high grades	4.00 to 5.00
" mediums	4.40 to 4.50
Superior Extra	4.20 to 4.25
Lower grades	3.15 to 3.80
Oatmeal, Standard	4.75
" Granulated	5.00 to 5.10
Corn Meal—Halifax ground	2.90 to 3.00
" —Imported	2.90
Bran pepton—Wheat	10.00
" —Corn	17.00
Shorts	22.00 to 23.00
Middlings	24.00 to 25.00
Cracked Corn	28.00 to 30.00
" Oats	25.00 to 26.00
" Barley	nominal
Feed Flour	2.90 to 3.00
Oats per bushel of 34 lbs	37 to 39
Barley " of 48 "	55 to 60
Peas " of 60 "	1.00 to 1.10
White Beans, per bushel	1.85 to 1.95
Pot Barley, per barrel	4.85 to 4.90
Corn " of 56 lbs	65 to 70
Hay per ton	14.00 to 15.00
Straw	10.00 to 12.00

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

PROVISIONS.

Beef, Am. Ex. Mess, duty paid	10.50 to 11.00
" Am. Plate	11.00 to 11.50
" Ex. Plate	12.00 to 12.50
Pork, Mess, American	17.50 to 18.00
" American, clear	19.00 to 20.00
" P. E. 1 Mess	17.50 to 18.00
" P. E. 1 Thin Mess	none
" Prime Mess	13.50 to 14.00
Lard, Tubs and Pails	11 to 12
" Cases	12.50 to 13.00
Hams, P. E. 1	none
Duty on Am. Pork and Beef \$2.20 per bbl.	
Prices are for wholesale lots only, and are liable to change daily.	

These quotations are prepared by a reliable wholesale house.

FISH FROM VESSELS.

MACKEREL.	
Extra	15.00
No. 1	12.00
" 2 large	9.00
" 3 large	8.00
" 3	8.00
HERRING.	
No. 1 Shore, July	4.25 to 5.50
No. 1, August	3.75
" September	3.75
Round Shore	3.50
Labrador, in cargo lots, per bl	3.75 to 4.00
Bay of Islands, from store	2.75
Slowives, per bbl.	4.75 to 5.00
CODFISH.	
Hard Shore	4.00
New Bank	3.50
Bay	3.40
SALMON, No. 1	14.00
HADDOCK, per qtl	2.00 to 2.25
HAKE	2.25
CUSK	1.75
POLLOCK	1.75
HAKE SOUNDS, per lb.	30 to 35c
COD OIL A.	22 to 25

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

LOBSTERS.

Nova Scotia (Atlantic Coast Packing)	4.70 to 5.25
Tall Cans	4.60 to 5.00
Flat "	6.25 to 6.75
Per case 4 doz. 1lb cans	

The above quotations are corrected by a reliable dealer.

LUMBER.

Pine, clear, No. 1, per m.	25.00 to 26.00
" Merchantable, do do	4.00 to 17.00
" " No 2 do	10.00 to 12.00
" Small, per m.	8.00 to 14.00
Spruce, dimension good, per m.	9.50 to 10.00
" Merchantable, do do	8.00 to 9.00
" Small, do do	6.50 to 7.05
Hemlock, merchantable	7.00
Shingles, No. 1, sawed, pine	3.00 to 3.50
" No. 2, do do	1.00 to 1.25
" spruce, No 1	1.10 to 1.30
Laths, per m	2.00
Hard wood, per cord	4.00 to 4.25
Soft wood	2.25 to 2.50

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

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

BUTTER AND CHEESE.

Nova Scotia Choice Fresh Prints	22 to 25
" " in Small Tubs	23 to 24
" Good, in large tubs	30 to 32
" Store Packed & oversalted new	12 to 15
Canadian, Creamery, new	24 to 26
" Townsh	22 to 23
" Western	17 to 19
Cheese, Canadian	12

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

WOOL, WOOL SKINS & HIDES.

Wool—clean washed, per pound	15 to 22
" unwashed "	12 to 15
Salted Hides, No 1	7
Ox Hides, over 60 lbs., No 1	7
" under 60 lbs., No 1	6
" over 60 lbs., No 2	6
" under 60 lbs., No 2	6
Cow Hides, No 1	6½
No 3 Hides, each	5
Calf Skins	35
" Deacons, each	25
Lambskins	25 to 50

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

HOME AND FOREIGN FRUITS.

APPLES.	
Gravensteins, per bbl.	3.25 to 3.50
No. 1 Varieties, new, per bbl.	1.75 to 2.50
Oranges, per bbl, Jamaica (new)	6.50
Lemons, per case	4.00
Bananas, per bunch	3.00 to 4.00
Cocoanuts, per 100	5.00
Onions, Canadian, per lb.	2½ to 3
Dates, boxes, new	9½
Raisins, Val	8
Figs, Elme, 5 lb boxes per lb.	13
" small boxes	11
Prunes, Stewing, boxes	none
Grapes, Almeria, kegs	5.00 to 5.75

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

POULTRY.

Turkeys, per pound	12 to 15
Geese, each	40 to 60
Ducks, per pair	60 to 75
Chickens	30 to 60

The above are corrected by a reliable victualer.

LIVE STOCK—at Richmond Depot.

Steers, best quality, per 100lbs. alive	4.50
Oxen	3.50
Fat Steers, Heifers light weights	2.50 to 3.00
Wethers, best quality, per 100lbs	5.00 to 6.00
Lambs	2.00 to 2.75

These quotations are prepared by a reliable victualer.

SADDLE AND SABRE.

(Continued.)

Adhering to his plan, Mr. Furzedon made his way out towards South Kensington that afternoon, and in Piccadilly he passed Gilbert Slade. Now he had never seen that gentleman except at Lincoln races, and the Slades as a race were not people who knew you lightly. Furzedon even on that occasion had hardly exchanged half-a-dozen words with him, but, constant to the principle he had laid down, he nevertheless nodded genially to Gilbert. That gentleman's face simply expressed blank recognition, and then he returned the salutation by slightly touching his hat. Gilbert Slade, in good truth, had no recollection of who it was that had bowed to him; but Mr. Furzedon had two points invaluable to him in the rôle he proposed to play—he had a capital memory for both names and faces.

That afternoon witnessed the *début* of Mr. Furzedon in Onslow Gardens. The defunct pawnbroker's son had, at all events, mastered one of the mysteries of fashion: he had learnt how to knock. One may think the knocking at a door is of no consequence, perhaps not to the proprietors of the house, who may or may not hear it, and who very likely, if they do, pay little attention to it. I am not going to enter into that vast question so intelligible to those conversant with the history of the knocker, to whom the knock of the post, the dun, the taxes, the begging petitioner, the borrower, the wealthy but exasperated relative, &c., are as easy to read as telegrams. I am alluding only to the visitor's knock. And in the servants' hall this is interpreted on a mutely acknowledged scale accordingly. On those of the nervous, timid, and hesitating knock, they invariably bestow arrogance and contumely, but to the donor of the bold, audacious roudade on the knocker they are invariably cap in hand. Delicious are the errors into which these clumsy menials constantly fall, unless they are servants of the very best class: the swaggering manner and a certain gorgeousness of dress will constantly impose upon them. They kootoo to the confident stockbroker, and turn up their nose at the more diffident Peer.

Mr. Furzedon, in all the gorgeousness of his summer raiment, preceded by his dashing peal on the knocker, was just the sort of man that quiet servitors would be startled by. There was nothing *outré* about his garments, but everybody will understand what I mean when I say that they were just a little too glossy. It is difficult to explain, but a well-dressed man of the world never seems to put on a new coat. Furzedon was wont to have the appearance of having received his clothes only the night before from his tailor.

Yes, Miss Devereux was staying there, and Mrs. Connop would be very glad to see Mr. Furzedon, was the answer that came down in acknowledgment of his cards. Mr. Furzedon lost no time in responding to the invitation, and as he entered the drawing-room Lettice advanced to meet him, and, after shaking hands with him, at once presented him to her aunt.

"Very glad, indeed, Mr. Furzedon, to make your acquaintance. I am always pleased to see any friends of my family; and Lettice tells me that you have been staying at North Leach all winter, and are now quite a known man with the Brocklesby."

"I am afraid Miss Devereux is a little laughing at me when she says that. I certainly can claim in one sense to be a well-known man in that country, namely, that I was a constant attendant at their meets, and had capital good fun; but a well-known man is usually translated into a very prominent horseman with such hounds. I am afraid I wasn't quite that. They were all a little too good for me down there."

"Ah, Auntie, you must not trust to this mock humility. Mr. Furzedon held his own with most of us."

"Very good of you to say so, Miss Devereux, and I'll not be such a fool as to argue that view of the case with you. Anyway, Mrs. Connop, I had a capital time at North Leach, and two very jolly days at Lincoln afterwards, although, sad to say, the family banner—that is metaphorical for colors, you know—was not triumphant."

"Never mind," exclaimed Mrs. Connop. "I wasn't born a Devereux without knowing something of these things. I didn't see it, but Charlie's young, and I'll go bail he does better yet. From my recollection of all those cheery Hunt Steeplechases, the young ones were apt to get a little the worst of it at first, but a few years' practice and they turn the tables. There is no truer adage, Mr. Furzedon, than that youth will be served. I don't call myself an old woman, and never mean to, but if you ask me whether Lettice can walk me down—well—I suspect she can."

"No," said Furzedon; "nobody ever does grow old in these days. Why look at all our leading public men—boys still, in spite of what their baptismal registers assert to the contrary. By the way, Miss Devereux, have you seen anything of the Kynastons since you have been in town?"

"Not as yet," rejoined Lettice, "but I have only been here three days as yet. In fact, I am rather surprised at your having heard of my arrival."

"Well," replied Furzedon, "that is a piece of pure good fortune on my part. I remember that you said in the winter you very often spent a few weeks with Mrs. Connop about this time of the year, so I thought I would call."

"Charlie tells me you have done with Cambridge."

"Yes," rejoined Furzedon, "I never intended to take a degree, but my guardians were right—it is good for a man to go to the University for a time. It opens his eyes, and gives him a glimpse of the world."

Mr. Furzedon's guardians were shadowy people to whom he only alluded when it suited his purpose. They had interfered very little indeed with him, and the going to Cambridge had been entirely his own idea, and of his object in doing so we are already aware. He had been, moreover, of age now some little time, and was consequently emancipated from the very

light control his guardians had ever attempted to exercise. After a little more desultory talk, Mr. Furzedon rose to take his leave, and received from Mrs. Connop, as he did so, a cordial intimation that she would be glad to see him whenever he chose to call. He had also learnt from Lettice that the Kynastons had taken a house in Chester Street, Mayfair.

"Not a bad beginning," thought Mr. Furzedon, as he strolled eastwards. "I've got my foot fairly inside that house, and it will be my own fault if I don't establish myself on Mrs. Connop's visiting list. Mrs. Kynaston, too, can be a very useful woman to me if she likes. I don't suppose that they entertain much, but I fancy they have a very numerous acquaintance in London, and that Mrs. Kynaston could introduce me pretty widely if she chose."

VIII.

LADY RAMSBURY'S GARDEN PARTY.

More hospitable people than the Ramsburys never existed. They lived in a great red brick house in Chelsea—one of those modern imitations of the old Elizabethan style of house such as you may see in Pont Street. It stood in the midst of a large garden, and the Ramsburys delighted in big dinners during the winter months, and in large garden-parties in the summer. What Sir John Ramsbury had been knighted for was rather a mystery. He was known as a "warm" man in the City, was Alderman of his Ward, and although he had never passed the chair, it was always regarded that was an honor he might aspire to any day. However, he had attained the distinction of knighthood, the why could be only explained by the fact that he had been the chairman of several commercial enterprises, supposed to have resulted in much benefit to the country, and, what was rather more to the point, in considerable benefit to Sir John Ramsbury.

Lady Ramsbury's "gardens" were a well known feature in the London season. The company might be a little mixed, but there were plenty of right good people always to be found there. Sir John, as director of various companies, had come across a good deal of the salt of this earth, and in this latter half of the nineteenth century, when the struggle for existence waxes harder and harder, both to those with the bluest of blood in their veins and to those born in the gutter, the man with the capability of putting money into his friends' pockets is a power.

There has never been a time when Fashion in pursuit of its follies did not grovel at the feet of Plutus. How our Parisian neighbors bowed down at the shrine of Law, and many of us can remember when to sit at the table of the Railway King was matter of gratulation to half the best society in London. Who could whisper such auriferous secrets into dainty ears as he could? and though irreverent guardsmen might put up their gasses at some of the social solecisms he was wont to commit, yet their seniors and the mothers that bore them were too worldly-wise not to overlook such trifles as those. In similar fashion, Sir John Ramsbury commanded a considerable number of guests at his parties. He did the thing right well: there was never any lack of everything of the best in the commissariat department at his parties, and it must, in justice to the worthy knight and his lady, be added that they were unconventional people, but by no means vulgar. Lady Ramsbury and Mrs. Connop were old friends; the lamented Connop had been mixed up with various business speculations in Sir John's early days, before he blossomed into knighthood and the dignity of a house at Chelsea, so that there was nothing singular in Lettice and her aunt finding themselves in that pleasant old garden one fine June afternoon.

After shaking hands with their hostess, Mrs. Connop and her niece began to slowly pace the lawn. They met plenty of acquaintances, and were enjoying themselves in a careless, gossiping way, when Lettice's eye was caught by a group of three people who were occupying a garden-bench, and conversing somewhat earnestly. The centre of the group, and the person who had at first attracted her attention, was a slight, elderly man, with a decided stoop, and an eye like a hawk. Seated on one side of him was a stout elderly lady, richly dressed, but who evidently considered that Nature was a handmaid to Art. The merest tyro would have known her color was not that of fresh air and superabundant life, and made a shrewd guess that her exuberant tresses came straight from her hairdresser's. But Lady Melfort was a well-known and very popular person. Ascot or Newmarket, Epsom or Doncaster would have seemed incomplete without the presence of that dashing and evergreen Countess. On the other side was Gilbert Slade. As far as Lettice could see, the conversation rested principally with the lady, who was declaiming volubly, while Norman Slade, who was the central figure of the group, merely threw in an interjectional word now and again.

Norman Slade had no objection to fighting the Turf battles of bygone days over again with any one who really understood racing, and the sporting Peeress, who was a thorough enthusiast, was by no means a bad judge.

"I don't agree with you, Lady Melfort," he ejaculated, in reply to some story of her ladyship's, the gist of which appeared to be that she had lost her money when she thought she ought to have won it. "It is true, on his previous form the horse ought to have won, but it by no means follows there was any foul play connected with his running; horses, like ourselves, are not always quite themselves, and the cleverest trainer sometimes fails to detect that his charge is a little off. I know that people connected with Lucifer backed him upon that occasion."

"I should like to know what his jockey did," rejoined her ladyship, sharply.

"His best, I think," rejoined Norman; "he's a steady, civil boy enough, and we are rather too apt to make the jockey answerable for the shortcomings of the horse."

But her ladyship was evidently not convinced, she was given to be some what suspicious of unfair play when her racing calculations proved fallible. At this juncture Gilbert caught sight of Miss Devereux, and as he was by no means such an enthusiast about the "sport of kings" as his companions, he at once raised his hat and proceeded to join her.

"How d'ye do, Miss Devereux? Rather different weather from that when I last saw you. How long have you been in town?"

"Only about a week," rejoined Lettie; "but let me introduce you to my aunt, Mrs. Connop, with whom I am staying."

Gilbert bowed, and muttered something about "doing himself the pleasure of calling," and then turning to Lettie, said, "I suppose now you'll see the reason out."

"Oh yes," replied the girl. "I want to go everywhere and do everything, see all there is to be seen, and meet all my friends. I suppose, Mr. Slade, that your intentions are somewhat similar."

"Ah! it doesn't signify what my intentions may be. When you're a soldier you find the Horse Guards interfere with such things in ruthless fashion. No, I regret to say that I only got a month's leave, and that a week of it is already gone. Has Polestar won his spurs yet, Miss Devereux?"

"No," rejoined Lettie; "how can you recall that day of disgrace to me?"

"Not disgrace," rejoined Gilbert; "you were defeated, as we all are at times; but, I fancy, if the race had been run over again, your brother would have made a closer thing of it."

"Ah! I daresay Charlie will have another opportunity of distinguishing himself in the autumn. Is there any likelihood of your being present at the Autumn Meeting on the Carholme?"

"It is very likely," rejoined Gilbert. "I am quartered at York, and I should think it is easy to slip down from there. However, it is a long way off as yet."

"Who was that gentleman you were talking to, Mr. Slade?" inquired Miss Devereux.

"That was my uncle Norman," replied Gilbert. "It is not often that he leaves his usual haunts for anything of this sort, but, for some reason, he is very fond of the Ramsburys—he has known them a good many years, and I've a vague suspicion that Sir John did him a kindness at some period of his life. All I know is that, though he is a real good fellow, my Uncle Norman is peculiar, and it is by no means every one that could lure him to their dinner-table; not many people, I fancy, who would have got him to do a thing of this kind."

"I am sure it is charming," replied Miss Devereux laughing; "such pretty grounds, so many people, and such a good band to listen to; I don't think your good uncle is much to be pitied."

"No," said Gilbert; "but people differ in taste, and this is not much in my Uncle Norman's line." And the conversation turned upon military affairs; for, not a little to Gilbert's surprise, Miss Devereux manifested no small curiosity about "soldiering." It was easy of explanation. During the winter she and her brother Charlie had had many a talk together as to what line of life he was to pursue, and he had more than once spoken seriously of the army as a profession calculated to suit him when his career at Cambridge was done with. Lettie warmly approved of that determination. She had a very vague idea of what a soldier's life was like; but thought that a man who was a good horseman ought to make a likely Dragon.

Norman Slade continued to talk in his lazy way to Lady Melfort. The Countess always amused him, while he usually acted as a pleasing irritant upon her. He listened to her vehement protestations of the iniquities of the Turf with a quiet smile, and invariably exasperated her by claiming a high position for the main part of those connected with it, and declaring that people who lose a little money shrieked and made bitter wail over the treachery that they had encountered, forgetting about the extreme uncertainty that distinguishes racing beyond even most mundane affairs.

"My dear Countess," he would say, "you don't rail against M. Blanc when you lose your money at Monte Carlo, and yet when you come to gambling on the Turf—and you know, Lady Melfort, you are a gambler—you don't bet merely upon the races you understand and can form an opinion about, but you bet on all sorts of handicaps and selling races, of which, concerning the merits of the competitors, you know nothing."

"Well, I hate to see a race, Mr. Slade, without having something on it."

"Just so," rejoined Norman; "then you couldn't bear to see the ball spinning round at Monte Carlo without having a stake on it, but whether you back the red or the black, it is just about as great a lottery as some of these races you speculate on."

If Norman somewhat irritated her, Lady Melfort had a profound respect for his judgment. She believed him to be able to elucidate many a Turf mystery that had puzzled racing people profoundly, and in this wise she was right; there were few men perhaps more behind the scenes than Norman Slade. There were not many Turf robberies of which he could not explain the history. Pray don't think for one moment he was a participator in them. Like the general public, he had occasionally been a victim; but when the scandal connected with such events was once blown over, a story in Turf circles is pretty certain to leak out in more or less accurate form, and he sometimes regaled Lady Melfort with the true history of one of these bygone surprises. Like many men of his type, good-hearted fellow though he was at bottom, he would hardly have interfered to save any one in whom he was not interested from being awfully taken advantage of.

(To be continued.)

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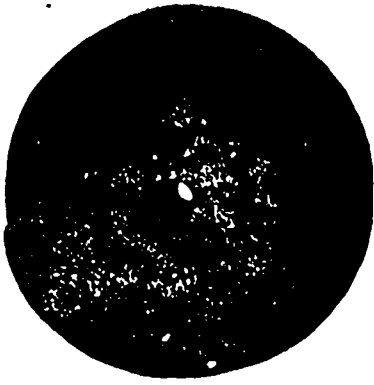
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MINING.

GOLD MINERS' ASSOCIATION.—Gold miners throughout the Province are now generally aware of the date of the preliminary meeting to organize the Gold Miners' Association, and a large number have already signified their intention of being present at THE CRITIC Office on Wednesday, November 9th, at 2 p.m. We desire to see a large and representative meeting of miners and mine-owners, and therefore again call attention to the matter, and trust that all interested in mining will take a note of the date of the meeting, and be on hand with as many of their friends as possible.

All mining men admit the necessity of an association, but for want of some one to take the initiative, year after year has rolled by, and nothing has been accomplished. At the earnest request of a number of mining men the Editor of THE CRITIC has taken the initiative, and has issued a call for the meeting, placing THE CRITIC Office at the disposal of the miners.

If the association is to be the success that it is intended to be, the greatest care should be exercised in its formation and in the selection of its officers. Its chief aim should be the advancement of the mining cause, and with that end in view, care should be taken that interested cliques or parties with selfish motives do not gain the control. It therefore behooves every mining man in the Province to be on the alert and prepared to attend the preliminary meeting. We will not go into the objects of the association, as they have been repeatedly dilated upon by us; but we should like to dwell on one point, and that is the simplifying and improving of the Mining Act. If changes in the Act are to be made, they should, first of all, be placed before the mining community for their approval. At present only a few of the mining men are consulted, and they would naturally be prejudiced in favor of legislation that would prove beneficial to them. There is, therefore, at present grave danger that interested parties may secure legislation beneficial to themselves, but ruinous to the mining interests at large. The only way to avoid this danger, is to form a Mining Association, which by its numbers should command the attention of the Government, and prove an important factor in the shaping of mining legislation. The Commissioner of Mines, we are certain, would take into favorable consideration any amendments to the Mining Act recommended by an association of gold miners; in fact would only be too pleased in having their support.

The coal owners have an association; and last session it was the means of defeating legislation, which, if passed, would have prejudicially affected every coal mining title in the Province.

The coal owners have proved the necessity of an association, and the gold miners will, on the 9th of November, follow their wise example.

GOLD RIVER DISTRICT.—Dropping into Mr. Wm. F. Foster's office, on Connors' Wharf, we were shown a large drawer full of gold specimens that were taken from some areas at Gold River. Every piece of quartz was studded with coarse gold, and the display was most inviting. The property, which consists of 21 areas, is owned by Messrs. Gammon, Fulton & Foster. They have been prospecting off and on for the past six months with a crew of six men, and have opened some 12 leads, five of which show gold. The specimens were taken from a 20 inch lead, the shaft on which is now down some 35 feet, and which has proved rich from the time it was opened up. At the surface they struck an angular fully 15 feet thick, and sinking on it they discovered the rich 20 inch lead, and followed it down. They have also stripped it for a long distance on the surface.

WHITEBURN DISTRICT.—Geo. A. Hawksworth, J. T. McCormack, and others of Annapolis, have taken some fine specimens from a lead they are working near the celebrated McGuire mine at Whiteburn, Queen's Co. The lead is 20 inches in thickness, and the shaft is now down 30 feet. The lead is of barrel quartz formation, and the prospects are that they have opened up a valuable mine.

RAWDON GOLD DISTRICT.—A promising gold lead has been found on the Church Hill, Casey Farm, Rawdon. James Cope, an Indian, was the discoverer, and a company, composed of Messrs. Gould Northup, Capt. Joshua Smith, James Britton, and Alex. Thompson, has been formed to work it.

SALE OF COAL PROPERTY.—It is reported that Judge Tremain's coal property, adjoining the Gowrie Mine at Cow Bay, has been sold. The particulars are not at hand.

A friend sends us a prospectus of the Perry Creek Gold Mining Company (Limited) of Kootenay District, British Columbia. The capital stock is \$75,000, in shares of one dollar each. The prospectus is very neatly drawn up, and proves that the gold miners of British Columbia understand the benefit of printer's ink. The mine is an alluvial one, and is on Perry Creek, "distant about 12 miles from Wild Horse Creek, out of which over two million pounds sterling worth of gold has been extracted." "Thou art so near and yet so far."

Negotiations are pending for the acquirement of iron properties by American capitalists, in one of the principal coal and iron districts of Nova Scotia.

Coal properties in one of the principal coal fields of Nova Scotia are also bonded to American capitalists, who have a view to the future coal and iron industries of the Province.

The fine copper deposits on the Pugwash River are worthy of attention from capitalists. A recent inspection of this locality leads one to believe that a large deposit of this valuable metal is there, and from its close proximity to shipment, it will no doubt in time prove highly valuable.

MINING.—Continued.

EDITOR CRITIC,—Seeing in your paper some time ago a notice requesting opinions from miners on needed alterations in the mining laws, I take the liberty of speaking of some of the grievances borne by prospectors. I will illustrate it by a case in point, viz., my own:—A short time ago, I was lucky enough to find some rich boulders, but could not find the lead. My only plan was to cover the ground with a license. Miners, as a rule, seldom earn more than enough to support their families, and I am no exception to that rule. However, a moneyed man offered to supply all the money needed for a prospecting license. He also condescendingly offered me half, on condition that I prospect it. Thus, owing to the great cost of a license, I was forced to give half to a mere speculator. This is one point against a poor prospector.

"There," you say, "your difficulties in that line end." But, "there," to the contrary, they do not end. My license, issued in September, expires in March, including a very short time suitable for prospecting. Here is deep surface and wet ground, compelling me to push the work with all possible speed, before the fall rains set in. The result is, that I am forced to admit two more men as partners, leaving me but one-sixth of the whole. Thus, owing to short time, another point is scored against the poor prospector. The renewal is a second deal, in which the speculator gets a better hand every time. The question is, how shall we remedy it? Simply and easily. Decrease the license charges, and extend the time. The law, as it now stands, is plainly in favor of the speculator and moneyed man. The remedy is simple and easily executed, unless self-interest stands in the way of justice.

Yours, &c.,
GRYPHUS.

The continuation of our correspondent's "Trip to the Eastern Gold Districts" will be found on pages 68 of this issue.

A very fair showing of manganese has been found in Selmah, Hants County, and has been leased by a gentleman in Truro, who proposes to take the necessary steps to have the same developed at an early day.

Prospecting for gold has been carried on for some time by a local company in the vicinity of Ardoise Hill, Hants County, and with a fair showing, so it is said, of the precious metal.

NEW BRUNSWICK MINING ITEMS.—Having been away considerably, I have, to a great extent, neglected the columns of THE CRITIC, but at the same time I have been keeping an eye on the movements in the mining line in the Province. Very little is being done in the mining line in the way of new developments. Those that are working, are shipping and prospecting as usual.

The mines at Markhamville are shipping manganese as usual, and Major Markham is ever busy looking after the interests of his company.

The manganese property at the Globe, owned by F. J. Alley and others, of Bar Harbor, Maine, is showing up finely, and some quantities of ore taken out recently, are worth upwards of \$200 per ton. The uses of manganese to some part of the electric light business will create a new demand for the same.

Mr. Alley and others are also making some developments at Waterford, on a belt of metals which seems promising. The ore consists of yellow sulphuret of copper, and other metals in combination.

Work at the Mineral Vale Mine in New Ireland, Albert County, is also being pushed forward. One of the principal proprietors visited the United States recently to examine various modes of treating this class of ores, and it is said concentrating machinery of the best and latest description will be put in shortly.

The prospecting for antimony, at or near Springfield, is steadily progressing under the charge of Mr. Gilbert Craudall, of Moncton. It is said the outlook is favorable.

Very little is being done in the way of coal development at Welford, Kent County. No late advices have been received from that quarter.

The extensive manganese deposit I have so often written you about, at Jordan Mountain or White's Mountain, owned by Stockton and others, is about being disposed of to a syndicate of capitalists from Baltimore. A sample piece of ore was recently shipped to the parties in Baltimore which weighed 1800 lbs. There is every evidence that the sale is bona fide, and the owners will receive \$40,000 in cash for the property. Should no hitch occur in the negotiations, which we sincerely trust will not be the case, it will give a great impetus to mining matters in this vicinity.

The existence of five veins of galena not many miles from Sussex, which show evidence of containing considerable gold, is worthy of the attention of capitalists.

As I do not know of very much more of interest, I will close for the present, and not be so long silent again, if I can avoid it.

Yours, etc.,

CARLETON DISTRICT.—W. H. TURNER & Co.'s PROPERTY.—This property comprises about 90 acres, and adjoins the property now owned, and being successfully worked, by the Carleton Gold Mining Co. Prospecting commenced early last spring under the supervision of Mr. Morrison, a man of large experience in mining in the British Provinces. The developments thus far have proved the existence of a large number of gold bearing quartz leads, from five inches to four feet in width, which prove the mine to be a valuable one. The company has just completed a most substantially timbered shaft, together with shaft house, hoisting gin, blacksmith shop, office and barn. Underground work will be pushed during the winter, and we look for splendid results.

M. X.

NOVA SCOTIA
Telephone Co
(LIMITED.)

The Nova Scotia Telephone Company (Limited), have completed their Truro Exchange of about forty subscribers, and the same is now connected by through line with Halifax. A Toll Office has been opened at the book store of MR. MORTON, next door south of the Queen Hotel, where parties desirous of having a conversation with any residents of Truro can have connection made and five minutes conversation for twenty-five cents. The line is being rapidly pushed, connecting Truro with the exchanges of some thirty subscribers in New Glasgow, Stellarton, Westville and Pictou. Offices will be opened in a few days at Shubenacadie and London-derry, ready for business.

B. F. PEARSON,
Secretary.



SEALED TENDERS, addressed to the undersigned, and endorsed "Tender for Sheet Harbor Work," will be received at this office until Friday, the 4th of November, for the construction of a ballast wharf at West River, Sheet Harbor, Halifax County, N. S.

Plans and specifications can be seen at the Department of Public Works, Ottawa, and on application to Mr. A. MacFarlane, West River Sheet Harbor.

Tenders will not be considered unless made on the form supplied and signed with the actual signatures of tenderers.

An accepted bank cheque payable to the order of the Minister of Public Works, equal to five per cent of amount of tender, must accompany each tender. This cheque will be forfeited if the party declines the contract, or fail to complete the work contracted for, and will be returned in care of non-acceptance of tender.

The Department does not bind itself to accept the lowest or any tender.

By order,

A. GORELL,
Secretary.

Department of Public Works,
Ottawa, 12th Oct., 1887



Oxford & New Glasgow Railway
SECTIONS.

- 1st.—Birch Hill Road to Pugwash Junction, 13 miles.
- 2nd.—Pugwash Junction to Pugwash, 5 miles.
- 3rd.—Pugwash Junction to Wallace Station, 7 miles.
- 4th.—Wallace Station to Mingo Road, 17 miles.

Tenders for Grading, Bridge and Culvert
Masonry, Fencing, &c

SEALED TENDERS, addressed to the undersigned and endorsed "Tender for Oxford and New Glasgow Railway," will be received at this office up to noon on Friday, the 18th day of November, 1887, for the grading, bridge and culvert masonry fencing, &c

Plans and profiles will be open for inspection at the Office of the Chief Engineer of Government Railways at Ottawa, and also at the Office of the Oxford and New Glasgow Railway, at Wallace, Cumberland Co., Nova Scotia, on and after the 10th day of November, 1887, where the general specification and form of tender may be obtained upon application.

No tender will be entertained unless on one of the printed forms, and all conditions are complied with. This Department does not bind itself to accept the lowest or any tender.

A. P. BRADLEY,
Secretary.

Department of Railways and Canals,
Ottawa, 20th October, 1887.

NEW INVENTION
NO BAGGAGE
RUNS EASY

1/2 Corus of each have been saved by one man in the hour. Hundreds have saved and saved their baggage. First order from your vicinity secures the device. No delay to pack, we manufacture in Canada. Write for illustrated Catalogue sent FREE to all. Address: **PUBLISHING HOUSE, 112 N. WABASH ST., CHICAGO, ILL.**

Valuable Coal Mining Property
FOR SALE,

Situated in Cumberland County, Nova Scotia,

AND KNOWN AS THE

Styles Mining Company's Property.

This property consists of five square miles, and is only distant from the celebrated Spring Hill Coal Mines, seven miles. It is on the north dip of the Spring Hill coal basin, and the out-crop has been traced for two and a-quarter miles.

Two seams have been developed, the upper being 6 feet in thickness, and the lower, which is separated from the upper by a thickness of strata of about twenty feet, being four feet in thickness.

The indications point to the existence of other seams on the property.

The coal is of superior quality, and has been pronounced by consumers the

Best Coal for Domestic Purposes they have ever used.

For Gas and Steam Purposes, it is unequalled.

The late Mr. Hartley, a most efficient member of the Geological Survey of Canada, reported as follows:

"The analyses show the coal to belong to the class known as highly bituminous, in fact, cooking coals in character very similar to those of the North of England, known as North Country, or NEWCASTLE HADLEY COAL."

"The high rate of volatile to fixed combustible matter should render the coal in common with the Newcastle Coal, which it resembles, an admirable gas coal, while in the amount of sulphur it falls much below the average of Newcastle Coals, (which contain about nine tenths of one per cent., as determined by the Admiralty Steam Coal Tests), therefore the gas obtained from it should be very easily purified."

"The coke of the coal appears in every way well adapted for iron smelting, as it is firm and rather compact, and in content of ash and sulphur, will compare most favorably with that from any coal in the Province."

The position of the Styles mining areas is very advantageous in relation to the opening up of the seams, and also of connection with the Intercolonial Railway, which passes within a mile and a-half of the property.

The Spring Hill Mine is acknowledged to be more advantageously situated for shipping its coal than any other mine now being worked in the Province. The Styles Mine is quite as advantageously situated, and commands the coal markets of Montreal, Quebec, the United States, New Brunswick, Prince Edward Island, and Newfoundland.

The new tariff has given an impetus to the manufacturers of iron, and as the coke of the Styles seams is well adapted for iron smelting, the probabilities are that in a few years a home market will be found for most of the output.

Parties desiring to purchase will be furnished with full particulars on application at

THE CRITIC OFFICE, 161 HOLLIS ST.

HOME AND FARM.

This department of THE CRITIC is devoted exclusively to the interests of the Farmers in the Maritime Provinces. Contributions upon Agricultural topics, or that in any way relate to Farm life, are cordially invited. Newsw notes of Farmers' gatherings or Grange meetings will be promptly inserted. Farmers' wives and daughters should make this department in THE CRITIC a medium for the exchange of ideas on such matters as more directly affect them.

The following views about seed potatoes differ somewhat from those embodied in the account of a series of careful experiments which we condensed, about two months ago, from the *New England Farmer*, but we think it desirable to place all sorts of opinions before our agricultural readers whenever there may be room for a difference of sensible opinion. Hints from a practice different from their own are sometimes of value to the most practical and experienced. Indeed, the more intelligent the recipient, the greater the possible value to them of the experience of others. A correspondent of the *Indiana Farmer* gives the following advice regarding the selection of potatoes for seed:—"The selection should be made when the crop is harvested, and before being taken up after being dug. At this time the very largest, smoothest, and most perfectly formed ones can be and should be taken to be used as seed for the next year's crop. This seed should be handled carefully, so as not to bruise them. They should be put into sacks, one bushel in the sack, and stored in a dry, cool cellar, separate, or as far away from other potatoes as possible.

When planting comes, and that time is when the frost is out of the ground and the soil is dry enough to work good, no later than this, for if planted at the earliest possible time after the frost is out they will make their growth before the hot weather sets in. Select the very best portion of the seed, and plant this on the very best ground, prepared in the very best manner, planting large pieces, or whole large potatoes is still better, rejecting or cutting away a portion of the stem end. Giving two feet between hills—rows usual distance, and as soon as the sprouts are two inches high, thin out to one stalk in a hill. This will hasten the growth and maturity, and will make all large, fine potatoes for seed for the next season's crop. The best seed, with best care and culture, grown on the best land may be expected to produce the very best crop.

It is almost impossible to believe that for ages farmers have bestowed no more care on the portion that is to be seed for the coming crop, than they give to that portion that is to be fed to stock or sold on the market, and yet this is true, the practice being to take seed potatoes from hills with several stalks. No greater enemy to a stalk of potatoes can be found than another stalk of potatoes growing near to it. It is, therefore, indispensable to the production of the best stalk that they should be grown far enough apart to give to each stalk all the room required to make the best and largest growth.

The influence of the best seed to produce the best crop may be estimated by the superiority of 'thoroughbred' animals over common stock, and the same principles apply to the production of vegetables and fruits as in the production of the best and finest Jerseys, Shorthorns, Herefords, Normans, Clydesdales, and all other improved breeds of stock. Should each farmer produce the best seed by giving the greatest attention to its production, that is required in the very nature of the case, and suggested by the natural endowments of the plants themselves, great yields and better quality of crops would result."

APPLES FOR PIGS—The apple is nearly all carbohydrates—only 0.2 to 0.3 of 1 per cent. albuminoids, with 0.3 per cent. fat and 15 per cent. carbohydrates. Its value simply for the food it contains is 16 cents per 100 lbs., or 8 cents per bushel. But it contains a little pectic acid which assists in digesting other food, and this increases its value perhaps 30 to 40 per cent. A certain proportion of apples would be advantageous in feeding pigs by preventing constipation, thus keeping them healthy, besides assisting in the digestion of other food. The apples should not be very sour. A mixture of sweet and sour works well. It is understood that we mean grown pigs, ready for fattening, and the apples are not supposed to be fed alone. Such pigs will fatten moderately on sweet apples, but it is not profitable to feed pigs on apples alone. It is better if the apples are mashed, pulped or ground, and the other food mixed with this apple pulp. We have seen very rapid fattening when fed in this way.—*E. W. S., N. Y. Cultivator.*

Blackberries increase easily by suckers from the roots, but better plants may be had and more rapidly from cuttings from the roots. These are obtained by taking up the plants with ample roots, and cutting the roots into pieces, about two inches, more or less, in length, and placing them in beds of good rich, light soil, with a little bottom heat, under a glazed sash. The roots may be taken up in autumn, or early in spring. If in autumn they may be kept through winter by placing in alternate layers with soil in a box which has drainage, and be buried in a dry spot deep enough to exclude frost, or they may be kept in a cool cellar packed in damp sand or moss, like grafts, taking care that they are uniformly neither too moist nor too dry. When set out, they should be placed about two inches deep in the soil. If they cannot be easily placed under a glazed sash, the surface of the soil should be covered with mulch. If the pieces of roots can be properly kept through winter, taking up in autumn is the best. Smaller pieces may be used if they can be started in a propagating house, which is well adapted to scarce varieties. When the new plants have grown a few inches, they may be removed to the open ground. Varieties which sucker most freely, may be most readily propagated by root cuttings.

SOME OF THE CAUSES OF HEAVES.—Heaves may be caused by continued feeding on dry, bulky and fibrous food, such as timothy and similar coarse fodder, and especially when it is musty and dusty. Over-exertion on a full

stomach has a tendency to produce heaves. The ailment is also supposed to be due to a deranged state of the nervous centres. The disease is incurable, but may be palliated by careful feeding. In cases which have existed for some time, no remedy will remove the distress in breathing. Give only nutritious food, of small bulk, cut hay of best quality, mixed with sound oats or ground feed, slightly moistened with water, also a few sliced carrots daily. Avoid timothy hay and similar coarse material. Give on alternate days, or at least twice weekly, a ration of sloppy food, or bran mash, mixed with a pint of ground flaxseed (not oil cake); or, instead, a mess of steamed or cooked food, with finely cut, sound wild hay. Never feed or water such a horse immediately before using him; and give him only slow and easy, or light work.

TAPE WORMS—Sheep that have died in a mysterious manner having been examined after death have been found to have their small intestines packed full of tape worms. The general symptoms of tape worms are alternate great appetite and no appetite; an inclination to swallow stones, sand, ashes, earth, etc., and loss of condition. The droppings are soft and mixed with mucus. The animal gives evidence of internal pain. Great emaciation ensues and death finally results. There are no preventives, for rabbits, squirrels, skunks, dogs and other animals deposit the eggs of the worm in the fields in which they may run. The following treatment is recommended. Take linseed oil two ounces, and spirits of turpentine one-half ounce. Give this dose twice a week for two weeks. If this should not prove effectual, give three ounces of the root of male fern powdered, six hours after giving this give a purgative of linseed oil, and repeat in one week. It is said also that forty drops of oil of turpentine, a drachm of powdered green vitrol and an ounce of common salt, given in milk or gruel, or in linseed oil, is a sovereign remedy. Give the best of food until the condition is restored. Sheep, after they become two years old very rarely become infested with tape worm. It is a trouble that is peculiar to young sheep and lambs.

THE EFFECT OF DARK STABLES.—It is claimed in a large proportion of cases where horses have trouble with their eyes, it is due to the want of properly lighted and ventilated stables. The majority of stables are so dark that when the horse is brought out he shows, by stumbling and in other ways, that he can not see perfectly, and this continues until his eyes become accustomed to the light. Any person can readily tell what the effect is by passing from a dark room into the bright sunlight. The change causes pain, and this affects the eye injuriously, in time frequently causing total blindness. Where horses shy on the road it is in many cases due to imperfect sight, often brought on by neglect in providing well lighted quarters for them. The eye is very sensitive and easily injured when dark, close stables are used. Light and proper ventilation can be provided with so little trouble and expense that it is surprising so many neglect these very important conditions when building, and as the result, suffer loss by so doing. Those who have stables already built, can, by a small outlay, make changes when they are needed to let in the light, and it will pay them well to do it.—*Maine Farmer.*

OUR COSY CORNER.

Popular and charming effects are again produced by fan-plaits, which are set in the side-fronts and centre fronts of skirts, and also laid and pressed in the backs of draperies. Similar decorations arranged to cross the bodice diagonally from the top of the right shoulder to the left hip, where the other portion of the front is left undecorated or has a *revers* or lapel of contrasting goods. Not the least of the attractiveness of this style of ornamentation is its adaptability to contrasting materials and colors, which virtue, of course, invites the economical woman to investigate her stored belongings, where likely she has just the fabric that will tastefully combine with a new woollen material to make a fashionable toilette.

A novelty in sleeves is arranged with two puffs that cover the arm from elbow to shoulder, shirrings being taken between them. This artistic design will not infrequently have the upper puff of some decorative fabric and the lower puff and the plain part of the sleeves of dress goods.

Fanciful effects will be studied as a fine art this season. One of the newest caprices is to ornament basques of dark wool goods with soutache braids of red, white, black, gold or silver. The favored arrangements are parallel lines, V's and yoke outlines, the wrists being trimmed to correspond. Striped goods may be made to produce similar effects. For complimentary mourning silver or violet braids upon black will be a leading style.

Among the basques to wear *en suite* or in contrast with skirts there is a new design with points cut back of the hips. These points will sometimes be tipped with tassels or with butterfly knots of ribbon.

Sailor and standing collars, both elaborately cross-braided or otherwise embroidered, or, perhaps, made of richly decorative goods, will be worn with house and street dresses. Usually these two collars will be sewed to tuckers or otherwise completed separate from the costume, to permit of wearing a gay silk or wrought India mull sailor kerchief that will be a speciality this season.

Another seasonable fancy—an old favorite improved for a representation—is a long, square apron drapery that may be braided about the edges and have a set figure in each of its two corners. Of course, any other trimming, such as folds or strips of ribbon, broad basket galloons, hand embroideries of floss, etc., will be much admired upon this style of apron. Sometimes the lower edge will be deeply ornamented and a narrow but similar trimming will follow the sides up to the waist.

RELIGIOUS.

BAPTIST.

Rev. C. H. Spurgeon is said to be on the point of separating himself from the Baptist Union in England.

Rev. J. H. Hughes, of the Baptist church at Chebogue, Yarmouth Co., has accepted a call to the pastorate of the Franklin Park Baptist church, Boston.

The Baptist cause is very weak in Ireland, there being only 19 churches, with a membership of 1,700.

Rev. J. T. Parsons has severed his connection with the Free Baptist church in St. John, after a pastorate of eighteen years.

A Baptist church in Florida has expelled all its members whose names appeared on petitions for liquor licenses.

During the prevalence of scarlet fever at Plainwell, Mich., all the churches were closed. The Baptist minister sent his sermon in a printed sheet to all its members.

METHODIST.

The Methodist Church of Canada has lost an able leader in the death of the Rev. Dr. Nelles. He entered the ministry of the Church in Canada in 1846, and in 1850 was elected President of Victoria College, which position he held until his death. His efforts on behalf of education cannot be over-estimated.

The local missionary committee of the Nova Scotia Conference will meet in this city on the 26th instant.

Rev. William Brown, whose term as pastor of Charles St. church expires with the present Conference year, has accepted a call to Windsor.

The Central Board of Missions, which lately met in Montreal, expects to raise about \$200,000 this year for missions.

The Cincinnati M. E. Conference requested its delegates to the General Conference to favor legislation that would recognize the office of evangelist in the church.

PRESBYTERIAN.

Rev. D. Ross, of Wolfville, has received a call from the Presbyterian church at Springside, Upper Stowiacke.

Principal Grant, who was taken seriously ill in Toronto while engaged in soliciting subscriptions for Queen's College, has recovered sufficiently to resume his duties.

The Woman's Foreign Missionary Society, Eastern Section, collected \$5,000 last year. Mrs. Burns was elected President for the ensuing year.

Rev. Dr. Jenkins, pastor emeritus of St. Paul's church, Montreal, preached in St. Matthew's church last Sunday morning. He left this city on Monday for England, where he intends to permanently reside.

Rev. Mr. Dill will be inducted into the pastorate of the Presbyterian church at Parraboro on November 8th.

Presbyterianism is making rapid progress in Manitoba, since 1881 the membership has increased 15,000, or 104 per cent.

Mr. D. L. Moody has arranged to have Ying Lee, proprietor of a Chinese laundry at Hartford, Conn., enter his Mount Hermon School at Northfield, Mass., to prepare himself for the ministry. He is a remarkably bright Chinaman, far in advance of the great mass of his race.

The First Presbyterian Church, Newark, N. Y., has just celebrated its centennial anniversary.

A bazaar in connection with St. James' Church, Dartmouth, is to be held in the basement of the church on Thursday, the third of November, and the ladies of the congregation are up to their eyes in preparatory work. The proceeds of the bazaar are to be devoted to paying for the repairs which the church is now undergoing, and it is hoped that a handsome sum will be realized.

CHURCH OF ENGLAND.

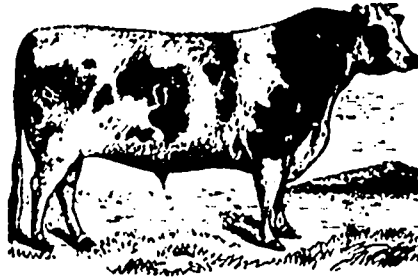
The Synod of this Diocese will meet pursuant to adjournment on Wednesday, the 9th of November. It is not thought likely that a nomination by the referees in England can be made by that date.

The Anniversary Service of the Church of England Institute of this city was held on Thursday evening in St. Paul's church. This church is the best adapted of all Halifax churches for a service of this kind, affording ample room for both singers and congregation. The anthem sung was Stainer's "Let every soul be subject," being repeated from the service held in St. Paul's at the Jubilee Service. The music was well rendered by the united choirs, and the sermon preached by Rev. G. Gooderich Roberts, rector of Fredericton. Mr. Roberts has a good presence and a fine voice, and the sermon could not fail to be acceptable to all who heard it.

Next Sunday is Dispensary Sunday. A large proportion of the patients are Church of England poor. The institution is well managed, and impartially and effectively served. Church of England people should not overlook this on Sunday.

The trustees of the proposed Protestant Episcopal Cathedral in New York city are said to have decided upon the site for the new structure. This is now occupied by the Leake and Watts Orphan House, and is bounded by 110th street, Morning-side drive, 113th street and Tenth avenue. The property is appraised at \$1,000,000.

New furnaces for the proper heating of St. Luke's cathedral have recently been purchased and placed in position. On Sunday last the rector stated that the congregation would require to at once raise the sum of two thousand dollars, five hundred dollars of which were wanted to pay for the new furnaces, and fifteen hundred dollars to pay off the indebtedness on the rectory.



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REGISTERED BERKSHIRE SWINE.

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Amherst, Nova Scotia,

MANUFACTURERS & BUILDERS.

1,000,000 Feet Lumber kept in stock.

Doors, Sashes, Blinds, Wood Mantels, MOULDINGS, ETC.

Walnut, Cherry, Ash, Birch, Beech, Pine and Whitewood HOUSE FINISH.

"Cabinet Trim Finish" for Dwellings, Drug Stores, Offices, etc.

SCHOOL, OFFICE, CHURCH AND HOUSE FURNITURE, etc. BRICKS, LIME, CEMENT, CALCIUM PLASTER, etc.,

Manufacturers of and Dealers in all kinds of Builders' Materials. SEND FOR ESTIMATES.

WHITE & COLORED FLANNELS,

Blankets, Comfortables, Eider Down Quilts, Horse Rugs, Carriage Rugs, Men's L. W. Shirts and Drawers,

And a complete stock of Autumn and Winter Goods.

VALUE SECOND TO NONE.

W. & C. SILVER, CORNER GEORGE AND HOLLIS STREETS,

"The Representative Music House."

PIANOS & ORGANS.

The Largest and Finest Stock in the Maritime Provinces! Sole Agency for the Two Oldest and greatest Piano Makers of America, viz.,

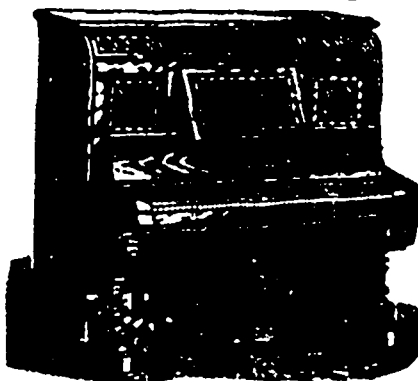
CHICKERING & SONS, (64 Years Standing.)

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And other Leading American and Canadian Makers of PIANOS. Sole Agency for the Province for Canada's Great REED ORGAN Makers, viz.,

W. BELL & CO.,

The Dominion Organ and Piano Co



DON'T FAIL to write or call for Prices, and you will save from \$25 to \$50 at least, and will be sure of a first-class article.

W. H. JOHNSON, 121 and 123 Hollis Street, Halifax, N. S.

AUTUMN-LEAF GATHERINGS

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