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The Welfare of the People is the Highest Law.

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The editor of THE CRITIC is responsible for the news 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 manufacture of artificial diamonds has developed to such an extent as to seriously interfere with the sale of genuine stones. The imitations are almost perfect, so far as looks are concerned, but the hardness of the true diamond is lacking, hence an expert can readily detect the difference upon examination.

One solution of the Irish question has been proposed which has met with more or less favor throughout the British Isles. It is suggested that Great Britain and Ireland be divided into electoral districts, and that in addition to the twenty-five or thirty members already sent to parliament from each of these districts, twice the number of local representatives be elected to meet as a legislative body in London. Upon these local committees or boards would fall an amount of preparatory and routine work, which the Commons is now obliged to carry through, and legislation in parliament would thereby be facilitated. The scheme would certainly be an improvement upon the present plan of submitting everything to the British Parliament, whether it be of local or general interest, and it would have the advantage of keeping the representatives from different sections of the country in touch with each other. It, however, savours of centralization, and can therefore never be a popular move. The same plan applied in Canada, would make it necessary for each Provincial Legislature to meet at Ottawa, instead of in the Provincial capital.

Full citizenship was not accorded to the Jews until they arrived at the age of thirty years; and in many of the European countries the age of thirty has been adopted as the minimum at which a man can be elected or appointed to a seat in the Upper Chamber or Senate. In Britain, on the other hand, where seats in the House of Lords are hereditary, many young Peers have the right to take their places when they attain their majority. The disrepute into which the Upper House in the British Parliament has fallen calls for immediate and radical reforms, if that chamber is to retain the confidence of the people, and it is suggested that a first step in this direction may be effected by raising the age at which the Peers are entitled to take their seats, and further, by obliging each hereditary Peer to pass a strict examination, equivalent to that required for a degree at one of the Universities, before they be allowed to sit in judgment upon the Acts passed in the Commons. The reform is one that should be supported by the practical common-sense people of Great Britain, as it would prevent Lord Noodle and his beardless conferees from holding positions in the State to which their poverty in brains renders them unsuitable.

The tide of emigration from British and continental ports is twenty per cent. greater during the present year than it was during 1886, and the young Dominion is receiving a fair share of those who are seeking new homes for themselves. The Canadian immigration reports show that up to the present time forty thousand *bona fide* settlers have entered the country since the commencement of the year, and as this is an increase of fifty per cent. over those who came to Canada last year, it proves that the great Indian and Colonial Exhibition has had a decided influence in directing public attention to the great resources of our fair land.

How few of us there are who are quite content with the present. We look, we long, we hope, for that which we desire, and we patiently plod on through life, ever with an unreachd goal before us. Many a desire may have been realized, and many disappointed, but our normal condition from the cradle to the grave is that of waiting. But he who would pluck the blooms of life must learn with all his endeavors to extract the honey from the flowers that bloom to-day. Zeal, hope, energy, and ambition, are all right enough, provided they do not plunge our lives into the vortex of an unknown future, and thereby lessen our capability of enjoying the blessings that are ours to-day.

We have frequently heard of debts being compromised, by the debtor transferring to the creditor his life insurance policy, and we have likewise known of one or two instances in which the transferred policy was looked upon by the creditor rather as a burden than as an asset. There is a man now living in Washington, whose age is ninety-seven years. When he was seventy years of age, he settled a liability to a New York firm by transferring to it his life insurance policy for two thousand dollars, upon which they have since been called upon to pay between eight and nine hundred dollars. This case is remarkable, but it simply goes to show that a life insurance policy has a precarious market value.

A writer in *Chambers' Journal*, in referring to a statement made by a well-known authority, that the art of conversation was gradually dying out, and that a falling off was visible, both in the quantity and quality of our conversation, pertinently remarks that the authority could never have attended a five o'clock tea, where the quantity, if not the quality, of the conversation is no doubt equal in volume to that in which the guests at an old-fashioned tea party were wont to indulge. It is not so much that the art of conversation is dying, as that the art of listening is becoming obsolete. To be an attentive listener insures popularity among both sexes, and of this fact the young men and young women of the period should take a note.

We note two recent cases of dismissals from office, which prove that religious intolerance still holds a strong hand in the United States as well as in Great Britain. It is a curious coincidence that the two cases in point both affected ladies who were teachers by profession and believers in the Jewish faith. In the first instance, the young lady had been employed by the principal of a Texas school for the performance of certain scholastic duties, but on discovering that she was a Jewess, the principal intimated that her resignation would be accepted, whereupon the young lady at once resigned. The second case was that of a lady teacher employed in the London board schools, who, although she gave excellent satisfaction as an instructress, was dismissed, because she regularly attended the Jewish Synagogue on the Jewish Sabbath. Certainly, the breadth of our boasted civilization must narrow itself down in the eyes of most men, when viewed in the light of these facts, which display an intolerance worthy of the dark ages.

THE MANITOBA RAILWAY AGITATION.

It is seldom at once that the motive power of a serious popular agitation is discoverable through the clamor raised by the selfish and short-sighted people, who, they did but know it, are, nine times out of ten, the gulls and catspaws of the more subtle wire-pullers. So it is only by degrees that we attain some insight into the "true inwardness" of the Manitoba Railway agitation. The enlightenment in this case comes from the annual report of Mr. Oakes, General Manager of the Northern Pacific Railway, in which we find that that Line was actuated in its invasion of Manitoba by the desire to retaliate upon and injure the Canadian Pacific for the sin of competing on the Pacific Coast for business which the Northern Pacific looked upon as its own. It is, moreover, more than probable that the action of the Northern Pacific is not uninfluenced by the national sentiment to which Mr. Bayard has given utterance, to the effect that the renunciation by the United States of the Reciprocity Treaty of 1854 was prompted by the expectation—so flattering to American "amour propre," and to upholders of the Monroe Doctrine—that the British North American Provinces would be driven to surrender their political independence to gain free access to the markets of the Republic; which, indeed, when renewal was sought, Canada was plainly told was to be attained only by annexation. It is certain that the Dominion is more, far more, independent of the American market than twenty years ago; and even Mr. Bayard has not been able to

blind himself to the fact that every threat of coercion by the power and position of the States has driven Canada, not to acquiescence in extinction and absorption, but into greater independence. This is so far good; but the Americans are not yet discouraged, and will, doubtless, persevere in playing every card which their strong position, either nationally, or by means of the powerful leverage of commerce, may place in their hands.

Such a card is furnished by the necessities, or aspirations, of the Northern Pacific, and it is to be regretted that American greed and ambition generally find a degree of support from weak-kneed and sordid Canadians who are prepared to throw patriotism to the winds, if only they can, or think they can, put a few more dollars into their pockets.

National sentiment and the commercial objects of the Northern Pacific thus pulling together, it is the more special aim of the company to switch off the trade of the North West at Winnipeg down to St. Paul and Minneapolis, or on to Duluth, and so destroy to the utmost extent possible the advantages to the East of the construction of the Canadian Pacific Road north of Lake Superior.

It is not encouraging to find the people of Manitoba so easily led by the nose by designing and unscrupulous politicians, to whom nothing that can by any possibility help to embarrass the party in power is "unclean," that they are found willing to ignore their indebtedness to the Canadian Pacific to the extent of cutting the ground from under its feet as to its projects for the construction of its own branch lines, to set aside every consideration of honor and patriotism, and to plunge their Province into a blind and hurtful antagonism to Dominion Policy.

It is of course convenient to the Liberal politicians of to day to treat as a myth the fact that both parties in Canada were committed to an all-Canadian route, that the integrity of the charter of the Canadian Pacific is bound up in honorable adhesion to it, and that millions have been spent, and well spent if the policy be properly carried out, to secure it. It is perhaps of little avail to remind red-hot politicians in pursuit of advantage, or the mobs they influence and excite, of such trifles as honor, consistency, or decency; but it does seem worth while to quote, in this connection, the words of the most upright of Canadian politicians. Thus spoke Mr. Mackenzie, when he was Premier:—"I am quite sure that before the end of next season we will have in operation, at a cheaper rate than railways were ever built before, not less than 150 miles between Lake Superior and Red River, and we hope soon to be able to bridge over the distance in such a way as to avoid the humiliation of having to send our people and our merchandise through the United States."

THE BUCKET SHOPS MUST GO.

We are glad to note that from all sides the bucket shops are being vigorously attacked, and that a determined effort is being made to legislate them out of existence.

A number of defalcations have lately occurred in Montreal, and in almost every case the cause has been traced to losses incurred through speculations in bucket shops. This has led to an investigation of the mode of conducting the business, and it is found that the proprietors of these, in reality, "gambling dens" are almost certain of winning largely from the silly dupes who frequent them, in many cases, luxuriously fitted offices. Experience proves, that where winnings are made, they are generally very small, while the losses completely ruin small speculators, who, it is found, are too often using the money of others. The contracts cannot be legally enforced, and so, if the proprietors are caught in any heavy transactions, they, in many cases, refuse to pay up, and their defrauded customers have no recourse.

Having their own telegraph lines, they have often been known, at a critical time for themselves, to place wrong quotations on their boards, and thus cause customers to close out transactions at a loss, when they should have realized a good profit. They have even been known to dispute their written contracts, and, in fact, to use every discreditable means to free themselves from their losses. In spite of the publicity that has been given to the fraudulent nature of their business, they still continue to be well patronized, and to tempt clerks and others of small means to risk their all in the vain hope that their luck or superior business acumen may bring them in large returns on their ventures. Poor dupes—can they point to a single instance where a fortune has been made by speculating in bucket shops? Not one.

They read of the enormous gains made by great financiers in stock speculations, and forgetting that these speculations are only carried on through the medium of legitimate Stock Boards, where the contracts are enforceable by law, and that they are rendered profitable only through the millions at the operator's control—forgetting these important facts, and carried away by the greed of gain and the specious allurements held out by the bucket shops, they are enticed to their ruin.

One reason for this strong hallucination lies in the fact that it is really difficult to draw the line between speculation and legitimate business. Looked at from an innocent side, there is no more objection to buying or selling wheat or pork, cotton, oil, or coffee, for delivery next May, than for delivery next week. That is, theoretically, there is no difference; practically, the results of trading in the longer options frequently run into a form of pure gambling, gambling which would be entirely prevented by the immediate delivery of the goods. By trading in stuff to be delivered at some distant period, and depositing only a certain percentage of the cost as margin money (1, 5, or 10 per cent., as the case may be) the buyer or seller has time to change his mind, close out his trade, or repeat it a hundred times "short" and "long" before the day of delivery arrives. The bucket shops have nothing to do with legitimate business, but turn their attention solely to its gambling phase. If they were honest in their gambling, they

would still do incalculable harm; but when, as has been repeatedly shown, they combine dishonesty and gambling to the ruin of thousands, it is time that the Government interfered, and passed the necessary legislation to stamp bucket shops out of existence.

In Texas, the people and the Legislature are moving in the direction of prohibiting, by law, the bucket shop business, and a petition from Galveston is worthy of reproduction:—

"It is impossible to enumerate the ruin and destruction to commerce, business and commercial institutions wrought by this great evil. During the four years the bucket shops have been in existence in this State, the pathway of the rapid careers of those engaged in them is dotted and marked along at startlingly close intervals on either side by suicides, widows and orphans, embezzlers, fugitives from justice, bank failures, wrecks of fortunes, transfers of homestead to obtain gambling money, the destruction of domestic relations, and last, but not least, in many cases the overthrow of human reason. The history is appalling and sad."

The bucket shops must go!

OUR MONEY MARKETS.

For some time past it has been evident to even the least careful observer, that there is an increasing lack of sufficient money all over North America with which to conduct business, and some people are inclined to infer therefrom that we are all "going to the dogs," and that at a headlong and constantly accelerated pace.

We do not regard such an inference as at all justifiable, in view of all the circumstances existing. Though there is a scarcity of available cash in hand, and though the banks have recently found it advisable to advance their discount rates about one per cent, even for the best paper, we are inclined to regard these incidents as favorable indications of the healthy condition of trade as a whole, and of progress in the development of our material resources. It is an axiom that a really extensive increase of population, of production of raw materials, and of consequent and dependent manufactures never has taken place in any country, and never will, without a corresponding increase in the demand for more money with which to conduct the enlarged volume of business. Wherever money is a drug in the market, and can be had merely, or almost for the asking, and at nominal interest, it is invariably a surer sign of decadence in business, and deterioration in enterprise, than it is of extravagance or of "burning the candle at both ends."

It is an acknowledged fact that our crops the country over, but especially in the West, have this year been enormous beyond precedent. It naturally requires immense sums of money to utilize these crops. The farmers who raise them must, in a large majority of cases, be paid in cash for their produce, for they have to pay their laborers and feed their stock. Then transportation from the fields to the great centres costs both money and time, and returns are frequently slow in coming to hand, so that advances are often locked up for indefinite periods. These demands for the use of money make that commodity valuable.

Again, an increasing population implies, necessarily, an increased demand for food, clothing, housing, and the thousand-and-one things that our civilization requires. To erect and maintain the mills and manufactures that are absolutely needed to supply these wants, of course, constitutes a further drain on our monetary resources. The *Montreal Gazette* of the 22nd of October remarks:—"Trade is larger in volume than perhaps ever before in the history of the Dominion, and the demand on the banks for the capital necessary to its conduct has reached a point at which the available funds find full employment and higher rates of interest are obtainable." The *Toronto Monetary Times* points out the fact that the bank loans and discounts are eleven millions of dollars more than they were at this date last year. These two statements give the whole truth in a nutshell. This immense sum, and very much more, is simply placed in the hands of our farmers, traders, and manufacturers, where it is earning more money for its owners and for its users. Twenty-five to thirty-five years ago, when the great western States of the neighboring Union were being rapidly developed, money was worth and obtained from 1 to 1½ per cent. per month on undoubted security. No one in that case was sufficiently a pessimist to imagine that evil was coming, because the conditions of progress were complied with. The end justified the means adopted, and it was discovered the West thrived better when she was obliged to pay 12 to 15 per cent. than the East where State usury laws tied down legitimate interest rates to 6, 7 and 8 per cent. In these matters truly "history repeats itself," and we do not hesitate to avow our satisfaction on learning that money is getting more scarce and tight, so long as we can learn at the same time that its enhanced value is due solely to increasing legitimate demands for its use in developing our great natural resources.

We do not lay much stress on the opinion expressed by some journals, that the fact that the general government of the United States receives a much larger revenue than it needs or, indeed, can use, reacts on our money markets. The United States is under the same conditions of progress that we enjoy, but on a very much larger scale. Money there is neither cheaper nor dearer, neither more plentiful or more tight, than it is with us. The rapidly increasing volume of the internal and external trade of both countries shows conclusively that the users of money are not paying too much for the accommodation that they seek and obtain from the banks.

Reviewing the whole situation now that we are nearing the close of the active business of 1887, and looking upon the promise that 1888 holds forth, we feel that Canada has no reason to be dissatisfied with its monetary position, but, on the contrary, she has every incentive to push on boldly and confidently, paying a fair price for the future prosperity which is assured.

CHIT-CHAT AND CHUCKLES.

The biggest patch of wheat in the world lies along the San Joaquin River, California, in Stanislaus county. It consists of one field of 10,000 acres.

An English inventor has devised a new system of generating steam, which furnishes steam, it is said, quicker and better than the present processes.

A crystal of alum twelve feet high and six feet in diameter was shown at the Royal Jubilee Exhibition in Manchester. It is of the finest quality, and is said to be the largest crystal ever made.

Says a newspaper reader: "I have found out what 'edit' means. It is to change the spelling of a good many words, put in things, and take out things, and then make the fellow that wrote it write it all over. I think I'd rather edit a letter than write one."

There is a little matter that some of our patrons have seemingly forgotten entirely. Some of them have made us many promises, but have not kept them. To us it is a very important matter; it is necessary to our business. We are very modest, and don't like to speak it out loud. See the point?

FIGURES AND FACTS OF MORMONISM.—There are 400 Mormon bishops in Utah, 2,423 priests, 2,947 teachers, and 6,854 deacons. Salt Lake City is divided into wards of eight or nine blocks each, and a bishop is put in charge of each ward. Under him there are two teachers, whose business it is to learn the employment and income of every resident of the ward and report the same to the bishop. Then the bishop collects the tenth of each man's income and turns it in to the church authorities. The same complete system exists all over the territory. As the bishops get a good commission on their collections they make very zealous and persistent collectors.

THE FESTIVAL OF JUGGERNAUT.—The *Calcutta Englishman* calls attention to a remarkable decline in the popularity of the great Rath Jatra, or Car Festival, at the Juggernaut Temple in Orissa. That the number of visitors this year shows a large decrease might have been expected, owing to the recent loss of two pilgrim steamers and to the common belief that the loss of a third had been predicted. It appears, however, that although the falling off is more marked this year, it has been going on steadily for some years past. The religious enthusiasm of the crowd is said to be also disappearing. There is no longer a wild rush for the car, in which the idol is dragged from the temple to a country house and back again, and on several occasions it has been necessary to hire coolies to perform the work.

The Chinese Government officials, says the *San Francisco Chronicle*, have lines of wire from Shanghai to the north and south well established and in good working order. Since 1873 there has been a cable between Hong Kong and Shanghai. Other lines are in working order, and there has never been any difficulty experienced by the Chinese in sending messages. It requires about 7,000 characters to conduct the everyday, ordinary transactions in Chinese mercantile affairs. A book containing these characters, numbered from one to 7,000 has been printed by the telegraph authorities, and if a man wants to send a message he simply wires numbers representing the characters, and the receiver marks down the number at the end of the line. Reference is made to the book, and the characters are ascertained. This system has been working for the past thirteen years, and has given satisfaction to the Chinese.

A BEAUTY MANIPULATOR.—He was a small and mild man, but he had a satirical smile on his face big enough to fit a Barnum giant when he leaned back and read this memorandum of instructions from his employer:—

- No. 90. Pug nose; pull it down.
- No. 91. Put dimple in her chin.
- No. 92. She wants a new ear.
- No. 93. Two much foot; pare it.
- No. 94. Insert teeth in her smile.
- No. 95. Cross eyed; change 'em.
- No. 96. Big nose; change to retousse.
- No. 97. Too much mouth.
- No. 98. Improve bust.
- No. 99. Wants to be made pretty, doubt if it's possible; extra pay.
- No. 100. Arch eyebrows; pout her lips and fatten her arms.

"Now, that's a nice bit of work for a fellow to undertake, isn't it? I suppose after a while I'll be asked to give a woman a pretty figure, clothe her, and teach her how to talk."

"What does it all mean?" inquired a dazed reporter.

"O! well, it's just this: I am a retoucher of photographic negatives, and am used to being asked to put new eyebrows on a woman. But the expectations of people who get 'took' are growing to such a size that it wouldn't surprise me to have a darkey come in and ask to have his complexion made white. Now, here are a number of negatives numbered according to this list. They are all girls, and members of a Brooklyn female school, who came over here and had their pictures taken. Each girl, of course, had a confidential talk with the photographer after the sitting, and this little list of mine is the result of their instructions."—*New York Sun*.

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NEWS OF THE WEEK.

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

Those who wish to secure pleasant and profitable reading matter for the winter evenings should note our exceptional offer which appears on page 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.

The Elderslie Woollen Mills near Westville, worth \$15,000, have been destroyed by fire.

Sir Charles Tupper and J. T. Bulmer are the only nominees in Cumberland.

Major-General Laurie has been nominated to contest the County of Shelburne in the interests of the Liberal-Conservative party.

Colonel Cameron will act as secretary to Sir Charles Tupper during the fisheries negotiations at Washington. The colonel is the son-in-law of the Minister of Finance.

The Lunenburg boy who had pluck enough to shoot two, and fight a third raccoon until, with his brother's aid, he killed the animal, deserves to have his bravery widely chronicled.

The new Halifax and Jamaica Steamship Co. proposes to start with a capital of \$250,000, and intends placing on the route between Halifax and Jamaica, two first-class, light-draft freight and passenger steamers.

The French Chamber of Commerce of Montreal has memorialized the Government, asking that railway fares may be reduced to two cents per mile. The idea is a good one for the travelling public, but then will it pay the railways, there's the rub.

A young man named MacDonald, of Port Hood, who, during a temporary fit of insanity, was locked up in one of the cells in the town goal, was found dead in his prison, having suffocated from the smoke of his bedding, to which he had set fire.

It is understood that Mr. Saunders has reported to the Minister of Agriculture in reference to the location of the proposed experimental farm for the Maritime Provinces, and that a site in Cumberland County is recommended as the one best adapted to the purpose.

The Minister of Customs has given his decision in the Bell Telephone case. He decides: 1st, that the handlers are not patented in the United States and not subject to duty; 2nd, that switchboards are dutiable at 25 per cent. as part of the electrical machine and not as furniture at 35 per cent.

The work of preparing for lighting Yarmouth by electricity is being expeditiously pushed, and within a month at least 50 lights will be ready for use. Yarmouth never does anything by halves, it is a wide-awake town, and before long we may expect to hear of a horse-railway having been established.

A small whale, weighing about three-quarters of a ton, which was accidentally stranded at Cow Bay, a few miles southeast of Dartmouth, was captured by Mr. Isaac Mosher, one of the landed proprietors of that delightful summer resort. The whale was probably out of his reckoning, not knowing of the Cow Bay monopoly.

The School of Art and Design opened auspiciously on Monday last with several well attended classes. One hundred and nine students are enrolled upon the books of the school, but while this is comparatively a large number, it is thought that under proper management more than double as many pupils can be secured next year.

A big mass, supposed to be a meteoric stone, was discovered recently on the farm of Mr. John Walsh, near Zearbrooke, on the line of the Canada Atlantic Railway. It weighs several tons, and is nearly out of sight. The ground alongside shows signs of disturbance, having been thrown up to a height of several feet. Local scientists propose to visit the scene.

That big raft at the Joggins appears to be fated. When it was first attempted to be launched the launch-ways broke, and the water being low, it was impossible to float the wooden leviathan. This year new hard pine launch-ways were laid down, but, unfortunately, the recent high tides in the Bay of Fundy have washed away these launch-ways, and the raft is left as high and dry as ever.

"An under-keeper" writes boldly denying the correctness of the stories which are in circulation concerning his conduct towards prisoners in the City Prison. He will please note that we did not state that they were true, but merely asked if they were. It is understood that an official investigation is to be made, and we promise to give the result. Meanwhile, we forbear giving an expression of our own opinion.

An experiment is to be tried in Montreal of discharging lines from a gun in the street to the upper stories of a building. This is on the same principle as the discharge of a life line from shore to a wrecked ship, and the idea is to save life in case of fire. Many horrible losses of life on burning buildings could have been averted by the use of this principle heretofore, and it seems only a question of detail to make it available.

For upwards of two years the work of pumping out the water from the great Foord Pit at Stellarton has gone on without cessation, and, at length, there is a prospect of the work being completed at an early day. Those who remember the terrible disaster which happened in this celebrated coal pit about seven years, will also remember that its levels and bores extend for miles under ground, which, when the pit was flooded, were filled with water. The main shaft is about 1,000 feet in depth, and there is now but 70 feet of water in the shaft. Much anxiety is felt as to the condition in which the mine will be found.

There is much lawlessness prevailing about Musquodoboit Harbor and Jeddore. Several shops and private houses have been burglarized, and a few days ago a well-known physician narrowly escaped a revolver bullet which was discharged from a weapon in the hands of an unknown man, who failed in his attempt to stop the doctor's horse. The inhabitants of these sections will have to appoint vigilance committees to protect their interests.

This is the time of year for big vegetables to turn up, and true to its stellar magnitude, the Kentville *Star* comes out with the report of a turnip grown by Mr. Illsley of Coldbrook, which it says measured three feet three inches in diameter. This is truly a turnip of the first magnitude, and should excite almost as much interest as the comet which everybody saw falling to the earth at the distance of a few hundred yards, but which no one has been able to locate.

Mrs. Irving, of Johnston's Crossing, Colchester Co., was instantly killed a few days ago while attempting to descend a ladder, down which she was carrying to the cellar below a basket of potatoes. Slipping, she fell headlong into the basement, breaking her neck and expiring almost at her husband's feet. There are altogether too many of these death-traps in Nova Scotia. Surely, in a land where lumber is cheap and labor can be had at a moderate price, the primitive ladder should be superseded by something more convenient and less dangerous.

Quite a crowd collected to see the start in the foot race from the Willow Tree to Bedford on Saturday last. There were seven starters, and McKenna, of Dartmouth, came in first, an eighth of a mile ahead of Whitford, who was the Wanderers' representative, and who won the race last year. McKenna, who is a beautiful runner, made the 9 miles in 53 minutes 4 seconds. At the dinner which followed Mr. Lithgow presided, and the toasts were responded to with that "brevity, which is the soul of wit," Beech, who is the giver of the beautiful medals, being as enthusiastically received as were the winners.

On Tuesday last Messrs. Hattie & Mylius commenced business in M. F. Eagar's old stand, and intend transforming it into the most handsome and most convenient retail drug establishment in the city. Mr. Hattie has had thirteen years' experience in the business, the last five in the London Drug Store, where he held the very responsible position of chief dispensing clerk. His geniality and business ability have won him a host of friends, who will now become customers. Mr. Mylius has been connected with the local trade since 1878, the last two as proprietor of the Central Drug Store, which he purchased from Messrs. Forsyth, Sutcliffe & Co., with whom he had been employed for some years previous. "Eagar's" has long been known as one of the leading drug establishments in the city, and with the good will of the business, the new firm also obtain possession of some 200,000 back prescriptions, and will thus be able to repeat orders. They will incur considerable expense in refitting and adding to the attractiveness of the store, as it is their determination to make it the finest in the Maritime Provinces, not only as regards appearance, but in every other respect as well. It is to be heated by hot air, and lighted by incandescent electric lamps. A handsome dispensing front is being manufactured by the Montreal Case Company. This will face the door, and in the centre will be a mirror 8 by 4 feet. The rest of the fittings will be in polished walnut to match. With a complete and newly-assorted stock, personal attention to all the details of the business, and an intimate knowledge of the popular requirements, the new firm will merit, and expect to receive, a good share of public patronage.

The new laboratory at Yale College, which is being built at an expense of \$75,000, will be finished about December 1. It is built of brown stone, with a handsome tower, and is one of the finest edifices of the institution.

The Fishery Commission will probably meet in Washington within ten days' time. The American Commissioners are already at the capital, and Mr. Joseph Chamberlain is expected to arrive in New York, on his way to Washington, within a day or two.

Irishmen in America evidently have the courage of their convictions; at least they believe that coercion in Ireland is a mistake, and they are prepared to fight it to the bitter end. Ten thousand dollars was cabled last week from Detroit, to aid in opposing coercion in Ireland.

The Fitchburg man who tendered a railway conductor in Massachusetts a \$100 bill from which to take his fare, and supposed that the conductor would not have sufficient change, thus giving him the privilege of a free ride, must have felt sore at heart when the conductor passed him over 98 huge silver dollars. The Fitchburg man is now a strong opponent of silver coinage.

At the closing performance of Paine's "Last days of Pompeii" at St. Louis, Antonio Infantes proposed to make a balloon ascension. The balloon, a hot-air affair, had attained a height of 500 feet, when there was a collapse. The descent was very rapid, and as he came down before the audience he was thrown upon an iron rod, from which rockets were being fired. Death ensued immediately.

The Supreme Court of the United States has denied a writ of error in the Anarchist cases. The decision was announced by Chief Justice Waite, in a long, carefully prepared opinion. The court holds that the jury law of Illinois is valid and constitutional; that the objection to the admission of Johann Most's letter and the cross-examination of Spies were not objected to in real court, and therefore no foundation was laid for the exercise of this court's jurisdiction, and that the questions raised by General Albutler in the cases of Spies and Fielden, upon the basis that their foreign nationality, was neither raised nor decided in the state courts, and therefore cannot be considered here.

The committee which was intrusted with the duty of presenting the President of the United States with the Peace Memorial, which was so largely endorsed by the members of the British House of Commons, has arrived at Washington and obtained an interview with President Cleveland. The object of the memorial is to insure the settlement by arbitration of all disputes which may arise between Great Britain and the United States.

The race between Teemer and Gaudaur on the placid waters of Lake Meranacook in Maine, appears to have been in all respects a remarkable contest. During the early part of the race Gaudaur led by half a boat's length, which Teemer afterwards made up, and for several hundred yards the two great oarsmen impelled their shells through the water at an unprecedented speed, neither being able to gain any perceptible advantage over the other. For one mile and a quarter the positions of the scullers continued to be relatively the same, but Gaudaur not having the same staying powers as Teemer, finally succumbed from sheer exhaustion, and Teemer, apparently as fresh as ever, pulled away to the starting place, leaving his worn-out rival far in the rear.

At a conference of leading Scottish Conservatives the extension of the suffrage to women was approved by a small majority.

The veteran Ambassador, Lord Lyons, is to be recalled from the French capital, and it is probable that his position will be taken by the popular Lord Lytton.

Sir Arthur Havelock, Governor of Natal, with 1,500 troops drafted from the colony, has started for the territory formerly possessed by Cetewayo, where the latter's son Dinizulu heads a rising.

The Moscow Gazette demands a neutrality agreement touching Gibraltar, similar to the Suez Canal agreement. The paper says it believes if all the powers interested should insist on such an agreement, England would yield.

The British postal service shows an annual net surplus of about \$12,000,000. Under these circumstances a subsidy of less than a quarter of a million for carrying mails over the C. P. Railway is no great extra burden.

The French authorities have been notified that the Newfoundland Act, prohibiting the sale of bait to foreigners, will come into force next year. This may cause the development of a new fishery question within a twelve-month.

Sir Charles Dilke is again calling in question the efficiency of the British army, claiming that an immediate expenditure of \$15,000,000 for new rifles is absolutely necessary; while a like sum should be expended in fortifying London.

Prince Victor Napoleon has issued a manifesto in reply to the manifesto issued by the Comm. of Paris some time ago. He demands an appeal to the people and asserts that the Napoleons alone can give France a strong Democratic Government.

The British Board of Trade have decided that the loss of the Inman line steamer *City of Montreal*, was due to the imperfect manner in which her cargo of cotton had been stowed away. Her captain and crew are commended for their exemplary discipline.

During the past five months there have been no less than 5,432 cases of small-pox at Havana, 12½ per cent of which were fatal. Of those who died from the disease 434 were whites and 245 colored. The largest number of deaths occurred in September, the total for that month being 277.

M. Wilson, son-in-law of President Grevy, has sent the French Post Office department a cheque for \$8,000, having unlawfully used the President's frank for his own correspondence. M. Wilson must have been going into the writing business on a wholesale scale, fancy spending \$8,000 in postage.

The Salvation Army in India will not have to beg for its daily bread so long as it continues to be the recipient of benefactions from its unknown friends in London. A few weeks since \$20,000 was deposited to the credit of the Army by its unknown benefactor, and now a further sum of \$55,000 has been added.

It is said that Mr. Gladstone never carries any pocket money, as when he does he invariably gives it away to anyone who may happen to ask alms of him. A London dealer in second-hand books says Gladstone is one of his best customers, and that when a purchase is made he sends a bill to Mrs. Gladstone, who at once attends to its prompt payment.

Edward Blake, formerly a member of the Dominion Cabinet, made a speech lately at Glen Sharrauld, the scene of the evictions on the Delmege estates. He said it was a shame and humiliation to find a man living in luxury while the tenants on his estate were in misery. Upon such a man he would invoke the curse of God. He advised his hearers to combine against the landlords.

A terrible fight took place in the menagerie in connection with a jubilee exhibition at Liverpool, G. B. Eight lions, five of which had just been imported, were placed in the same cage, and during the night a pitched battle between the old lions and the new comers took place. The keeper entered the cage with a red hot iron, and succeeded in separating them, not, however, before one of the tamed lions, valued at \$1,000, had been killed.

One of the most appalling disclosures has just been made public in Vienna, and has created no little sensation. A ferryman on the lower Danube has, it is now proved, been in the habit of taking his single passengers to a lonely isle in the middle of the river, where he dispatched them and cremated their bodies or hid them in the reeds along the river bank. Hundreds of victims are said to have fallen into the clutches of this inhuman fiend.

NOTICE. CHANGE OF BUSINESS!

Having decided to confine myself strictly to the Wholesale Drug Business, I have this day disposed of the Stock, Furniture and Good Will of the Retail Drug Business carried on by me at the "Acadia Drug Store," 155 Hollis Street to

MESSRS HATTIE & MYLIUS,
and have much pleasure in recommending the new firm to my friends and the public generally. Being intimately acquainted with both gentlemen, I can vouch for their competency and skill, and in asking my former patrons to extend to the new firm the support so liberally bestowed upon me in the past, I do so, feeling that the business could not have fallen into more capable hands.
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[FOR THE CRITIC.]
TO MY LOVED ONE.

Once more, in the dreamy silence
Of the city of the dead,
Back to your grave on the mountain,
My wandering steps are led,
And I read with the old, sad longing,
The name on the cross at your head.

Did you miss me, dear, in your slumber,
As the weary years rolled by?
Did you miss my visits at evening,
When the sun hung low in the sky?
Did your violets blossom as sweetly,
Though no fostering hand was nigh?

I will pluck, as a parting token,
This rosebud so fair and white,
And tenderly twine about it
A spray of the myrtle bright,
That blossoms 'mid shining verdure,
Hiding the earth from sight.

So I leave you here, my darling,
To your rest so calm and still.
For the battle of life is before me,
To fight with brain and with will,
And the place is not yet vacant,
That the Master bids me fill.

I will leave you in the silence,
Mid your flowers fair and sweet;
The myrtle that lovingly twineth
The roses that bloom at your feet.
To rest till the summons cometh,
And once again we shall meet.

A. H.

ANNEXATION—AN APPEAL.

The following lines are not only so beautiful in themselves, but so entirely appropriate to the circumstances in which we find ourselves, that they ought to be reproduced and circulated all over Canada. The craven wails and disloyal intrigues of a sordid, unpatriotic, and faint-hearted section of her population, seem just now emphatically to call for a popular formula of disdainful rejection, such as poetry alone is capable of furnishing. The name of Annie Rothwell is far from being unknown in Canadian poetry. This effort will deservedly increase her favor, and does her special honor.

What doubtful sounds are these we hear
What whispers fill the startled air?
That fearless hearts are learning fear,
And hope is verging to despair?
That she, our fair, free motherland,
Her heritage, and birthright grand
Would cede for gracious leave to stand
Beneath a foreign fostering care?

That hands are weak, and limbs will fail
To bear her on her destined way?
That hearts will quake and courage quail
And yield her up a willing prey?
That Avarice tempts with tales of gold,
That Faith grows faint and Love grows cold,
And treason lifts a front as bold,
As though he dared the light of day?

Oh, Canada! beloved and brave,
With youth for wealth and truth for throne,
Thy touch gave freedom to the slave—
Wilt thou deliver up thine own?
"Profit!" the craven lists and smiles;
But, if his craft thy soul beguiles,
And thou should'st heed his coming wiles
And lose thyself, can aught atone?

Oh lovely land, whose plane and flood
Inspire the brave and nerve the free—
Whose bounding hearts and beating blood
Shall father races yet to be—
Spend not thy strength on civil broil,
Give not to stranger hands thy toil,
Yield not to stranger foot thy soil,
But help a people's majesty!

Oh patriot souls, awake, awake!
Cast paltry thoughts of self aside;
The chains of sordid interest break,
And give their place to holy pride.
Is labor palsied? vigor dead?
Is trust in coming triumph fled?
Are we less worth than they who led
Who strove, and in the struggle died?

They ventured an uncertain doom,
They fought on many a bloodless field;
They sowed in days of doubt and gloom,
Shall we, who reap the harvest yield?
A path of patient toil they trod,
With tireless feet and faith in God,
And to the fair and hallowed sod
Gave us our title, honor-sealed.

Shall we, for whom this work was done,
Seek now, faint-hearted, alien aid?
Renounce the race, its prize unwon.
And barter self-respect for trade?
We build memorials to their fame—
Shall we cast slight upon their name,
And bring those grassy graves to shame
Where our true pioneers are laid?

Forbid it, loyal, sacred dust!
Through Fortune's smile, through Sorrow's shade
Guard we the memory of their trust,
And trace their footsteps unafraid.
Oh, spirit of the dauntless past!
Inflame our souls and keep them fast,
Be thy strong might about us cast
To hold the land our fathers made!

Strike palms, brave kinsmen of the South,
In commerce kind and friendship free,
In your grand records shall our youth,
Her own immortal pattern see.
That nation-life for which you bled
Is ours—the road you trod we tread—
Ask not, till deathless truth be dead,
Surrender of our liberty.

All kindred ties of birth and blood,
Be ours to-morrow as to-day;
All present peace, all future good,
For you, for us alike we pray.
Brother and sister, side by side,
May we, all time to come abide;
Never, as meek and gentle bride,
May we clasp hands and breathe "obey."

ANNIE ROTHWELL.

Kingston, September 28th, 1887.

ON HAND SHAKES.

Let me touch a few types with which most of us are familiar, and although the shakes may be of various degrees of intensity, yet they are as truly living and moving models as any ever exhibited by a peripatetic showman to a British public at a nominal charge. The bony shake is not confined to either sex; it may be found alike in tall and short, stout or thin; and consists of an offer of the bones *only* of the right hand; not until your hand closes round the shaker's palm can you feel the coldness, the lack of fervor in the greeting; there is no responsive grip to answer to your own, but the muscles only of the fingers and the palm lie in your hand, as though you were handling that which may be fitly described as belonging to one of the lemon squeezers of society, one who is a wet blanket on all enjoyment, sees clouds in sunshine, coffins in the candle, whose talk sets your teeth on edge, and in whose unexpressive eyes you can find no trace of sympathy or feeling. The bony fingers should have already warned you that to trust such an one will only entail on you disaster and defeat.

THE CONDESCENDING SHAKE.

Have you never felt it? How lightly the fingers (sometimes three, seldom four, and never the whole hand) drop into your palm; you do the shaking, because the condescending fingers lie passive in your grasp, and the hand itself would tell you, if it could, how much it feels the ineffable sweetness of its own disposition, in even allowing you so great a privilege. The same hand once, maybe, met yours with a grasp as genial as your own, but you have remained stationary, whereas Tom had a windfall, and curious, isn't it, to see cause and effect? The genial hand shake has become more high-toned and placid; and the nervous grasp of the fingers is changed for a gentle dropping of the digits in your outstretched hand: as one writer hath it—

"With finger tips he condescends
To touch the fingers of his friends;
As if he feared their palms might brand
Some moral stigma on his hand."

Yet make the most of it, for unless you gain a step in the social ladder you'll soon be beneath shakes, even the condescension of the fingers will be thought too great an effort for the wealthy man to make.

THE RETENTIVE SHAKE.

Sweetness long drawn out; it begins vigorously, pauses as if to take breath, and then starts again with unimpaired vitality, until you wonder where the end will be. Sometimes the shaker is anxious about family matters. "So you're all well at home, are you? (*Shake.*) Have the children got over the whooping cough? (*Shake.*) I've just heard some capital news. (*Shake.*) Come down to-night, and we'll talk it over. (*Shake.*) Mind you don't forget. (*Shake.*)" You gaze after the retreating form, and feel if your elbow still works right, or whether you have a single shake left in you.

THE FISHY SHAKE.

Cold and clammy strikes the hand you grasp; giving you a feeling of dissatisfaction and disgust, as you instinctively think about Uriah Heep, and, under one pretext or another, furtively take out your pocket handkerchief to wipe off the moisture which seems to have passed from the palm of the shaker into yours. Possessed as a rule by those whose tempers have gone wrong, whose milk of human kindness has turned sour, or whose hidden purposes it is impossible to fathom, the clammy hand frequently belongs to those with whom it is not pleasant to deal. In all fiction the ghostly hand is icy cold, or else a fishy, clammy, grasp—either will do to fill up the harrowing detail; even grim Death himself is supposed to touch us with a similar grasp; take warning in time, never try and perpetrate a joke with a man who has a fishy hand shake or a greeting.

THE MECHANICAL SHAKE.

Who is not familiar with the action of a pump handle as it is pushed up and down? and in some hand shakes the same principle is at work. There is no soul in it; the lifting up and down of the arm, which, when it is released, falls down flat against its owner's side; the mechanical utterance of a few common-place words, spoken like an automaton, all these tell you enough of the character of the man who stands before you. You cannot gather grapes from thorns, or else you might expect miracles to occur again on earth; and if you think there is any enthusiasm below the surface in the mind of the mechanical shaker, why, all we ask is, try and force it out of him, *if you can*. An earthquake might do it, because earthquakes somehow have a knack of wakening people up, but no human agency can accomplish such a feat, and after all, when you come to consider what consequences might ensue, it would scarcely be wise to disturb the serenity of so great a pump—(we beg pardon, mind).

THE GUSHING SHAKE.

The *How* are you shake, with the *how* very large and loud, the sort of greeting that fairly takes your breath away, and makes you fear you will be eaten up before you know it—the jolly man, or the jolly woman, to whom life is a pleasure, and whose existence is a series of delights, who want everybody to be as happy as themselves, and whose flow of spirits fairly infects you with some measure of the same good humor; your usual sober-mindedness, maybe, comes to the rescue just in time, however, and you get over the slight attack of anti-British frivolity; yet when the shaker has gone, it almost seems as if a ray of sunshine had shone on you, and the day seems all the brighter for the gleam. The Dignified Shake.—Much affected by the professors and the clergy. You are, maybe, immersed in some pursuit for the good of mankind at large, or your own special town to which you belong (for we trust you are respectable and belong to somewhere); big with importance, you stroll along, and, so strolling, you meet the dignified shake; you had thought of communicating your opinions to the lady or gentleman you have now met, but—one touch of the hand, and away flies the fancy! Like the frozen mutton of the Antipodes, you will want thawing in the warmth of friendship before you can talk to anyone again; and, as the gushing shaker gave you life and light, so the dignified shaker gives you a douche of cold water, which takes away your energy and spirits for the day.

THE FRIENDLY SHAKE.

The hearty grasp, which, without being too violent, either to crush the bones or to hurt the fingers, is yet warm enough, fervid enough, to tell you that the shaker's heart is right. You have only to look into the eyes of such an one to be able to read the honesty of purpose that shines through the lamps of the soul; a grasp that tells of a loving heart, in whose recesses there are sympathies that can share the woes as well as the joys of others, that can afford to laugh at the narrow-minded, the selfish, and the wicked, but can offer to those whom they respect, the genial hand shake, wherein every muscle, every nerve, tells of a desire to do all they can to cheer the path in life of those they meet, and inspire within their fellow creatures' hearts the knowledge that there are amongst us still, those who are ready to offer at all times and seasons the fervid grasp that tells of friendship, of fellowship, and goodwill.

CURIOUS LAWSUITS IN THE MIDDLE AGES.

Everybody knows that migrations of grasshoppers were a hard plague in Biblical times, and even before them. Ever since those remote centuries this plague has not ceased to disturb mankind, accompanied or followed by failure of crops, by famine and pestilence. Wherever these hideous guests arrived the most persistent war has been waged against them, but has always ended with the defeat of mankind. The consequences were the same as in all other defeats in those remote times. When men were helpless the intervention of the law or the intervention of God was called upon to interfere and to stop the ravaging intruders. The reasoning of the people was, indeed, rational, considering the low state of culture and education. The officers and representatives of the law, as well as the clergy, the natural interpreters between the people and God, were obliged to submit to the wishes of the helpless and, therefore, unruly people. It is supposed both acted in good faith; nevertheless, we find sometimes indications of a more advanced intelligence, and it is evident that they have then submitted only because resistance was impossible. As such proceedings would have been too ridiculous and useless if not done in a seemingly lawful and imposing form, we find that by and by the development of laws against obnoxious creatures in the middle ages was perfected. A defender was given to the miscreant, as it was deemed lawful that he could not be judged and condemned without being heard and defended. According to the opinion of the old jurists, even to the Devil a defender cannot be denied. Therefore we find a number of curious law cases reported in those times.

In the south of France a pig which had killed a child was condemned and hanged. Some thieves were hanged, together with their dogs, and the "Lex Carolina" contains a number of paragraphs, not very fit to be repeated, which imposed the sentence of death on animals. Lawsuits against creatures obnoxious to man and injuring their property are often reported by the chroniclers, sometimes with a certain kind of humor. Grasshoppers and grubs were the most frequent offenders. Bartholomæus Chassanous, a jurist of repute in the old territory of Burgundy, proposed a course of proceedings proper for such a lawsuit and its consequences—the judgment of excommunication. He says after written summonses are served, and after the judge is appointed, two advocates are to be chosen—one for the people, the other for the grasshoppers. The first begins the case against the defendant, and concludes finally that the grasshoppers should be burnt. The other advocate objects, and answers that the order cannot be issued until after a judgment has been rendered that the grasshoppers should leave the country. If this was not done by the defendant in a specified term of days, the thunder of excommunication was to be thrown on the defendant. A later jurist, Job Ludolf, of Saxony, a man with the extraordinary knowledge of twenty-five languages, speaks in 1694 at some length against the proceedings just related. The proceeding proposed by Bartholomæus, says Ludolf, could never be proved to agree with the decree of the Holy See; and nothing like it is to be found in the "Pontificale Romanum." There is a threefold excommunication—the minor, the major, and the anathema (which is the end of all)—"that the culprit's body is given over to Satan, to save the spirit for the day of the last judgment."

In 1479 appeared in the Canton of Berne, Switzerland, an enormous number of grubs, and it was feared that the whole crop would be destroyed. Therefore the council sent a deputation to the Archbishop of Lausanne with

a petition to banish the obnoxious creatures from the Canton. He gave an affirmative answer, and authorized the priests at Berne to impose the banishment of the grubs, providing for strict observance of the customs and laws. An advocate for the people was chosen. He notified the court of his appointment, and proposed the citation of the grubs. On a certain day some of the grubs were brought before the court, and their advocate chosen. The advocate chosen for the defendant was Jean Perrodet, a well-known dogmatical and obstinate disputant. Perhaps it will appear somewhat doubtful if the nomination of this advocate fulfilled exactly the demands of the law and custom of the time, as it is stated that Mr. Perrodet died a short time before his nomination. Nevertheless, the case and the complaint were read; and, as no defender appeared, the judgment was given for the plaintiff. "We, Benedictus of Monferrand, Archbishop of Lausanne, condemn and excommunicate Ye obnoxious worms and grubs, that nothing shall be left of Ye, except such parts as can be useful to man." The government ordered its officers to report the consequences of the excommunication, but the saucy chronicler says "that no success had been obtained—probably on account of the sins of the people."—*Swiss Cross*.

MUSICAL ECHOES.

EARLY MUSICAL HOME CULTURE.—All education begins at home; but particularly that education which lays the foundation of our artistic culture. We depend upon these early home influences to awaken within us a desire for all art, and it is at home that the first germs are particularly laid for musical culture. The mother has especially to cultivate all artistic tendencies in her children, by the mother the senses are awakened to all culture, and decidedly to that of music.

The easiest way to form the ear of children is by vocal exercises and singing, short songs, hymns, etc., make the deepest impression and imprint themselves best on the memory at an early age.

If the mother accompanies these songs on some instrument and guides her children's singing exercises, she will do them an incalculable benefit; never will these lessons be forgotten; they remain guides for all future development. No school can as early begin musical teaching as the home, and it is quite possible to get children to sing correctly and pronounce words plainly at two years of age.—*American Musician*.

Novello, Ewer & Co's latest list of oratorios and cantatas is remarkable, not only for the wealth of the subjects, but also for the quality of the works of this class published by that house. For instance, there are among others Beethoven's "Praise of Music," Dudley Buck's "Light of Asia," Cowen's "Sleeping Beauty," Dvorak's "Saint Ludmila" and "The Specter's Bride," Gade's "Psyche," Gernsheim's "Salamis," Gounod's "Redemption" and "Mors et Vita," Mackenzie's "Jubilee Ode" and "Rose of Sharon," Saint-Saëns's "The Heavens Declare," Schumann's "The Minstrel's Curse" and "The King's Son," and Arthur Sullivan's "Golden Legend" and many other works of the same character, making an aggregation of unusual attraction.

TORRICELLI.—Besides Teresa Tua, the widely known young Italian violinist, another young violin player from Italy is reported to be engaged for a tour in America, namely, Metaura Torricelli. Her engagement is to comprise 120 concerts.

A gentleman of varied musical accomplishments, has been sojourning in the country for some weeks, seeking rest and recuperation for the coming season, and indulging in the hope that he would secure these bounties, but the rumor soon spread that the neighborhood was blessed with the presence of a musician, and he was requested to arrange a concert. This is what he writes to *The Musical Courier* on the subject:

Editors Musical Courier:

I am gathering the elements for the great event among the natives here for the benefit of the church. I have two old maids (lean and forty) who will sing a duet, and I am training an old tom-cat to accompany them, in order to smooth over the screechy tone of their voices. I have also a young maid, who will gush a couple of sentimental ballads. Her voice lies between the owl and the crow voices. I have a reader of the "Mary-Had-a-little-Lamb" order, and I have the church choir. Ye gods! that choir! The first time I rehearsed with them I thought that Barnum's menagerie was let loose. At the second rehearsal it seemed as if the animals were choking, and at the next I expect to fall into an epileptic fit. This is a great State for music. The calves are great singers around here.

Yours,

ALARMED.

CENTENNIAL MUSIC.—Among the musical features of the American Constitutional Centennial Celebration held in Philadelphia last week, besides the new verses to "Hail Columbia," published in the last issue of the *American Musician*, was a brand-new national hymn, written for the occasion by F. Marion Crawford.

The maker of this new anthem takes seven verses of eight lines each to tell his story, and as each verse has a chorus of four lines, making in all eighty-four lines, it is, as Mrs. Partington would say, "more than there is any necessary for." Mr. W. W. Gilchrist, Philadelphia's distinguished musician, to whom the new anthem was submitted for a musical setting, only found himself equal to the chorus, and hence we have to-day a national hymn without a title or a tune, except for the chorus.—*American Musician*.

COMMERCIAL.

The volume of general trade has continued to be satisfactory, and, on the whole, fairly active. The distribution of staple merchandise has been fully up to expectations. There is no new feature in the situation, except that the increased stringency of money is being felt in commercial circles, and the bank rate of discount has been increased. This, while it proves a good condition of trade, will doubtless be made to do service as an excuse for delay in the payment of obligations.

The matter of good shoes is, especially at this season of the year, one of vital interest to every one, and it is an every-day occurrence to hear persons decry the miserable leather that goes into the foot wear now a-days, as compared with what we were accustomed to only a few years ago. Prominent leather dealers say that the chief cause of there being so much poor leather offered is the use of cheap mineral and mixed oils in its manufacture, in place of the pure cod oil which was almost exclusively used by tanners in the good old times. The universal craze for cheapness, however, drove the genuine cod oil almost out of the market, and in its stead the lower priced rubbish of substitutes was sought by manufacturers, in order to meet the cry for cheap leather. This in turn has induced boot and shoe manufacturers to make inferior lines of wear at a low cost, and the result is that the public have found out that their boots and shoes last them about half as long as they did formerly. The substitutes used for cod oil, we are informed, actually burn and rot the leather, and hence the unsubstantial nature of many lines of foot wear. The remarkable depreciation in the price of cod oil during the past year or two ought now to reinstate the use of this product with tanners, as a round lot of cod oil was recently sold in the Montreal market at 28c. per gallon, for account of a large Toronto firm.

The weather so far has been remarkably fine for the season, and we have had no real frosts. This has enabled farmers to proceed with their fall ploughing and sowing without interruption. Complaint is made in some sections of extensive rot in potatoes after they had been put into cellar. This tuber is likely to command extremely high prices before the next season's crop is reached. The yield all over this continent west of the Atlantic seaboard and south of New England is so very much smaller than usual as to be practically a failure, and this creates a demand at high figures for all that can be laid down in the American and Ontario markets. New York is importing large quantities from Scotland. They are reported not to be so good as those from these Maritime Provinces, but, under the pressure of scarcity, they sell readily.

Now that the time for the Fisheries Commission to sit at Washington approaches, the following from the Philadelphia *American* will be read with interest, as coming from the acknowledged exponent of the opinions of a prominent and influential section of the statesmen of the United States.—“It is reported that the Dominion Government is collecting and preparing statistics with regard to the Fisheries, which it will lay before the Commission. We fail to see any pertinency of statistics to the matter in hand. They were pertinent before the Halifax Commission, because that tribunal had to decide how much—in addition to free trade in fish—we were to pay Canada for access to the inshore fisheries. But as we have abandoned the right to those fisheries, after purchasing it, in order to get rid of free trade in fish, we have no offer to make Canada. We want no access to any but the deep-sea fisheries, and nothing else except decent treatment of our ships when they enter her ports. So statistics have nothing to do with the matter.” This seems to foreshadow the probable failure of the Commission to accomplish any tangible good result. We suggested such an outcome, but on different grounds, some weeks since.

Work on the Red River Valley Railway has been suspended till next spring. Of course some of the opposition papers are trying to make political capital out of this incident, but they forget, or at least think that their readers will not notice that the season is now so far advanced that little or no efficient work can be done, in the country which that railway is intended to traverse, before next spring. It is possible, and even probable, that if more energy and push had been displayed through the past summer by those having this important public work in charge, the road might have been practically completed by this time, but as they were not, a cessation of work upon it has become a natural necessity.

Our readers will be pleased to note that the Cape Breton Railway has passed beyond the region of promises. Work upon it was commenced on Monday last. About 50 men and 15 teams are working on three cuts. There is quite a gang on the bank dumping earth and rock on the shore so as to connect the pier at Point Tupper with the rest of Richmond County. Several carloads of scoops, shovels, and other plant arrived, and several more are expected daily. The survey party of the Inverness Railroad got through to Margaree Harbor, and are now trying to get a better line from Port Hood to Mabou than the one already surveyed.

The following are the assignments and business changes in this Province during the past week:—Crow & Bishop, carriage makers, Truro, dissolved, G. N. Bishop continues and liquidates; James A. Leaman, butcher, Truro, sold out to James L. Cutler; McElmon Bros., saw mill, Folly Lake, assigned to Thomas M. Dumphy; A. E. Gunning, dry goods, Dartmouth, assigned to C. W. Gunning; M. F. Eagar, wholesale and retail drugs, sold out retail drug business to Hattie & Mylius, composed of Jas. B. Hattie and Louis J. Mylius.

DRY GOODS.—The dry goods market has undergone no important change, but a reasonable amount of trade has been done. The sorting-up business has equalled expectations, and payments have been generally well met.

IRON, HARDWARE AND METALS.—The iron and hardware trade has been healthy in character and considerable in volume, and the general movement has been good. As a rule prices have been steady for all heavy goods, the only prominent exception being in tin, which has advanced owing to the

heavy upward movement in London, where the market is cabled at £118, with an excited feeling prevailing. Finished iron has continued in good request, and firm. Canada plates have been firm, and tinplates steady. Copper is unchanged, and lead steady and in fair demand. Late London cables are:—“Tin, spot, £118; three months' futures, £112. Market active. G. O. B. Chili bars, £40 12s. 6d.; soft Spanish lead, £12 2s. 6d.; do. English do., £12 5s.; best selected copper, £45 5s.; Silesian spelter, £15 5s.; Star antimony, £36 10s.; tin plates, 13s. 3d.” Philadelphia telegraphs:—“Iron quiet. Prices unchanged. Inquiries restricted. Consumption heavy. Foreign material dull. Steel rails at \$34, ties at \$22, bars at 2 cents.” The nail trade has been quite active, and a large number of orders are reported to be coming in. For some reason steel nails do not appear to be in so much demand as compared with iron ones this year as they have been. It seems to be the general opinion of the trade that the latter are found equal in quality and as suitable in every way as the steel nails.

BREADSTUFFS.—The flour market has ruled quiet and steady, with no marked demand, the chief movement being on local account. Prices have been steady all round, and unchanged. Beerbohm's cable says:—“Cargoes off coast—wheat quieter, corn firmer. Cargoes on passage and for shipment—wheat quiet but firm; corn firmly held. No. 1 California wheat, off coast, 32s. 6d.; California wheat, promptly to be shipped, 33s.; nearly due, 32s. 6d.; mixed American maize, prompt shipment, 22s. French country markets firm. Liverpool wheat and corn, spot, moderate demand. Wheat and flour in Paris quiet. Liverpool mixed maize 31s. 8d.; Canadian peas 3s. 6d. Weather in England milder. No. 2 California club wheat, ex ship, 29s., and present and following month 29s. 3d. Chilian wheat, off coast, 31s. 3d.; present and following month 31s. 9d. La Plata maize, off coast, 21s. 3d., present and following month 20s. 6d.” The Chicago grain markets were irregular, but not active. Wheat was stronger and improved somewhat, being at 72½c. for November, 73½c. for December, and 74½c. for January. The corn market was quiet and about steady, standing at November 42c. December 41c. and January 41c. Oats were quiet at 25½c. for November and December. At the seaboard wheat was stronger, with a slight advance. Quotations were—83½c. for November, 84½c. for December, and 65½c. for January. Corn also was stronger, and moved up to 52½c. November, 52½c. December, and 52½c. January. Oats are 33½c. November, 33½c. December, and 33½c. January.

PROVISIONS.—The local market has been quiet but steady, with the movement chiefly in small lots. In Liverpool provisions have been steady and unchanged. Pork 73s. 9d.; lard 33s. 9d.; bacon 39s. 6d. to 40s.; tallow 23s. 3d. In Chicago the markets have been quiet but firm. Pork about 5c. better, at \$12.25 November, and \$12.37½ December. Lard very quiet, at \$6.35 for January. Meats were weak, and broke 19c. There has been no change in the hog markets—prices steady. The cattle market was quiet and steady.

BUTTER.—There has been little or no change in the butter market, the tone of which has been rather flat. The local market has absorbed a fair share of stock, and all the fine goods offered have found a ready market. New York and English markets have continued inactive, and no demand comes from them. The Upper Province factories have commenced to close down, and roll butter will soon be on the Montreal and Toronto markets. A few lots have been received there, and sold readily at 20c. to 22c. for Morrisburg, and 16c. to 18c. for Western.

CHEESE.—Though there is no specific change in the cheese situation the market shows more symptoms of animation. Not that there is any great increase of business, but there has been more enquiry than has been the case for some time. This seems to indicate some revival of the trade abroad, but actual business on this side has failed to improve perceptibly. Private cables report that offerings are being made from this side at 55s. 6d., cost and freight, which is comparatively cheap. The Montreal *Gazette* says:—“Although certain circulars may be bearish, it is said that certain shorts have covered many of their sales, which probably accounts for the greater interest taken in the market. The market will, however, have to improve considerably before the high-priced contractors, who have done so much to disturb and injure legitimate business, can get out even; in fact it is reasonably certain that all the dear contracts will show a loss.” The public cable remains at 57s. The exports from New York show an increase of 98,000 boxes to date.

APPLES.—There is a good consumptive demand for apples, and the local market is fairly stocked. Long-keepers especially are in good demand, and prices are steady to firm at our quotations. Shipments so far made to Great Britain have not been large, but appear to have given good satisfaction. It is, of course, risky to predict far ahead, but at the present moment the outlook of the apple trade is encouraging, extensive shipments being made from Canada to the United States and England with fairly remunerative results. If holders do not exact too high figures, it is probable that the product of Canadian orchards will meet with good and profitable outlet. Kings, Spitz, Russets, and Baldwins, are favorite varieties in Liverpool, and, when landed there in good condition, invariably bring satisfactory returns. The movement of the Nova Scotia apple crop usually commences about the middle or end of the current month, and lasts nearly all the winter, the London market taking most of the Halifax and Annapolis shipments.

DRIED FRUITS.—The impression seems to be gaining ground, that with the arrival of lots now on the way, the prices of Valencia raisins will be down. Business here has been quiet, as most dealers have already supplied themselves. There has been perhaps a slight shading off in figures for Denia, and some low offerings are reported to have been made, but without guarantee as to quality. Some grades of Malaga fruit are rather scarce, and holders are inclined to be firmer. Sultanias are very scarce, and are well enquired for. Currants are firm, there being but few in the market, and a good enquiry exists for them.

SUGAR AND MOLASSES.—Granulated sugar has advanced about 1c, under which a large business has been accomplished, and the market has a strong tone. Yellows are firm, though their prices have not changed. An effort was recently made in New York to pool all the sugar refineries of the United States into a gigantic "Sugar Trust," which was to control production and dictate prices, but it now looks as if the scheme will fall through. The main cause of the break seems to have been that the larger houses were regarded by the smaller firms as endeavoring to "run things," and that there was a decided tendency on their part to take the lion's share. The claim is also made that the large houses had all the advantages on their side, while the smaller ones gained nothing, because there had been no division of funds. If the "Trust" breaks through, the general impression is that the market would be materially hurt. On the other hand, an informant states that a Boston firm is talking of starting a refinery in Baltimore. It may be that the whole story of a disruption has been started for the purpose of serving as a blind for the actual operations of the refiners. Still, the excitement on the street (in New York) and the marked reticence of all interested refiners was regarded as showing that there was much foundation in the rumor that there is a break in the "Trust." The feeling of discontent was made still stronger when a firm, supposed to have shut down, came into the market and began to buy raw sugar.

TEA.—There has been no change in the local tea trade during the last week, but there has been a seasonable demand, and a fair distribution has transpired. Advices by mail from London state that the landings of Indian tea were enormously large for September, amounting to 13,132,650 lbs., as compared with 9,162,850 lbs. for the corresponding period in 1886. The deliveries for the same period were also the heaviest on record, aggregating 7,014,650 lbs. against 5,413,400 lbs. last year.

FISH.—The fish market during the past week has ruled quiet. The quantity of fish coming forward is, comparatively, very small, and though prices rule high, there is really no firmness in the market. Certainly, the fishing season is now nearing its close, yet, in the face of that and of the small catch all around, the markets abroad offer no profit to shippers who buy here. A number of small lots of codfish have arrived during the week, chiefly consigned directly to dealers. These are, of course, held by them, and do not enter the market at present. Hake and haddock arrive slowly, and all lots coming find ready placement at quotations. Mackerel struck on our coast last Saturday—according to reports—in large schools, but, so far, the success of our fishermen has been very moderate, only a few hundred barrels having been taken. The best catches have been in Lower Prospect. The fish taken were large. Fall round and split shore herring continue scarce. Prices are nominally unchanged, but appear to be weaker. West Indian prices current give no encouragement to shippers. For instance, Demerara quotes only \$3.50 for best split herring on a bare market. Our outside advices are as follows:—Montreal, October 31.—"In fish a good business has been done on an active market, at steady prices. Labrador herrings have been in good demand, and some lots have changed hands at \$4.50 to \$4.75, with single barrels at \$5 to \$5.25. Green cod have been moving fairly well, and prices have weakened to \$4.25 to \$4.50. A few sales of dry cod have been made at \$4.10 to \$4.25. Cape Breton herring have been offered more freely, and prices have declined to \$5.50. The receipts of herring haddies have been very light, and they are very scarce here, owing to the recent storms, and prices have advanced to 8½c. Oysters are in good demand and sell freely at \$2.50 to \$3.50 per barrel." Gloucester, Mass., Nov. 1:—"Last cargo sales of shore mackerel, \$15 and \$15.50 per bbl. sea packed, \$14, \$17 and \$24 per bbl. for inspected 2½, 1s and extra 1s. Last sales of halibut, 7½ and 4½ cts. per lb. for white and gray, cargo lots. Georges codfish are selling from the vessel at \$3 per cwt. We quote best Georges codfish at \$4.75 and \$3.75 per qtl. for large and small; Bank, \$3.50 for large, and \$3.25 for small; Flemish Cap, \$4; Shores, \$4 and \$3.50 for large and small. Dry Bank, \$4.12½ to \$4.25. Cusk, \$3; pollock, \$2, slack-salted do., \$2.75; haddock, \$2.50, and hake, \$2. Boneless and prepared fish, 3½ to 5 cts. per lb. for hake, haddock and cusk, and 5 to 6½ cts. for codfish, as to style and quality. Smoked halibut, 6 to 9 cts. per lb. smoked salmon, 15 cts. per lb.; haddock, 6 cts. per lb. Medium herring, 16 cts. per box; tucks, 15 cts.; lengthwise, 13 cts.; No. 1s 12 cts. Smoked mackerel, 11 cts. per lb. Canned do., fresh, \$1.50 per dozen; 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 barrel; pickled codfish, \$5; haddock, \$4; halibut heads, \$3.25; tongues, \$6; sounds, \$11.50; tongues and sounds, \$8; alewives, \$3.25; California salmon, \$15; Halifax do., \$18. Clambait, \$5 to \$5.50; slivers, \$7. Fresh codfish, \$2.50 per cwt., do. pollock, \$1." Boston, Oct. 31.—"We note this week a little more enquiry for mackerel, and quite a number of sales have been effected. The demand, however, we consider purely speculative, as most lots are being stored. Meanwhile, receipts from our shore fleet continue light, and dealers' hopes now seem to centre on the usual late catch in the provinces. We sold yesterday No. 1s at \$15 to \$16; large 2s. at \$14; large rimmed 3s at \$13.50; medium 3s at \$13; plain, large and medium 3s at \$12; medium 3s cannot be quoted over \$11.50 to \$12. Codfish, although firm, have been offered this week at \$4.12½ for large dry bank. Salmon are quiet at \$17 to \$17.50 for No. 1. Herring are again wanted in a small way. Labrador, \$5 to \$5.50. Choice large splits, \$5.75 to \$6.50. Havana, Oct. 22nd.—"Codfish continue at \$6.25 per cwt., with only a moderate demand. Some orders were received this week from north coast ports, but the local consumption and that of neighboring cities is uncommonly small. Haddock have been in light supply, and, in consequence, prices have been advanced to \$5.50, but sales are in small lots. Hake are selling slowly at \$5, with light demand." Mayaguez advices quote cod as retailing at \$4.50 to \$4.75.

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 7½
Circle A	6½ to 7
White Extra C	6½ to 6
Extra Yellow C	6½ to 6
Yellow C	6½ to 5½
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
Demerara	30 to 34
Diamond N	34 to 40
Porto Rico	30 to 31
Cienfuegos	28
Trinidad	29
Antigua	28 to 29
Tobacco—Black	37 to 44
" Bright	42 to 58
BISCUITS.	
Pilot Bread	2.50 to 2.90
Boston and Thin Family	5½ to 6
Soda	5½ to 6½
do in 15 boxes, 50 to case	7½
Fancy	8 to 15

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. I. Mess.	17.50 to 18.00
" P. E. I. Thin Mess.	none
" Prime Mess.	11.50 to 15.00
Lard, Tubs and Pails.	11 to 12
" Cases.	12.50 to 13.00
Hams, P. E. I.	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	10.00
" 2 small	9.00
" 3 large	8.00
" 3 small	8.00
HERRING.	
No. 1 Shore, July	1.25 to 4.50
" 1. August	3.25 to 3.50
" 1. September	3.25 to 3.50
Round Shore	3.50
Labrador, in cargo lots, per bbl.	3.75 to 4.00
Bay of Islands, from store.	none
Alewives, per bbl.	1.75 to 5.00
CODFISH.	
Hard Shore	4.00
New Bank	3.50
Bay	3.40
"	14.00
SALMON, No. 1.	2.00 to 2.25
Haddock, per qtl.	2.25
Hake	2.25
Cusk	1.75
Pollock	30 to 35c
Hake Sounds, per lb.	22 to 25
COD OIL A.	

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

LOBSTERS.

No. 1 Scotia (Atlantic Coast Packing).	1.70 to 3.25
Tall Cans	4.00 to 5.00
Flat "	6.25 to 6.50
Per case 4 doz. 11b cans,	

The above quotations are corrected by a reliable dealer.

LUMBER.

Pine, clear, No. 1, per m.	25.00 to 28.00
" Merchantable, do do.	4.00 to 17.00
" No 2 do.	10.00 to 12.00
" Small, per m.	8.00 to 14.00
Spice, 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 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.

BREADSTUFFS.

PROVISIONS AND PRODUCE.

Quotations below are our to day's wholesale prices for car lots not cash. Jobbers' and Retailers' prices about 5 to 10 cents per bbl. higher than car lots. Markets quiet and steady. Breadstuffs are sold fine.

Flour.	
Graham	4.50 to 4.60
Patent high grades	4.90 to 5.00
" mediums	4.40 to 4.50
Superior Extra	4.20 to 4.25
Lower grades	3.15 to 3.45
Oatmeal, Standard	4.70
" Granulated	5.00 to 5.10
Corn Meal—Halifax ground	3.00 to 3.10
" Imported	3.10
Bran per ton—Wheat	19.50
" —Corn	17.00
Shorts	22.00 to 23.00
Middlings	24.00 to 25.00
Cracked Corn	30.00 to 32.00
" Oats	25.00 to 26.00
" Barley	nominal
Feed Flour	2.00 to 3.00
Oats per bushel of 34 lbs.	37
Barley " of 48 " nominal	55 to 60
" " of 60 " nominal	1.60 to 1.10
White Beans, per bushel	1.85 to 1.05
Potatoes, per barrel	4.85 to 4.90
Corn " of 56 lbs.	70 to 75
Hay per ton	14.00 to 15.50
Straw	10.00 to 12.00

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

BUTTER AND CHEESE.

Nova Scotia Choice Fresh Prints.	22 to 25
" " in Small Tubs	22 to 24
" Good, in large tubs	20 to 22
" Store Packed & oversalted new	24 to 26
Canadian, Creamery, new	22 to 23
" Township	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.	6
" 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.	6
Calf Skins.	25
" Deacons, each.	25
Lambskins.	25 to 30

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	4.30
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, Eleme, 5 lb boxes, per lb.	13
" small boxes	14
Prunes, Sterling, boxes	none
Grapes, A. 12, 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 68
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 100lb. alive.	4.50
Oxen	3.50
Fat Steers, Heifers, light weights.	2.50 to 3.00
Wethers, best quality, per 100lb.	5.00 to 6.00
Lambs	2.00 to 2.75

These quotations are prepared by a reliable victualer.

SADDLE AND SABRE.

(Continued.)

"It is wonderful," he was wont to say, "the amount of foolishness there is in this world, and, as regards racing, the man who undertook the task of being guardian to the dove-cote would have a thankless and onerous office. These 'squabs,' if they have any independence, emerged from the parental dwelling with a complacent self-sufficiency no warning could disturb."

He would have interfered fast enough on behalf of his favorite nephew had he seen occasion, but Gilbert was a man quite able to take care of himself, and with no taint of gambling in his blood. Norman in his varied life had seen young men come to grief from various causes, and had more than once, at the instigation of anxious relatives, interfered in their behalf. One rule he always firmly adhered to. "Don't ask me," he would say, "to meddle in the affairs of a young gentleman who is going down hill at a hand gallop. I don't like young gentlemen—their talk bores me, and they don't like me. They are sure not to take my advice, and call me an old fogey. I've no doubt, when my back is turned. However, when your Hopeful has gone a 'real perisher' I will step in if you wish it. The young man in difficulties, and the young man with his quill feathers still unplucked, are very different people to deal with."

Miss Devereux and Gilbert Slade continued to improve their acquaintance during the best part of the afternoon. The young lady had not a very numerous acquaintance at present, and was not at all averse to having this good-looking Hussar dangling by her side. Gilbert thought her, as he well might, a very pretty girl. He had not been so much struck with her at Lincoln, but now she was arrayed in all her summer braveries he freely acknowledged her beauty, and, what was more to the point, her lively talk amused him. It was not that he did not know plenty of people, for many a fair head was bent in salutation to him as he paced the grass by Lettie's side, but Gilbert was too pleased with his present companion to seek for change—in fact, by the time he had put Mrs. Connop and her niece into their carriage, it was quite arranged that he should call in Onslow Gardens the next day.

"She is rather a nice girl, that," mused Mr. Slade, as he paced home wards, with a vigilant eye for a passingansom, "besides, after the way in which her mother lunched me at Lincoln, I am bound to make my obeisance to the young lady and her aunt. What splendid brown eyes she has—and what a figure for a riding habit!"

I fancy those eyes had much to say for Gilbert's punctilious politeness, for had Miss Devereux been other than she was he would not so clearly have recognised the necessity of calling in Onslow Gardens. He was a young man apt to be a little careless of such social obligations, but though very far from impressionable, he had always a genuine admiration for a pretty woman, and was fond of women's society. He differed from both his uncles in that respect, who, though leading very different lives, were alike in that one thing—they both eschewed the society of the fair sex, except upon rare occasions.

Miss Devereux, as she drove along, looked back on a very pleasant afternoon. "Charlie must be a soldier," she thought, "I rather like soldiers." And then Lettie could not help laughing as she considered how very limited her military acquaintance was. Mr. Slade, and two or three officers whom she had danced with at Hunt Balls—and had no recollection of being particularly impressed with at the time. She was conscious herself that she was basing her predilection for the army entirely upon Gilbert Slade, whom, after all, she had only met three times. Major Kynaston, the only soldier of whom she had much knowledge, she undoubtedly had but little admiration for, but then she decided in her own mind that he was probably an unfavorable specimen.

Suddenly Mrs. Connop exclaimed, with some abruptness, "When did you hear from Charlie last?"

"Oh, not for some days."

"Where do you suppose he is?" inquired her aunt.

"He is sure to be at Cambridge."

"I don't think he is, my dear," rejoined Mrs. Connop. "I forgot to tell you, but when I was out shopping this morning Charlie passed me in a hansom cab, unless I am very much mistaken."

"Did he see you, auntie?"

"No; of that I am quite sure. It is very odd he should be in town and not come out to see me."

Miss Devereux made no reply. It was not very likely that her aunt was mistaken, and she knew that Mrs. Connop much resented any of her family not duly presenting themselves in Onslow Gardens on such occasions, while Lettie was also aware that young gentlemen at the University were not uncommonly in London without the knowledge of their relations. She kept her misgivings carefully to herself, but from a little that had escaped Charlie in the winter she felt pretty sure that there were money troubles impending over his head, and that the storm was likely to burst at any moment.

IX.

A LITTLE GAME AT BILLIARDS.

It is a curious thing, but it is nevertheless most generally the case, that when a young gentleman gets into difficulties he is apt to bestow his confidence, and take advice, in all probability from the very last man he should select. To go to the home authorities, undoubtedly the best people in whom to confide, until by repetition their patience has been exhausted, is about the last thing that occurs to many of us in those days of hot youth and difficulties. Charlie Devereux had got a bit dipped at the University, but it was not that which troubled him; he could have carried such debts

as those straight to his father without fear of his reception. He might be called "an extravagant young dog," and there might be a good bit of grumbling over it, still he knew they would be paid. But Furzedon had gradually imbued him with a taste for racing and the backing of horses at Newmarket. Charlie was of far too impulsive a disposition ever to do much good in that way. A man may be a very fine horseman, or, even more, he may be a very fair judge of racing, and yet have no manner of discretion in the backing of horses. Charlie in the first place had been indebted to Furzedon for the means with which to meet his liabilities, but as he got intimate with the Kynastons he was, like many another young man before him, very much impressed by the Major's apparent knowledge of the world.

The Major always did impose upon young men in this wise. A man who really does believe in himself is very apt to imbue his fellows with like belief, and, despite many rude shocks that should have shaken his opinion, Kynaston still prided himself upon his own astuteness. There was not a "leg" at Newmarket that he was not more than a match for; the cleverest adventurer in London would never get the best of him at either the billiard or the card table. As for the Stock Exchange, they knew a thing or two there, but they would have to get up very early in the morning to get the best of Dick Kynaston.

Dining at The Firs one night after a capital day's hunting, when the Major had suggested that just a couple of port apiece could not possibly hurt them after such a glorious gallop in the open, Charlie had made a clean break of his troubles to his host. The latter listened with great interest. Young men's difficulties always had an interest for him. His knowledge of money-brokers and bill-discounters was extensive, and nobody understood the rights of salvage better than he did. He delighted in being hailed by the sinking ship when the skipper was young, and too thankful for his help to dream of disputing the price of his redemption. Very pretty pickings were to be had in these cases, the Major knew. Of course there were others who must be permitted to share in the spoils, but the Major was a jackal of mark, and by no means, when the picking of the carcase took place, to be put off with bare bones.

He told Charlie that he had no doubt he could help him, but he would take a little time to consider of it, which, being interpreted, meant that Dick Kynaston intended leisurely to appraise his victim. It was not, remember, that he had won any money from Charlie, but that the latter had come to him with the story of his difficulties. When the Major came to consider the speculation, he considered it might probably turn out a profitable one. To begin with, the Devereuxs were unmistakably well-to-do people, and that, therefore, the money was certain to be all right in the long run—a thing that the gentleman to whom he meant to confide the relief of Charlie's necessities would be doubtless anxious about. Secondly, he thought there was nothing more probable than that from this, as yet, embryo North Leach stable might spring a dangerous steeplechaser or two, and to be behind the scenes in such a case might be the means of putting several hundreds into his pocket. Lastly, like Mr. Furzedon, Kynaston recognised that Charlie had the makings of a real horseman—a little green, perhaps, at present, but only wanting practice to develop into a first-class gentleman rider. Acting on all this, the Major had enabled Charlie to discharge his debt to Furzedon and save his hunters, but it had all been done in the usual way—bills at six months, bearing ruinous interest, which Charlie had signed, with the Major's rollicking assurance ringing in his ears of—

"Pooh, my dear boy! we shall have one or two more rolls of the bank before these come due, and you'll probably win a nice little stake on one of the Spring handicaps, which will enable you to just light cigars with them."

There are people who have broken the bank at Homburg, and I suppose there are people in Charlie's circumstances who have won enough money to discharge similar liabilities, but to the ordinary run of humanity such a thing never happens, and when it does, I, in the superstition engendered by long years of watching the battle of the gambler with fortune, fear every gruesome fate for him. One I knew, who, after steadily plodding through years of ill luck on the Turf that might have deterred many men from continuing, at last had his year. He was no heavy gambler, but how much he won between the First Newmarket Spring and the finish of the Ascot week was preposterous, considering the stakes with which he originally started. That he had followed his luck there is no need to say, and had bet at Ascot in a way hitherto unknown to him; but it benefited him, poor fellow, but little, for ere the next twelvemonth was over he was laid peacefully in his grave, and recked little of what went on on that Turf he had loved so dearly.

But those bills had at last become due, while that nice little stake which the Major had so jauntily predicted had not as yet been landed. Kynaston dropped a line to his young friend, and informed him that, unless he saw his way to meeting them, it was absolutely necessary he should come up to town and make arrangements for their renewal, and this it was that had brought Charlie Devereux to London. Kynaston determined to take advantage of the opportunity to give a little dinner to Devereux and Furzedon. The latter somewhat puzzled him. He was conscious that Furzedon was a shrewd young gentleman, though he would naturally have denied the idea of any one of his years getting the better of Dick Kynaston. A thing that had rather puzzled Furzedon had been where Charlie had procured the money to settle with him; but the Major had cautioned Devereux to keep silence respecting those bill transactions, and, as Charlie had volunteered any information, Furzedon could not, of course, press him on the subject. Kynaston was not given to entertaining, and, like one of his guests, usually had some object in view when he did extend his hospitality, but the tastes of young men who had either money or well-to-do relations he always considered were worth studying. He had gathered up in the Wolds during the hunting season that Charlie, amongst other things, was

little proud of his billiard-playing, but at The Firs, and upon the two or three occasions that he had dined at North Leach, there had been no opportunity of testing young Devereux's skill in that particular.

The Major's off-hand invitations to dine with him at the Thermopolium were both accepted, although Furzedon pleaded, in consequence of another engagement, that he should have to run away soon after dinner was over. Major Kynaston could be a good host when he chose to take the trouble, and the trio, after a satisfactory repast, lingered for some time over their wine. At last Furzedon declared he must go, and after his departure Kynaston proposed that they should have a game of billiards with their cigar. Charlie was delighted with the proposition, and, having adjourned to the strangers' billiard-room, they commenced their game. They happened to have the room to themselves, and at first seemed evenly matched, but towards the middle of the game Charlie began to draw away from his opponent, and apparently won pretty easily at the finish. Kynaston seemed a little nettled at this, proposed another game of a hundred up, and offered to bet a crown he won it. He certainly made a better fight this time, but Devereux was once more victorious; still the Major declined to own him self defeated, and suggested another game for the same nominal stake. Devereux assented, and even offered to give a few points, which the Major testily declined. This time the scoring ran pretty even, when a stout gentleman, smoking a very large cigar, lounged into the room, nodded slightly to Kynaston, and, seating himself on the adjacent bench, proceeded to watch the play. The arrival of the new-comer seemed slightly to disconcert the Major, but, at the same time, it seemed to have improved his play. A somewhat amused expression stole over the looker-on's face; and when Kynaston eventually proved the conqueror by a few points, he rose from his seat, and, as he sauntered out of the room, remarked,

"Hardly playing up to your usual form, Kynaston."

"Always the case," replied that gentleman, "when you drink champagne at dinner; you never can quite tell what the effect will be. You either play below your game, or a good many points above it."

"Perhaps so," rejoined Bob Braddock, for it was he who had been the amused spectator. "I don't know who that very young gentleman is," he muttered to himself as he left the room, "but if he thinks that he can form the slightest idea of Dick Kynaston's game of billiards from what he has seen to-night, he is very much mistaken. I don't suppose he has any conception that he has got hold of about the very best player we have got amongst us, and whom I fancy there are not half-a-dozen gentleman players in London can tackle."

Major Braddock was right; although Charlie was no fool, he had not the slightest idea, so well was it done, that Kynaston was concealing his game; he looked upon him as much such a player as himself; but thought that he was a little the best of the two. However, they played a couple more games upon even terms, and whatever Kynaston's object might have been, it was evident he had no design upon Charlie at present; for in one of these games he was easily beaten, and the other he just won by an apparent fluke. Nor did he make the slightest attempt to induce Charlie to bet further than the modest stake first proposed.

Whether Mr. Furzedon, if he had remained and witnessed the episode of the billiard playing, would have been much enlightened about his host's character, it is hard to say. Furzedon was very shrewd, no doubt, and it must be borne in mind four years Devereux's senior; but it is very difficult, indeed, knowing nothing of a good billiard-player's game, to discover whether he is doing his best, then, again, Furzedon had never set himself to study Major Kynaston. He knew that he was a sporting man, much addicted to horseracing, and he had little doubt with a taste for play, but he had never troubled his head to take further stock of him. He had dined with Kynaston at some little inconvenience, simply with the view of cementing the acquaintance commenced at North Leach, he looked to Mrs. Kynaston principally to help him in the main ambition of his life, namely, the working his way into London society. Mr. Furzedon had a high idea of utilising his fellows in anywise; but it had not so far struck him that the Major could be useful to him. He had not yet fathomed the vain-glorious weakness of Kynaston's nature. The Major never could resist vaunting his triumphs when fortune favored him, either on the baize or on the grass.

Young Devereux regained his quarters with all the complacency of a man who has spent a thoroughly satisfactory evening. He had had an excellent dinner, a good tussle at billiards with an opponent worthy of his steel, but of whom he firmly believed he had legitimately got the best, and, crowning mercy of all, the Major had told him those bills would be comfortably arranged for the present. It is true that there was something bitter within the cup, and, young and reckless as he was, even Charlie made a wry face at the price he was told he would have to pay for this further accommodation. Only that he had a delicacy about it, he had far better have taken Furzedon into his confidence. Even if that gentleman had charged him interest for extending his loan, it would have been something bearing a very mild proportion to what his present benefactors required for their services. As Mrs. Connop rightly surmised, Charlie had not seen her. He was only up for two or three days, and did not particularly wish his relations to know of his presence in London, more especially Lettie. He was very fond of his sister, knew that her suspicions were already slightly aroused about the state of his affairs, and was not at all inclined to submit to her keen questioning. "No," he thought, "Lettie always could worm anything out of me, and it's not a bit of use worrying her with this scrape, and she has all her life taken my troubles a deuced deal more hard; than I ever did myself. It is awkward, and if I can't win a race with Pole Star in the autumn I don't see my way out of it. But Lettie's a real good sort, and she shan't be bothered with my troubles as long as I can help it."

(To be continued.)

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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 forms 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 decline the contract, or fail to complete the work contracted for, and will be returned in case of non-acceptance of tender.

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

By order,

A. GOREIL,
Secretary.

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

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ANALYTICAL DEPARTMENT.—To meet a long felt want THE CRITIC has made arrangements with a competent Analyst, who will determine the quality of all specimens sent to be tested. The fee charged will be from two to eight dollars, according to the difficulty and expense incurred by the analyst in making the analysis. The strictest secrecy will be observed, and the result of the analysis will only be known to the operator and the sender of the sample. Send samples by parcel-post or otherwise, with a fee of two dollars to "Analyst," care A. M. Fraser, Business Manager of THE CRITIC. Should a larger fee be required, the sender will be notified.

GOLD-MINERS' ASSOCIATION.—We again desire to remind all interested in gold-mining that the preliminary meeting for the organization of the Gold-Miners' Association will be held at THE CRITIC Office on Wednesday next, November the 9th, at 2 p.m. That there is a necessity for the association all interested in mining admit, and the time is now near when they may see a great want supplied. Properly managed, the association may accomplish much good, and all attending should be prepared to proceed to business, so that the time of the first meeting may not be frittered away and nothing accomplished. Parties who are unable to attend should help the good cause along by letters of approval, and also by furnishing an outline of what they consider should be the aims and objects of the association. Reform in the Mining Act is one question of importance, but there are other ways in which the association may prove beneficial, and these should be pointed out.

In our next issue we hope to chronicle the fact that the Gold-Miners' Association has been duly organized.

A TRIP TO THE EASTERN GOLD DISTRICTS.

(Continued.)

(From our Staff Correspondent.)

A MODEL MINER'S CABIN.

The door of Mr. Touquoy's cabin was locked, but his foreman, an old Australian miner, was standing near by and conducted me down to the river, a really pretty stream, where Mr. Touquoy was found busily fishing for eels by moonlight.

Mr. Touquoy is a Frenchman of middle age, but speaks English so fluently and so perfectly, that his nationality would not be detected were it not for his politeness, a quality rendered doubly delightful when encountered in a mining camp, where rough good-heartedness is the general order of the day.

He is an old friend of THE CRITIC's, and, as its representative, he received me most cordially. Returning to his cabin, he gave me a comfortable seat, and then raking up the fire, he placed the tea kettle on the stove, and, all the time talking pleasantly, prepared a cosy tea. I glanced with some curiosity around the cabin, and found that everything was neat as a pin. The rear room was a bed-room, the outer the kitchen and general living apartment. The ceiling and walls were neatly boarded, the former being circular in shape, thus adding to the height and giving a comfortable appearance to the rooms. The bare floors and the deal table were spotless, the large cooking stove polished until you could see your face reflected in it, and many a housekeeper might have taken a lesson in cleanliness from the bright tinware hung methodically along the wall.

Several barrels were ranged around the room, all filled with gold specimens, while the window sills, the tables, and all available spaces were ornamented with pieces of quartz, every one of which was studded with gold, and glittered in the lamplight. The tea was soon drawn, and then taking my place at the table, I did full justice to Mr. Touquoy's culinary skill. Half of a cold broiled chicken, slice after slice of bread and butter, cup after cup of fragrant tea (not the "biled" article too often "dished up," but properly drawn and sweetened with lump sugar and cream) disappeared before my voracious appetite, and still my polite host tempted me on. Tea over, the dishes were soon washed and stored away in a dresser, but not until everything was in perfect order did Mr. Touquoy light his pipe and seat himself at my side before the fire. I had had a long day of it, but the tea so refreshed me that I sat for hours eagerly listening to Mr. Touquoy as he described his mining experiences in Australia and Nova Scotia. Unlike most travellers, Mr. Touquoy is able to graphically describe what he has seen. He has already made a tidy fortune out of our gold-fields, and his Moose River mine is a large fortune in itself.

DESCRIPTION OF D. TOUQUOY'S PROPERTY.

Mr. Touquoy has two properties in Moose River, one of 23 acres at the west end of the district, which has only been prospected to a slight extent, and one lot of 23 acres where he is now working. Four of these areas are slightly detached, lying a little to the northeast of the others. Work is now being done near the centre of the original property, and the leads run from east to west across it for 900 feet. Seven leads have been opened up, commencing with the

ARCHIBALD, OR No. 1 LEAD.

This lead has one shaft sunk upon it, and seems mainly to be composed of angulars. It is not being worked at present, but has averaged from $\frac{1}{2}$ to one ounce to the ton.

SOUTH, OR No. 2 LEAD.

This lead is now being worked, and has proved very rich. It is a perfect saddle, and has been opened up along its course westerly for 110 feet. It dips north, south and west, being near the surface at the easterly end of the workings, while at the west end the shaft is down some 35 feet. The lead averages $1\frac{1}{2}$ inches in thickness, is of barrel quartz, and makes rolls that it yields from 7 to 8 inches of crushing stuff. $7\frac{1}{2}$ tons of quartz

from this lead yielded $31\frac{1}{2}$ oz. of gold. At the west end of the workings another gold-bearing lead has just been struck some six feet below the south lead.

NORTH, OR NO. 3 LEAD.

This lead has been worked for 120 feet, the deepest shaft at the west end being down 35 feet. It first dips north at an angle of 45 degrees, then for 20 feet is almost flat, and then to the end of the workings continues at the original north dip. There are in reality two leads, one between the whin and slate, which has been worked 1000 feet east on the property of the Montreal Company. The other is a serpentine lead, winding in and out amongst the slate. When first struck, it was only a quarter of an inch wide, but in spots it was nearly all gold, as may be judged from the fact that 50 lbs. mortared yielded 60 oz. of gold. Another small lot yielded 31 oz.

In this lead there is a rich spot called the Bonanza, where over \$1200 worth of gold were taken out in a few feet. The lead has gradually widened from $\frac{1}{2}$ inch to $1\frac{1}{2}$ inches in a distance of 100 feet. It makes rolls and thus yields a foot of crushing stuff on the level, and is good for two ounces to the ton.

MAIN, OR NO. 4 LEAD.

This lead varies in thickness from $\frac{1}{2}$ to 3 inches, and yields 3 or 4 inches of crushing stuff, averaging from $1\frac{1}{2}$ to $1\frac{1}{2}$ ounces to the ton. 62 tons crushed gave 81 oz. of gold.

SLATE LEAD.

This lead lies between the north and main leads, and gives a foot of crushing stuff. It is in reality two small leads in the slate, and is very rich.

LITTLE NORTH, OR NO. 5 LEAD.

This is open for 300 feet from the east boundary of the property, and four shafts have been sunk upon it, the deepest having reached a depth of about 50 feet. There are two leads on the working belt which will give nearly a foot of crushing stuff. The other shafts are about 30 feet in depth, and the average gold yield is 18 dwts. per ton.

COPPER, OR NO. 6 LEAD.

There are five shafts on this lead, which has been opened up for 200 feet along its course. It is so called from native copper being found in the ore. The deepest shaft is down some 50 feet, and there are two leads, the "hanging" and "footwall," giving 9 inches of crushing stuff. The average yield is 16 dwts. to the ton.

SHAFT NO. 7.

There are two shafts in this lead, which has been opened between 50 and 60 feet. The west shaft is down 30 feet, and here the lead is two feet wide. In the other shaft it is three inches. It dips to the west, and the average yield is 11 dwts.

The shafts are all well timbered, and the surface is so thoroughly drained that there is no possibility of trouble from surface water.

GOLD IN SURFACE SOIL.

On six or seven areas the surface soil down to the bed rock, an average of over seven feet, is gold-bearing, and will all pay to crush when Mr. Touquoy completes a ten stamp mill which he is now preparing to put up. One hundred and forty-seven tons, quarried from different places on the surface, yielded 12 oz., 12 dwts., 10 grs.; different lots yielding from \$1.00 to \$3.50 a ton. Mr. Touquoy estimates, (with the crusher close at hand,) that it could be mined and milled at 50 cents a ton, and thus there is in this surface soil abundant material to keep the crusher always at work.

WATER POWER.

The Moose River runs through the property, and Mr. Touquoy has secured a ten years' lease of the water-power, which gives 11 feet head on his property. A lake empties into the river above the mines, and at the outlet of the lake he has just built a substantial dam. This lake is two miles long by half a mile wide, and will furnish abundant water-power to run a ten stamp mill the year round. At the time of my visit another dam was being built across the river on Mr. Touquoy's property, and a race will lead the water from this to the site of the new mill, which is in a most central locality. Mr. Touquoy is fond of chestnuts, and says that some men are not worth a d— but he is worth two.

MEN EMPLOYED.

Employment has been given to eighteen men during the past three months, but only ten were engaged in mining proper, the balance being employed on surface operations.

During my stay at Moose River I visited all portions of Mr. Touquoy's property, and had a very pleasant trip underground.

Candle in hand, a descent of some ten feet brought us into the south lead near the eastern end of the workings. Going through into the north lead, we slowly descended the gentle incline and traced this lead in its serpentine course (and also one just above it) down to the western end of the workings. In some places the lead was perfectly flat, and there was a solid whin rock roof over our heads. Near the end, it dipped west as well as north, and it was a pretty sight to trace the lead, now an inch and a half wide, as it twisted serpent like through the dark slate. The scollops were so regular that they seemed laid out by some mechanical hand. Gold was to be seen in the leads in all portions of the mine, and some parts of the Bonanza which had been left standing, seemed soldered together with gold. In one place the mine was hollowed out like a boat, and there were innumerable features that would have delighted a geologist. We traced the south lead also, and it was equally interesting. It is what is known as barrel

quartz, and the top of the lead, where it had been stripped, looked like an immense cable. Gold was plentiful in this lead, and the quartz that was being hoisted to the surface was well supplied with the precious metal.

On returning to the surface, my only regret was that I had not been accompanied by some of the pessimists who are continually decrying our mineral resources. Capitalists from abroad have found out that there is money to be made in the Nova Scotia gold mines, and many of them are now making it. When will our home capitalists follow their wise example?

Locked in his strong-box and scattered around his cabin, Mr. Touquoy has many beautiful specimens. Some are of almost solid gold, and all are very rich. His den reminded me of the Count of Monte Christo and his golden cavern, only that Mr. Touquoy is all business energy, and his stores of gold are the well-earned reward of his pluck and perseverance.

To be Continued.

ADIOS AMIGO.

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 specially 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.



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 a 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. F. BRADLEY,
Secretary.

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

Gold Miners--Attention!

THE OLDHAM GOLD DISTRICT

Is known as one of the most reliable
Gold-producing Districts in the Pro-
vince, 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 acres, 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,

161 HOLLIS STREET.

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. Newsworthy 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 prize essay on "Country Life," by T. A. Patrick, of Elderton, Ont., is from the pages of that excellent periodical, the *Farmer's Advocate*, London, Ont. :—

"One of the best ways to describe anything is to compare and contrast it with something else. Let us then consider life in the country as compared and contrasted with life in town.

Life in the country is free from the narrow restraints and conventionalities of town life; its tendencies are freer and less restricted. As we are all more or less influenced by our surroundings, we should expect to find, and we do find, the resident of the country freer and less conventional than the resident of the town. He has less regard for appearances and more regard for comfort. His walks are not confined by fence or boulevard. If he wishes to rest he does so with the conscious freedom of being alone and unobserved. His eyes are not tired by a wearing sameness of bricks and mortar. He does not need to take a journey to get a breath of pure air. His prospects are limited by hill and horizon, not by warehouse and shop. His work is not in shop or offices with an "eight-foot ceiling," dark, damp and dingy, but in the broad field, under the blue canopy of heaven, with properly diffused light, and a ventilation that insures his never breathing the same air twice; therefore he has the ruddy glow of health, not the sickly pallor of the citizen. He works hard, but he sleeps sound. He spends the day in useful toil, and he has no temptation to spend the night in debauching revelry. If he be prematurely old it is from work and not from worry; it is because he has used his mind too little and his body too much; but even yet he lives to read the obituary of his younger contemporary of the town. Life in the country means health in youth and a green old age.

The country resident knows his neighbors for miles around him, and as is his acquaintance so are his sympathies—enlarged and enlarging. Is his neighbor sick, his services are freely offered, and he relieves his sick brother's anxiety by attending to that brother's work. This rustic way of extending sympathy is more practical than calling and leaving a card. Those living in the country are more dependent on each other, have more in common, than those living in town, and this mutual interdependence and community of aim and purpose, brings country life the nearest to that Utopia where all men are brothers, bound by the common ties of a common lot.

The advantages of an early life in the country and on the farm are inestimable. From the country must come the "brain and brawn" of society. Life in town is so degenerating that scarcely can the second generation produce a man with the ideal "*Mens sana in corpore sano*," (a sound mind in a sound body.)

"Stick to the farm, boys," is an excellent motto, but the inexorable laws of supply and demand are somewhat against it. The demand for men with brains comes from the town, and from the country must come nine-tenths of the supply. The leading clergymen, lawyers, doctors and editors of the present generation have been country boys, and it promises to be thus in the future. Many of our most successful merchants and tradesmen are indebted to their early life in the country for the valuable lessons of economy and diligence and perseverance learned there, which have been the guiding principles of their successful careers. Idleness, the greatest enemy of youth, finds the youth of towns his peculiar prey, those of the country being protected by an impenetrable coat of mail called work.

The wives and daughters, too, of the country enjoy a life of greater usefulness than do those of the town, and to a well regulated mind, a life of usefulness is a life of content. It is not theirs to haul around by a fancy chain a blanketed pet poodle. They miss that exquisite employment. To them the care of a child is of more importance than the care of a lap-dog, and by them a mother's paramount duties are not relegated to an indifferent nurse. Knitting and sewing are less enervating than the ball and the opera. A gingham gown is generally more in accord with hygienic principles than is an evening dress. Healthful surroundings are alike remote from luxury and from poverty. Life in the country—a life of plenty—is free alike from the evils of the one and the vices of the other.

Country life, with its freedom from useless restraints and conventionalities; with its neighborly sympathy; its community of aim and purpose; its healthfulness and its naturalness; its freedom from the vices and the temptations alike of luxury and of poverty; its early lessons of perseverance, diligence and economy; its healthful work and its refreshing sleep; with all these and its many other advantages, it should be, and but for perverse, change-seeking human nature it would be, the life of content.

Summer pruning retards moderate growth only while the trees are growing, but the effect would be just the reverse if performed while they are in a dormant state. The retarding effect is greatest while the trees are growing most rapidly, and it gradually becomes less so as the growth diminishes and the terminal buds of the shoots form and mature. When the growth has entirely ceased, pruning will not check them, but will prepare them to a certain extent for a vigorous start next spring, the only objection to which is that if they are half tender, they may be injured by winter if pruned late in Autumn.—*N. Y. Cultivator*.

TRAINED SHEEP DOGS.—Of the animals adapted to usefulness to the farmer by their labor and skill we do not make as much use of the dog as would be profitable. In some countries of Europe he is a beast of burden,

and the streets of cities are crowded with heavily laden carts drawn by dogs. But his greatest usefulness is found in his care of sheep, and in this service he displays great intelligence. Of various breeds employed for this purpose the Scotch Collie stands pre-eminent. The well authenticated accounts of his intelligence and skill and devotion to duty excite our wonder, as the displays of these qualities excite the admiration of every beholder. The writer has seen flocks of wild Herdwicks upon the mountains of Westmoreland and Cumberland in England, and of Black-faces in the Highlands of Scotland handled by one dog more effectively than could be done by many men, while his faithful service continued through both day and night. Scotch writers love to record his praises. One has said, "He drives out the sheep to pasture, confines them to their allotted territory (where there are no fences), keeps the flocks separate, picks out from another band and brings back to its own a straying sheep; at command collects into one place the sheep that may be scattered for miles around; watches his charge faithfully through night and storm, is unyielding with the headstrong rams, and considerate of the tender lambs; displays courage, caution, patience, and tact in handling the flock; and will move the sheep or force them into the fold quicker, more surely, and with less demonstration than a dozen men." It has been said by high authority that without him it would require so many men to manage the flocks upon the mountain lands of England and Scotland as to make keeping sheep upon them unprofitable. But he is not confined to the mountains. He is found everywhere throughout England, upon large farms and small, serving his master in the care of the flock. He can do as much for us in America if we will but regularly put him into our service. In neglecting to use him, our flock-masters have missed a great benefit they might have gained.

On this account we think the New York State Agricultural Society has taken a step in the right direction by offering liberal premiums for trained Collies, to be awarded by actual trials upon the fair grounds at Rochester. It will encourage the training of dogs and will make the public acquainted with their abilities. We hope there will be many entries and a most interesting trial. If any who have trained dogs have not entered them they should do so at once.

At some of the agricultural shows in England and Scotland, the sheep-dog trials are among their most attractive features, and thousands gather to witness them.—*J. W. in New York Country Gentleman*.

OUR COSY CORNER.

Vests and vest effects were never more popular than at present. An inserted vest of white *moiré* transforms a sober woollen costume into a decidedly stylish visiting toilette. If these vests are made in Breton fashion and detachable, they may be superseded by less ornamental fronts for general wear. Even a vest that is underfaced to a basque can be added and removed with little trouble.

The dressy effect that is produced by a contrast between upper and lower parts of costumes is to be admired. The gay basque or jacket and a skirt and vest of grayer hue are rivals to the bright vest and sober-tinted skirt and jacket. Light-hued basques and skirts of dull or dark colors will be popular with ladies whose youth will make them becoming. Outdoors, of course, the bright waist will be concealed by the wrap or other top garment.

Jackets with vests permanently attached or detachable will be universally worn both in the house and street. When forming part of a street toilette such jackets will often be worn over an under bodice of thick flannel, chambray or cloth. A jacket pattern just issued, suitable for both house and street wear, has loose fronts, low side-front pockets covered with laps, and a lower outline that suggests a visito. The collar ends will be clasped for the street, but for the house will be fastened under a knot of ribbon or a *jabot* of lace; for indoor wear also lace ruffles may take the place of the pocket-laps.

A somewhat similar shape, with a pointed, snugly fitted vest, will seldom be made of a single material—indeed, sometimes three fabrics will be combined in it.

Long, close-fitting coats for ladies are again noted with carrick capes. These capes will rival the hoods, and are already seen made of plush or velvet, the standing collar and broad wrist facings corresponding. Carricks on top coats are underfaced and stitched, or have bias bindings or bindings of fancy braid upon them.

Long coats and short jackets with hoods are elegant in the new heavy-weight woollens. Both garments are attractively lined.

The long inserted vest in the latest design for a misses' long coat is frequently made of material that differs from the remainder of the garment. With such a front of contrasting goods the effect is very dressy and handsome. If light textured velvet is used for this vest, the hood is to be lined and the lower part of the sleeves faced with the same.

Mottled, plaided, striped and plain coatings are equally stylish for the coats and jackets of feminine folks of all ages; and braids, galloons, stitchings, underfacings, etc., are fashionable completions. Furs may be used upon them in moderate quantities.

It is in the varying and fanciful shapes of sleeves that the most noticeable novelties of to-day are seen, and, certainly, after the prolonged reign of those that were tight-fitting—and which are still by no means unfashionable—puffed, loose and open sleeves are a refreshing relief to both arms and eyes.

RELIGIOUS.

METHODIST.

Seventeen missionaries sailed from New York last month to Africa, where they will assist Bishop Taylor. Seventeen stations have lately been established in connection with the mission.

Rev. Dr. Sutherland and Mr. Haraiwa, a Japanese convert, are in New Brunswick addressing Missionary meetings in the Methodist churches. They are expected to hold similar meetings shortly in this Province.

Great success has attended the meetings held in Charles Street Church by the Rev. Mr. Savago and his band of workers. They will hold similar meetings in Kayo Street Church next week.

The Methodist Episcopal Church has, in the sixteen Southern States, nearly 450,000 communicants. During the past twenty years, the increase has been eight-fold. In those same States it has built more than four thousand churches since the war.

Very satisfactory progress has been made toward raising \$1,000,000 for missions this year in the Methodist Episcopal Church of the United States.

Rev. George Boyd, of Newfoundland, conducted service in Grafton Street Church on Sunday evening.

PRESBYTERIAN.

Rev. Dr. Barclay, of Montreal, having declined the call from the Scotch Church, Melbourne, Rev. Dr. Gray has been offered the position of pastor. The opening services in connection with Pine Hill College took place in Chalmers Church on Wednesday evening, on which occasion Dr. Pollock delivered a very instructive lecture on John Knox.

There are about 70 students in attendance at the Presbyterian College, Montreal. The staff has been strengthened by the addition of the Rev. L. H. Jordan as lecturer on "Church Government."

An offer of \$200,000 worth of land has been made to the Synod of California, provided a university is established at Beaumont.

There are twelve Theological Seminaries connected with the Presbyterian Church (North) in the United States. Last year, there were 705 students in attendance. Princeton leads with 161, then comes Union with 134, and McCormick with 112. The total number of graduates last year was 197, of which 57 were from Princeton, and 50 from Union.

CHURCH OF ENGLAND.

The Church Congress at Wolverhampton was as successful as any of those which have preceded it. The attendance in such an attractive place as the town of Wolverhampton was most significant. It shows that the great questions which agitate the minds of Churchmen receive a most intelligent and earnest attention from both extremities of the social scale, and that men of the highest social position can meet working men to discuss such matters on the equality of a common faith with the best of feeling. The hold of the Church of England on the masses is steadily increasing in England, and to this end the Church Congresses have contributed in a very large degree.

The friends of the Church Army in Halifax will be much concerned to hear of the severe illness of Staff-Capt. Winfield, who leaves for England on Monday next. It is feared that he will be incapacitated for active work for many months. His work has been faithful, and therefore successful, in this city.

The Archdeacon has issued a circular to members of the Synod, reminding them of the adjourned meeting on Wednesday, November 9th, and urging them all to attend. It is very necessary that a quorum at least should be present.

The Rev. F. R. Murray has returned from his trip to the United States in the interest of the Cathedral Fund. The interest of the Church in the United States in the building of the Nova Scotia Centenary Cathedral is not great.

BAPTIST.

Rev. D. H. Simpson has become the pastor of the Baptist church at Hantsport.

The Baptist's convention in Ontario has lately been held. There are in that Province 280 churches, 110 of which receive assistance from the Home Mission Board. Considerable discussion took place regarding McMaster University, some of the delegates favoring the idea of federation with the Provincial University, while others were desirous that the institution should remain distinctively Baptist. It was determined to call a special convention six months hence, to consider the whole question.

Rev. Mr. Spurgeon has withdrawn from the Baptist Union in England, on account of alleged heterodoxy of its members. He declares that he could not continue in the union, except at the expense of truth.

A Baptist church, which will be the largest in the United States belonging to the denomination, is to be built in Philadelphia. It will seat 4,600 persons, and cost \$100,000.

The Western Baptist Association of New Brunswick has withdrawn fellowship from Main Street Church, Woodstock, on account of the latter holding the doctrine of instantaneous and entire sanctification.

The New York Baptist State Convention was held at Utica on the 26th ult.

In connection with the English Baptist Mission in Shantung province, China, there are 55 churches, all self-supporting, being ministered to by native pastors and teachers.

The Baptist church at Bear River took fire on Thursday, and was seriously damaged. The fire originated near the furnace.



J. R. FOSTER,

MONCTON, N. B.

Importer and Breeder of

Thoroughbred Holstein-Friesian & Jersey Cattle.

ALSO

REGISTERED BERKSHIRE SWINE.

Proprietor of Moncton Steam Flouring Mill,
Manufacturing Flour, Corn Meal, Horse, Cow and Stock Feed, &c.

RHODES, CURRY & CO.

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, CALCINED 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.)KNABE & CO.,
(50 Years Standing.)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

Are now in order, and on any fine afternoon parties may be seen returning gaily bedecked with autumnal tinted leaves, and enquiring as to the preservation of the beautiful colors elicit the fact that the

Autumn-Leaf Varnish,

SOLD AT THE

LONDON DRUG STORE,

IS THE ONLY PRESERVATIVE.

J. GODFREY SMITH,

DISPENSING CHEMIST, PROPRIETOR.

—AGENT FOR—

B. Laurence's Axis Cut Pebble Spectacles and Eye-Glasses, now so universally worn.

JOHNSTON'S
FLUID BEEF.

The Great Strength Giver.

EVERY DROP

of it contains all the elements of FLESH FOOD, and it is beyond doubt

The Most Perfect Food.

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