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# THE CRITIC:

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## THE CRITIC,

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BY

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The editor of THE CRITIC is responsible for the views expressed in Editorial Notes and Articles, and for each 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.

South American countries appear to be ever on the point of revolution. The latest news from Rio Janeiro states that the Congress has been dissolved, martial law proclaimed, and throughout the Provinces a dictatorship established.

The celebrated Pere Hyacinthe is said to be one of the latest converts to theosophy, and that he intends soon to lecture on the subject of esoteric Buddhism and the inner spiritual light. He is now in London deeply immersed in the study of theosophy.

The theory of animal magnetism has been discarded by a celebrated Paris physician, Dr. Pinel, for the reason that he has found that hypnotic patients obey the phonograph as readily as they do a living speaker. It is just as well to subject all theories to severe tests before accepting them as conclusive.

It is hard enough to keep oneself up to the mark on one system of time, and we do not see how the St. John folk have ever managed to put up so long as they have with their systems of time. A move is being made in that city to effect a change and adopt standard time. It is to be hoped it will culminate successfully, for a stranger gets hopelessly mixed in trying to make out the time of day or night in our sister city.

The crisis in the Dominion Cabinet has been got over, or "fixed up," as the Quebec Chronicle puts it. Mr. Chapleau has returned to office in his old capacity, for the present. When Mr. Dewdney leaves the capital to succeed Hon. Mr. Wilson as Lieut.-Governor of British Columbia, Mr. Chapleau will become Minister of the Interior. Reconstructing a cabinet is slow and troublous, but it will be accomplished in time.

The Yarmouth Times of last Friday commented on the fact that there are now in Yarmouth no less than six children—all under fifteen years of age—in the county jail serving terms of imprisonment for theft. The Times refers to the fact that some time ago the Halifax reformatory were opened to juvenile offenders all over the Province, and yet they are still being taught to be jail birds. It appears to us that the blame for this must lie on the magistrates who sentence the youths, and they should be brought

to a sense of their responsibilities as speedily as possible. It is wrong indeed to force young offenders to herd with habitual criminals.

Canada's winter port in the United States is just now rejoicing over the refusal of the Allan Steamship Company to carry mails at the old contract price, as this gives Portland the handling of through freight to and from the Upper Provinces, the largest portion of which had in former years been looked after in Halifax. The Government is willing to contract for a first class Atlantic mail service, which the Allans are at present unable to supply; but realizing that it is an object for the Government to have through freight carried over the Intercolonial Railway, and that no outside company is at present in a position to accept the conditions upon which the Government subsidy is granted, the Allans demand better terms. Not having got them they give Halifax the go-by, withdraw their business from the Intercolonial and transfer it to the American terminus of the Grand Trunk Railway. This may be all well enough so far as the Allans are concerned, but Halifax and the Province of Nova Scotia, which derives benefit from the prosperity of the capital, will not look with a kindly eye upon a company which has for years been the recipient of Government subsidies, but which when opportunity arises refuses to improve its service and at the same time demands a larger subsidy for such services as it is in a position to supply. If our Halifax shippers would unitedly take a stand in this matter the question of the winter port of Canada might be settled once and for all within the next two years. A good strong Halifax steamship company with shrewd men at its head should be organized at once. A sufficient number of steamers having the requisite speed could be chartered so as to involve no loss, the Government subsidy could be secured, and within the time specified the company could have built for it a fleet of ocean greyhounds suitable for the trade, and our merchants would have the satisfaction of knowing that by putting their own shoulders to the wheel they had made Halifax the unquestioned winter as well as the summer port of Canada, and had made a commencement in the control of the trade of half a continent. If Halifax is ever to become a great mart of commerce it must be through and by the energies and efforts of her own citizens. Nature may have given the port great advantages, but nature does not build swift ocean going steamers or encourage railway corporations to make any particular locality its ocean outlet.

So the Mercury thinks our two society lectresses incompatible one with the other, and says of our remarks upon "dress and deportment" that "no more offensive article, or, we believe, a more unjust or uncalled for article, has appeared in the Halifax press than the one to which we refer." Of course if we had considered that article uncalled for or unjust it would not have appeared in our columns, and that is just where we differ from our esteemed contemporary. At various times since the Mercury's advent it has contained in the contributions of some of its regular writers strictures no less severe than our own on some of the habits of society folk, only they leveled their shafts at the painted faces rather than at the too much exposed natural charms of some Halifax women, which we commented upon. As to our article being "insulting," we do not see how any woman who does not transgress in the way we mentioned can feel aggrieved, and of those who do transgress, will not the Mercury admit that they stand in need of admonishing? If our general remarks upon a low tendency of the time, without hint or reference to any one offender, were insulting, we consider the Mercury's frequent comments upon the make-up of society women's faces equally so. But we do not see that either were uncalled for. In a broad sense it is the duty of the press to try and effect any reform it considers will tend to raise the tone of society, and if it uses strong terms in advocating what it takes up, so much the better. As we have sufficiently explained, it is the disagreeable personalities that we object to, and in referring to them we had no particular paper, certainly not the Mercury, in our mind. We are glad to see that our contemporary admits that "this kind of thing is run to extremes sometimes." It certainly is! We know of one esteemed and charming young lady whose face has been to be commented upon many times by the society correspondents of different papers of the town in which lives. She is much admired by gentlemen and has a great deal of attention shown her, and this may perhaps account for the lively interest taken in her affairs. The correspondents were, "not a 'namin' of any names," but no one who knew the persons could make any mistake as to the identity of those referred to. How much unhappiness and mortification has been caused by the paragraphs in question we cannot tell, but we can guess. We knew whereof we spoke in both our articles, they were no more inconsistent than (to make use of a very high comparison) St. Paul's doctrine of faith and St. James' doctrine of works. Commenting severely upon a tendency of the age is quite compatible with strictures upon anonymous personal gossip.

There has been great execution in the poultry yards during the week, in order that our tables might not be without the customary Thanksgiving turkey. We hope each of our readers had the bird of their choice well served up with all the etceteras, and were not obliged to tackle a venerable gobbler, tough enough to make gate hinges of.

Once more our day of National Thanksgiving has come and gone, and from the churches of the land, as well as from the hearts and homes of the people, a song of thankful praise to the giver of all good has gone up. We cannot expect that all troubles would be kept away from us, and each heart knoweth its bitterness, but we think that never before in Canada was there greater cause for thankfulness over the prosperity of the country. We have been spared the disasters that have befallen other lands, and we have gathered a bountiful harvest. A day for National Thanksgiving is eminently fitting, and acknowledges our dependence upon Divine Providence.

Just how the mistake was made we do not know, but about the end of last year the Dowager Lady DeRos experienced the doubtful pleasure of reading her own obituary notices in the papers. Despite the fact that the paragrapher had her dead and buried months ago, Lady DeRos is now alive and well, and on September 30th last completed her ninety-sixth year. Owing to the fact that she was present at the historic ball given in Brussels by her father, the fourth Duke of Richmond, on the eve of the battle of Waterloo, the testimony of Lady DeRos as to the house in which it was given, was naturally of much interest during the controversy on the subject a few years ago.

British royalty is sustained from the public treasury at the cost of £5,000,000 per annum, and it is no wonder that there are found those among the taxpayers who cry out against further annuities being granted. Were the money voted by Parliament expended without extravagance the outlay, although excessive, might not be thought unreasonable; but when we see among the items an appropriation of £250, upwards of \$1,200, being voted to pay for the feed scattered to the pheasants in the Windsor forest, we wonder at the apathy of the British public in allowing such wasteful extravagance; and yet many items in the list of expenditures are quite as ridiculous. Royalty costs money, but it is supported by the classes for social reasons, and by the masses because they revere that which is, and have a decided dislike to change.

Science is a ruthless shatterer of old ideas, but we hope it will still be long before all fancies are swept away by the overwhelming tide of facts. We have all looked at the constellation which is supposed to represent all but one of the Pleiades—only six stars being visible to the ordinary naked eye—and our imaginations, excited by the ideas suggested, have carried us far afield in magic realms of the unreal; but the rude hand of science comes between us and the stars with a telescope, which shows us that there are not only seven Pleiades, but six or seven hundred of them! If the sensitive plate, on which the vision of the telescope is recorded, be exposed for about four hours, the number of stars in the constellation is shown to be about 2,326, with an extensive background of nebulosity. Where then is our "lost Pleiade" and all our fancies regarding her? Science may dispel many of our cherished allusions after a while, but we still cling to the pretty stories connected with the stars, albeit we know their fallacy. The Laureate's lines—

"Many a night I saw the Pleiades shining through the mellow shade,  
Gitter like a swarm of fire-flies tangled in a silver braid."

have always a fascination for us, and beautifully describe the twinkling of what we still prefer to fancy are the daughters of Atlas and Pleione, no matter what science may reveal of the number of stars in the constellation.

The recent Congress of Socialists at Erfurt has called forth many comments from the international press, and it is noteworthy that the deliberations of the Congress are now criticised impartially, and that the editorial scribes have evidently recovered from the paroxysms of mental trepidation into which such gatherings have been wont to throw them. The true socialist is one who desires to benefit the human race, and one who seeks to do so by a reformation of many of the existing laws of nations. Many a thinker in this busy world who has witnessed the wrongs perpetrated upon his fellow-men in the name of law has virtually decided in favor of the socialistic idea, and has realized how helpless an individual may be under the force of circumstances. German socialism has advanced with rapid strides during the past quarter of a century, and it has already become a moving power in the Empire. Twenty years ago the total Socialist vote numbered 101,927, to-day it reaches 1,341,587. In Germany the railways as well as the post offices are controlled according to the Socialist programme, and the leading spirits of the movement anticipate great reforms before the close of the century. The Socialists do not uphold lawless liberty, but rather liberty within the law. They believe that the State should extend its business beyond the control of railways and post offices to arts and industries, that there should be a limit to the individual accumulation of wealth, and that its distribution at death should be settled by law and not by the testator. So long as socialism has strong minds at its helm and seeks thoughtfully to better the condition of mankind, the human race need fear no ill-results; but the danger of such organizations is that they may be used by hypocritical self-seeking demagogues to shatter that which exists, in the hope that they may secure personal advantages by the wreck they create.

The "Medicated Music" idea, as embodied in the St. Cecilia Guild, has received the approval of Dr. Andrew Wilson, who says the result has been fairly satisfactory. This scheme for administering soothing music to sick persons has been attracting considerable attention since its inception by Canon Hartford, and various are the strains in which it is commented on. Some poke fun at the whole thing, disbelieving in any advantage to be derived in serious cases, others look at it from a matter-of-fact point of view, and think there may be something in it, and one paper (showing how much there is in a name) says that the one redeeming feature is that the honored name of Florence Nightingale is numbered among the patronesses. It is well to look at it from a sensible standpoint, for there are few of us who have not at times experienced relief from nervous headache and similar affections when the right sort of music could be procured. Even the "savage breast" is said to be susceptible to music's charms, and if this is so why should not music prove a boon to the ailing? Some kinds of music would no doubt be successful as counter irritants, but they should be carefully avoided by both sick and well. Dr. Wilson says that possibly the physician of the remote future may see fit to number the viol and the sack-but among the instruments of his profession.

It is a noteworthy fact that while public benefactors in Great Britain and the United States have weighted their bequests to universities and benevolent institutions with all sorts of absurd conditions the noble bequests of our Nova Scotian benefactors, notably those of William Murdoch, Sir William Young and John P. Mott, have been left to the governors or trustees of the respective institutions, the funds or the interest upon the funds to be used as thought best. Some years since a handsome sum of money was left to Harvard College, upon condition that each year a sermon should be preached in the university chapel in which the dangers of the Roman Catholic Church were to be set forth. It is needless to say that the College authorities accepted the bequest, while the condition upon which it was made was fulfilled in the letter if not in the spirit. Only a few years since a dignitary of high standing in the Roman Catholic Church preached the stipulated sermon. Benefactors should always remember that conditions only serve to trammel their own liberality, and although the needs of to-day may prompt them to surround their bequests with certain stipulations, yet the march of time may so change the existing order of things as to render such stipulations or conditions ill-advised and positively injurious to the very persons whom it was intended to benefit.

Of course Canadians are Americans in a broad sense, just as Nova Scotians are Canadians, but when it comes to calling our best Canadian writers and notable people by the more general title, and thus give the impression that they are citizens of the United States, we strongly object. We have often had cause to protest against this appropriation of our talented countrymen and women by the United States, and sometimes English authorities are guilty of crediting the work of our writers to Americans. In the *Illustrated London News* of October 31st (American Edition) we find a portrait of Miss Sara J. Duncan, author of those bright books, "A Social Departure" and "An American Girl in London." Miss Duncan is a Canadian, but she is, in the paper mentioned, spoken of as "one of the brightest and most deservedly successful of recent American writers." True, the *New York Book-Buyer* is cited as authority, and the note goes on to say she was born in Brantford, Ont., and gives a list of the prominent journals the young lady worked so successfully for, but when we see the error made of calling our writers American, we are seized with a burning desire to set people right on the subject. Miss Duncan was married a few months ago to Mr. E. C. Coates, who holds a scientific appointment at Calcutta, where she met him on her journey around the world.

If we are to believe all the alarming reports ament the recrudescence of influenza at Berlin, Vienna and Bucharest, and the prophets of evil who say the poisoned air currents will carry the infection all over the globe, our lives will be miserable with fear of the disease. It is held that the epidemics in the famine-stricken interior of Russia keep up the supply of infection, and that although not necessarily fatal there, because the people are inured to the conditions which give rise to the disease, when it spreads to outside places it becomes a scourge and carries off thousands. Last year it was thought that the disease had its origin in the great shrines and monasteries of Russia, where hundreds and thousands of pilgrims annually congregate, and are packed together in indescribable squalor, filth and disease. These gatherings are known to be powerful agents in the spread of the terrible contagious maldies so frequent in Russia, and the theory that LaGrippe is of similar origin is quite credible. When the epidemic first appeared under its present name (at various times a similar malady has been epidemic under other names) it was thought that it was useless to take precautions against its spread. This idea appears to be giving way now, and means are beginning to be employed in the larger centres to prevent influenza spreading universally as it did last year. Whether these efforts will be successful or not remains to be seen, but we think everyone should take those precautions that are available to all, such as keeping up the general health, avoiding chills, drafts and unhealthy places, and fortifying the system by daily bathing and plenty of out-of-door exercise. These precautions are expedient at all times, and should not be neglected by those who desire to enjoy the blessing of good health.

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## CHIT-CHAT AND CHUCKLES.

## "AS YOU LIKE IT."

You ask us, "Does a business life  
Unfit a woman for a wife?"  
And, thinking it all over, I  
Feel justified to thus reply.  
If she in commerce seek for gold  
Her husband often will be sold;  
If in the law she seeks renown  
She'll to her husband lay it down.  
If medicine her lode star is  
She'll try to cure his faults I wiz.  
Should she a captain chance to be  
Affairs will often be at sea;  
If she to edit doth elect  
A husband she'll no doubt reject.  
Thus all the things that she may do  
We may "invectively pierce through."

O woman, 'tis thy proper sphere  
To guide, uplift, ennoble, cheer:  
To woo the world from strife and care  
And harbor-houms of rest prepare:  
To shed the light of heaven on life,  
Not perish in its loveless strife;  
For thou than man art nobler far,  
Then why descend to wage this war!  
O woman, still my angel be!  
They speak of heaven, I think of thee!

—JACQUES.

It is related of a very nervous man that while staying in a country house he was asked by a sprightly damsel if he were musical. Paralyzed by the attention, he gasped out, "Oh, I only know two tunes, God save the Weasel and Pop goes the Queen!"

A YOUTHFUL SYBARITE.—Gipsy Parent (more in sorrow than in anger): "Look 'ere, mother, that there boy'll bring us to downright destitution with 'is luxurious 'abits. On'y last Monday fortnit I caught 'im washing 'iself!—an' now 'e takes an' wears his trouseys and overcoat at the same time!"

SILENCING HIM.—Young Father (in the future): "Great goodness! Can't you do something to quiet that baby? Its eternal squalling quite drives me wild." Young Mother (calmly to servant): "Mary, run to my room, where you'll find my husband's mother's phonograph, and put in the cylinder marked 'At Ten Months'. I want to hear how his voice sounded when he was young."

No CASE.—"Prisoner," said Judge Cowing, "you are charged with gambling."

"Gambling! What is gambling?"

"Playing cards for money."

"But I did not play cards for money; I played cards for chips."

"Well, you got money for your chips at the end of the game, didn't you?"

"No; I didn't have any chips at the end of the game."

"You are discharged."

IRISH WIT.—Mike McFlangarthy is a true-hearted son of Ireland and a genius in his way, and many stories are told of his ready wit.

The other day an old gentleman of philanthropic temperament, but slightly intolerant of any religious body but his own, passing where Mike was at work making mortar, stopped and asked what sort of a building was going up. Mike replied: "A Church."

"A church, eh? Of what denomination?"

"No denomination at all, yer honor, but a Holy Roman Catholic church."

"I am sorry to hear it," exclaimed the old gentleman.

"That's what the devil said when he passed here," retorted Mike, as he resumed his work.

A UNIQUE RAFFLE.—A card that came to our notice read as follows: "This raffle is for the benefit of a young orphan girl from a neighboring village, who has been wronged and deserted by an infernal scoundrel. Her virtuous friends, in a paroxysm of Christian charity and benevolence, fired her and her pretty little infant out into the cold to hustle. The mother is anxious and willing to earn the bread for both, but the baby doesn't know any more about work than a walking delegate, and it is necessary to secure a place for it while the mother is employed. For this purpose the young woman has appealed to a so-called charitable institution, but was coldly advised to go back to the place from whence she came, in other words to get out; and, but for the kindness of a stranger, would have had to choose between a vacant lot and the police station for accommodations. Do not mistake this for an appeal for sympathy, the orphan can have several car-loads of that delivered f. o. b. from any of the charitable organizations in the country. The present demand is for trade shovels, plasters and other pieces of silver. Selah."

## A BEAU OF 1829.

When grandpa went a-wooing,  
He wore a satin vest,  
A trail of running roses  
Embroidered on the breast.  
The pattern of his trousers,  
His linen, white and fine,  
Were all the latest fashion  
Of eighteen twenty-nine.

Grandpa was a fine-looking young fellow then, so the old ladies say, and he is a fine-looking old gentleman now. For the past score of years he has been a firm believer in the merits of Dr. Pierce's Golden Medical Discovery. "It renewed my youth," he frequently says. It is the only blood purifier and liver invigorator guaranteed to benefit or cure, or money refunded. It cures liver disease, dyspepsia, scrofulous sores, skin eruptions, and all diseases of the blood. For lingering coughs and consumption (which is lung scrofula in its early stages) it is an unparalleled remedy.

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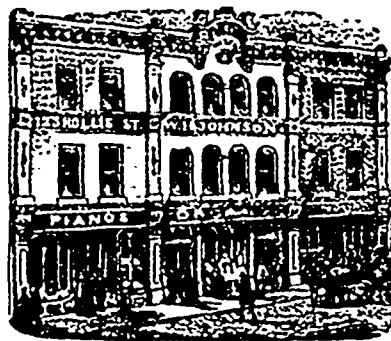
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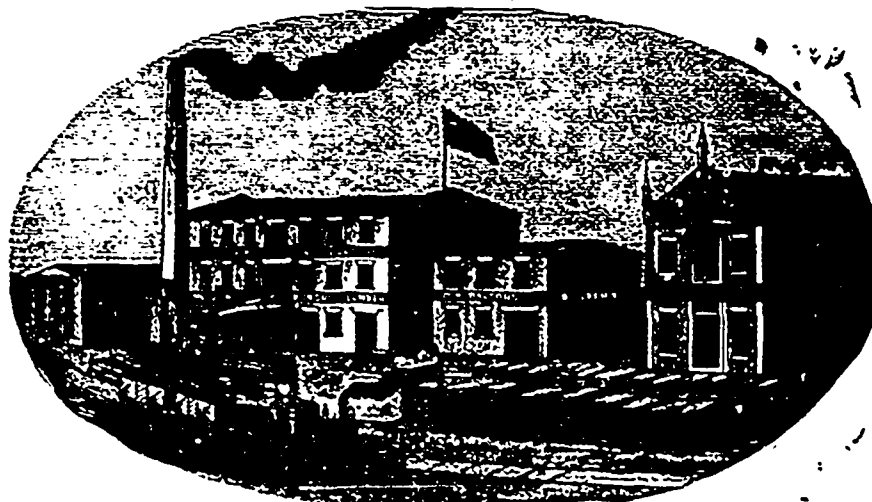
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## NEWS OF THE WEEK.

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

Yesterday was Thanksgiving Day. Did you go to church?

A new \$15,000 Methodist church was opened in Moncton on Sunday.

The Governor-General paid a flying visit to Halifax last week and is now back in Ottawa.

Many people took advantage of the excursion rates on the railways yesterday and went out of town, and vice-versa.

The S. P. C. is moving for the release of the children confined in jail in Yarmouth for theft, to which we refer in our editorial column.

The 63rd rifles were inspected on Tuesday evening by Deputy Adjutant-General Gordon, who complimented the men very highly on their creditable appearance.

Monday was the birthday of the Prince of Wales. He completed his fiftieth year. The citadel flag staff was decorated with flags in honor of the occasion.

Owing to the enormous yield of wheat in the Northwest it will take the C. P. R. till next summer to draw east the great crop. There is a regular wheat blockade.

Col. C. J. Stewart, of Halifax, is having a very handsome memorial window put in the Episcopal church at Amherst in memory of his daughter, Mrs. Boileau, who died on April 10th, 1890.

The Dartmouth ferry rates are now settled at 4 cents for a single ticket, the purchaser having the privilege of buying 20 tickets at the rate of 3½ cents. The commutation rates will remain undisturbed.

The Nova Scotia Historical Society met in the Province Building on Tuesday evening. There were a number of applications for membership, and Mr. Peter Lynch read his Reminiscences of Halifax.

The Cumberland Leader says that A. F. Bently, of Five Islands, is getting out a vessel frame for J. B. North, of Hantsport, to be built this winter, and expects to finish another for Mr. North before the spring.

On Thursday of last week Judge Johnston sentenced a negro named Davison to ten years in Dorchester Penitentiary for attacking and robbing a sailor at night. The man's confederates, Downey and Shaw, were sentenced to four and three years respectively.

A young brakeman, named C. Michael, was killed on the Short Line Railway, near River John, Pictou, on the 4th inst. He was in the act of jumping off the engine and fell beneath the wheels. After five hours suffering he died, leaving a widow to mourn her loss.

Hon. Samuel Chipman died at his home in Cornwallis on Tuesday at the advanced age of over 101 years. He was a well-known figure in the public service of the Province for many years, and enjoyed the distinction of being the oldest mason in the world.

A sad story of vice is reported from Amherst. No place is obliged to put up with disgraceful and obnoxious behavior on the part of any of its citizens, and we doubt not that the authorities of Amherst will take immediate steps to break up the operations of the gang complained of.

Says the Moncton Transcript: "A man was observed standing over one of the city catch basins, a few days ago, with one foot extended and rubbing his hands. When asked what he was doing he said: 'Them there things may be good enough to warm a church, but they ain't no good for a city!'"

We are glad to hear that the long delayed Yarmouth Street Railway is at last likely to materialize. The Edison Electric Company people have viewed the route, and we understand will put in an electric plant and build the railway, using the overhead or trolley system. Work will likely be well under way in the spring.

The steamer *Halifax*, whose familiar whistle is usually heard about 7 o'clock every Sunday evening, did not get in on her last trip until after ten o'clock on Monday morning. A good deal of anxiety was consequently felt. The steamer encountered very heavy weather all the way from Boston, and was delayed by it. She rode out the storm without any damage.

The Halifax Board of Trade discussed the Winter Port question on Thursday evening of last week. The Board of Trade favors a Dominion subsidy such as would command the services of a first-class modern line of steamers, averaging 19 knots an hour, that one of 17 knots be secured, and further, that there be a Canadian terminus for Canadian freight, and that this be a condition of the Atlantic mail service.

The turning loose of two Chinese lepers caused great excitement in Vancouver on Wednesday of last week. They were sent there by the New York authorities en route to China, but the C. P. R. had refused to take them in their steamers, and the lepers were confined for two months in a hut on the outskirts of the city. Finally the guard was removed, and the lepers finding no shelter open to them in the city went back to the hut where they had been confined.

The annual meeting of the Institute of Science was held on Monday evening. The following officers were elected: President—Dr. M. Murphy. Vice presidents—H. S. Poole, of Stellarton, and Professor Lawson. Treasurer—W. C. Silver. Cor. secretary—A. H. McKay, superintendent of education. Rec. secretary—Supervisor McKay. Librarian—M. Bowman. Councillors—Prof. Macgregor, Dr. Somers, Principal Ahearn, City Engineer Doane, Inspector Gilpin, Augustus Allicon and H. Pierz.

The Y. M. C. A. observes this week as a week of prayer.

A dispute of an international character has arisen over the copyright question between the United States and Canada. The United States claims that under the treaty with Great Britain United States authors have a right to obtain copyrights in Canada. Several applications have been refused on the advice of Sir John Thompson, who contends that the copyright arrangement does not apply to Canada.

The oldest representative of the corps of Royal Sappers and Miners, now Royal Engineer, died in Dartmouth last week. His name was Edward Barley. He had enlisted at the age of 14 years in the year 1829, and was discharged with a pension as a private of the Royal Sappers and Miners in 1850, thus serving 21 years with the Colors under the reign of three English sovereigns, George IV, William IV and Queen Victoria.

The Entertainment Committee of the Church of England Institute is arranging a very interesting series of lectures, concerts, etc., with two or three receptions for the winter course, which will begin within the next few weeks and will without doubt prove very acceptable to our citizens. The past record of this association warrants anticipations of many profitable as well as pleasant evenings throughout the winter upon which we are entering.

M. E. Tookey's planing mill at Sundridge, Ont., was wrecked on Friday by the explosion of the boiler. The engineer was driven through two partitions and had both legs broken and was terribly scalded. Wm. Cassidy, carpenter, had a leg and arm broken by falling machinery. Several others were scalded and otherwise injured, but not seriously. The boiler rose 80 feet in the air and landed 100 yards away, fortunately taking a direction in which there were no other buildings.

Ship railways are expensive undertakings. The Chignecto ship railway has already cost about \$3,500,000, and the company requires another \$1,500,000 in order to complete it. This they have been unable to raise, but application is to be made to the Government for a readjustment of financial arrangements that will make matters easier. The company will probably ask the Government to guarantee four per cent. upon the whole issue of bonds in lieu of the subsidy of \$170,000 a year for twenty years, already granted by parliament. This arrangement, the company says, would effect a saving to the Government while it will insure the early completion of the railway, work on which was recently suspended.

A correspondent sends us the following. We have seen the story before, but it is a good one, and our readers may appreciate it:—"Your sensible paragraph in THE CRITIC of 6th inst. regarding the 'hypocrisy' of ministers in assigning reasons for accepting 'calls' to larger congregations and salaries reminds me of a story. A minister had such a call and asked for a month's time in which to 'pray for light' before deciding upon the matter. His congregation were anxious to keep him, but could not hold out any inducement equal to the salary advantages offered by the 'call.' One of his parishioners meeting the little daughter of the parson, when only a part of the month had elapsed, was curious enough to ask her if they were going to move to B—. The little one quickly answered him, 'Well, father is still 'praying for light,' but most of the things is packed.'"

Says the Yarmouth Times:—"Mr. James Dempster's steam planing mills at Freshwater, Halifax, were destroyed by fire last week. Mr. D. started at once for Yarmouth and purchased the machinery of the Milton Manufacturing Company. On Saturday it was on its way to Halifax, and by the end of this week the Dempster mills will be in operation again in the northend building, Kempt Road. Mr. Dempster's loss by fire was serious, but there is so much building going on in Halifax he hasn't time to sit down and mourn, but must get right to work again. Halifax is by no means lacking in just such quiet, courageous, unobtrusive 'hustlers,' and trade returns show the city has nothing to be ashamed of in comparison with other cities, even if the practice does prevail among all classes of grumbling at everything and calling each other a 'sleepy crowd.' How many visitors have come away from Halifax with the fixed but absurd belief that Halifax is kept from starvation by the trade of the military, and if the soldiers were taken away the place would collapse—an impression gained entirely from Halifax people."

The friends of the Women's Christian Temperance Union and other temperance organizations have been enjoying this week a series of interesting addresses by Mr. Nicholls, one of the most eloquent and earnest temperance lecturers that we have heard in Halifax for many a day. Mr. Nicholls opened the week by his lecture in the Academy of Music on Sunday evening, when, taking for his subject "The Home and its Enemy," he delivered to a crowded audience an able and practical discourse. Mr. J. C. Mackintosh presided over the meeting, which was closed with a duet entitled "I Waited for the Lord," beautifully rendered by Miss Lizzie McKenzie and Mr. George Bargoynne. Lectures have been delivered by Mr. Nicholls in Charles St. Methodist Church and in other parts of the city and Dartmouth, and to-morrow afternoon he proposes to hold a children's service in Argyle Hall, when he will probably be listened to with interest by a large gathering of the young of our city. On Tuesday next he will lecture in Orpheus Hall, and all who are interested in the temperance work should not fail to take advantage of this opportunity to gain new ideas on the subject. Mr. Nicholls is here under the auspices of the W. C. T. U. of Halifax and Dartmouth, and there is little doubt but that the work of this estimable and energetic association will be materially aided by the efforts that have been put forth this week to interest our people in the subject so dear to the hearts of this band of workers, who bravely and proudly wear their badge of white ribbon into the darkest corners of our city and rescue many from their misery, degradation and sin.

The steamer *Ottawa*, wrecked on Blond Rock, is completely broken up. Col. Ouimet is to succeed Mr. Chapleau as Secretary of State, and Lieut.-Governor Angers, of Quebec, will go into the Cabinet as Minister of Agriculture.

It is satisfactory for us to note that the S. P. C. intends asking the School Board of Halifax that hereafter no children convicted of truancy be confined in a jail or institution where criminals are confined, or in the Industrial School, but that they be placed where their morals will not become corrupted. A protest will also be made against handcuffing children when being escorted to the station.

Wm. McKelvie, machinist, New Glasgow, says:—"I paid Dr. O. S. Sweet, of Boston \$100. for six months treatment for Dyspepsia, besides cost of medicine. No cure. I then tried Dr. Cox, Carpenter, and the late Dr. O'Connor, all of Boston; was told I was past recovery; was induced to try K. D. C., have used four boxes; and have been well now nearly two years, can eat anything. I would advise dyspeptics to try it.

The Briggs-heresy case is off for the present. The charge has been dismissed by the New York Presbytery by a vote of 94 to 39. It will likely be appealed to the Synod.

The will of the rich old gentleman to whom Miss Mary Fitch of Halifax was recently married, is to be contested by his heirs. The will left a fortune of \$150,000 to the widow of testator.

A man named John H. Teague is on trial for bigamy at Lynn, Mass. His first wife has for some time past been living in Upper Stewiacke, N. S. Wife No. 2, discovered a letter in his pocket from wife No. 1, hence the trouble.

Attorney General Miller of the United States says: An agreement has been entered into between the United States and Great Britain as to terms of arbitration in the Behring Sea seal fisheries disputes. The agreement is subject to ratification by the Senate. Nothing has yet been divulged regarding it, and the inference drawn from the developments made is that the president will submit to the Senate an agreement in the nature of a treaty between the United States and Great Britain by which the parties bind themselves to accept as final any conclusive definition to be given by the arbitrators of the exact rights of the United States in the Behring sea, as well as to pay any awards of damages suffered by the nation declared to have held the true contention.

The widow of the Right Hon. W. H. Smith is gazetted as Viscountess Hambledon. The right of succession falls upon male heirs.

The man who attacked the Czarewitch at Otsu, Japan, and who was sentenced to life imprisonment, died last week of pneumonia.

Ex-King Milan of Serbia and his divorced wife are both in Paris, and as King Milan is in want of money, and the ex-Queen is rich, a reconciliation is thought to be within the probabilities, especially as both are still ambitious to figure in society.

The Parnellites sustained an overwhelming defeat in Cork on Friday. Flavin, McCarthy, was elected by a plurality of 1,512 votes over Redmond, Parnellite. This was far greater than was expected, and is indisputable proof of the decline of Parnellism.

A despatch from Valparaiso says Pedro Montt, minister to the United States has informed the Junta that he has been assured by Secretary Blaine that the question of the extradition of political refugees now in the American legation will be presented by the United States congress for action soon, as that body meets in December.

Owing to the bursting of a Krupp gun during a recent test by the military authorities at Stockholm, the Swedish inspector of ordnance has gone to Essen to discuss the affair with the Krupps and to inspect the casting of new guns and learn the method of their manufacture. If Krupp declines to permit this the Swedish Government intends to buy its guns elsewhere.

"How are you?"  
"Nicely, Thank You,"  
"Thank Who?"  
"Why the inventor of  
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Which cured me of CONSUMPTION."  
Give thanks for its discovery. That it does not make you sick when you take it.  
Give thanks. That it is three times as efficacious as the old-fashioned cod liver oil.  
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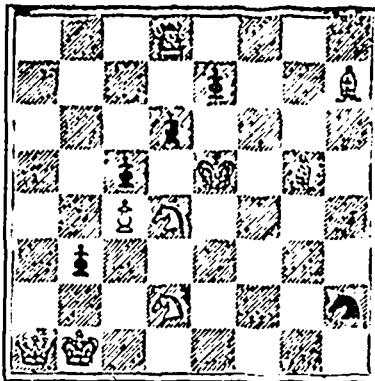
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CHESS.

PROBLEM No. 91.  
By E. Formstghaer.  
From the Week.  
Black 6 pieces.



White 8 pieces.

White to play and mate in two moves.

GAME No. 92.

The following superb game was the eleventh straight win to Showalter's credit.

Frank Defense.

- | Black.<br>Showalter. | White.<br>Phillips. |
|----------------------|---------------------|
| 1 P to K4            | P to K3             |
| 2 P to Q4            | P to Q4             |
| 3 Kt to QB5          | Kt to KB5           |
| 4 B to K Kt5         | B to Kt5 a          |
| 5 P to K5            | P to KR3            |
| 6 B to Q2            | Kt to R2            |
| 7 B to Q3            | Kt to QB3           |
| 8 Q to Kt4           | K to B1             |
| 9 KKt to K2          | B to K2             |
| 10 Kt to Kt5         | P to B4             |
| 11 Kt tks BP         | P tks Kt            |
| 12 B tks BP          | Kt to Kt4           |
| 13 P to KR4          | Kt to B2            |
| 14 P to K6           | Kt to Q8            |
| 15 B to Kt6          | B to B3             |
| 16 B to K3           | Kt to K2            |
| 17 B to Q3           | P to B3             |
| 18 Castles QE        | Kt to B2            |
| 19 P to B4           | P to KR4            |
| 20 Q to R5           | Kt to R3            |
| 21 P to B5           | Kt to Kt5           |
| 22 Kt to K2          | P to K Kt3 c        |
| 23 P tks P           | B tks KP            |
| 24 KR to B1          | K to Kt2            |
| 25 R tks B!          | K tks R d           |
| 26 B to Kt 5 ch      | K to Kt2            |
| 27 Kt to B4          | B to Q2             |
| 28 R to K1           | Kt to B3            |
| 29 Kt to K6 ch!      | B tks Kt            |
| 30 B tks Kt ch       | K tks B             |
| 31 Q tks B ch        | K to Kt2            |
| 32 Q to B7 ch        | K to R3             |
| 33 P to Kt7          | Q to Q3             |
| 34 Mates in 7 e      |                     |

NOTES.

- a A bizarre move, perhaps, to escape the beaten tracks.
- b A very fine premeditated sacrifice, even if not sound.
- c This opens up an attack from the White Rooks! We prefer Kt tks B, followed by some sort of development of the QR and B.
- d Q to Q2 gave Black considerable chances of defense, but this means refusing a whole Rook.
- e By announcement! Showalter's opponent was Dr. D. T. Phillips. The latest score at the time of writing gives Showalter the lead, Pollock second, Phillips third and Uedemann fourth, the rest not in the race.—Gazette.

Halifax Printing Company,  
161 Hollis Street.

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IS THE BEST  
PHYSICIANS SAY SO

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1 " " 5,000.....	5,000 00
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1 " " 1,250.....	1,250 00
2 Prizes " 500.....	1,000 00
5 " " 250.....	1,250 00
25 " " 50.....	1,250 00
100 " " 25.....	2,500 00
200 " " 15.....	3,000 00
500 " " 10.....	5,000 00
APPROXIMATION PRIZES.	
100 " " 25.....	2,500 00
100 " " 15.....	1,500 00
100 " " 10.....	1,000 00
999 " " 5.....	4,995 00
999 " " 5.....	4,995 00

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## ENGLAND AND HER CHARMS.

She stands, a thousand wintered tree,  
By countless morns imperaled;  
Her broad roots cool beneath the sea,  
Her branches sweep the world;  
Her seeds, by careless winds conveyed,  
Clothe the remotest strand  
With forests from her scatterings made,  
New nations fostered in her shade,  
And linking land with land.

O ye by wandering tempest sown  
Neath every alien star,  
Forgot not whence the breath was blown,  
That watted you afar;  
For ye are still her ancient seed  
On younger soil let fall—  
Children of Britain's island breed,  
To whom the mother in her need  
Perchance may one day call.  
—William Watson, in *The Illustrated London News*, Am. Ed.

### THE LADY SORROW.

The Lady Sorrow came to me;  
Her lips were wan, her pace was slow;  
She carried rue and rosemary,  
And sad her accents were and low.

The wind rose in a gust of sighs,  
The clouds broke in a storm of tears;  
And she, too, wept, for in her eyes  
Were met the woes of many years.

I rose to meet her; and I knew  
In that dark hour she brought my doom;  
"I know thee by thy gathered rue,  
I ask not wherefore thou art come."

She took my hand; her palm was chill;  
She led me on through thorns and mire,  
By swampy fen and windy hill,  
O'er fields of snow and lakes of fire.

At last she brought me to a wood;  
The houghs grew thick, no light came through,  
She stayed and kissed me as I stood;  
She passed before I saw or knew.

And, with that chrisn upon my brow,  
Forward I went; the dark grew light,  
By firm wide paths I journeyed now,  
With snowdroyds town and aconite.

And out into the busy world  
I pressed with eager heart and feet;  
From cottage roofs the thin smoke curled,  
The cock crew loud, the flowers bloomed sweet.

And every worker that I met  
Smiled back in answering sympathy—  
"Her sign is on thy forehead set;  
Who comes to all has been with thee."  
—Chambers's Journal.

### THE COMING OF WINTER.

Out of the Northland sombre weirds are calling;  
A shadow falleth southward day by day;  
Sad summer's arms grow cold; his fire is falling;  
His feet draw back to give the stern one way.

It is the voice and shadow of the slayer,  
Slayer of loves, sweet world, slayer of dreams;  
Make sad thy voice with sober plaint and prayer;  
Make gray thy woods, and darken all thy streams.

Black grows the river, blacker drifts the eddy;  
The sky is gray; the woods are cold below;  
Oh, make thy booom, and thy sad lips ready,  
For the cold kisses of the folding snow!  
—Archibald Lampman, from "Among the Millet" and other poems.

### LOWELL IN HIS POETRY.

The elementary fact about Lowell, which stands at the threshold of every discussion of his works, is that he was born and bred a New Englander. He does not permit his readers to forget it. In his prose and in his verse he goes back to it again and again. He proclaims it in a shout of defiance to the slaveholders of the South:—

I first drew breath in New England's air, and from her hardy breast,  
Sucked in the tyrant-hating milk that will not let me rest;  
And if my words seem treason to the dullard and the tame,  
'Tis but my Bay-State dialect—our fathers spake the same.

And of the dialect in which Hosea Biglow uttered his memorable things, he says:—

When I write in it, it is as in a mother-tongue, and I am carried far back beyond my studies of it to long ago noonings in my father's hay-fields, and to the talk of Sam and Job over their jug of backstrap under the shadow of the ash-tree which still dapples the grass whence they have been gone so long.

In truth he was a Yankee of the Yankees, by blood, birth, training, and to a large extent, by temperament as well. The fact is not inconsistent with the well-understood one that he became very much of a cosmopolitan. In him, as in many other men, was a certain dualism of nature and character. He "beat his music out" from the clash and contact of two influences. He was at once a Yankee and a European; a provincial and a cosmopolitan; a preacher and a poet; a vehement, and even violent, partisan, and a critic of wide culture and large humanity. But literature will know him longest as the poet who gave literary form and value to the indigenous humor, rhetoric, and satire of the farmers of New England—a distinctive class which has well-nigh passed away.

It is possible to be versatile without shallowness. Lowell was wonderfully versatile, but never shallow. He was skillful, thorough, and scholarly in all that he put his hand to. He was a satirist, a writer of lyric and elegiac verse, an exponent of partisan politics, a critic, and attained marked success in all. He mastered the literature of half a dozen nations, and at fifty-eight, after twenty years spent in the study and the lecture-room, he took up diplomacy, and made a model ambassador. In London, at three-score, he achieved such a social success as falls to the lot of few men, even among those who have breathed the air of our society—so capricious in its taste, so difficult to understand aright—from their boyhood.

There is, as Mr. Rossetti says, a great deal of "literary make believe" about *The Legend of Brittany*, and *Prometheus*, and *Rhæcus*, and many other of the earlier series of poems. One is surprised, on looking through them, to see how many moods and styles they reproduce. The quick-fingered New England workman, delighting in the consciousness of his own mastery of the handicraft, can work to any pattern, and the work is well up to sample. It gratified his fine and keen intelligence to practice poetry, as it gratified it to master the dexterous business of diplomacy. But behind and beneath all this was something more. His work seems to be not so much that of the poet, the critic, or the essayist, as that of the preacher. This was the task to which he had a "call," for he felt it so himself, and knew that it was at once the source of his weakness and his strength. In the "Fable of the Critics," written at twenty-nine, he says:—

There's Lowell, who's striving Parnassus to climb,  
With a whole bale of *iamb*s tied together with rhyme;  
He might get on alone, spite of brambles and bowlders,  
But he can't with that bundle he has on his shoulders.  
The top of the hill he will ne'er come nigh reaching  
Till he learns the distinction 'twixt singing and preaching;  
His lyre has some chords that would ring pretty well,  
But ne'd rather by half make a drum of the shell.  
And rattle away till he's old as Methusalem,  
At the head of a march to the last new Jerusalem.

Twenty-six years later, in the fine lines addressed to George William Curtis, he dwells on his happy years of study and retirement in the old home at Elmwood, and then continues:

I sank too deep in this soft-stuffed repose  
That hears but rumors of earth's wrongs and woes  
Too well these Capuas could my muscles waste,  
Not void of toils, but toils of choice and taste;  
Those still had kept me, could I but have quelled  
The Puritan drop that in my veins rebelled.  
But there were times when silent were my books:  
As jailers are, and gave me sullen looks;  
When vornes palled, and even woodland path,  
By innocent contrast, filled my heart with wrath;  
And I must twist my little gift of words  
Into a scourge of rough and knotted cords,  
Unmusical, that whittles as they swing,  
To leave on homeless backs their purple sting.

One cannot doubt the correctness of the self-analysis in both these passages. His ascent of Parnassus was seriously impeded by the Republicanism, Neo-Calvinism, Old Liberalism, Humanitarianism, Meliorism, and the rest of the formidable spiritual baggage which he had to carry. His was not the detachment of mind that goes to make a poet, whose songs will float down the ages. With all his love of nature, he could not forget the sorrows of a perplexed world as he breathed into the shepherd's oaten reed or pastoral pipe. In his hands "the thing became a trumpeter" when he blew vigorous blasts of warning or defiance.

The *Biglow Papers* gave Lowell the opportunity to exhibit all his powers as nothing else would have done. The dust of time can be rubbed off, and underneath there is something that will endure. Indolent humanity will not willingly abandon such portable and handy additions to the literary travelling bag as these, of which the *Biglow Papers* is a storehouse:

"Wal, it's a mercy we've got folks to tell us  
The right an' t' wrong of these matters, I vow—  
God sends country lawyers and other wise fellows  
To start the world's team when it gets in a slough."

"Civilization *does* git forrard  
Sometimes upon a powder-cart."

"But glory is a kin' of thing I shan't pursue no farder  
Coz thet's the officers' parquisite yours only jest the murder."

The Lowell of the cosmopolitan period was as much superior in finish and brightness to the Lowell of the slavery struggle as he was below him in vigor and oratorical fire.

How sweetly the expression and the thought are wedded in the delicate lyric beginning with the two lines:

O tell me less or tell me more,  
Sweet eyes with mystery at the core.

*Heartsease and Rue* is full of beautiful poems, the dainty touches of a refined and practical pencil, such as this:

The path from me to you that led,  
Untrodden long, with grass is grown,  
Mute carpet that his lieges spread  
Before the Prince Oblivion,  
When he goes visiting the dead. —*Fortnightly Review.*

"Mamma" said a little girl whose thirst for information has several times proved embarrassing, "does 'Portuguese' mean all the people in Portugal?"—"The word may be used in that way." "Well, mamma, if you mean only one of them do you say Portuguese?"

THE METHODS OF UNIVERSITY EXTENSION.

If the lecturer be skillful, the hours seem very short, for the feeling is abroad that here is a man thinking out loud and suggesting a whole lot of new thoughts which will make one distinctly the richer. It is a pleasant sensation, recalling the very cream of bygone school days, and it shows itself in rows of flushed and grateful faces. An essential part of the lecture scheme is the printed syllabus, which is supplied at merely nominal price. This gives the systematic outline so needful to the student, yet so inspiring in the lecture itself. In addition, the syllabus suggests a careful line of home reading in connection with each lecture. The lecturer also gives out one or more questions which are to be answered in writing and mailed to him some time before the next lecture. This home paper work is regarded of the utmost importance, since it brings out the thought and originality of the student in a way that a simple lecture never could.

When the lecture is over, a class is formed of all those who care to enroll themselves as students, the other hearers withdrawing. The class lasts for about an hour, and also ranks above the lecture in educational importance. It is here that the personal intercourse between lecturer and students comes into play. It is, indeed, very much like the college seminary, and is as conversational in its tone as the bashfulness of the students will allow. The lecturer develops his points a little further, and explains any difficulties that may have arisen. He also uses the occasion to return the written exercises, and makes such criticisms and comments as he thinks best.—*From University Extension, by Prof. C. H. Henderson, in The Popular Science Monthly for November.*

VARIOUS BURIAL CUSTOMS.

The Thibetans cut in pieces the bodies of their dead and throw them into the lakes to feed the fish. The ancient Bactrians suffered the bodies of their departed relatives to be eaten by dogs specially kept for that purpose. The early Norsemen used to place the Viking in his ship and "send him flaming out to sea" with all his belongings. The Ethiopians disposed of the dead either by throwing them into the river or by preserving them in their houses in statues of gold or baked clay. The Babylonians embalmed their dead in honey, and discountenanced cremation, which they believed to be nothing but a sacrilege to the sun. The Guanches rudely embalmed their corpses, drying the bodies in the air and covering them with varnish.

The palæolithic cave-dwellers of France and Belgium buried their dead in natural grottos and crevices of the rocks, similar to those in which they lived. The Peruvians appear to have preserved the bodies of their incas after the Egyptian fashion, and in early times mummies seem to have had an abiding place in Mexico. The Greeks of old were enjoined by law to burn the dead, and the Romans, who in the time of the republic had interred their dead, adopted the Grecian usage in the days of Sulla. The Parsees lay their dead on the khames, or "towers of silence," where the vultures clean the bones, which in a month are removed and deposited in deep wells containing the dust of many generations. On the Himalayan slopes the Sikkim burn the bodies of the dead, and scatter the ashes to the four winds, while the tribes of Oonaska and Nootka Sound bury them on the hill-tops, and expect every wayfarer to throw a stone on the grave.

Herodotus tells us of favorite horses and slaves being sacrificed at the holocaust of the dead chief, and in many countries the wives had the privilege of dying with their husbands, a custom which has continued in the Hindu Suttee down to the present generation. The Burmese, before burying the body of a gentleman, inclose it in a varnished coffin, and, after divers hymns and processions, place it on a pyre of precious woods, which is ignited and allowed to burn until nearly consumed, when the body is taken from the flames and buried. The Chayenne Indian hangs the dead body of his friend among the foliage of his native forests, a prey to the vulture and the sport of every storm; or else, swathing it with willow branches, places it with the feet southward in some cottonwood tree, together with a plentiful supply of food, arms and tobacco, to be consumed on its voyage to the happy hunting grounds.

The Chinese bury their dead in the fairest spots in the land. They are extraordinarily devoted to the dead, and the labor contract of every coolie emigrant specially stipulates that in case of death his body shall be carried back to China, that his dust may mingle with that of his forefathers and join their spirits in the flowery kingdom. Otherwise, he believes that his soul will wander amid strangers unknown and astray.—*Collier's Once a Week (U. S. A.)*

INDUSTRIAL NOTES.

THE DEAL TRADE.—Capt. Nordby has chartered Messrs. E Churchill & Sons' bark Havre, 642 tons, Capt. Mitchner, to load deals for Mr. George McKeon. The Havre arrived at West Bay on Monday, but lost one of her anchors in mooring, and yesterday, while attempting to change her position, found the stock of her other anchor broken, so she had to be towed into the river.—*Leader.*

OYSTERS.—The fisheries department is considering the prospect of purchasing five hundred barrels of oysters to restock the once profitable beds at Shodiac, Westmoreland county, New Brunswick.

NEW SPOOL MANUFACTURIES.—Mr. J. C. Ristoen, of Boston, is erecting two spool mills in this county, one in the Sugary and the other on Ox Brook. At the present time he has forty men at work at the Sugary and Ox Brook district getting out spool wood. We understand he has contracts for 7,000 cords of white birch, or as he expressed it, several miles of a wood pile.—*Chatham Advance.*



## COMMERCIAL.

As to general business the past week has shown no material change. On the whole an increase of transactions has been noticeable and a fair volume of business has been accomplished. Stocks, in heavy goods especially, are small, and prices are firm. In fact, judging from the present appearance of the situation, there is a strong probability of a shortage in several lines before next spring. Therefore it is that holders show a firm disposition despite the fact that the demand is quiet.

The farmers, as a rule, are still holding on to their produce, and until they let go there cannot be any sensible accession to business. Remittances, consequently, continue to be disappointing, but this was to be expected so long as the continued fine weather keeps the farmers in the field, instead of marketing their crops, realising upon them, and thus putting themselves in a position to become purchasers of goods needed by themselves and their families for winter use.

A feature of the existing financial situation which has not perhaps received the attention which it deserves is, nevertheless, beginning to exert its influence upon the speculative markets of this country in an unmistakable way. While there can be little doubt as to the prosperity which the retail crop situation here and in Europe will bring to the agricultural, railroad and general business interests of the United States, there is yet room for exaggeration, if not in regard to the extent of the favorable influences, at least in regard to the rapidity with which they will develop themselves. The fact that the financial position of the Old World is far from being a healthy one is becoming plainer and plainer. It is true that the incipient "boom" with which our own stock market attempted during the month of September to discount the results of the crops and the European demand had very efficient support from foreign speculative interests. When the upward movement of prices halted and then collapsed under what seemed to be artificial and momentary troubles, it did not appear that Europe was disposed to relax its bullishness in regard to our railway securities. Even of late, when higher rates of interest in the foreign money markets have prevailed as a result of the outflow of gold to this country, caused by the enormous purchases of American grain, and when at the same time the borrowing incursion of the Russian Government into the Paris market added to the disturbance, it does not seem that foreign speculative interests have been at all shaken in their belief that in American securities at least there is prospect of activity and profit.

Nevertheless, it has been shown more plainly, as the situation abroad develops itself, that whatever degree of support the speculative element in the London and continental markets may extend to the bullish inclinations of Wall Street, little prospect exists that an investment demand from that quarter, such as in former years was one of the features of our financial relations with Europe, can at present be looked for. It is true that the selling of investment holdings of American railroad securities, which was at the time of the Baring failure so marked and depressing in its effects, is no longer to be apprehended. In fact, during the past three months our bond market has been free from interference of this kind. Nevertheless, and in spite of the rather considerable speculative purchases of stocks in this market for London and continental account, there has been little, if any, renewal of the former steady demand for bonds and dividend-paying stocks which on many occasions seriously affected the balance of exchanges in favor of this country. Promising as the bond market now does to exhibit a new demand with the corresponding increase in the prices for investment securities, this fact may possibly have little influence; but it is needless to say that the absence of the absorbing part for the permanent classes of securities which Europe in former years supplied will be a serious drag upon the general situation.

An examination of the causes which at the moment affect European market is, therefore, of more than ordinary interest. It would seem that the liquidation of England's unfortunate ventures in South America is not entirely completed. At the same time the secondary effects of the Argentine crash have been aggravated by the war in Chili, and even now the threatened political complications in Brazil, added to the existing financial crisis in that country and the fall of exchange rates, threaten to create further depression in the mass of South American securities still held in London, the effect of which upon financial interests must necessarily be of a more or less disturbing character. Nor must it be forgotten that Great Britain's Australian colonies are at present suffering from a financial crisis; that the situation in China, threatening all European interests, would seriously affect an important branch of British trade, and that India is enduring at the moment a period of unusual business depression. All these influences must necessarily exert an unfavorable influence in the world's financial centre, which experience has taught us cannot fail to react with more or less force upon other markets, our own included.

It is, however, upon the continent that the most tangible grounds for apprehension present themselves at the moment. The fact that definite details of the Russian famine are lacking does not conceal the severity of the distress in which an enormous population is involved. A situation of that character tends infallibly to influence and disturb the economic condition of neighboring countries, involving as it apparently does the absolute collapse of the business and industrial organization of the Russian empire. Whether the Russian Government meets the crisis wisely or not it is at any rate evident that, apart from the immense reduction of its revenues which the famine will cause, great sums will have to be provided to alleviate the distress, and that even though the Government abandons its belligerent intentions it must borrow if it can and borrow largely, and that the loan of 100,000,000 francs which has just been contracted in France is but a preliminary application for credit and assistance in that quarter. There is, of course, room for a belief that the disfavor with which the efforts of

French financiers to cement the Franco-Russian alliance by giving the latter country some measure of financial assistance are regarded by the German and English banking worlds is partly, if not entirely, due to political and other obvious causes. Nevertheless, the very fact that the recent operation by which the Russian loan was floated is openly criticized as an evidence of reckless methods and insecure tendencies in finance has its effect outside of France. Nor must it be forgotten that Germany is still the largest holder of Russian securities of all kinds, and that the influence of the famine, combined with the local crop deficiency, is likely, even in spite of the conservatism of German bankers, to create more or less trouble at Berlin and Frankfurt. An evidence was furnished this week of this by the failure of a firm of Berlin bankers, while further financial disturbance in that quarter is by no means improbable. Under the circumstances, and with similar conditions, aggravated by the somewhat reckless speculative tendencies which Paris financial interests have lately exhibited, there is a manifest fear that a crisis in that quarter may make its appearance before long, the fact that the Spanish National Bank has just succeeded in negotiating a loan of £2,000,000 in Paris being to a certain extent regarded as an invitation to such results. Added to these are such minor influences as the unfortunate financial position of Portugal and the general business and financial depression of Italy.—*Bradstreet's*.

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

	Week Prev.		Weeks corresponding to			Failures for the year to date			
	Nov. 6. week.	1891	1890	1889	1888	1891	1890	1889	1888
United States	238	205	151	248	177	10121	8502	9361	8471
Canada	43	33	37	45	37	1557	1369	1373	1497

**Dry Goods.**—The anticipations of improved business have turned out to have been well founded and an active trade is in progress. Travellers now on the road are doing better than seemed probable a few weeks ago. Still they report little or no disposition towards purchasing spring goods, the general idea, which is a good one, being to dispose of the goods at present in season, and not to purchase and receive goods for the spring that will interfere with present business. Prices all around are very firm and mill agents quote some lines of check shirtings  $7\frac{1}{2}$  to 10 per cent. advance. Flannelettes and wide goods are very scarce, and wholesalers and retailers alike find a ready market for them.

**IRON, HARDWARE AND METALS.**—We have a very quiet week in pig iron to report. Stocks here of all kinds are very light and will not be sufficient to supply any reasonable demand that may be expected this winter. This will keep prices firm and perhaps cause some advance in figures. Little that is interesting is occurring in bar iron. Nothing is doing in imported, and domestic bar occupies a nominal position. Cannars are reported to have secured about all the tin plates that they will require this season, so that prices on cokes are easy. Charcoals are unchanged. Copper is dull and easy, and although quotations are nominally unchanged, it is likely that figures would be cut on in the case of a round order. The same may be said of tin, which rules easy.

**BREADSTUFFS.**—It is reported that the local demand for flour shows some improvement, but that prices remain steady. The demand for oatmeal is still very slow, but the tone of the market appears to be steadier. There is a fair demand for feed at steady prices. Beerbohm's cable reports wheat in England firmer and held higher, while corn is very firm, though little or nothing is doing in it. The French country markets are firm. The Chicago wheat market has fluctuated somewhat, but within very narrow limits, and prices have been practically without change. Foreign news continuing firm, and no damaging amount of rain having fallen in the winter wheat sections, have proved important factors in keeping prices steady on the whole, so that figures may be generally taken to be the same as last week. Oats were firm. In New York wheat advanced  $\frac{3}{8}$  c. to  $\frac{7}{8}$  c., and at St. Louis  $\frac{1}{8}$  c. to  $\frac{1}{2}$  c. At Toledo and Duluth it was firm, and at Milwaukee steady.

**PROVISIONS.**—A fair trade is doing in pork, but at rather lower prices. Little or no old stock of short cut remains in first hands, and the new stock is getting a favorable reception, though at a slight reduction. Lard and smoked meats are in fair demand. Nothing new has transpired in the Liverpool provision market. In Chicago December pork declined about 10c. The hog market there advanced 10c.

**BUTTER.**—The local butter market rules firm, although the demand cannot be said to be brisk. The scarcity of medium and lower grades noted before in these columns continues. Really good butter is in about sufficient supply for the immediate demands of the market for present consumption, and prices are firmly held. An advance is confidently anticipated in the near future. A London correspondent writes:—"The market for butter still keeps in an unaccountable groove of firmness, continuous advances being made. Buyers who held off last week being in fact sorry, as they have had to pay smart for this, all brands travelling up. Danish comes persistently small in amount, and the extraordinary prices demanded make experienced men in the trade open their eyes. They woop but they have to pay. Danish has a strong hold here on the affections of consumers. Every parcel that could be got of this brand has been swept off at 133s. to 136s. per cwt., and as if this were not high enough, 3 kroner advance is cable from Denmark, and holders claim another two or three shillings. Prices have gone still higher than at any period during the past 30 months, while next week we are expecting a still further appreciation. But there is an end to all things, and the brakes must be put on soon. Meanwhile other imports enjoy better enquiry, and American and Canadian among the rest have advanced. The former is quoted up to 96s., with some fancy makes at 106s. to 108s., the general price the first one; while Canadian is sold freely at 78s. to 102s.; first-class creamery 104s. per cwt."

**CHEESE.**—Under a very slight demand in this market cheese moves very slowly. The managers of cheese factories throughout the Province, however, manifest great confidence in the position and believe that the large foreign

demands that they expect will justify their holding back their goods to a later period. Meanwhile the market is decidedly dull and featureless. In Montreal cheese is comparatively active. Some lots of the finest Townships have recently been moved there at 10c, and it is now undoubted that finest Western stock could not be moved under that figure. In London cheese is slow for American and Canadian, but brisk for English. Old prices about rule for all descriptions, 51s. to 52s. being paid for Canadian, though, with an eye to future events, sellers will not contract beyond the present at the ruling rates, only landed goods going at the quotations, parcels to arrive being held for higher figures.

Eggs.—There is a fairly good local demand for eggs, and, just now, very few are coming in that are not of prime quality. Prices are well maintained, and there is no present indication of any probable decline in the near future. There has latterly been quite an active enquiry from the United States through the country districts for eggs, and this fact has, undoubtedly, its influence in keeping figures steady at about 15c. to 18c. A writer in London reports as follows:—"Eggs are fairly well supplied to us, but demand is good, and an advance has been declared in some quarters, selected remaining as before, sufficiently high, 10s. 6d. to 11s., smaller taking an upward move, the lowest quotation for French now being 7s. 3d. per long hundred. Well packed goods are eagerly sought for, and for such good prices are paid, buyers evincing great disgust at some of the cases unpacking with bad straw. Good packing is the chief measure of success in the egg business. In Liverpool prices have continuously advanced in face of limited supplies, and 9s. 6d. is at present the top line. Canadians have been going there well at 8s. 4d., with plenty of enquiry, and receivers are asking 7s. per 120 for those advised for next week. Shippers would certainly do well to press forward shipments, as just now the market seems dead set for good rates on those arriving in respectable condition."

APPLES.—The crop of apples in this Province has about all been gathered, and has proved, according to promise, a very large and healthy one. Considerable quantities have already been forwarded to this and other markets for immediate sale, and have commanded very satisfactory prices. Still, the major portion of the yield is held for shipment in the latter part of the winter and in early spring to England, when big prices are anticipated. In the Upper Provinces another course apparently obtains. The Montreal Trade Bulletin says:—"It is estimated that from 10,000 to 15,000 bbls. of apples have been sold on this market during the present week, sales of which are reported in lots of 100 to 1,000 bbls. at \$2, \$2.05, \$2.10, \$2.12, and \$2.15. These purchases were made for shipment and part for local account. Some large transactions have also taken place in the West at equal to about the above prices laid down here, although one or two round lots are reported as having changed hands in the West at comparatively higher figures for through shipment to Liverpool and other British ports. Parties in the trade who are generally well posted, state that the heaviest shipments are now going forward, and that after the close of navigation there will not be as many apples left in the country as many suppose. Very fair reports continue to be received from Liverpool, the average prices cabled being 12s. to 20s. Cables from Glasgow have been very satisfactory, recent sales in that market showing profitable results to shippers. There can be no doubt that the excellent quality of Canadian apples this season and the very reasonable prices ruling have been powerful factors in stimulating consumption on both sides of the Atlantic, but more especially in Great Britain. At a popular price the demand for apples or any other produce on the other side appears to be inexhaustible." As regards the London market, we read that "Apples have been selling well as regards quantity this week, but we are flooded with them from all sources, and the market is rates are as good as the market sales show. Over 8,000 Nova Scotians have been disposed of this week, the majority of them unbarrelling well, and under the circumstances, the good price of from 8s. up to 24s. per bbl. has been realised. More are advised for next week, but if the present ratio of supply keeps up, prices will not be nearly so good."

GREEN FRUIT.—There has been no particular change in green fruit, which has moved along quietly in a jobbing way, with prices steady. Oranges and lemons are in comparatively small supply, but it seems sufficient for the present demand.

DRIED FRUIT.—The week has witnessed more activity in dried fruit, more especially from first hands, and this is a good indication that jobbers are feeling the want of fresh supplies. Since our last a good demand for Valencia raisins has been experienced. Stocks in first hands are now brought into a narrow compass and holders are more independent in their views. Currants are also in good demand and a fair business in a wholesale way has been accomplished. The tendency is upwards in sympathy with leading markets and stronger advices from primary sources.

TEAS are very quiet, and the trade may be said to be at a standstill.

COFFEES.—All advices from outside markets show a firmer tendency and, although prices here are not altered, they have a stronger tendency.

SUGAR.—The market for refined sugar is quiet but steady and a fair business is reported in both granulated and yellows.

FISH.—The local market remains dull and inactive without any change to note. Small quantities of mackerel and herring are taken from time to time along the shores, but their numbers are too insignificant to make it worth while to cure and barrel them, so they are sold for immediate local consumption in a fresh state, or packed in ice and shipped to the United States and Canada. Our outside advices are as follows:—Montreal, Nov. 11—"The fish market is generally firm under a light supply, while the demand is fair. The first shipments of B. C. salmon in barrels were placed on the market during the week at \$12 spot, a fair price. There were quite a few arrivals of Labrador stock also by the recent steamers, but the supply was readily picked up at quotations, \$14 to \$16 according to grade. Advices regarding the regular trout sales at St. John's, Nfld., state that all the

offerings were bought up on American account at \$6.75 to \$7. Herrings are firm and scarce, with high prices checking the demand. Labrador herring have sold at \$5.50 to \$5.75. Cape Breton herring may be quoted at \$6 and shoro at \$5 to \$5.25. Newfoundland salmon is quoted at \$19 to \$20 in tierces, and at \$14 for No. 1 in bbls. Green cod is still in limited supply at \$5.50 to \$5.75 for No. 1 and \$6 to \$6.25 for large. Dry cod is steady at \$5 to \$5.25." Gloucester, Mass., Nov. 11—"Moderate receipts are still the rule, though the returning Bankers help to swell the volume of cod. It is now absolutely sure that the season will close with a very light stock, and the same being true of all the fishing ports, prices will not be likely to go lower. Last sales were as follows: Mackerel in fishermen's order \$25 per bbl. for extras, \$14 for large, \$11.50 for medium and \$9 for small, packed extras \$27, ones \$21; twos \$14; threes \$9. Outside fare sales of Bank cod \$1.62 and \$3.62; Cape Shore \$4 and \$3; Georges \$4.75 and \$3.50. Late sale of saltmixed fish \$3.25 for small cod; \$1.50 for haddock; \$1.30 for hake; fresh do. \$1.60 for cusk; \$1 for hake; 84 cts. for pollock, \$3 for haddock; Nova Scotia mackerel \$8 for small, \$11 for mediums, and \$11.50 to \$13 for large; P. E. I. do. \$12 to \$13 for mediums and \$13 to \$20 for large; Irish \$13 to \$14; New Georges codfish at \$6.87 to \$7 per qtl. for large, and small at \$5 to \$5.25; Bank \$5.75 to \$6.25 for large and \$4.25 for small, Shore \$6.75 and \$4.62 for large and small; dry Bank \$6.50, medium \$4.75; Flemish Cap \$6 to \$5.25 for large and \$4.50 for small; cured cusk at \$4.25 per qtl.; hake \$2.50; haddock \$3.75; heavy salted pollock \$2.38; English-cured do. \$3 to \$3.25 per qtl.; Labrador herring \$6.50 per bbl., Newfoundland do. \$7; Nova Scotia do. \$7; Eastport \$3.50; split Shore \$4; round do. \$4.50; round Eastport \$4; pickled codfish \$5, haddock \$3.50; halibut heads \$3.50; sounds \$12; tongues and sounds \$11; tongues \$10; alowives \$3.50; trout \$14; California salmon \$14; Halifax do. \$23; Newfoundland do. \$16."

MARKET QUOTATIONS.—WHOLESALE SELLING RATES.

Our Price Lists are corrected for us each week by reliable merchants.

GROCERIES.		BREADSTUFFS	
<b>SUGARS.</b>		Markets are all on the move upwards. Wheat, corn and oats are all higher, both in the United States and Canada. Flour has advanced 15 to 20 per cent., oat meal 40 to 60 per cent. from the lowest point of three weeks ago, corn meal is also higher. It is expected that the advanced prices will be maintained. Flour and oat meal can be bought cheaper here than at any other market.	
Cut Leaf .....	5 1/2	<b>FLOUR.</b>	
Granulated.....	4 1/2	Manitoba Highest Grade Patents.....	5.75 to 6.00
Circle A.....	4 1/2	High Grade Patents.....	5.20
White Extra C.....	4 1/2	Good 90 per cent. Patents.....	5.05
Standard.....	3 1/2 to 3 3/4	Straight Grade.....	4.91
Extra Yellow C.....	3 1/2	Good Seconds.....	4.60
Yellow C.....	3 1/4	Graham Flour.....	5.15
<b>TEA.</b>		Oatmeal.....	4.45
Congou, Common.....	17 to 19	Rolled.....	4.60
Fair.....	20 to 23	Kiln Dried Cornmeal.....	3.40
Good.....	25 to 29	In Bond.....	3.00
Choice.....	31 to 33	Rolled Wheat.....	5.55
Extra Choice.....	35 to 36	Wheat Bran, per ton.....	19.50
Oolong, Choice.....	37 to 39	Middlings.....	23.50
<b>MOLASSES.</b>		Shorts.....	22.50
Barbadoes.....	56	Cracked Corn including bags.....	35.00
Demerara.....	35 to 38	Ground Oil Cake, per ton.....	36.00 to 38.00
Diamond N.....	48	Moules.....	24.00 to 28.00
Porto Rico.....	31 to 33	Split Peas.....	4.10
Cienfuegos.....	none	White Beans, per bushel.....	1.50 to 1.55
Trinidad.....	32 1/2 to 33	Potatoes, per barrel.....	3.90 to 4.00
Antigua.....	31 to 34	Canadian Oats, choice quality new.....	43 to 45
Tobacco, Black.....	45 to 47	P. E. Island Oats.....	41 to 43
Bright.....	47 to 65	Hay, per ton.....	12.00 to 18.00
<b>BISCUITS.</b>		<b>J. A. CHIPMAN &amp; Co., Head of Central Wharf, Halifax, N. S.</b>	
Pilot Bread.....	8.00	<b>PROVISIONS.</b>	
Boston and Thin Family.....	6 1/2	Beef, Am. Ex. Mess, duty paid.....	11.50 to 15.00
Soda.....	6 1/2	Am. Plate.....	15.00 to 15.00
do in lb. boxes, 50 to case.....	7 1/2	Ex. Plate.....	15.00 to 16.50
Fancy.....	8 to 15	Pork, Mess, American.....	16.00 to 16.50
<b>HOME AND FOREIGN FRUITS.</b>		American, clear.....	18.50 to 19.00
Apples, per bbl., N. S.....	2.00 to 3.00	P. E. I. Mess.....	15.00 to 15.50
Oranges, Jamaica, bris.....	7.00 to 8.00	P. E. I. Thin Mess.....	14.00 to 14.50
Lemons, per case.....	9.00	Prime Mess.....	11.50 to 12.00
Cocoanuts, new per 100.....	4.50 to 5.00	Lard, Tubs and Pails, P. E. Island.....	12
Onions Am. per lb.....	1 1/4	American.....	10 to 11
Canadian.....	2	Hams, P. E. I., green.....	10 to 11
Dates boxes, new.....	5 1/2 to 6	Prices are for wholesale lots only, and are liable to change daily.	
Raisins, Valencia..... new.	6 1/2 to 7	<b>BUTTER AND CHEESE</b>	
Figs, Elene, 5 lb boxes per lb., new.	10 to 11	Nova Scotia Choice Fresh Prints.....	26
small boxes.....	9 to 10	" in Small Tubs.....	22
Praunes Stewing, boxes.....	7	Good, in large tubs, new.....	17 to 18
Bananas.....	1.50 to 2.00	Store Packed & oversalted.....	10
Tomatoes, new, per crate.....	1.25	Canadian Township, new.....	20 to 23
C. H. Harvoy, 12 & 10 Sackville St.		Western.....	18
		" old.....	23
		Cheese, Canadian.....	10
		Antigonish.....	10 1/2
		<b>SALT.</b>	
		Factory Filled.....	\$1.50
		Fine Liverpool, bag, from store.....	60
		Liverpool, # hhd.....	1.25
		" Afloat.....	none
		Cadiz.....	none
		Turks Island.....	1.50
		Lisbon.....	1.10
		Coarse W. I.....	1.40
		Trapani.....	1.40
		" Afloat.....	none

ALMONDS, No. 1..... 4.25  
SALMON, No. 1, # brl..... 14.00  
No. 2, # brl..... 12.00  
" 3, "..... 10.00  
Small..... 10.00  
CODFISH, Hard C B..... 4.75  
Western Shore..... 4.00  
Bank..... none  
Bay..... 4.15  
Newfoundland..... none  
Haddock, Bank & Western..... 3.25  
Hake..... 2.75  
POLLOCK..... 2.00  
Hake Sounds, per lb..... 12 1/2  
Cod Oil # gal..... 7

# THE TOSS OF A BALL.

## CHAPTER I.

"Esther," began Mr. Sweetapple, and paused hesitatively.

"Yes, Silas?" responded his sister, pausing likewise, but interrogatively.

Silas Sweetapple was a small man; rotund, dapper, and habited in brown. His clothes were cut in bygone Quaker fashion; his surroundings betrayed the same bias of opinion. The handsomely-furnished room indicated wealth dominated in expenditure by severe taste. Every article therein was solid in quality, sombre of color; excepting one object, Miss Sweetapple.

She was a little woman, soft, round and cushiony; apparently lacking angularities of either form or character. Her short, plump figure was arrayed in garments of bluish grey; and the folds of a snowy neckerchief crossed upon her breast were caught together by a small but valuable brooch, the centre of which, composed of a curved lock of grey hair—her dead father's—fastened by a tiny diamond star, was bordered by pearls of no great size, but of flawless shape and color.

I said one object. I mistake, there were two others.

A china basket heaped with York and Lancaster, moss and cluster roses; and a knot of blue ribbon tossed carelessly upon the seating of a massive chair, wherewith it appeared as congruous as a tuft of thistledown upon a mastiff's coat.

Anything more anomalous to Quaker proclivities than that coquettish knot of blue ribbon 'twere hard to find. But it was redolent of its owner.

Indeed the three individuals composing the banker's household represented three distinct gradations of opinion: Miss Sweetapple clinging tenaciously to the customs and tenets of the community wherein she had been born and bred; her brother, while repudiating both, finding himself continually trammelled by early habit and association; and sweet, wilful Clemency, his only child, who unhesitatingly avowed her antipathy to everything appertaining to the sect, excepting her beloved Aunt Esther.

She was coming now down the garden through the sunshine in her high red-heeled shoes and quaint bunched dress of blue, patterned over with roses, and looped here and there by azure bows. Possibly it was the sight of her approaching figure that bridged the pause in her elders' conversation.

"Thee hadst somewhat to communicate. Doth the matter concern the child?" Miss Sweetapple enquired, her eyes following the father's to where Clemency halted, slender as the flower, and as pure, beside a tall white lily, whose calice overflowed with golden light.

"Yes, verily doth it, and that nearly," replied her brother, relapsing, as was his wont when stirred, or earnest, into Quaker diction. "Esther, my daughter, is besought of me in marriage."

'By whom? Frank Hollis?'

"Nay, that were stale news," laughed the other. "Is not that a standing dish presented regularly once a month, and as regularly refused?"

"Clemency might do worse," returned Miss Sweetapple decidedly. "Frank is a good lad, and his father is a man of substance."

"But Algernon Duckett is more than wealthy—he is rich."

"Algernon Duckett!"

Miss Sweetapple laid her knitting upon her knee, and surveyed her brother in surprise.

"Verily, Esther," he remarked testily, "thy discernment must be limited if thou dost not see whither this young man's attentions tended."

"Nay, I marvel not at Clemency's attracting any man," returned Miss Sweetapple, gently. "What creates my wonder is that thou should'st seriously consider an offer tendered from such a quarter."

"But wherfore? What knowest thou to this youth's discredit?" asked the disconcerted father.

"Naught tangible. His address is good—his speech pleasant," replied his sister musingly. "Still, thou knowest, Silas, woman's instinct oft probeth that whereunto man's heavier reason cannot pierce. Besides," Miss Sweetapple enquired, flinging the question with sudden directness, "what knowest thou of these Ducketts? Who are they? Whence their family, breeding, or position?"

"The possessors of Cotswold Revel should be somewhat, Esther!"

"Truly; yet poles oft sever 'should be' and 'are.' And maybe, Cotswold Revel, ruined and forsaken by its rightful owners, was more honorable in its desolation than under the domination of these mushroom tenants, who, the growth of a night, may also in a night, perchance, depart."

"Anyway they keep the place in beautiful order."

"Excepting the west wing. Wherfore," commented Miss Sweetapple with reflected emphasis, "should its doors be barred, its windows darkened, and access to the laurel garden walled across? Also, what mean these flying rumors of shadowy figures, corpse-candles, and strange, unearthly noises?"

"Yokels' gossip, and old wives' fables. Esther, art thou in thy dotage?"

"Not yet, Silas," replied his sister calmly. "That charge, meseemeth, applied best to thee. Greed of gold is the vice of age; and thou appearest inclined to sell even thy daughter to the highest bidder."

"Gold honestly acquired is a good thing—as none knoweth better than thyself," was the banker's heated retort.

"Verily. Yet it beholdeth a prudent man to test its source ere tampering with the stream," was Miss Sweetapple's dry response.

"Nevertheless, this suitor demands honorable consideration."

"Assuredly. Yet would brief courtesy suffice did his acceptance rest with me. Wilt thou acquaint Clemency with this matter?"

"I doubt my right of withholding it from her," said Mr. Sweetapple uncertainly. "Thou would'st not counsel any such proceeding, would'st thou, Esther?"

"Nay, I counsel naught," replied Miss Sweetapple, folding her knitting together, and rising from her seat. "I have uttered my testimony, and now thee will act according to thy lights. The child is thine own. Her disposal is thy charge. I can but pray that Divine wisdom may guide thee both."

As the door closed upon his sister Mr. Sweetapple turned, leant his elbow upon the high mantlesheff, and reviewed the circumstances which had culminated in this climax.

To say that his heart was set upon this proffered alliance for his daughter were an exaggeration. That he fervently wished he might honestly desire it was a truth. The combined charms of personal beauty, and future wealth to be inherited in double portion from father and aunt, naturally attracted unnumbered suitors to pretty, wilful Clemency, the banker's only child. Amongst these three stood prominent: Frank Hollis, with whom she had played, laughed and coquetted from babyhood, and who precipitated himself and his possessions—mostly prospective—before her with whimsical persistency upon every possible opportunity; Ralf Alden, a lawyer of repute—like herself a recutant from Quaker tenets—grave, scholarly, self-possessed, whose wooing was as staid as Frank's was impulsive, and whose love was infinitely deeper; and Algernon Duckett.

St. Mildred's was an ancient cathedral city girded by the Stour, a clear, if somewhat narrow, river running a long and placid course before widening into the estuary that joined it to the sea. The community of St. Mildred's was dignified, prosperous and conservative. Around and within it dwelt families of pedigree, culture and position, yet none bore a name more honored, a lineage less stained, than that of Silas Sweetapple. Men trusted him. Into his hands, as into those of his ancestors for several generations, flowed the wealth of the district. But never had client opened an account with so large a deposit as had Algernon Duckett.

A distant contemplation of Clemency had primarily attracted this suitor's regard. Speedily compassing an introduction to her father, he so ingratiated himself, personally and financially, that Mr. Sweetapple endorsed his frankly outspoken request by promising that Miss Sweetapple and Clemency should take an early opportunity of paying their respects to his moirer and his one young sister.

From one of the long white roads reaching outward from St. Mildred's branched, some five miles beyond the city, a devious, tangled country lane. To the right of this, going northward, stood a large, ivy-coated mansion, low set in a wood-embowered hollow. It had belonged to a family even older than its antiquated foundations, and who clung to its mouldering walls long after empty coffers precluded their repair. At last it was wrested from their grip, and they went forth never to return. People who had known and loved the old house in its picturesque decay mourned its impending demolition by iconoclastic progress; but at the eleventh hour an enterprising tenant offered himself and saved it for a season.

Who he was, or whence he came, nobody knew. The change transpired so suddenly that almost simultaneously with the letting of the deserted mansion vans of furniture and other properties arrived, and the new tenants established themselves in that portion of the building needing least repair.

Gratitude and curiosity impelled a shoal of callers almost before the new-comers could be supposed fairly settled—advances received with a cool indifference that, by precluding intimacy, gradually reduced all social intercourse to periodical interchanges of formal entertainment.

Mr. Duckett, senior, was not often visible at home, and seldom went abroad. He was a tall, muscular man, with heavy features, and a keen, wandering gaze, suppositiously addicted to abstruse scholastic research. Whence this belief originated was uncertain. Probably its primary basis was a peculiar awed respect wherewith his wife, a timid, reserved little woman, with shrinking manners, and a careworn, even scared expression of countenance, alluded to her husband's "study," a gloomy, thickly-pannelled room in the rear of the mansion, the one window of which looked on to a weedy court, from which access was obtained to the disused west wing upon whose reputation Miss Sweetapple had cast such strong opprobrium.

From this chamber visitors were rigorously excluded; albeit, some adventurous spirits had attempted invasion of its privacy. The most persistent merely gained a glimpse of book-lined walls and a strip of grey sky above a half-darkened window—material from which fact or fancy could evolve little. Here, however, Mr. Duckett was generally immured, invariably returning thither, even from formal gatherings, as soon as dinner was ended, and remaining there often far on into the night.

But the son went everywhere—was welcomed everywhere. Recently, too, a daughter, having finished a continental education, had returned home, and fostered with zest those social amenities wherfrom her parents shrank.

She brought a whiff of fresh vigor into the mouldering old house; an inconvenient impetus, judging by the repression wherewith it was opposed, even Algernon vetoing invitations to school-friends, as his father did lengthened visits from anyone.

But Hilda Duckett could be as persistent as her elders, with, moreover, a vehement impetuosity carrying everything before it like a March wind. She rebelled at the restricted, cooped up life designed for her, and resolved upon emancipating herself and electrifying the neighborhood by giving a ball upon her approaching birthday. She swept away objections, laughed down protestations, and surmounted difficulties with a daring courage worthy of a better cause, until her bright effrontery actually enlisted an admiring coadjutor in her brother. Then Hilda's soul rejoiced, for she knew herself triumphant.

"I am a fool and you a greater for thus persuading me to give way to



a girl's whim," said the elder Mr. Duckett, with gloomy significance, as he yielded a wrong consent to his son's representations, "I doubt Hilda's mad caprice will cost us dear."

"Nay, father, there is no danger; 'tis but a night's revel, remember. Holding things in abeyance, and double watchfulness, will keep all secure."

Algernon spoke confidently, but the elder man was not reassured, and as he turned away, the son experienced an uneasy qualm which was not easily dispelled.

"I wish Hilda were back in Germany—better still, had never left it. Having her home was a mistake unless she were to know all," he said to himself discontentedly as, unmooring his boat, he sculled himself down the river towards St. Mildred's—a favorite diversion on his part, as the banker's garden, sloping to the water's edge, by affording a possible glimpse of Clemency amongst her roses, presented an irresistible attraction. Nor, to-day, was this attraction disappointed. The banker would have been saved much mental perturbation had he only known that whilst he stood debating with Miss Sweetapple the advisability of acquainting his daughter with the proposals of this new suitor, down by the weedy river banks, beneath the shadowy, overhanging willows, the young man was arguing his own cause with a skill which pretty Clemency would have found it difficult to parry, had she not already been tolerably well versed in Love's besieging tactics.

As it was, she found it no easy task to hold her own as to emerge from the conflict unshackled by present bond, or promised future favor.

She was somewhat taken by surprise, it is true, a little fluttered and unbalanced by this energetic lover's specious pleading. Yet hesitant, dubious of her own inclinations, unconsciously influenced by a secret preference unacknowledged even to herself, she was, moreover, withheld by a faint, scarce recognized repulsion from yielding one iota of her simple maiden dignity to his passionate adjurations.

"But you will come to Hilda's ball and give me your answer there? Say that you will!" he entreated. "Oh, you need not speak," he added quickly, replying to a gesture of dissent. "A look, a touch of your hand, a leaf from your bouquet—and I shall know!"

Clemency, sweeping him a little mocking curtsy, turned silently away, her head held high.

She resented thus being dictated to or hurried; and had no intention of intimating her answer other than in her own time and way. It was well Algernon Duckett had been trained in a school of rigid self-control, for an intangible something in the girl's piquant hauteur stung his amour propre while stimulating his infatuation almost into frenzy.

He made a step forward as though he would have followed her; but, restraining himself by an effort, retreated, leapt into his boat, and savagely gnawing his under lip in discomfited disappointment, sullenly rowed himself back.

"Let us go to the Minister," Clemency said, slipping her hand coaxingly under her father's arm half an hour later, when the cathedral bells chimed their summons to evensong; and Mr. Sweetapple, nothing loth, gathering his thoughts together, acquiesced without demur.

This was a frequent custom with the two. Frequently, also, going in or coming out, they were joined, as to-day, in the cathedral porch by a tall, grave-eyed man. Could it be that these uncertain meetings lent a subtle glamor to Clemency's fascination for St. Mildred's sombre yet glorious fane?

The High Street's lazy traffic was subsiding as they came out. Before the post-office or some of the larger shops stood carriages, whose occupants had paused on the daily drive to enquire for letters or match silks and ribbons. At the chief draper's a solitary horsewoman was waiting the shopman's return with change or purchase; a sullen-looking, thick-set groom in attendance in the rear. The girl's attention was divided betwixt curbing the impatience of a somewhat mettlesome steed and scanning the passers-by. As she caught sight of the approaching group her face brightened; she turned her horse's head nearer to the pavement, making a little detaining motion with the hand that held her whip. Its golden mountings flashed in the brilliant sunshine. A jewel scintillated from its butt as her fingers fell back against the pommel. Clemency's keen eyes took in those accessories at a glance; the stylish habit, cut in the fashion of a bygone generation, and beaver hat, the new trappings and costly steed, the well-dressed attendant, the jewelled whip. All the appointments were good, if somewhat over fresh; yet was there discrepancy in the picture, as a whole, which jarred indefinitely upon her taste. But the frank face and clear eyes down-bent to hers held only what was pleasant.

"Congratulate me, I have conquered! Father says I may have my dance," Hilda Duckett said, stooping from her saddle, flushed, eager and triumphant.

"I am glad, since so keeping your birthday pleases you," Clemency answered, and then blushed hotly, biting her lip as her father glanced at her enquiringly, and Hilda exclaimed in brusque surprise:

"How gossip flies! Why, it was only decided this morning. Oh, I understand," she added, with a nod and laugh of amused enlightenment.

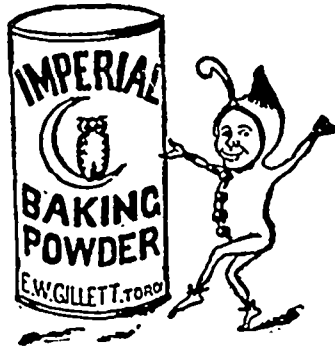
Mr. Sweetapple looked puzzled. Ralf Alden's brow darkened. Clemency, with a little defiant air, bent forward and stroked the mare's glossy neck.

"My invitations are not issued yet, of course; but you will all come?" Hilda questioned, with a comprehensive glance including Ralf, though he was still unknown to her.

Mr. Sweetapple introduced him. Ralf bowed stiffly, making no response.

"I—we—do not dance," Clemency said, her small head erect.

(To be continued.)



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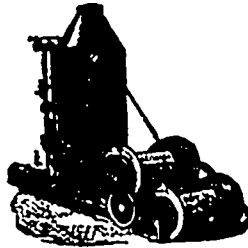
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## MINING.

In our issue of October 16th we noted the fact that Mr. Alfred Woodhouse, a mining engineer from England, and Dr. L. D. Ross of Montreal, had at the invitation of the Nova Scotia Gold Miners Association addressed that body giving their impressions of mining as observed by them in Nova Scotia.

We now through the courtesy of the officials of the Association are enabled to lay before our readers full reports of the addresses, which will be found to contain some valuable suggestions while enabling us "to see ourselves as others see us."

Mr. Alfred Woodhouse said that it was with some diffidence he ventured to give his impressions of what he had seen in Nova Scotia, considering how short his visit had been. He would, however, begin by stating that so far as he had gone he was decidedly favorably impressed with the future prospects of the gold mining industry of this Province. The formation here was decidedly favorable, and the output of gold in the past conclusively proved that the Province had an industry that deserved even more attention than had been given it up to the present time. There was every justification for outside capitalists to invest their capital in developing these gold mines.

He warned them against offering to outside capitalists the worst of the mines, as if this was done capitalists would very quickly be disgusted. The first principle which should guide those interested in securing the co-operation of outside capitalists would be to give them something with which they would be so satisfied that they would come again and want more.

So far as he had seen, comparing the leads or lodes in Nova Scotia with those in other countries, he had every reason to believe that the leads in this Province would continue to great depths. He would not go so far as to say that they are fissure veins, but, at the same time it did not necessarily follow that because they were not fissure veins they would not continue down to great and unworkable depths. Compared with other gold fields the veins here were a little thin. At the same time the leads were very close together. But the mines must be worked on a commercial basis. Twenty dollars worth of gold must be produced for something less than twenty dollars, otherwise commercial failure was bound to ensue. He was sorry to say that he could not agree with the present system of working the mines. The system in vogue here might properly be called the preliminary state of gold mining. For instance, a prospector starts and finds a vein with some gold in it, and naturally follows on that gold until water or some other little difficulty prevents him from continuing, when he leaves that vein and goes to some other. This may be a very good practice so far as developing the district is concerned, but it is not gold mining. Any one going to a gold mining section of the country here is struck with the enormous number of these small pits which have been sunk on the surface of the veins, and as soon as they have gone down a few feet they leave it and go to some other spot, which is following out nothing more than the old primitive method of two or three thousand years ago. His friend, Capt. MacDuff, was in India when he was there and could tell them that the old system in that country was the same system, that is, taking out the gold to such a depth as a single individual could go. He thought that with some few exceptions the system might be summed up to the word "Fossicking." However, the work that had been carried out by these prospectors was of some value. They have proved that there is valuable gold existing in these localities, and that with proper system of working there is every prospect of permanent value attaching to these mines. After the prospector comes forward the small capitalist who mines down to a certain point, about 200 or 300 feet, beyond which he is a little nervous about going. This is simply because he has not that amount of confidence in the mines that the surface workings or the work above the 300 feet level should have given.

The gold in Nova Scotia, so far as he had seen, ran in streaks or gold chutes. He did not think that sufficient attention was paid to these streaks. Every piece of work that was carried out on a mine should be accurately planned. As the ore is removed it should be accurately marked on the plan, and not only marked on the plan but the various yields of gold at the different points should be indicated on the plan, so that after a few months work the line of that particular gold streak should be accurately known. He wished particularly to mention what he assumed was the same in this country as in other countries—that a streak of gold will pinch and make in the same way as the leads of the country pinch up and widen out, and, therefore, when gold miners in working gradually ran to a point where the gold was pinched to a few feet in length, they should not be disheartened. It would be an extraordinary thing if the streak of gold did not again widen out as the workmen proceeded deeper. In a country like Nova Scotia where in the gold mining localities there were so many leads close together, the system of working was wrong. He admitted that it was easier to find fault than to propose corrections and improvements, but he felt it his duty to distinctly express his opinion that the system of working the mines in Nova Scotia was unsound. The proper system of working where there were so many leads occurring together was by means of vertical shafts, from which cross cuts should be made to tap the various leads. From this main shaft drifts should be started on the various leads with a slight gradient up-hill, so that not only all the water drained to the main shaft, but with this slight gradient the loaded trucks could be run down easily to the main shaft, and the same truck raised and delivered at the mill, so that there would not be a second handling of the ore. (Applause.) Instead of adopting that system here the present existing plan was that of inclined shafts. The objection to this is that if inclined shafts are sunk the miner cannot tell what variations in dip the lode may take. It may start at an angle of sixty degrees and go to sixty-five and then come back

oven to fifty-five degrees. Was it not clear that the wear, tear, and friction of the hauling gear would be very much greater by this system than by the other?

It would be a great advantage to the mines in Nova Scotia if more money was spent under ground, and not so much on the surface, until it had been practically demonstrated what was actually below. After all, it should be remembered that it was the mine and not the machinery that gave the dividend. He stated this with some diffidence, for they must not forget that gold miners were perhaps the most obstinate and assertative people on the face of the globe, and "know all about it," and if they did not, nobody else did. (Laughter.)

And now another point that is frequently lost sight of. As ore is removed, a certain amount of development should take place, so that when a hundred tons of rock is raised, two hundred tons more would practically be put in sight, and in that way the reserves are always increasing. The cost of this extra development should be included in all the cost of working the mine.

As regards amalgamation, the first principle is to check the forward flow of pulp as often as possible, the more you check the more gold you will save. A matter hitherto neglected was the question of concentration. The concentration of ores was a most important matter. He saw by the statistics published that only some 60 per cent of the gold was saved. Now, by a little practical knowledge and experience, competent men were able to save an additional percentage of gold, and while the cost of saving such percentage was very small, the beneficial result to a Company was very considerable in the course of a year. He suggested that the question of concentration should receive more attention than had been hitherto given to it. He might mention that during night shifts, when everybody was asleep, the stone is fed into the battery, and is passed over plates to take its chance, and that is what some call amalgamation! Any ignorant man could do that. Put a "nigger" to work and tell him to feed the quartz into the mill and set the stamps going so many drops a minute, let the crushed ore run over a certain surface of amalgamated plates, and that is termed amalgamation! That is not amalgamation. Amalgamation is a science and must be understood and pursued as a science.

Another matter which has escaped general notice in this country, and which should receive immediate attention, was the question of alluvial deposits. As we see the country to day, we notice that the contour of the surface is undulating or flat, but in former ages as one can see from the character of the drift, there must have been very high ground. Now these leads continued to much greater height, as amongst the drift large masses of quartz are found. The drift here in this Province is perhaps unusually thick; but very little attention has been paid to it. During his visit, he had given particular attention to this matter, and he had found that in every district where he had been, there was always the same state of affairs. They do not know anything about cradles, sluice boxes, etc. They pan the gravel and obtain a certain amount of gold, and some quartz. This quartz they break and only retain what shows visible gold. At Waverley recently he witnessed a man panning from the shores of a lake. His takes for the morning amounted to a few grains of gold and several small pieces of quartz showing visible gold. He asked permission to examine the results and ascertained that the yield was in value about \$1.50 from the morning's work. That was obtained with the aid of a washing basin which was not more than nine inches in diameter. If a working man with such methods could achieve that result in a morning, what would a judicious outlay of a little capital effect?

It must not be forgotten that the gold in Nova Scotia was unusually coarse. He had been informed that a piece of gold had been taken out of a mine here, in weight 27 ounces. He had never seen a piece of gold coming out of a vein and weighing anything like 27 ounces. If such were the case and one such piece was found, there could be no doubt that there were plenty more. He stated that in his opinion there was very good alluvial gold to be found in Nova Scotia, but it required looking for, and as soon as the Province could attract a desirable population by the discovery of rich alluvial in one place and another, a very important advance would be made in the position of the gold mining industry in Nova Scotia.

He thought Capt. MacDuff would bear him out when he stated that the great point to ascertain in connection with this is to learn where are the beds of the old rivers? Although rivers ran north and south now that might not have been the case formerly. Where they ran north and south before they might now run east and west. He believed that if properly looked for good alluvial gold fields would be eventually discovered in Nova Scotia.

In conclusion he would state that they were too eager to handle the dividends and would not form any reserve fund, and thus be ready for the rainy day which always arrives in gold mining—and many mines are to-day closed down for want of forethought.

Capital was essential. He thought that a stage in the mining industry in Nova Scotia had been reached where deep sinking and permanent works must be carried forward, and in his opinion the only way to obtain most satisfactory results was, as a rule, by sinking vertical shafts and working these mines as mines are being worked in other countries.

Gold mining operations when of a permanent character are generally beyond the compass of private individuals. In some of the mines of this Province a working capital of not less than \$100,000 was highly desirable.

He suggested that the mining association should petition the Government, urging the necessity of proving the quartz with the aid of diamond drills, and thus afford encouragement to those who by their enterprise are swelling the Province's finances.

It had been practically proved that gold in large quantities existed in the mines of Nova Scotia, and all that was now necessary for the prosperity

of the gold mining industry was to induce foreign capitalists to come forward and carry on the work that had been so well begun. (Applause.)

**MONTAQUE.**—The Annand Mine still continues its large yield and other properties in the district are looking up. This is particularly the case with the old Tobin property, now owned and being prospected by Mr. Richard Shephard and others. They have tapped the famous Lawson lead a few feet from the surface and have struck good gold bearing quartz. Some of the samples shown us were full of gold.

**MORE MINING OPERATIONS.**—Mr. Edward Jack was in town the other day, loaded with galena specimens from the mine he is opening on Nepisquit brook. They are very rich in lead, mixed with silver, and if the vein is as thick and rich as it is said to be, the property must be a good one. Mr. Jack is confident of his ability to make the mine pay big dividends on the capital required to develop it. — *Chatham World*

OUR GIRLS AS SUCCESSFUL WOMEN.

A wealthy woman recently gave \$200,000 to establish a summer resort for poor mothers and their children. God bless her; this is only one instance among thousands where woman has conceived and executed grand ideas. Women are rapidly entering every branch of the useful arts, and aspiring to every money-making employment. "What shall we do with our girls" is no longer a mighty problem for mothers and fathers to solve. Some one has said "It takes a woman to set a lion; and so it does." The most successful poultry raisers are women. We have in mind a woman who has for years raised finer poultry and got more eggs from her hens at less expense than her male neighbors.—practical men too. Let your girls engage in the poultry industry, as many are doing. Give them a fair share of the profits, and they will soon convince their fathers that girls are mighty handy persons to have about the old home. With the aid now offered any person can make hens lay even in cold weather. Out of twenty four gold coin premiums offered last winter for best results, one third were won by the women who used Sheridan's Condition Powders to make hens lay. For example, Mr. Henry Baker, Holliston, Mass., won \$10, and got from 18 hens during the three months' trial 1359 eggs; Mrs. L. J. Wilson, Northboro, Mass., got 3243 eggs from 100 hens; Mrs. Edwin Brown, East Greenwich, R. I., from 35 hens got 2454 eggs; Mrs. E. Bartley, Freeport, Pa., got 2029 eggs from 32 hens; Miss Ada L. Ross of Mt. Sterling, Ill., from 15 hens got 886 eggs; and Miss Maggie Croushorn of Ottobine, Va., got 2400 eggs from 30 hens; each of the last five ladies also won a \$5.00 premium from I. S. Johnson & Co., 22 Custom House St., Boston Mass. Every person who sends this firm now \$1.20 for a can of powder, and desires it, can have his name entered as a competitor, if the premiums are again offered. For 50 cts they will send two 25 cent packs of powder; for \$1.00 five packs postpaid; six cans for \$5.00, express paid; a large can of powder, also one year's subscription to Farm Poultry Monthly, both sent post-paid for \$1.50. Sample copy of paper 5 cts. Send stamps or cash. Testimonials sent free.

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I obtained a diploma at the HALIFAX BUSINESS COLLEGE during the winter of 1889, and feel amply repaid for the time and money spent there. I would recommend all who wish to acquire a knowledge of book-keeping to place themselves under Mr. Frazee's instruction. They will find him a very efficient and painstaking teacher, and the course of study such as will give them a thorough knowledge of the subject.

G. W. COLE,  
Bookkeeper at A. Roll & Sons, Amherst, N. S.

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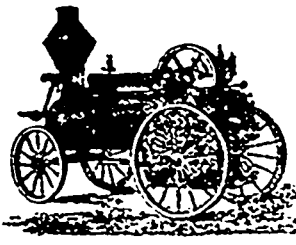
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Chemical Laboratory, Dalhousie College,  
Halifax, N. S., July 31st, 1891.

Within the last few months I have purchased promiscuously, at RETAIL GROCERY STORES in this City, packages of

**WOODILL'S**  
**GERMAN BAKING POWDER,**

and have subjected same to Chemical Analysis. The samples were found to consist of Fresh, Wholesome Materials, properly proportioned. This Baking Powder is well suited for family use, and has been employed, when required, in my own house for many years.

**GEORGE LAWSON, PH. D., L. I. D.**  
Fellow of the Institute of Chemistry of Great Britain and Ireland.

## MINING.

Dr. Ross, a Canadian mining expert, on being introduced to the meeting by the chairman, said that there were other products in Nova Scotia which were more directly in his line than the important product just treated upon so eloquently by Mr. Woodhouse. He cordially agreed with that gentleman's observations about cross cutting. There seemed to be a peculiar aversion among the miners of this country to cross-cutting. They seemed to think that they would strike an avalanche of rock or an ocean of water, if they waded from their little "trench," and though they may have good reason to believe that there is another lode within perhaps ten feet, they will not pursue the proper course and cross-cut to it, but would much rather dig a little trench, when perhaps they already may have the depth secured, and it may be only a question of a few feet before their efforts would be rewarded. Some outside capitalists had come to this Province and had done well. Others who had secured good mines let them slip through their hands by not working them properly. Other mines again have been taken up and enormous amounts of machinery put on the ground before the owners really knew what they had to treat. They have been managed for the most part from thousands of miles away and not on the spot. Such a course would not do justice to any mine. (Applause.)

The mines of Nova Scotia have certainly turned out some very fine gold, and there is plenty more to come out.

He had been pretty well over the whole Province in connection with other minerals of Nova Scotia. There were also large quantities of manganese and antimony in some localities. These mines if properly operated would all pay and prove of great benefit to the country, but they could not be worked without capital. The people in Nova Scotia appeared to have a special preference for gold mines as compared with other mines, but there were other mines as well in this Province of great value. Capitalists before investing any money in mines in a particular region, naturally ask what other mines are being worked there and what profits have they paid. There is no use to state that any particular mine would have paid had it been properly worked. The question is—Have they paid? The wonderful mineral resources of Nova Scotia were not sufficiently known abroad. There were thousands of business men in London who may have heard of Nova Scotia but know absolutely nothing of its mineral resources. There are iron mines here that would pay to work not only for the shipment of ore but for the erection of smelters and rolling mills. We import an enormous amount of iron from Europe for our own consumption, and he considered that the people here were capable of developing an industry which would be a benefit not only to Nova Scotia, but to the whole of Canada, and thus this Province could in that branch compete with the United States and Europe. There were smelters working in Londonderry and New Glasgow, and he understood that the ore and flux were brought from a long distance. There was iron of a fine quality in Cape Breton and coal within a very few miles of the iron, and the finest limestone on the spot. We have facilities for shipment both by water and rail in this Province. And yet in Cape Breton which enjoyed all these natural advantages he did not think that 100 tons of iron ore had been taken out and smelted. Everybody knew what a wonderful place Cape Breton was for coal. And yet, although the demand for coal is increasing all the time and the price is increasing, somehow or other the output from Cape Breton was not increasing in proportion to its capability. A manager in Cape Breton admitted to him that the demand was increasing, and that he would like to take out more coal, but the directors did not seem to wish it. There was no combine here as there was in the United States, where only a certain portion of coal could be put out of each mine. It was curious that the people of Nova Scotia, who almost live on top of these mines, do not devote themselves more energetically to their development. They seem afraid to put money in an enterprise until it is established beyond the shadow of a doubt that it will pay, and only where there is very strong ground for believing that the enterprise will pay do they seem satisfied to go into it.

In Hants county there was manganese the finest in the world. He had seen some of the ore which ran up to 98 to 99 per cent black oxide. It was impossible to get anything purer than that. He was surprised to find out that in New York not one ton of this manganese was ever sold by itself. Other ores were mixed with it and then it was sold as "Tennycap." He was at a mine yesterday carrying galena and silver and some gold. That mine had laid there underdeveloped for years. First some parties took hold of it for a while, and then others took it up and put up a little smelter. These parties did not know the first principles of smelting and the work fell through, as they did not know how to treat the ore. The ore was still there and it needed only just a little push to properly develop these properties so as to represent just what might be imagined was underground, but what was actually seen—and capitalists would thus be induced to come in here and invest their money in what naturally was as fine a mining country as any that could be found in the world.

He had heard a great deal about other minerals and had received samples. Some were sent to him as asbestos which, he was sorry to say, were not asbestos; and also samples of tin, which, he was sorry to say, were not tin. (Laughter.)

There were comparatively large quantities of molybdenum found in this Province, but as yet no practical use could be made of it in the arts on a large scale. There was also fire clay carrying a high percentage of aluminum; and many other mining enterprises only awaiting capital for remunerative development.

There was one point concerning which he should like to see some definite stand taken. An official analyst and assayer should be employed in this Province. (applause.) Nova Scotia derives a large part of her revenue from

the mines, and he thought it was unfair that the Province which benefited so largely from the operation of the mines should not expend a few hundred dollars in the employment of a public analyst to report on all sorts and descriptions of minerals sent him, and who might be the means of increasing the revenue of the Province by thus assisting in the discovery of valuable mineral deposits. Some of the greatest mines in the world had been brought before public notice by the discovery of valuable specimens by ignorant countrymen.

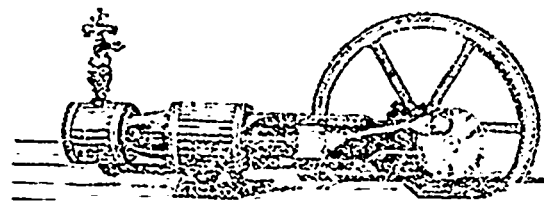
In travelling about, he himself was accustomed to receive about twenty-five samples a day, of all sorts and descriptions of minerals brought to him by various persons desirous of knowing what these minerals were, and whether they possessed any value. Now if such people could send their little findings to a public analyst, from whom they could get a straight report as to their value, a great amount of good might be done to the Province. At present such people were afraid to consult local parties as to the value of any specimens found, for fear of being "frozen out." If such specimens could be sent to an official analyst who would report upon them for a small charge, a substantial gain might eventually be secured to the revenues of the Province. In this connection it would be desirable to have a museum where specimens could be sent for reference and a geological chart prepared, and thus the localities where the various minerals are situated could be more exactly designated than by the present system. (Applause.)

Dr. Ross concluded his interesting address by exhibiting several samples of minerals obtained in other countries, among the specimens being a sample of tin from Dakota and a sample of asbestos from Quebec.

On motion a vote of thanks was conveyed to the two gentlemen for their valuable addresses, and the meeting adjourned.

Mrs. L. E. Snow, Matron Infants' Home, Halifax, writes:—"Putner's Emulsion has proved valuable in all cases of pulmonary complaints, for building up the system of our little ones. They often ask for it."

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DRAUGHTS-CHECKERS

All communications to this department should be addressed directly to the Checker Editor, W. Forsyth 36 Grafton Street.

NEWS.

We would be pleased if some of the checker friends of THE CRITIC would enter into the competitions for prizes offered by the Liverpool, G. B. Mercury, and we, therefore, copy its prospectus as follows:—

"As announced last week we have decided to encourage the practice of draughts by offering for competition certain prizes calculated to appeal to all classes of amateurs and experts. Any novice having a knowledge of the inducements of the game should not hesitate to compete for No. 1, because the composition of a good stroke problem does not necessarily involve any great scientific acquirements. Nos. 2 and 3 will obviously test the ingenuity of advanced practitioners. The prizes are as follows: No 1, Stroke Problem—To the player who contributes the best stroke problem the proprietors will award the sum of three guineas. To the player contributing the stroke problem which shall be adjudged next in the order of merit we shall award the sum of one guinea. No. 2, End Games—To the player who contributes the best problem of the end-game class we will award two guineas. To the next in the order of merit one guinea. No. 3, Games illustrating brilliant manoeuvring—To the player contributing the most brilliantly played game two guineas. To the next in order of merit one guinea.

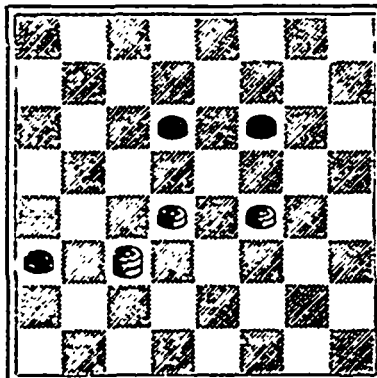
"In awarding the prizes the arbitrators will insist upon originality. Contributions copied from any book, print, etc., will be disqualified. In No. 1 the points to be considered are, (1) probability, (2) ingenuity and (3) the decisive character of the stroke. When deciding on No. 2 the arbitrators will consider (1) the originality of idea, (2) difficulty, and (3) brevity of solution. Weight will be attached to the occurrence of a pleasing and instructive coup.

"Contributions in competition will be received up to December 31st, foreign competitors being allowed a fortnight later. Each problem and game must be accompanied by a distinguishing *nom de plume* as well as the real name and address of the sender.

"Communications to be addressed 'Editor Liverpool Weekly Mercury, Liverpool, G. B.' and endorsed on the envelope 'Draughts Competition.'"

PROBLEM 249.

By Mr. Hugh Byers in a Dundee, Scotland, paper.  
Black men 10, 11, 21.



White men 18, 19, king 22.  
White to play and win.

This is a regular 'Will O' Wisp.' Our younger players will think it so easy at the first glance that the nearest tyro should solve it at once, but on trial it will not be found so easy. We invite solutions.

SOLUTION.

PROBLEM 247.—The position was: Black men 3, 4, 7, 8, 13, 14, 21, kings 30, 31; white men 5, 6, 10, 16, 22, 23, 26, 29, 32; white to play and win.

32	27	22	17	1	10	19	15
31-24	13-22	4-8	white				
23	19	6	2	16	11	wins.	
24-15	15-6	8-15					
5	1	2	11	10	19		
30-23	8-15	3-7					

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HALIFAX, N. S., Oct. 30, 1891.

A Special Meeting of the Stockholders of the Bras d'Or Lime Co., Ltd., will be held at the office of the Company, No. 161 Hollis St., at 4 o'clock in the afternoon of

Friday, the 20th day of Nov., 1891,

for the purpose of authorizing by resolution the execution by the Company of a mortgage on the Real Estate, Buildings and Plant of the Company at Marble Mountain and Bedford Basin, to secure the issue of debenture Bonds to an amount not to exceed \$25,000, for the purposes of the Company. A. MILNE FRASER, Secy.

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## CITY CHIMES.

A writer clept "Bab," who is a more or less familiar oracle to the readers of the *Evening Mail*, last January paid a plucky young lady of Nova Scotia extraction a high compliment for her bravery and a very poor one for her ability as an actress, at a time when it was scarcely fair to sit on her. Here is the paragraph which appeared in the *Mail* of January 31st:—"It is announced that Miss Esie de Wolfe is going on the stage—professionally, I mean. What courage some women have. She is a tolerable good amateur, she is not good looking, and she is not young, and yet she is brave enough to face an audience who are expected to pay for their appreciation, or lack of it, of her attempt to try it on them. Certainly the American woman has a beautiful belief in the patience of the American people, but we have had a little bit too much of this, and even a worm will turn at last, and the down-trodden American, when it does turn, in a body, turns for good." Miss DeWolfe is a daughter of Dr. Stephen DeWolfe, who was a Nova Scotian, and one of the most noted physicians in New York city. Dr. DeWolfe's brothers and sisters, nephews and nieces, by the score, live in Nova Scotia, and when "Bab" wrote that spiteful paragraph perhaps she was not aware that it was going direct to Miss DeWolfe's relations. However that may be, "Bab" may now consider herself of no account as an authority on the subject, since Miss DeWolfe has made a success of her venture. She is playing the leading part in Sardou's "Thermidor," and is noted in the literary world where, says the *Chicago Graphic*, "her successes have been the fruit of well-directed merit combined with a high order of talent." The same journal goes on to say:—"Like Mary Anderson, whom she so much resembles in her artistic style, she has lofty ideals of the stage and a broad conception of the principles of that branch of art which she has chosen for her vocation. The conflict over her rendition of her part in 'Thermidor' has been extremely spirited in New York. It was said that she gave to the part a youthfulness and enthusiasm that were unnatural and out of place, and that only Bernhardt or Davenport could do adequate justice to the role that she, a mere novice, had dared to assume. Nothing daunted, however, by the storm of criticism her acting had evoked—a storm that would probably have driven a less brave woman to abandon the role—she calmly went her way, and now Sardou himself has confounded the critics by declaring in a recent cable despatch that Miss DeWolfe's conception of the part is identical with that of the author, and neither Bernhardt nor Davenport could play the role as does this admirable actress who is destined to fill a high place in the dramatic world." This is a big feather for Miss DeWolfe's cap, and a heavy downer for "Bab," whom, we hope, will see that she knows something about what she undertakes to criticize in future. It is cattish and mean for one woman to speak of another as "Bab" did of Miss DeWolfe, not that it is likely to trouble the latter, who can well afford to smile at her critic, but it is not an edifying spectacle. "Bab" may now add to her "Don'ts," "don't talk of what you know nothing about," and make up her mind to follow her own advice if she can. Many people in Halifax will remember Miss DeWolfe, who visited her relations here about ten years ago. She is past the bread and butter miss stage, but Miss DeWolfe is not as old as "Bab" would have us believe, and has been noted for her beauty wherever she is known. Her ability as an actress has always been marked, and we are glad to see that she has had the courage of her convictions, and has worked her way to undoubted success.

The Grau Opera Company has drawn good houses at the Academy during the past week, and it is now quite evident from the crowds present in the gallery that light opera is particularly pleasing to the gods. The Black Hussar, which was on the boards during the early part of the week, is far behind The Brigands in the effectiveness of the choruses and in the plot, but there are one or two solos and one duet the music of which is decidedly taking. Edith Mason, in her part of Minna, the daughter of Hackenback, sustained the favorable opinion she had won in previous performances. Miss Mason's voice is not strong, but it is sweet, and her execution is fairly good. Miss Calhoun as Rosetta, another of Hackenback's daughters, won new laurels. Her full, rich voice was heard to good advantage, and she well deserved the hearty applause with which her solo was received. Some of the male singers have well-trained voices, but the skippy style of the music does not give much room for real artistic work. The appearance of a frightened horse upon the stage and the introduction of a farcical game of baseball which had about as much relevancy to the plot as has the Babies' Home to the meetings of the Board of Works were the signals for a storm of applause from the upper regions. Taken all in all the Company is fairly good throughout, and anyone attending the Academy may be assured of enjoying a pleasant evening and a hearty laugh.

It was on the programme for the fleet to depart yesterday for a more genial clime, and as the ships are not fitted for cold weather, nor the men provided with winter clothing, we suppose it was to a certain extent Thanksgiving day on board. Not that our annual visitors are glad to depart from their friends on shore, but Jack Frost has a way of making things uncomfortable for those who are fitted up for Bermudian waters, and as the boys in blue know that friends await them at every port their regret is mitigated, as the carpenter in one of Marryat's books would say. We wish them *Bon voyage*.

The ladies of Christ Church, Dartmouth, are advertising a bazaar to be held on Thursday next and promise a novel entertainment. From the present time until the holiday season is over, fancy sales, bazaars, etc., will doubtless be on the programme for every week. As the proceeds of these fairs are all for benevolent objects the public do well to patronize and encourage the indefatigable managers.

Quite a variety of weather has fallen to our lot this week. Monday was simply delightful, the sun seemed to smile indulgently on the old year which is rapidly nearing the end of its reign, and the day was a very pleasant change from those which had preceded it; but alas, these pet days are few and far between, and we cannot expect many of them at this season. Now is the time when great care should be taken to guard against contracting colds that once firmly settled will cling to us all winter. A popular physician of this city states as his opinion that the majority of throat troubles proceed from the sufferers having been neglectful of providing suitable "understandings" in damp weather. A great many ladies protest against wearing thick-soled shoes, but there is little doubt that the doctor is right, and they should think twice before venturing out with very little between the frosty or damp ground and their feet. This is a subject that demands thoughtful attention at this season of the year.

We would very much like to make some comments on the events of the public holiday this week, but as even the busy scribe takes the opportunity to add his grateful praises to those that ascend from all parts of our broad Dominion for the blessings of the year, (not least among which are a few "days off") and this column must therefore go to press early in order that we may greet our subscribers as usual on Friday morning, we cannot make any remarks on the day and the keeping thereof. We suppose it will pass off as Thanksgiving Day in Halifax usually does, with attending church in the forenoon, many pleasant family gatherings around well laden tables, taking in the few amusements provided, such as a football match, the opera, or whatever else may be on the list, and thus spending the day set apart for national thanksgiving after a bountiful and prosperous year.

The smoking concert given by the officers of the United Service in Masonic Hall on Tuesday evening, passed off very pleasantly, and was pronounced a decided success by all who partook of the officers' hospitality. Mr. Boyd, a young gentleman from Ireland who is visiting this country, was among the guests and favored the company with several songs from his choice selection, which were highly appreciated by the officers and their friends. Mr. Boyd possesses a clear and pleasing voice, and each song called forth hearty applause. These smoking concerts bring together a crowd of jolly good fellows, and are much enjoyed by all who appreciate the luxury of a good pipe and merry company.

We hear that a big fair is to be held in the Church of England Institute early next month. The proceeds are to be devoted towards building a new Anglican church at the North West Arm, and we doubt not that this worthy object will be greatly aided by the efforts of our Church of England friends. The whole of the spacious Institute building is to be used for this fair and the energetic promoters are determined to make it a successful venture.

Thanksgiving Day is always made use of to the utmost by sportsmen, and we presume it will be of no use to try for game after this. All the birds will have been bagged, poor things, unless a few by a stroke of luck manage to elude the numerous hunters. It appears to us that sport needs to be a fine art when there are about ten hunters for every bird. We who love our wild birds should pray "God bless the bird shots, and do not let them improve," for it is pitiable to see the work of extermination so actively prosecuted.

A more disagreeable state of weather can hardly be imagined than that of Saturday last. The wind was cold and the drizzling rain that fell unceasingly from heavy dark clouds was very penetrating and unpleasant; but utterly regardless of these trifles the undaunted footballists met at the appointed time at the Royal Blue grounds and were heartily greeted by a large crowd of enthusiastic spectators, composed mostly of course of the sterner and less excitable (?) sex; but not wholly, for, clad in rainy weather outfits and standing under the shelter of umbrellas, a few loyal lady friends of both teams might be seen eagerly watching the antics of the mud-bespattered much excited youths who were so vigorously striving for victory and fame. This was the decisive hour for our city boys of the red and black and the students of Dalhousie. The Wanderers have gained the reputation of being almost invincible, and perhaps the record of the past warrants the team in feeling little doubt of their coming out on top every time, but though they met the collegians on Saturday with a most confident air they soon discovered that there was a bare possibility of defeat for even the conquerors of many battles with the ball, and long before half time was called both teams were fighting for all they were worth. A try for Dalhousie was secured, and although Captain Bill made a good kick the ball did not go over the bar, and the score stood 2 to 0. This was the only point scored throughout the game, and the college boys clearly won, though by dint of much unusually good play on their part, and the Wanderers must accept one more defeat. Such wild exuberance of spirits is surely but seldom witnessed on the football field. The students were simply wild with delight, and made the streets through which they drove home resound with their boisterous cheers and cries of "one, two, three for Dal-hous-ie." Not only the student, and their admirers, but dignified professors as well, joined in the wild excitement of the moment, and the scene was one not soon to be forgotten. The result of Saturday's game has closed the trophy series with a draw, Dalhousie and Wanderers having each won three games. The deciding game was played yesterday afternoon, but as we have explained elsewhere, owing to the unavoidable exigencies of the press of a weekly journal it is impossible for us to make any comments on yesterday's game.

It is impossible to go through life without taking cold, but that is no reason a cough or cold should be neglected. A perfect remedy will be found in the popular medicine, Oxford Cough Syrup.