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# THE CRITIC.

The Welfare of the People is the Highest Law.

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HALIFAX, N. S., JANUARY 1, 1880.

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## THE CRITIC,

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## EDITORIAL NOTES.

The report of Engineer Menocal to the Secretary of the Navy, United States, estimates that the Nicaraguan Canal will be completed in six years, at a cost of \$64,000,000.

Several practical electricians are now at work in New York State, with a view to utilizing the water power of Niagara Falls. The electrical transmission of this power, it is claimed, will yet be accomplished.

John Bull says that wheat-growing in England does not pay. No wonder, seeing that upon an average, it costs \$42 per acre to cultivate wheat, and the product rarely yields over \$41.50. Somebody loses 50 cents in the transaction; and John Bull, who is a free-trader, wants to know who it is.

A bronze statue of Sir Walter Scott is shortly to be unveiled in the Thames Gardens, London. It occupies a position opposite to that of the poet Burns. Sir Theodore Martin and other eminent Scotchmen have resolved to make the ceremony of the unveiling a most imposing one.

It is now well understood that the hostility of King Theobaw was prompted by French intrigue. France had evidently determined upon the annexation of Burmah, but her efforts in that direction have only served to place the prize within the grasp of perfidious Albion.

The many friends of THE CRITIC will be pleased to hear that our circulation at present is four times greater than it was at the beginning of the past year, and that it still goes on increasing. If we continue to find favour with an intelligent public, we shall be able to improve THE CRITIC so as to make it one of the best journals of its class published in Canada.

When a farmer, by frugality and careful management, saves a sufficient sum to defray the cost of building a comfortable house, and commodious barns and out-buildings, he finds, as a result of his industry, that his poor rates and other taxes are greatly increased. This taxation upon the product of labor is a serious evil. It may be a knotty problem to solve, but solved, sooner or later, it must be.

The incandescent form of the electric light, according to Dr. H. Van Hewick, affords the illumination *par excellence* for the micographer. By means of it, the observer is enabled to see details which are invisible, or but imperfectly visible with ordinary light. The reason he gives for this is—first, because the electric light contains more blue and violet rays than that of lamps or gas; and, secondly, because it has a specific intensity considerably greater than other artificial light, and, therefore, permits the use of more oblique rays.

The County of Cumberland well illustrates the progress that will follow the building of judiciously located railways, and the loathing everybody, even in Halifax, feels at the thought of going to eastern Cape Breton, in winter, in part exemplifies the disadvantages resulting from an entire lack of railway facilities.

The daily papers of this city do not always fairly represent public opinion. So long as they remain so strongly partizan it is almost impossible that they should. We doubt very much, however, whether they will gain by refusing to encourage salutary and needed changes in the method of civic government.

The Provincial Government has, we understand, formulated a policy for the consolidation of the Western Railways of the Province, and for the building of the Missing Link between Annapolis and Digby. Should it be carried out, with due regard to the rights of existing corporations and the interests of the Province, the government would go to the country with a certainty of support that it cannot now entertain.

There was a time in this Province when soldiers of the line were looked down upon with contempt, and regarded as an inferior species of the *genus homo*. It is satisfactory to note that this feeling no longer exists, our regiments are no longer composed of hireling foreigners. They are now formed of stalwart Britishers, their deportment and general demeanour is quite on a par with that of their brethren in plain clothes, and they deserve the respect and esteem in which they are held.

The classic hills of Wolfville and the broad meadows of the Grand Pre have undoubted charms to the visitor during the season when the air is perfumed with the odor of the apple blossom, or when the summer breeze is fragrant with the smell of the sweet-scented hay; but when these localities are afflicted by such a storm as that of Saturday last, when the pretty country roads are blocked with snow, and the blinding blizzard sweeps ruthlessly over hill and dale, then is the visitor tempted to sing in piteous strain, that song of the old Scotch bard, "Why left I my hame."

The learned Lord Fry, when lately addressing the Birkbeck Literary Institution in England, said that whether study was pursued for its own sake or for an ulterior purpose, one passion should chiefly hold sway in the mind of the student—the passion for truth. It is a pity that students, young and old, do not fully realize this. The true student must love truth. He must follow it wherever it leads, even though it destroy some long cherished illusions. He must cultivate self-discipline, patience and a willingness to take pains, and above all he must remember if his study of things seen be pursued unseen, knowledge will be purchased at a ruinous price, for while study is good, and knowledge better, firm and reasonable faith is best of all.

"The life of a British Soldier" is a work now being sold by the author, Thomas Faughnan. The name of the book, in which the author tells of battles, sieges and dangers that he has seen, is certainly no misnomer, for we are given descriptions of "Stirring Accidents by Flood and Field," and the multitudinous chances and changes of a soldier's career in peace and war. The writer is a man of keen observation, and by no means deficient in dry Hibernian wit, for the book, besides containing vivid accounts of his own personal adventures in various parts of the world, is full of story and anecdote, picked up around the camp fire, or in the barrack-room, and related with considerable force and humor. The author's style is not always marked by high literary merit; and we think the original poetry might have been eliminated without loss to the work; but any little eccentricities of composition may be forgiven in a very interesting and amusing book.

The following reference to Miss Caritte of Amherst is culled from the notice of Mr. Goldbeck's recent concert in New York, which appeared in the columns of the *News Letter*: "The interest of the evening centred in the appearance of Miss Nita Caritte, a young lady who is well known in Canada, but who sang before a New York audience for the first time. This lady possesses a veritable soprano voice which is delightfully fresh and true, and is heard at its best in the upper register. She takes her high notes without any painful straining and grimaces, and is entirely free from conceit or mannerisms, and has the advantage of a very charming and bright presence. She sang the Sancta Maria, of Faure, and earned a double encore, which she took with much grace and modesty. Hitherto, Miss Caritte has had only such teaching as a country town can afford, but under the guidance of Mr. Goldbeck she has developed a promise of future fame. Her maestro expects great things of her." The musical advantages of Halifax may not be all that could be desired, but for a country town they are evidently above the average. Miss Caritte has for several years been receiving instruction from Mr. C. J. Ross of this city, and we think that gentleman may reasonably take to himself the credit of Miss Caritte's brilliant success, seeing that the lady has as yet been under training in the great American metropolis less than three months;

## ON THE MANUFACTURE OF PUBLIC OPINION.

A new industry has sprung up in this City. Peculiar alone to Halifax, it is not dependent upon or created by the National Policy. It requires no capital and but little ingenuity. We refer to the manner in which the daily press of this city, though quarrelling upon every conceivable subject, at once unite when anyone ventures, by word or deed, to interfere with the present order of things, either to improve the laws, or promote the material interests of our citizens.

The City Council has declared, and every citizen knows, and it has been repeatedly pointed out in the columns of the daily papers, that a reform is necessary in our City government. We all know that the present system is ill-defined, cumbersome, and ineffective; that if gross corruption and favoritism in the civic government does not exist, it is not because the Aldermen do not lack the opportunity or the power. It is known that the enormous sum of \$21,000.00 is paid out directly every year for salaries to civic officials, not to mention twice that sum indirectly for the same purpose by Boards over which the Council has no control. Thus the civic executive business is performed by means of a series of committees who have no relation to, or knowledge of, each other's duties or doings. These committees are often at open war, one with the other, and from the nature of things, cannot work in harmony for the common good. The Mayor is little better than a figure-head, and charged with no special duties. Although, presumably, a man having a full knowledge of civic affairs, he has no part more than the meanest servant in the employ of the City in directing or controlling its government. The citizens are yearly taxed \$20,000 for the support of services common to the County and City, without having any right under the law to question any of the expenditures for those services. The Street appropriations are expended, the Police service is conducted, and the License system is controlled by the Aldermen without any reference to the opinion or judgment of the heads of those departments, and with a single eye to their own interest and advantage.

In the past, it is notorious that saloon-keepers were permitted to sell liquor without licenses for months at a time, under the patronage of some influential Chairman of a License or a Police Committee.

Yet with all these defects in our present system, within the knowledge of our three city contemporaries, the City Council, when it makes an honest effort to map out a new scheme, whereby these evils are impossible, the city press offers no word of encouragement or advice. Nay, more, the originators of the scheme are covered with abuse and ridicule. Does any of our contemporaries point out a method of its own, or offer a single suggestion to assist the Council? Not they! They give no intelligent analysis of our present system, whereby that which is good is pointed out, and that which is capable of evil, is condemned. No suggestion as to how to proceed to meet the views of the citizens, or to protect their interests, nothing but a rapid clamor wherein the voice of all honest effort at reform is drowned, and those who are making a real effort to rescue the City from its difficulties are disheartened and disgusted. Is this the part that should be acted by honorable members of the fourth estate?

In ancient times, the reformer who stood forth to advocate a change in the law, did so with a halter around his neck; we are much more liberal and civilized in these days. Now, the reformer only risks his reputation for honesty, and takes his chances of being denounced as an imbecile!

Alderman McSweeney hinted that the opposition of one paper was to protect the vested interest of a relative of the writer. It is a great pity that the position of a civic official should be imperiled for so trifling an object as the public good. In this respect also, we have reversed the policy of the ancients in law-making.

It is now rumored that the aforesaid civic official has another relative on the staff of the *Herald*, who moulds the civic policy of that paper. The real editor is too busy to trouble himself with so trifling a matter as civic reform. His attention is too fully engrossed with higher politics.

The third paper has been for years in the sweet enjoyment of civic printing patronage, which may not be quite so remunerative, if dispensed by an active and business-like executive under the new regime. We wish the citizens joy of their pure and vigilant public educators. We hope the advocacy of the old system will be set down at its true value.

## THE INHUMAN THEEBAW.

The Burmese have good reason for the bitter hatred they have towards the dethroned King Theebaw. The exiled Monarch, who usurped the throne which by right belonged to his brother, Nyang Yan, spent his early days in monastic seclusion, and upon ascending the throne at the decease of his father, appears to have completely lost his head, and to have allowed his crazed imagination unrestricted sway. Fearful that his relatives might incite a plot to destroy him, he took the initiative, by inviting them to royal banquets, at the close of which, they were all brutally murdered. Finding himself dreaded and deserted by the leaders among the people, he gave himself up to a life of debauch; and living in constant terror of rebellion, he trembled when he thought of the men and women who lay sweltering in his noisome dungeons. The salutary influence of Britain served for a time to check the cruelties of this blood-thirsty monarch; but when the news of the British defeat in Zululand reached Meiktila, the king decided upon the carrying out of a butchery, which has no parallel in modern history. Speaking of this wholesale massacre, the *London Figaro* says:—"Relatives to the number of ninety were dragged from their cells and massacred. There was no quarter; men, women and children alike were murdered. The majority were tied with their heads to their ankles, and then despatched with a blow on the back of the skull. Many, however, were merely stunned, and their

quivering bodies thrown in the common grave, there to die of suffocation. The Prince Mekhaya, whose ferocity to foreigners was proverbial, became insane with terror, but suffered the common fate. Thongzai, a brother of Theebaw, on the contrary, scorned and spat upon his brother, and, shortly after, was flogged to death." But Theebaw is not a type of the Burmese people who are proverbial for their kindness and hospitality to strangers, mutual good fellowship among themselves, and the desire to draw from life the sweets and pleasures of to-day, irrespective of the morrow that is to follow.

## NEW INVENTIONS.

Prof. Bell, inventor of the Telephone, has just given to the world a new and wonderful instrument, designed for making soundings. The instrument is described as a submarine telephone, through which may be heard the echo of the sound made by a stone as it strikes the bottom of the harbor or bed of the river, thus enabling the listener to judge of the depth of the water. The Prof. is evidently not inclined to rest content with the laurels he has already won. Almost every month he adds another invention of more or less practical utility to those he has already given the world. Not long since, he invented a curious machine by which he was able to measure the exact volume of sound which partially deaf persons were capable of hearing. Prof. Bell is at present engaged in perfecting a mechanical instrument by which he expects to reproduce over the wires the face and form using it. In the absence of a better name, this invention has been styled the photophone. The inventor is sanguine as to the success of the new instrument, and expects to realize from it a larger monetary return than that yielded him by all his previous inventions.

## FAIR PLAY.

The New England fishermen are up in arms over the prospect of the renewal of the Fishery Treaty with Canada; and Mr. Cleveland's Cabinet stands a chance of being buried alive beneath the memorials, petitions, etc., now pouring in upon it. These memorials set forth the advantage that would be derived by the United States, in the event of war, from having its own fishing fleet, from whence sailors might be drawn to man her battle-ships. They elaborate the wrongs which American fishermen would suffer, were fish caught in the cheaply-manned and cheaply-supplied Canadian vessels allowed to enter the United States duty free; and lastly, they point out the utter worthlessness of the British American Fisheries lying within the three-mile limit. We think our American cousins living along the New England coast know how to appreciate a good thing when they have it. They now have free access to the Canadian Fisheries, without the annoying competition of Canadian-caught fish in their own market; but if they think we Bluesnoses intend to rest content with such a one-sided arrangement, they must have forgotten that they have the same blood flowing in their veins as we, and that we believe in fair play, not only in theory, but in practice.

## ALARMISTS.

In this age of surprises, demagogue alarmists are always on the *qui vive* to awaken in the minds of the people some new apprehension of danger, hitherto unthought of. By a wise treaty provision, Great Britain and the United States agreed to limit their naval armaments to one gun-boat each upon Lake Ontario, and one upon the Upper Lakes. As a matter of fact, these gun-boats have in past years been serviceable only as revenue cutters, and none of the lake-shore inhabitants have heretofore thought their property endangered. But at this juncture, up rises Mr. Thomas, a Congressman, of Illinois, deprecating the defenceless condition of the American lake cities, and declaring that immediate steps should be taken by the Washington Government to place upon the Lakes a fleet capable of protecting the property of American citizens, in the event of war. Considering that Canada has no fleet upon these Lakes, it can be readily understood that Mr. Thomas is an alarmist, who must have at heart some other and more cogent reason for the fitting out of a Lake navy than at first appears. It now turns out that Mr. Thomas bases his claim for the unnecessary expenditure of public money, upon the ground that, heretofore, all sums paid out for naval defence have been for the benefit of Sea-board States, giving these States an undue advantage over those lying in the interior of the country. Such school-boy logic might be pardonable in a member of a State Legislature, but in a Congressman, it is mean, silly, and deplorable.

## SCOTCH PRE-EMINENCE.

Those who affect to undervalue university and higher education, are not slow to admit the enviable position taken by Scotchmen the world over in the varied walks of life. How much of this pre-eminence is due to the thoroughness, efficiency, and economy with which Scottish Universities are conducted, it might be difficult to ascertain, but the relative proportion of those receiving college training in Scotland, compared with other countries, is significant. England has but one person attending college to each five thousand of her population. Germany has two, and the New England States five, while Scotland leads the van with eight; thus England, with a population of 25,000,000, sends 5,000 students to her two universities; Germany, with a population of 48,000,000, sends 23,500 to her universities; New England, with a population of 4,100,000 has 4,000 students in her eighteen universities and colleges; Scotland, with a population of 4,000,000, has 6,500 university students.

ENIGMA.

I am a word of 14 letters.  
 My 5, 14, 7, 2, 11, a hoarse ejaculation.  
 My 13, 4, 12, 7, 14, an aromatic herb.  
 My 6, 13, 1, 3, 9, 7, a plant with a not generally admired yet not ill-favored flower.  
 My 5, 6, 10, 8, a mineralogical subject, generally inseparable from sea sickness, and not altogether foreign to the art of self-defence.  
 My whole is a well known translation.

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

Answer to Double Acrostic published last week :—

L A O  
 O D O N T O  
 V E R M O N T  
 E T H N O L O G I S T  
 I N F L U E N Z A  
 N A G G I N G  
 A O R E

"Love in a Cottage."

TIT-BITS.

A thoughtless boy with a shining pail went singing gaily down the dale, to where sad eyed cow with a brindled tail, on clover sweet did herself regale. A bumble bee did gaily sail over the soft and shadowed vale, to where the boy with shining pail was milking the cow with the brindled tail. The bee lit down on the cow's right ear, her heels flew up through the atmosphere—and through the leaves of a bay oak tree, the boy sailed into eternity.

At a negro wedding when the minister read the words, "Love, honor and obey," the groom interrupted him, and said: "Read that agin, sah, read it wunce mo', so's de lady kin ketch the full solemnity of de meaning, I'se been married befo'."

"Oh, will he bite?" exclaimed one of the sweetest girls, with a look of alarm when she saw one of the dancing bears in the street, the other day. "No," said her escort, "he cannot bite, he is muzzled, but he can hug." "Oh," she said, with a distracting smile, "I don't mind that."

Courtship among the Piute Indians is attended with diff. If a maiden does not like her lover she tells her grandmother, and when the young man comes again the old lady takes a shovelful of hot ashes and throws them in his face. This is equivalent to giving him the mitten.

The difference between a long and a short yarn is very well illustrated by the difference of one's feelings in holding a skein for one's grandmother or for one's sweetheart.

"Do you wish to be my wife, Mabel?" said a little boy. "Yes," incautiously answered Mabel. "Then pull off my boots."

A phrenological professor advises that in choosing a wife one should be governed by her chin. If the happy man doesn't get the chin he wants after marriage he must be phenomenally hard to suit.

Machinery has reached a great state of perfection. We saw some burnt peas put into the copper of a coffee-mill the other day, and in less than two minutes it was occupying a place in a grocery window, labelled, "Old Government Java."

"Who was the meekest man?" asked a teacher of a bright boy, "Moses, sir," was the answer. "Very well, my boy; and now, who was the meekest woman?" "Please, sir, there never was any meekest woman?"

A gentleman drove a sorrowful looking horse into the city lately, and stopping in front of the post-office, he requested a small boy to hold him a moment. "Hold 'im!" exclaimed the boy. "Just lean him up against the lamp-post—that'll hold 'im!"

Landlady—"Did you like the turkey we had yesterday, Mr. Smith?" Mr. Smith—"Did I like him? Yes, indeed; why, I loved him! I used to think when I was a little child that perhaps, after all, I should live the longest, and the thought made me sad."

"Don't you know, my son," said a kind father, "that it hurts me worse to whip you than it does you? I would much rather receive the punishment, but I whip you as an example for the other children." "Then let me give it to you," the boy replied, "and we'll explain to the other children afterward."

Tropical.—Maid (to Irish milkman): "Missus says she's sure there's been a great deal o' water in the milk lately, and that if—" Pat: "An' can ye wander at it, my dear? Small blame to the cows this thur-rsty weather, poor cratures!"—Punch.

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We print pamphlets, And bigger books, too. In fact there are few things But what we can do.

We print labels, Of all colors in use, etc., Especially fit for The many producers.

We print forms of all sorts, With type ever set, Legal, commercial, Or houses to let.

Printing done quickly, Bold, stylish and neat, At HALIFAX PRINTING COY.'S, 161 Hollis Street.

PRIVATE CLASSES

Modern Languages. The advertiser, who is Master of Modern Languages in the High School, will open Classes in French and German, at the beginning of the new year. Classes will be limited as to number, and will be held in the Afternoon or Evening. For further particulars, apply to N. C. JAMES, 84 Dresden Row.

W. E. TAYLOR & CO. GROCERS, 18 Buckingham St., Halifax. TEAS a Specialty.

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HALIFAX STEAM LAUNDRY. 341 & 343 Barrington Street. Branch Office at B. H. Landis', 76 Granville St., Corner Prince Street. Collars, 1 Cent each. Cape Collars, 2 Cents each. Cuffs, 3 Cents per pair. Shirts, 10 Cents each. On and after Monday, November 2nd, we will Launder the above articles at the above prices. Work received before 9:30 a. m., can be returned same day, at a slight extra charge. Terms Positively C. O. D.

COAL! ROCHE'S WHARF. HARD COAL—Now landing from brig "Gem," Egg, Broken, Nut, and Stove Sizes. OLD SYDNEY COAL, from 'Dionis' VICTORIA COAL, from 'Cyrone.' ACADIA COAL, Lump, Stove, Nut Sizes. For sale by WM. ROCHE, Jr.

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  - CHAMPAGNE.
  - SCOTCH WHISKIES.
  - IRISH WHISKEY
- WHOLESALE & RETAIL.



## NEWS OF THE WEEK.

The *Chronicle* has a witty correspondent at Backlands, Boulardario, C. B. He may be a veritable Mark Twain but unless excited by raspberry juice never deigns to give full play to his imagination—Christmas did it.

The imports of tea and coffee during the next few weeks will be very heavy owing to the rumor that the government intends reimposing the duties upon these articles.

The Annual Meeting of the Fruit Growers Association will take place at Kontville on the 26th and 27th of January. All persons interested in fruit culture are cordially invited to attend these meetings, and also to become members of the Association.

A programme of the proceedings will be published in due course. meantime the secretary, Mr. C. R. H. Starr, will be glad to receive papers and questions for discussion, or information, relating to horticulture or fruit growing, from any one.

A visitor to New Glasgow writes: "One cannot fail to notice a new hotel called the "Vendome" which is a development of the popular old "Banquet," and which, though pleasing and inviting in its exterior, is even more attractive within. The obliging and entertaining proprietor is too well and favorably known to require commendation. I would simply advise you and your friends when you come to New Glasgow, to call on Mr. D. McDearmid, and if you have never done so before I think you will feel I have done you a service."

Montreal has just extended the charter of the City Horse-car Railway for twenty five years. This appears to be a long time for a company to monopolize the chief carrying trade of the city.

The Government are repairing the Faulkner building, on Hollis street. Messrs. Dumaresq & Mott have the work in hand, and are pushing it through with their customary energy.

The Mayor has been requested to thank Dr. McLean for his thoughtfulness in presenting to the inmates of the Poores Asylum 120 pairs of spectacles. Such a kindly remembrance of the poor at Christmas time is worthy of imitation.

It is encouraging to find that some of our younger business men show a praiseworthy determination, not only to sell cheaply, but also to keep their stores neat and attractive. Rarely are dry goods more tastefully arranged than in the store of Mr. McColl, north end of Argyle street. He is one of our "coming men."

On Dec. 22nd appeared in Montreal the first number of a new monthly magazine, entitled *Le Colonisateur Canadien*. It is intended to be the channel through which the best French writers of the country will give the public their views, chiefly on matters affecting the future of the Dominion.

A despatch from St. Laurent, Manitoba, to the *Ottawa Evening Journal* says: "Everything is quiet around here. A good deal of distress has prevailed, but every case of want has been met. J. McRae, Indian Agent, is en route to Prince Albert. He has been visiting the reserves here. He reports the Indians all peaceable and inclined to remain so." Not long ago, as readers of the daily papers no doubt remember, a statement was published in Halifax about the Indians in the neighborhood of St. Laurent, in which it was made to appear that they were about to assume a hostile attitude towards their white neighbors.

Small-pox has entirely disappeared from Sydney, and from all parts of Cape Breton. All the Sydney schools, including the new Young Ladies' Academy, will be opened on Monday next.

Mr. K. Bent, the popular superintendent of the English mails, has taken to himself a young and handsome wife. The young couple have the best wishes of their many friends.

The barbers of Ottawa have refused to shave their patrons on Sunday, and the patrons have resolved to boycott the barbers on week-days. Shaving appliances will again be in requisition at home.

Pictou was one of the first towns in the Province to support a local newspaper. The *Colonial Patriot* was first published in that place, in 1830.

Rev. Abbe Provancher of Quebec is organizing a pilgrimage to the Holy Land. A similar scheme last year was abandoned, owing to the prevalence of cholera in the East. The pilgrims will sail from New York about March 10th. The trip will end with a passage from Liverpool to Quebec. The price of tickets for the round trip has been placed at \$400. Besides closely examining the chief points of interest in and around Jerusalem, the party pass through England, France, Italy, Switzerland, Upper Egypt and visit the famous shrine of Lourdes.

"Prof. Sayce has been lecturing in England on the origin of the alphabet. Persons differing from him in conclusions had (alpha) better say so." The address of the person that wrote the above is wanted at this office.

The reports as to the French triumph in Madagascar appear to have been exaggerated. At any rate it is certain that France is not to receive an indemnity for war expenses.

The German financiers have determined to advance to the Chinese Government the requisite funds for the construction of railways in different parts of China. The celestials are evidently awakening to the importance of having better means of internal communication and the Germans are always on the lookout to turn an honest penny.

Correct answers to Double Acrostic published last week were received from Wm. F. O'Connor, 88 Agricola Street, City; Miss Helen Creighton, 2 Creighton Street, City; Frank I. Stewart, Dalhousie College, City; and J. J. McLean, Ferguson's Cove.

A large quantity of American salmon fry have been taken to stock the rivers in France. To the French angler the pleasure of landing a salmon is unknown.

From the shipyards of Maine there have been launched during the past year fifty two new vessels, aggregating 22,627 net tons, or a total gross tonnage of about 23,608.

The war ships Boston, Atlanta and Chicago which were left in an unfinished state upon the failure of John Roach are now being completed under the direction of the Advisory Board of the U. S. Navy department.

France goes in for protection with a vengeance. Italian felt hats, Swiss hosiery, German boots, and Belgium woolen goods have for many years been shut out by the high tariff wall but France now proposes to levy a special tax upon the Italian, Swiss, German or other foreign workmen entering the country.

The family tomb of Vanderbilt cost \$225,000. A costly residence may be well enough for the living, but extravagance is unpardonable when no man, living or dead, derives any benefit from it.

Mr. Gibson gave to his employees, at Marysville, N. B., a monster Christmas dinner, upwards of one thousand guests were seated at the table.

The *City of Rome*, of the Anchor Line, and the *America*, of the National Line of Steamers, have been engaged for a special rapid service between the ports of New York and Liverpool.

The *Ottawa Journal* proposes reforming the Senate, by making all ex-Lieutenant Governors members of that body.

Boston hats are now lined with silk, upon which is stamped a map of the city. So long as a man does not lose his hat, he need not lose his way.

Twenty-six milk dealers, of Chicago, have been fined for milking the water pumps in the outskirts of that city. Their customers prefer watering the milk for themselves.

Gen. Beuregard will give a history of the Shiloh Campaign in the January number of the *North American Review*. He claims that Gen. Algernon Sydney Johnson acted only as a corps commander at Shiloh. Gen. Beuregard emphatically asserts (contrary to the common belief) that he was the sole commander on both days, and, without naming them, controverts the reports of Grant and Sherman as to the nation's forces being taken by surprise.

Florida is becoming a favorite winter resort for Americans. It is estimated that 200,000 Northern people will visit that State during the next three months.

Russia is now spending two and-a-half millions of dollars in the construction of a monster steam ram. By the time this leviathan makes its appearance, it will be out of date.

The British Navy, including the smaller craft, transports, etc., now numbers three hundred and four vessels.

Major-General Pendergrast, who so recently distinguished himself in the brief, but decisive, Burmese campaign, is but 51 years of age. His record is one of which any one may justly feel proud.

A correspondent wants to know whether the "Canada Roller Patent Flour" advertised in these columns by Mr. H. F. Worrall, is of as good quality as the American flour sold by the same gentleman. The question is one that can best be answered by Mr. Worrall. We refer our correspondent to him.

The enterprising firm of Austen Bros is pushing business despite the dull times. Their stock of railway, mining, steamship mill, factory and engineers supplies is large and well selected. Buyers of these classes of merchandise should certainly give Messrs. Austen Bros. a call before purchasing elsewhere.

Sewing machines were once considered a luxury, they are now considered a necessity. Mr. R. Wallace 194 Upper Water St. assures us that he is now able, owing to the increased demand, to sell his sewing machines at greatly reduced prices. Demand quickens trade and lowers prices.

The Dartmouth Exhibition of Childrens' work has attracted a large number of visitors, all anxious to see the first exhibit of the kind made in Canada. 1800 pieces of boys and girls work including fret work, toy ships, tables, chairs, fancy work, hooked mats, aprons, frocks, candies, bread, pies etc are on exhibition. Messrs Elliot and Congdon are to be congratulated upon the success of this new departure, and the children deserve credit for the excellence and variety of the articles displayed by them.

M. Grovy has been re-elected President of France for a second term of seven years. His majority in the national assembly was 350.

We have received from W. L. Lowell and Co. neat and pretty calendars of the Aetna and other well known Insurance Companies. Mr. Lowell is now absent from the city on business, but his partner, Mr. W. Lyle will be found ever ready to transact business in a prompt and satisfactory manner.

The Spring Hill coal, which has now found its way to the Halifax market, will undoubtedly find a ready sale. Messrs E. G. & C. Stayner, agents for the Cumberland Railway and Coal Company, have made arrangements to supply steam ships with bunker coal at special rates.

RELIGIOUS.

CHURCH OF ENGLAND.

The Christmas services were very largely attended, the day being so fine. St. Luke's Church collected \$97 07 for Widows and Orphans Fund. The number of communicants was larger by 56 than at any previous Christmas. Monday the mothers meeting and blanket club hold its festival, and Tuesday a Christmas tree and dinner for the poor. St. Luke's heads the churches of the Diocese in its contributions towards all charitable objects.

The Lord Bishop of Newfoundland preaches in St. Luke's on Sunday morning next.

The Bishop of the Diocese, tho' absent in England, does not forget the claims of his people. He sent a large sum of money to the various city clergy for distribution among the necessitous and sick. Many homes were rendered happy on Christmas Day by his thoughtful generosity.

The Rev. Canon O'Meara, on his return from P. E. Island, will make an appeal in the city churches for missions in the Diocese of Rupert's Land, and will address a missionary meeting which will be held in Trinity Church on Monday, Jan. 4th.

The decorations in the churches were simpler than on previous occasions. This is as it should be. The decoration question has been over done; and money, which is needed for more important objects, has been squandered on spruce. Less display is in better taste, and costs less.

METHODIST.

According to a statement published in a contemporary, the Methodist churches of this city contributed a larger amount, *pro rata*, than any other denomination for a missionary and benevolent objects. The amount contributed per family is \$9.71.

A sacred concert was given by the choir of Brunswick Street Church on Monday evening last.

The trustees of the new church on Robie Street, in this city, have decided to finish the main building and have it ready for occupancy by the spring. The cost of the building, including furnace, gas-fixtures, and fence, will be about \$6,700. A series of entertainments will be held in aid of the building fund.

BAPTIST.

A new Free Baptist Church was on the 20th inst. dedicated at Chegoggin, Yarmouth Co. It is a very neat and commodious building, and is in a very pretty situation.

A mass meeting of the Baptist churches of Halifax and Dartmouth was held on Monday evening last in the Granville Street Church, under the auspices of the Halifax Baptist Union, with a view to united social and mission work. Addresses were delivered by the pastors of the various churches.

We regret to learn that the Rev. C. H. Spurgeon's health is very poor, and that in consequence he will be compelled to retire for some considerable time from active work.

PRESBYTERIAN.

The new edifice in which St. Paul's Church, Fredericton, are to worship in the future, has been completed, and will be opened on the 10th inst. The Revs. Dr. Burns and MacRae are to participate in the dedicatory services.

The Rev. Mr. Nelson, pastor of the Presbyterian church at Windsor, intends giving this winter a short course of lectures in Church History, from the time of Christ to the Reformation.

The Rev. Mr. Thorpe has tendered his resignation as pastor of the church at Noel, Hants Co.

The Presbyterian Review is to be published in future by Charles Scribner's Sons.

The many friends of the Rev. H. Robertson, missionary to Erromanga, will be pleased to learn that in a letter to the Rev. R. H. Warden, of Montreal, he gives a most encouraging account of the progress of the work on that blood-stained island. At the first communion after his return from Nova Scotia he baptized and received into fellowship with the church thirty seven natives. The communion services were attended by upwards of 600 of the inhabitants.

CATHOLIC.

At St. Mary's Cathedral on Sunday last, Rev. Dr. Walsh preached a pointed and effective sermon—one of the best that has lately been preached in the city. If all clergymen would oftener emphasize, as Dr. Walsh does, the necessity of practising charity in its widest signification, more hardened hearts would relent.

The new St. Patrick's Church was opened on Sunday last. The first service in it was conducted by His Grace the Archbishop. For about two years the services were held in the basement. The new St. Patrick's is one of the handsomest churches in the lower provinces.

The Christmas collections in the Catholic churches of the city aggregate over \$2,900—\$100 more than last year's.

Who will give definite shape to the project to unite the educational forces of the Catholics of the Maritime Provinces? Less than 300,000 Catholics cannot support an institution that would give a training such as is now given in the Arts Course of Notre Dame University, Indiana, Georgetown College, D. C., or Stonyhurst College, England. The number of Catholics in the Maritime Provinces is less than 300,000.

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BRITISH AMERICAN  
Mercantile Agency.

This agency issues no books of ratings whatever, but instead gives to every subscriber a book which contains a complete list of agents in every place of importance in the Dominion, to whom they can apply on printed forms by mail or by telegraph and obtain immediate information as to the business standing of any person AT THE EXACT DATE, the agents being all reliable men and able to ascertain concerning the circumstances, means and habits of any person enquired for. The book also contains a telegraphic code in cipher, which is extensive and convenient, besides information as to the collection laws in the different Provinces and United States. In addition to these means of obtaining information, the agency claims exceptional advantages for HANDLING COLLECTIONS, and has an agreement with the North American Attorneys' and Traders' Protective Union Company, of New York, giving them the sole right in Canada of using over five thousand agents throughout the United States and elsewhere outside of Canada, which agents are under contract to attend to the British American agency's business. The system of this agency specially claims for itself in its reporting department CHEAPNESS, RELIABILITY OF REPORTS, AND SECRECY, and in its collecting for the weight that an institution devoted solely to this class of business carries with it, having representatives on the spot to make personal application to the debtor, and a chain of agents embracing the whole continent, thus affording the best facilities for tracing absent or absconding debtors.  
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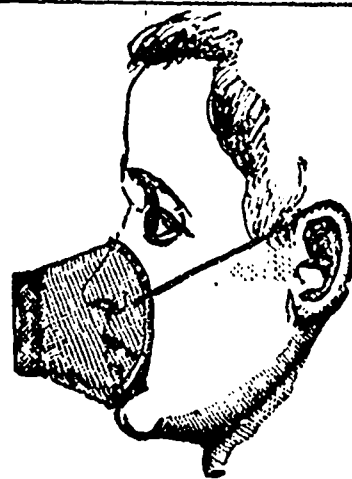
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The Eminent Throat and Lung Surgeon, of Toronto, is now permanently located. Halifax Office, Parlor 73, International Hotel.

The following testimonials are as genuine as gold, and speak in laudable, praiseworthy manner of the most wonderful cures ever recorded.

DISEASES TREATED.—Catarrh of the Head and Throat, Catarrhal Deafness, Chronic Bronchitis, Asthma and Consumption. Also, Loss of Voice, Sore Throat, Enlarged Tonsils, Polypus of the Nose removed.

COME EARLY. CONSULTATION FREE.  
Read the circulars, and hand them to your neighbors.

LOSS OF VOICE AND CONSUMPTION CURED.  
Fredericton, June 19, 1884.

DR. WASHINGTON—

Dear Sir,—I write you under feelings of intense gratitude for your Spirometer and other instruments and medicines, which have entirely restored me to blooming health. I was given up to die of consumption, and, in fact, had no hope of ever recovering myself. Lost my voice for fifteen months. All the symptoms of consumption present—so much so, indeed, that our family physician and others gave me up to die. The change of treatment came in time to save my life, and it is for the benefit of others who are afflicted as I was that my name is allowed to appear in public print. I can heartily recommend the treatment to all who wish to be saved from the grave.

Yours truly,  
MISS JEANETTE BEVERLY.

CATARRH CURED.

TWENTY-FIVE YEARS STANDING.  
Wesley Bullen, Esq., Wholesale Liquor Merchant, Fivrus Street, Belleville, Ont., says—"I have been affected with Catarrh for 25 years, and after trying every available remedy without effect, took the Spirometer, which, with the medicines used, entirely cured me."  
WESLEY BULLEN.

CONSUMPTION ARRESTED.

H. G. WILSON, 125 Granville Street.  
HALIFAX, N. S., June 24th, 1885.  
To DR. WASHINGTON, Throat and Lung Surgeon, Parlor 73, International Hotel:  
Dear Sir—Having been troubled with weak lungs and hemorrhage for some time with every indication of speedy consumption, concluded to try your "INHALATION TREATMENT," with the most flattering results. In fact to-day I am attending to my general business without noticing my former weakness, or that my lungs were ever affected. Your treatment cannot be too highly recommended.  
H. G. WILSON.

ANOTHER REMARKABLE TESTIMONY.

CONSUMPTION CURED IN THE LAST STAGE.  
CAPTAIN WILLIAM SALTER,  
No. 27 Granville Street, Halifax N. S.  
N. WASHINGTON M. D., Throat and Lung Specialist, Toronto.

Dear Sir—When you visited me in the latter part of January, I had been given up to die of consumption by a consultation of physicians, who considered that my recovery was simply impossible. I had no hope myself, nor had my family. When you expressed a hope of my recovery, it was received with a good deal of doubt. Confined to my bed, with low, weak, wasted, night sweats very bad, troublesome cough, raising large quantities of matter, in fact every appearance of a speedy death. After using your Respirator and Spirometer, and medicines, I began to recover very fast, so much so that during three hard winter months I have gained from 20 to 25 lbs., and was able to walk out on Easter Sunday. My strength is daily increasing, and I shall be able soon to be at work. To you I owe a deep sense of gratitude, and am anxious for others who are suffering as I was, to consult you. You can make what use of this letter you see fit, and thanking you for what I consider a most wonderful treatment. I remain yours truly,  
CAPT. W. SALTER.

Head Office, Parlor 73, International Hotel.

[FOR THE CRITIC.]  
TWO NEW YEARS.

## YEAR I.

For the proud Lucifer, and his rebellious host,  
The awful mouth of Hell had yawned to claim its own,  
And God a great heart was sad, sad for the many seats  
Empty about His throne.

He thought "since he my fairest, and my best-beloved,  
Has sinned past all forgiveness, then another race  
E'en I shall form from nought, and I shall bring them here  
To fill each vacant place.

And I will mould them in my likeness, and will breathe  
My breath into their veins, that breath, that even when  
The flesh decays, it, an immortal gift, must come  
Unto its God again.

And I will make for them a world of fruit, and flow'rs,  
Grand mountainous peaks, and vast, mysterious seas  
And I will give them beauty, sense, and love, sweet love!  
Fairer than all of these.

All, all to be their own: they shall be kings, free kings  
To do what e'er they list: only one simple thing  
I claim of them the faithful—my Lucifer  
Refused unto his King."

He willed—in the illimitable space beneath  
His feet chaos condensed—and lo! to sudden birth  
Emerged a small grey ball, which, stooping down, He touched,  
And blessed, and called it earth—

## YEAR 1886.

The tiny ball of earth, the fancy of a God,  
Grown worn and rugged, old in wisdom and in sins,  
Sees a new birthday for its countless struggling souls  
Another year begins.

But the Omnipotent has veiled His tender face,  
Sad for the follies of a world, He made so fair;  
For death and wickedness have touched its fairest scenes,  
And want, and grief, and care.

And man, ambitious, unbelieving, little man  
Holding the wonders of the earth, and air, and sea  
Within his grasp, sneers at the grander miracle  
Of an eternity—

One, that because he cannot pierce, he laughs to scorn;  
This narrow world is all his narrow mind can crave.  
A God! Where is He? and a Heaven, bah! His feet  
Have strayed across a grave.

Forgetting that the lowly plot of Church-yard ground,  
The awful, mould'ring thing the green sods kindly hide,  
Must seem a simple, paltry ending unto all  
His vanity and pride—

Poor, simple puppet of an ignorant creed,  
Whose mightiest wisdom can ne'er bring the breath  
To yon dead dog, or see beyond the grave, or escape  
The awful doom of death.

Yet, I can see a white haired man who humbly kneels  
Beside a tomb, and prays the tender God above  
To claim His own, to bear his tired soul to Him  
And to his spirit, love.

And I can see a gentle fair-faced mother kneel  
Beside her sleeping boy, the while she softly sings  
One, who meekly died upon Golgotha's heights  
For human sufferings.

Brecht, C. B.

VICIEN.

[FOR THE CRITIC.]  
THE NEW YEAR.

It is Janu 1886. Everywhere we hear conversation about the New Year. But has seen it? No one; the first day only has been seen. This is but a small portion of the year. We may or may not see the whole of it. Who can tell? Every day of 1885 we have seen; but we shall see it no more. Its record, not its hours, may yet come before our vision. Time is rapidly gliding into the past, but the present remains untouched. It never leaves till its successor appears; then it glides noiselessly, without any resistance into the eternity past. What a remarkable river is time! How gently it flows into the shoreless ocean! It has no rapids, no eddies, though it seems to move faster in December and January than in other months. Time never grows old; it is always new. We never saw the present till now. We cannot gather up the moments of the past, nor can we lay hold upon the future. No mortal eye ever saw to-morrow; when it comes in view, it is no longer to-morrow, but to-day. We call time now, because every minute, as it passes away, is succeeded by a new one.

The year brings other new things as well as time. We never before, in dating on letters and documents, used the same figures in the same order as now. Only the two first we have used without changing all our days. The others change frequently, as every year and decade testify. These numerals of the year, are suggestive, not only of the flight of time, but also of the influence of Christianity. Infidels may intellectually ignore the commemorative facts, at the close of each year, but in spite of their unbelief, their pens tacitly acknowledge them. They may be unwilling to concede the fact, but no religion or government, in the past, has developed such a civilization as Christianity has done.

But what about the year, whose auspicious beginning we welcome with joyous emotions? Ah! that is a serious question none can fully answer. Future events are wisely hidden from mortals; so we speak and think. Correctly speaking, events, that which comes, cannot be in the future, but are always in the present. We may, with certainty, anticipate some occurrences,

but until they take place, they are only ideas, not realities. Much that we expect may not be realized, and more that we anticipate not may transpire. To a large extent, the year will be what human beings make it. Then it will be characterized, in the past, by many imperfections, delinquencies, and painful experiences. These will be closely associated with faithful endeavors, laudable pursuits, noble achievements, and allowable enjoyments.

A wise appreciation, and improvement of time, is an important thought which should influence every mind, especially the young. This season of the year, in various respects, is favorable to mental cultivation and the acquirement of literary treasures. A few highly value, and wisely use those opportunities and privileges, and thus secure useful treasures of knowledge. But multitudes squander in vice, and in the pursuit of baubles, those golden opportunities.

To make this one of the best years of life on earth should be the ambition of all. To realize this, all that is required is to give due attention to the claims of duty. This is a little word, but it has a large meaning. It has no past or future tense, but belongs only to the present. True, it is a noun, but a verb is understood, generally active, passive only in suffering.

There is no difficulty in finding the path of duty. More know it than walk in it. It is the only safe path in the world. The adverb now is always associated with it. Its requirements are never more than native or acquired ability may do.

If the duties of January are neglected, such, in all probability, will be those of other months. Nor is duty transferable; it cannot be performed by proxy. As the close of the year is especially the time for review, the beginning is the time for noble resolve. Reflection and anticipation both converge to the present. Existence is a present reality, and always will be. Hours, days, weeks, months, and years, may come and go, but we change not as regards identity. There are a good many things in the universe that change; more that do not. We say that the seasons change, not much, however; they are nearly the same, year after year. There is no doubt about the changeableness of human nature, and yet it is very much alike all the world over. This year will, doubtless, see many changes. May they all be for the better. Such will surely be the case, if, as individuals, we attend to duty.

ALPHA.

## [FOR THE CRITIC.]

## CANADA'S MILITARY STATUS.

## No. VI.

When the great debate on the negotiations was going on in the Senate, Daniel Webster gave a perspicuous outline of the several avenues of approach to Canada through American territories. "There are two old and well-known roads to Canada," said the illustrious statesman, "one by way of Lake Champlain and the Richelieu to Montreal; the other from the Kennebec river to the sources of the Chaudiere and the du Loup, and so to Quebec. East of this there is no practicable communication for troops between Maine and Canada till we get to the Madawaska. Of one thing I am certain, that the true road to Canada is by the way of Lake Champlain. That is the old path. I take to myself the credit of having said here, thirty years ago, speaking of the mode of treating Canada, that, when an American woodman undertakes to fell a tree he does not begin by lopping off the branches, but strikes his axo into the trunk. The trunk, in relation to Canada, is Montreal, and the river St. Lawrence down to Quebec." Mr. Webster also laid particular stress upon the strategical value of Rouess Point, declaring it to be the best means of defending both the ingress into the lake and the exit from it, and that on the whole frontier of New York, with the single exception of the narrows below the city, there is not a point of equal importance.

As at present constituted the militia of Canada is divided into active and reserve forces for both land and marine service. The active land force is composed of:

(a) Corps raised by voluntary enlistment.

(b) Corps raised by ballot.

(c) Corps composed of men raised by volunteer enlistment and men balloted to serve. The active marine force, to be raised in a like manner, is composed of seamen, sailors, and persons whose usual occupation is upon any steamer or sailing craft navigating the waters of Canada. The reserve, land and marine, consists of the whole of the men who are not serving in the active militia for the time being. Thus it will be observed that the entire male population is liable to be levied. But Canada's real refuge in a storm would be her active militia force. And has she at this moment one regiment in a state of organized efficiency? One who would give a conscientious reply must answer in the negative. General Luard understood this fully, and was actually hounded out of the Dominion because his pills were not sugar-coated. How the Canadian authorities should set about reforming their military methods is not the province of the writer to suggest. When one seriously considers the fragility of the Canadian alliance, however, it is little wonder that a country whose constitutional frame-work is held together by the most superficial political solder should be a stranger to a sound military regime. While making every reasonable allowance for the juvenility of the confederation the most cringing partisan cannot be so undiscerning as to fail to see at a glance that the country is being ravaged and consumed by parliamentary charlatans. Toryism, with all its concomitants, has firmly implanted its banner at the Canadian capital, and with an astute and unscrupulous agent as its champion is rushing the country into bankruptcy at a galloping speed. Machiavelian scheming has failed to prevent the exposure of ministerial mismanagement in the several public departments. During the Riel insurrection the matchless blunders that were made in providing supplies



and transporting troops stood out in bold relief from the general monotony of the campaign. The citizen soldiers were not only subjected to the most trying privations, but supplied with scarcely a moiety of the accoutrements absolutely essential to their own comfort and to the successful combating of the enemy. If errors of a like magnitude should distinguish the administration of the militia department in operations against an outside foe, the results could not be other than of a deplorably damaging character. Those who are charitably inclined might be willing to attribute a portion of these grave mistakes to Canada's want of experience in conducting hostilities, although Wolseley's expedition of 1870 was as brilliant a feat as can be found inscribed on the pages of American history.

As an instance of the demagoguism, that runs riot in the regnant school of politicians it is only necessary to cite the offer of the Canadian government to raise thousands of men to do service in the cause of England should the stability of the nation be at any time threatened by continental neighbors. In London, Sir Charles Tupper, Canada's High Commissioner, has offered England any number of Canadian regiments that the exigencies of the case might demand. Nothing could be more ridiculous even at the first blush. In the event of England being driven to desperate straits a few needy individuals might be found in the Dominion who would be willing to go whither they were lead. But they would be prompted by motives of a purely mercenary nature. Patriotism in the colony is not sufficiently elastic to be the sole cause of any number of men volunteering to fight on the other side of the Atlantic for their mother country. To defend British possessions on this side of the water would be an entirely different thing. Love for the old country, however, is, in Canada, rapidly approaching the last stages of decline. Casting our eyes over the whole continent we can see to-day but one remnant of old time autocracy—the garrison at Halifax. There a few red coats, becoming fewer year by year, are the only indications of the queen's supremacy. Cosmopolitan ideas have spread with such celerity that arbitrary Englishmen, stalking round on official stilts, cannot be suffered—in any part of the western hemisphere, where the trend of public opinion is so overwhelmingly in favor of republican institutions. The prevailing and ever-widening sentiment of the new world, accurately embodied in Bartholdi's liberty enlightening statue, seeks an untrammelled existence, and the most unqualified freedom. The rapid disappearance of tyrannical dominion, which seems to have been driven away on the fleeting wings of the wind, is one of the gladsome pictures in Canada's colonial annals.

[CONCLUDED].

C. P. M.

[FOR THE CRITIC.]

## OUR WINNIPEG LETTER.

WINNIPEG, Dec. 9th, 1885.

Dear Critic,—A son of thy city, one who has some of the dearest fancies of boyhood's earliest, happiest days next his heart, sendeth thee greeting. Having strayed from the shadows of thy streets to the far away Northland, this City of the Prairies, a few lines of interest will, I know, be acceptable, and may this gold nib of Arkin Lambert & Co.'s be inspired to pen with true and good intent, respecting men and events, and from a standpoint far above all party politics.

Methinks your humble servant would make a most reckless and unsuccessful pioneer, for necessity alone would compel me to live on the prairies. A sense of loneliness comes over one which is appalling, and we look around to see if there is a road of escape; and it naturally would be to any one who could recall the past vividly before them even without the desire to do so, congenial companions, good books, and plenty of work, would be the only panacea for such cravings. This city of Winnipeg is such a flat place, so devoid of interest in the way of natural scenery that I can't understand how anyone can content themselves to live here unless compelled to by business associations. I walked out of the city a short time ago and just on its outskirts found myself on the prairies, lines of telegraph poles lost in the far distance indicating the railways, here and there some lowly hut constructed of logs or boards, and banked up as high as possible with hay or manure ready for the winter frosts; in other places houses of larger pretensions, but these few and far between, a few plots of ground fenced off with juniper posts and barbed wire fencing; then again stacks of hay, some on the distant horizon looking like the hulls of disabled ships, whilst around there is not a tree to be seen, and in the intervals between the houses and huts, nothing but the vast prairie far out as the eye can see, on leaving the outskirts of the city and launching out on this wide expanse of treeless ground one seems like a ship at sea and an instinctive feeling of dread and loneliness comes over you, and a silence, as if the to repent of some impending catastrophe seems to reign around, whilst an impulsive desire seizes you to walk on and on till some goal is reached, this is at least my experience of the prairies. When I say there are no trees, I mean on the portion I was exploring, trees and brush of a stunted growth are to be seen elsewhere by the river, which I will make mention of at some future time. This dreary waste of land I have just pictured is caused by its being held by speculators who mostly live out of the country, and, not having very heavy taxes to pay, can afford to hold on whilst Winnipeg suffers in the meantime. Every effort should be made to break up this monopoly, for the land could be portioned out, kitchen gardens, and dairy farms would then supply all the city's needs in these lines, and it would be a pleasure to walk out amongst cultivated fields and gardens and well-stocked farms, instead of as now across acres upon acres of prairie and producing nothing but hay.

One can well imagine how dreary the autumns are here with no trees to enliven with their varied colors in the red and yellow leaf, and I think what endears Nova Scotia to the lover of Nature more than anything else, is the

glory of her autumn scenery when the maple, beech, and mountain ash put on their princely robes of color, and challenge the artists skill to depict them on the canvass; a challenge which has often been taken up by our well-known artist FERDINAND DAY, and although his pictures were gems of color, I can't say to my eye they gave with precision that soft atmosphere which always accompanies the autumn, at least in the Lower Provinces, his skies and atmosphere are in general too cold. In no other part of Canada does the maple seem to change to such a variety of vivid hues—even on the same leaf and tree—as in Nova Scotia; I have experienced autumns from Halifax to Winnipeg in all parts of the five Provinces, but none compare with your own, whether it is owing to the saltness of the air acting with the frost (for it is always after the first touch of frost that the maples change) which tends to sharpen up and intensify the tones, it would be hard to say, but it is a point worth investigating. I have seen a maple tree by the side of a small brook, a blaze of red and orange, standing out against a back ground of the same trees as green as ever they were in the middle of summer, this brilliant exception led me to investigate when I found it was a rock maple, whilst the others were of the ordinary variety. Referring to the saltness of the air, and the salt held in suspension by the fogs floating inland, its presence became strikingly evident to me on more than one occasion. Walking in from Bedford one autumn evening, when the roads were slightly frozen hard, with a slight perceptible dampness noticeable in the air, I found to my surprise, soon after setting out, that my face was apparently covered with dust; where did it come from? Not from the road. Was it dust? I at once passed my finger over my forehead, then touched my tongue, it was nothing more than common salt. What state or condition of the human system was it that salt exuded through the pores of the skin? I thought that some terrible sickness was about to seize me. The problem was soon solved; it was deposited from the atmosphere. I then found the backs of my hands and my clothing were also covered, even the leaves of the bushes, fencing, etc., all surrounding objects being warmer than the cool current of air blowing up the basin robbed it of a large portion of the salt held in suspension. This saltiness of the air is no doubt also one of the causes why the cold is felt more intensely than in this country, for what school-boy does not know the intense cold caused by holding a mixture of snow and salt, or ice and salt for a few moments in the hand.

Pardon me if I am deviating somewhat from the course laid down to write respecting this country. It would be treating my old home slightly indeed if at the outset I had not mentioned it, and I think if Nova Scotians would take pains to cultivate the love of country which I am sorry to say is much wanting in their craniums, they would speak less despairingly of their native land. Stand by each other to build up the country, and with pride they could then say to their children, "Go thou and do likewise." Yes, there is a sad want of unity, not so much in Nova Scotians, but in Haligonians; party politics has been, is and will be, if not squelched, the ruin of the country. It is not carried to such extremes here, although to take up the Grit and Tory papers a stranger would be inclined to think there existed at times a feeling anything but brotherly between contending parties. But I think with us, or rather with Winnipeggers, it is only on the surface, and I have many facts to substantiate what I say, the press does not launch out with such damaging scurrillity to blacken opponents' characters as in other provinces, and for which Halifax is noted, men here are ever ready to help along any scheme that may benefit the community or the province, and be it to their honor, I have never heard any man, no matter what his politics may be, affirm anything else of the country than that "it is a great one," and "has a great future before it," but further more that such a future can be forthcoming only through the combined efforts of all parties. A genuine unalloyed love of country is not a distinguishing trait in our statesmen and politicians of to-day, and I think they would do well in many ways to study the political lives of England's great statesmen—they would gain many a hint—rather than as at present leaning towards a system, which our brothers over the border have become such adepts in—but enough of this. If, as a young man I refer to politics—and young men should take more interest in the government of the country than they do—it is with a hope that at no distant day, true manly independence and respect for each other's characters, will distinguish the contestants in the political arena; in short that they will be "God fearing men."

The people of Canada, the English speaking portion at least, are heartily sick of the Riel affair, we are at all events, having had a surfeit of news in connection with the central character of the Metis-Rebellion; and now we seldom hear his name mentioned. There was great excitement throughout the city on the morning of the execution, no boys flying around with extras of the *Manitoban* paper, and as eager as any, was a young burly fellow, a French Canadian, calling out with his native accent, *Manitoban*, execution of Riel! I met quite a number of French half-breeds, but they did not appear at all excited or affected by the news, hearing one member of a small group of men and women mention Riel's name, I closely watched their countenances, there was no mistaking; there was a look of silent pity on every face, especially on that of an elderly woman, the principal figure of the group, who only restrained from shedding tears by a strong effort of the will, perhaps she was recalling pleasant memories in connection with the earlier years of the unfortunate man. Such thoughts would make the strongest heart feel a throb of pain. I did not notice a clenched fist or a look of revenge among any of the group. The family of the rebel seemed to have received the news with becoming sorrow and without any outburst of passionate revenge or imprecation on the heads of the Govt, perhaps their hearts were too full for any outward expression. The half-breed character is naturally stoical and reserved, even amongst themselves, they are not over inclined to be communicative, and to a stranger they merely answer direct questions, and after a long acquaintance only do they become friendly; they seem to be ever on the watch, not a direct look, but you can often catch



them giving a very furtive glance as if they were suspicious of your motives. I speak here of those who are continually with the Indians, and from whom they have inherited this peculiar trait of character; the half-breeds who have lived amongst the whites and worked for them lose to a great extent their Indian watchfulness, but seldom become as communicative as one would wish. There is a marked difference between the French, English, and Scotch half-breeds, and the character of the white man seems to come out in some very marked points in the three classes. Taking them all in all, Indian and half-breed, they are quite a study to a student of Nature, and not many years will pass over before the true Indian will be extinct, not so much lost through death, but absorbed into the white blood of the country, and in this way will disappear.

A fact worth noting in connection with this great country, and which has not been often stated, is, that no *rates* nor *cents* have ever made their appearance, and I have been informed on good authority that it is really the case as far as the former individuals are concerned.

As far as the *cents* are concerned, we are a people who do not trouble with trifles, and amongst other things, it saves the minister giving an announcement of a silver collection; prevents the tampering with children's morals and behaviour by offering them a stick of candy to be good or giving them a cent not to cry; prevents the small boy in the street greeting you with a "Give a cent, sir!" they'd never think of asking for five; saves your pockets from wearing out; very handy for the seller of goods to credit himself with the difference in change, this is the privilege the purchaser has to pay for buying, a duo profit on goods sold is not considered in such affairs by the shop-keepers; and if a person persists in being too nice we can fall back on cent postage stamps. A poor man though, if he cannot afford to lay out a quarter at a time for his bread, has to pay through the nose for it; a loaf of bread cannot be sold for less than ten cents, but three tickets will be given for a quarter.

I was greatly surprised to meet Mr. Johnson, late bandmaster of the Flagship, in the streets a few days ago, he is now in charge of the 90th band, which he is reorganizing. Major Guy, also of Halifax, has been here and left for Ottawa two days ago, he is permanently appointed to the Militia Department at Ottawa. Miss Alexander, late leading soprano singer of Halifax, has been charming the people here with her voice, she is now leading singer in the Congregationalist Church. I had the pleasure of hearing her lately. The people here are very much taken with Miss Alexander's singing, and those who are able to judge say that her voice has been well trained by a very efficient and first-class teacher, who I believe, is Mr. S. Porter, organist of St. Pauls.

Yours, &c.,

SCITON.

[FOR THE CRITIC.]

#### RAMBLING NOTES IN BURMAH.

At the present moment, when Burman affairs are prominently before the public, and the annexation of the native State is almost an accomplished fact, I have thought that some notes of a short sojourn in that country (including a trip to Mandalay) might be of interest to your readers, especially as, through commercial and missionary enterprise, it is already somewhat familiarly known to the people of Nova Scotia.

War was threatening with Upper Burmah in 1875 (owing to trouble between our Kason allies and the native ruler) and an expedition (for which I volunteered), was fitted out in Madras. Sailing from this port for Rangoon (the capital of British Burmah) we put in *en route* to the Andaman Islands, about half-way across. It is the great convict establishment for India, and it was here that a short time before, Lord Mayo had met his death at the hands of a fanatical convict. Relieving a detachment of the 21st Fusiliers, we steamed on to the Burmese coast, and, after three days of a rough passage, we left the blue waters of the Bay to plough the muddy element which marks the entrance of the great Irrawaddy.

Out of the green, waving jungle, which creeps down to the shore, all we can distinguish from the sea is the golden summit of the far-famed Shoooy Dagoon Najoda (one of the wonders of the Eastern world) which rears its head crowned with the jewel-laden umbrella high above the shops and bungalows of the City of Rangoon. As we pass up the river, we meet ships of all nations seeking the port. Junks from China and Japan, and queer looking craft from Siam, and Yankee clippers, with the more lumbering "ditchers" from Europe, bringing in exchange for rice, teak wood and silk, the shoddy cottons and creature comforts of the west. As soon as we slacken speed, we are surrounded by a shouting crowd of Chinese boatmen in sampans, who jostle and pummell each other, to be first to the ship. It is a wonder that, in the tangle, none of them are swamped. And woe betide the Chinaman who seeks the depths of the swift flowing river. No more curry and rice for him on this side the celestial's paradise. Later on, many miles up the river, the captain of our transport nearly ended his career, by walking overboard in his sleep; the uncalled for bath brought him to in time to seize a rope hanging from the ship's side, as he was flying down the stream at the rate of six miles an hour. The bodies of those drowned in the river are rarely recovered.

The Irrawaddy, in which we now find ourselves, forms the great channel of communication between Upper (native) and Lower (British) Burmah, running from the Chinese frontier through both countries to the sea. Now that the whole stream is in our control, it is hoped that the commerce of Western China may find an outlet through our land. Trade with China through this highway has been for years the dream of the merchants of Rangoon, but it has hitherto been blocked by the rapacity and short-sighted policy of the native ruler at Mandalay. Marguray's ill-fated expedition—he had been murdered near Bahmo, just before we left Madras—had, however, demonstrated the difficulties (as to transport) and dangers (from savage tribes)

for commercial relations between Upper Burmah and the Province of Yunan. A mountainous region with but few passes lies between. The land carriage would greatly increase the cost of such products as we would find, and this is the least productive part of China; and the same articles would probably be procurable more easily and cheaply at Shanghai or Canton.

Rangoon presents a pretty picture from the sea. Neatly built bungalows and stores, of teak wood and stone, surrounded by trees, with occasional glimpses of church spires and pagodas, the whole surmounted by the famous Shoooy Dagoon. Let us step ashore and make acquaintance with the place. First, having a careful eye to our luggage, for our light-fingered China friends are not to be trusted, and it is, to put it mildly, unpleasant to make one's first appearance in a strange city, minus an important and unreplaceable portion of one's outfit. I had an experience of this sort on first landing in India. I had gone straight to Poonan with troops from the ship, ignorant of the country and its ways, particularly its thriving ways, as any griffin. Leaving my luggage in charge of a half-caste apothecary, at the depot—he was as black as your boot, but called himself a European, and the Government by G. O., Col. orders flattered him to that extent—I went off to the Napier hotel. On calling for my boxes next morning, "they are all right, sir," said my Eurasian friend, except what you sent for last night." "But I sent for nothing, last night." "My servant"—his servant had accompanied me to the hotel—"said you did sir, and took the things to you." On further enquiry, his servant had disappeared, and so had a good lot of luggage, and I am glad to say, about 30 rupees of the apothecary's, whose knowledge of his countrymen should have made him sharper.

Failing friends to meet us on shore, and extend the right hand of hospitality to us, we work our way through the odd looking crowd of loafers who line the pier, and signalling a gharry, drive through the pleasantly shaded streets to the dak bungalow, a sort of rest house, where the weary are not at rest.

The dak bungalow! what scenes the name recalls. Visions of interminable oxen-drawn journeys over execrable Indian roads—journeys in the middle of sweltering nights, in a cart that a criminal would swear at on the road to the gallows; sick, perhaps, parched with thirst, and played out, the dak bungalow our only oasis in the desert of discomfort, though scant the rock that government charpoy gives and scant the larder that Ramaswanny (the government peon) controls. Visions, too, of sport in the old days along the south coast of Madras, with a pleasant party of friends under roofs reared by former Princes in the land, now abandoned as a rest-house to the weary, or sport-seeking tourist with neighboring bank, paddy field, and jungle full of wild fowl, partridge, snipe, and other game; a hard day's sweat through the rice fields, then a plunge in the cooling tank, a jolly dinner to follow, well washed down; a quilt, rubber, and cheroots, preceeding the well-earned sleep, under swinging punkah,—those are some of the offsets to the Indian dak bungalow; but what have we here?

A wooden hut, built upon piles, reached from the ground by a rickety ladder; a swampy compound (angelic garden), and a dirty negro in charge, who, at first sound of our approaching footsteps, may be seen chasing a long-legged fowl around the back yard. Too well we know it, this shouting ornithological specimen is our prospective, but fleeing dinner.

We enter a squalid, ill-furnished and mouldy room, decorated with a copy of the regulations and tariff, the frame of which, thanks to the damp, has severed connection with the paper, and lies a heap of sticks upon the floor. Our luggage is brought in, and we next proceed to have a bath. We began by dislodging a scorpion and a frog or two from the towel rack, attracted hither by the presence of water, and oust a wandering centipede from our bath sponge; then casting a fearful eye upon the house-snake in the rafters, kept in lieu of cat, and for the same purpose, we empty the refreshing chatties over our head, for though this be what they are pleased to call the cold season—there is no real cold season, it is six months hot and six months hotter here—the air all day has been inuggy and oppressive, and the cool waters restore some vigor to our enervated frame. T.

(To be continued.)

[FOR THE CRITIC.]

#### BRITISH POLICY—IRELAND.

The Liberal party in the British House of Commons lacks four "a" majority over both the Tories and Parnellites. The Irish Home Rulers are the only united party. The Tories are not a unit on the Irish question, while the Liberals have amongst them two very uncongenial elements, Whigs and Radicals. The latter would be willing, notwithstanding the time-serving utterances of Joseph Cowen, to form an alliance with Parnell; but the old Whigs are more opposed to making concessions to the Irish people than are the most conservative of the Tories.

It seems that Lord Salisbury's Cabinet has unanimously decided to make at present no overtures for an alliance with the Parnellites, but to meet the new Parliament with a programme of legislation of a progressive character, generally speaking, but with only a limited concession, consisting of a county government scheme for Ireland. If this programme have nothing in it threatening the landed interest, the general opinion is, that it will receive the support of the Whigs. Should this occur, of course the Parnellites will ally themselves with the Liberals. This may enable Gladstone to return to power, and distinguish the latter part of his career by wise and beneficent legislation for Ireland.

Some ill-informed writers evidently think, that while Ireland's grievances are unquestionable, Parnell is to blame for getting together such a formidable following! One writer, not a thousand miles from Halifax, says in one article, that the Home Rulers have hitherto been shamefully trampled upon, and systematically tempted to seek satisfaction by other than constitutional

means. In another article, he says that there is too much patriotism in England to concede one jot to Parnell's 80 followers that was denied to his 39; for, he contends, the parliamentary system is now in danger of being overborne by what is merely a foreign dictation. This is a remarkable way of discussing the subject before us. If we sympathized with the Home Rulers when they were numerically weak, and were treated badly, is it unreasonable that we should be pleased to find them able now to assert their rights? And if Parnell and his Home Rulers are to be considered as practically foreign, as Canada or Australia would be, if either tried to force a policy upon the British Parliament, the pertinent question that naturally arises is - Why then should not they be granted a home parliament such as is granted to Australia and Canada? Within the British Parliament is certainly no place for a foreign element.

Not without significance is the public declaration of Mr Herbert Gladstone, M. P., that "If at least five out of six of the Irish people demand a parliament such as Canada now enjoys, it is very difficult indeed to see how the demand can be reasonably overlooked." That is the sentiment of the whole Radical wing of the Liberal party, and it is now an important question, how large a proportion of the party will agree with the Radicals.

SANTON RESARTUS, JR.

SOME NATURAL BRIDGES.

Among the wonders of Nature that serve a useful purpose, and strike awe into the beholders, are those grand arches which span over wide gullies or rivers, and form a strong and permanent viaduct. What years of infinite labor it would have taken man to have constructed them, and thou without the solidity which they naturally possess. The noted natural bridge of Virginia, near 500ft. high, is an instance, placed as it is, in the centre of a district of extraordinary beauty.

Another of these marvels exists over the Dog river in Phoenicia. Creeping cautiously along the uppermost shelf of Lebanon, it is the highest in the country. It is used as a public highway, and on the lower side is nearly 200ft. high; its arch is 90ft. thick, with a span of 157ft., and it varies in width from 80ft. to 140ft. There is a gigantic brother over the Litany river, little less in its dimensions.

Near Dresden, spanning the Elbe, in what is called Saxon Switzerland, is another similar giant, called the "Preb'schthor." Over the Mendoza, in the Cordilleras, South America, is one called the "Inca's," which forms the pass of Uspallata. The peculiarity of this bridge is that from every part of it, hot water bubbles out, and most beautiful stalactites are generated, the whole bridge and banks being covered with brilliant yellow and green incrustations, perfectly dazzling to the eye of the beholder.

At Holborn Head, Caithness, Scotland, there is a huge arch composed of hard clay flag; in stormy weather the sea washes beneath it, and sends clouds of spray flying far inland. It is noted far and near for its wild and dangerous nature. The superstitious custom of prefixing his Satanic majesty's title before any extraordinary natural object is very prevalent, and we find it more or less in all countries. In connection with bridges it is used for one in the Mynoch, South Wales, which makes a road over a chasm, a hundred feet in depth, and in some places scarcely two yards wide. It is supposed to have been erected in the reign of William Rufus, by the Cistercian monks, and, in 1753, a new arch was built; but, according to the local legend, no human hands could have built the old arch in such a frightful position.

Another we find on the St. Gothard's Road, Switzerland; and under this roars the tumultuous river, Reuss, with tremendous force. It was here in 1799 that the French, Russians and Austrians, alternately drove each other out of this narrow gorge; column after column was swept into the seething river in the fearful struggle for victory, which, after much slaughter, was gained by the Russians, whose brave commander's name is now inscribed on the face of the rocks:—

"SUWARROW,  
VICTOR."

COMMERCIAL.

The wholesale Christmas trade this season was the poorest for a great many years. There was absolutely nothing of any consequence doing, and most wholesalers are left with very heavy stocks at a time when everyone tries to keep as small a stock as possible.

Teas have advanced nearly 4 cents in England. Our market as usual is very slow in coming up, but prices here must also rise so soon as old stocks will be sold out.

Sugar has been gradually advancing lately, and is now nearly 1½ cents above the lowest point last year.

Molasses is quiet and nothing of any moment doing.

BUTTER.—There are heavy stocks of all kinds on hand with very little doing, although prices are low.

CHEESE.—The market is stocked, but the quality is very nice, and sales are steady.

Dressed Hogs are dull, 5 to 5½ being the highest, except for very small, which bring 6 cents

Eggs are plenty, and have not sustained the high figures that were lately got for them.

MARKET QUOTATIONS.

WHOLESALE RATES.

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

GROCERIES.

SUGAR.	
Cut Loaf	8 to 8½
Granulated	7 to 7½
Grade A	6½ to 6¾
Grade B	5½ to 6
Yellow C	5½ to 5¾
Yellow D	5½ to 5¾
TEA.	
Congou, Common	17 to 19
" Fair	20 to 23
" Good	25 to 29
" Choice	31 to 33
" Extra Choice	35 to 38
Onlong—Choice	37 to 39
MOLASSES.	
Barbadoes	30 to 32
Demerara	30 to 35
Diamond N.	43
SOAPS.	
Ivory bar, 1 lb, 2 lb and 3 lb	6½
Erasive	6
Dominion	6
Surprise	5½
Tiger	5½
Extra Pale, 1 or 5 lb	6
"Linen Towel" for 30 bars, and 30 towels	6.00
Canada	4
Imperial	4
No 1 Family	4
Hermann	3½
Brant	3
Brown	2
Towel 15 to 60c. per doz.	
CANDLES, 64 and 88	11½
Do., Paraffine	1 to 25c
BISCUITS.	
Pilot Bread	2.60 to 2.00
Hobson and Thin Family	1½ to 7½
Soda	0 to 7
do. in 1 lb. boxes, 60 to case	7
Fancy	8 to 15
CONFECTIONERY.	
Assorted in 30 lb Pails	
Royal Mixture	11 to 20
Lozenges	12 to 15
1 cent goods 144 in a box	95 to 10
Toys per hundred	65 to 75
Clear Candy Toys	18
Brooms	1.60 to 3.25
Starch, Blue and White	7
" Lilly White	9
Prepared Corn	9
BUTTER.	
Canadian	16 to 20
N S	15 to 20
CHEESE	8 to 10
Eggs	25 to 28
Tobacco—Black	39 to 48
" Bright	42 to 58
Blacking, per gross	3.00 to 4.00
Blacklead	2.00 to 10.00
Pearl Blue	2.50 to 3.00

BEANS.	
" Peas	1.00 to 1.10
" Beans	1.10 to 1.20
" Lentils	1.20 to 1.30
" Chickpeas	1.30 to 1.40
" Broad Beans	1.40 to 1.50
" Kidney Beans	1.50 to 1.60
" Navy Beans	1.60 to 1.70
" Pigeon Beans	1.70 to 1.80
" Horse Beans	1.80 to 1.90
" Broad Beans	1.90 to 2.00
" Kidney Beans	2.00 to 2.10
" Navy Beans	2.10 to 2.20
" Pigeon Beans	2.20 to 2.30
" Horse Beans	2.30 to 2.40
" Broad Beans	2.40 to 2.50
" Kidney Beans	2.50 to 2.60
" Navy Beans	2.60 to 2.70
" Pigeon Beans	2.70 to 2.80
" Horse Beans	2.80 to 2.90
" Broad Beans	2.90 to 3.00
" Kidney Beans	3.00 to 3.10
" Navy Beans	3.10 to 3.20
" Pigeon Beans	3.20 to 3.30
" Horse Beans	3.30 to 3.40
" Broad Beans	3.40 to 3.50
" Kidney Beans	3.50 to 3.60
" Navy Beans	3.60 to 3.70
" Pigeon Beans	3.70 to 3.80
" Horse Beans	3.80 to 3.90
" Broad Beans	3.90 to 4.00
" Kidney Beans	4.00 to 4.10
" Navy Beans	4.10 to 4.20
" Pigeon Beans	4.20 to 4.30
" Horse Beans	4.30 to 4.40
" Broad Beans	4.40 to 4.50
" Kidney Beans	4.50 to 4.60
" Navy Beans	4.60 to 4.70
" Pigeon Beans	4.70 to 4.80
" Horse Beans	4.80 to 4.90
" Broad Beans	4.90 to 5.00
" Kidney Beans	5.00 to 5.10
" Navy Beans	5.10 to 5.20
" Pigeon Beans	5.20 to 5.30
" Horse Beans	5.30 to 5.40
" Broad Beans	5.40 to 5.50
" Kidney Beans	5.50 to 5.60
" Navy Beans	5.60 to 5.70
" Pigeon Beans	5.70 to 5.80
" Horse Beans	5.80 to 5.90
" Broad Beans	5.90 to 6.00
" Kidney Beans	6.00 to 6.10
" Navy Beans	6.10 to 6.20
" Pigeon Beans	6.20 to 6.30
" Horse Beans	6.30 to 6.40
" Broad Beans	6.40 to 6.50
" Kidney Beans	6.50 to 6.60
" Navy Beans	6.60 to 6.70
" Pigeon Beans	6.70 to 6.80
" Horse Beans	6.80 to 6.90
" Broad Beans	6.90 to 7.00
" Kidney Beans	7.00 to 7.10
" Navy Beans	7.10 to 7.20
" Pigeon Beans	7.20 to 7.30
" Horse Beans	7.30 to 7.40
" Broad Beans	7.40 to 7.50
" Kidney Beans	7.50 to 7.60
" Navy Beans	7.60 to 7.70
" Pigeon Beans	7.70 to 7.80
" Horse Beans	7.80 to 7.90
" Broad Beans	7.90 to 8.00
" Kidney Beans	8.00 to 8.10
" Navy Beans	8.10 to 8.20
" Pigeon Beans	8.20 to 8.30
" Horse Beans	8.30 to 8.40
" Broad Beans	8.40 to 8.50
" Kidney Beans	8.50 to 8.60
" Navy Beans	8.60 to 8.70
" Pigeon Beans	8.70 to 8.80
" Horse Beans	8.80 to 8.90
" Broad Beans	8.90 to 9.00
" Kidney Beans	9.00 to 9.10
" Navy Beans	9.10 to 9.20
" Pigeon Beans	9.20 to 9.30
" Horse Beans	9.30 to 9.40
" Broad Beans	9.40 to 9.50
" Kidney Beans	9.50 to 9.60
" Navy Beans	9.60 to 9.70
" Pigeon Beans	9.70 to 9.80
" Horse Beans	9.80 to 9.90
" Broad Beans	9.90 to 10.00

The above quotations are corrected by Mackintosh & Co., Jericho Warehouse.

FISH FROM VESSELS.

MACKEREL.	
Extra	10.50 to 11.00
No 1	9.75 to 10.00
No 2 large	8.75 to 9.00
No 2	8.25 to 8.50
No 3 large	8.00 to 8.25
No 3	7.50
Small	1.00
HERRING.	
No. 1 Shore, July, No sales	2.75 to 3.00
August and Sept.	2.25 to 2.50
No. 1 Round Shore, Scarce	2.30 to 2.40
No. 1, Labrador	none
ALEWIVES.	2.75
CODFISH.	
Hard Shore to equal	2.25 to 2.50
Bank	1.90 to 2.00
Bay	none
SALMON, No. 1	none
No 2	none
No 3	none
HADDOCK.	1.90 to 2.00
HARK	1.75
CUSK	none
POLLOCK	none
FISH OILS.	
Cod A.	.35 to .38
Dog A.	.25 to .29
Pale Seal	none
HARK SOUND.	45 to 80c per lb.

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

HOME AND FOREIGN FRUITS.

APPLES, No. 1, per bbl.	0.00 to 2.75
" No. 2,	1.25 to 1.75
Oranges, per bbl, Jamaica (new)	7.50
Bananas, Jamaica	none
Lemons, per box	4.00 to 4.50
Cocoanuts, per 100	4.50 to 5.50
Onions (barrels) per lb.	.2½c to 2½c
Grapes (Almeria, kegs)	6.00 to 7.00
Foxberries, per bbl.	3.50 to 3.85
Cranberries	6.00 to 6.50
Figs, 1 lb boxes	18 to 18c
Oranges, Valencia, cases	5.00 to 5.50

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

BREADSTUFFS.

PROVISIONS AND PRODUCE.

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

WHEAT.	
Patent high grades	5.25 to 5.50
" mediums	5.25 to 5.50
" Superiors	4.75 to 5.00
Superior Extra	4.50 to 4.80
Lower grades	3.50 to 4.45
Oatmeal	4.50 to 5.00
Corn Meal—Halifax ground	3.00 to 3.25
" —Imported	2.90 to 3.00
Bran per ton—Wheat	20.00 to 22.00
" —Corn	18.00 to 20.00
Shorts	22.00 to 24.00
Middlings	25.00 to 28.00
Cracked Corn	31.00 to 32.00
" Oats	25.00 to 30.00
" Barley	34.00
Pea Meal per bbl.	2.75
Feed Flour	2.25 to 2.50
Oats per bushel of 34 lbs	42 to 45
Barley " of 48 "	75 to 85
Peas " of 60 "	75 to 85
Carly " of 60 "	80 to 85
Hay per ton	14.00 to 15.00
Straw	9.00 to 10.00

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

PROVISIONS.

Beef, Am. Ex Mess, duty paid	13.00 to 13.50
" Am. Plate	13.50 to 14.00
Pork, Mess, American	13.50 to 14.00
" American, clear	15.00 to 15.50
" P. E. I. Mess	13.00 to 13.50
" P. E. I. Thin Mess	12.00 to 12.50
" Prime Mess	10.50 to 11.00
Lard, Tubs and Pails	11 to 12
" Cases	12 to 12½
Hams, P. E. I.	12 to 13c
Duty on Am. Pork and Beef \$2.20 per bbl.	

Prices are for wholesale lots only, and are liable to change daily.

These quotations are prepared by a reliable wholesale house.

WOOL, WOOL SKINS & HIDES.

Wool—clean washed, per pound	20
" unwashed	15
Green Hides—Ox, inspected, No 1	7½
" Cow	7
Salted Hides—Ox in Lots, No 1	7½
" Cow	7
Calf Skin	8 to 10
" Deacons, each	30 to 35
Woolskins	25 to 65

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

LUMBER.

Pine, clear, No. 1, per m.	25.00 to 28.00
" Merchantable, do do.	14.00 to 17.00
" No 2 do.	10.00 to 12.00
" Small, per m.	8.00 to 14.00
Spruce, dimension good, per m.	9.50 to 10.00
" Merchantable, do do.	8.00 to 9.00
" Small, do do.	6.50 to 7.00
Hemlock, merchantable	7.00
Shingles, No 1, sawed, pine	3.00 to 3.50
" No 2, do do	1.50 to 1.25
" spruce, No 1	1.10 to 1.30
Laths, per m	1.20
Hard wood, per cord	4.00 to 4.25
Soft wood	2.25 to 2.80

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

POULTRY.

Fowls, per pair	40 to 50
Turkeys, per pound	11 to 13
Geese, each	63 to 75
Ducks, per pair	70 to 80

The above are corrected by a reliable victualer.

LIVESTOCK.

Steers, best quality, per lb.	4.50 to 5
Oxen	3½ to 4
Fat Steers, Heifers, light weights	3 to 3½
Wethers, best quality, per lb.	3½
Lambs, (70lbs. and upwards)	3½

These quotations are prepared by a reliable victualer.

## A MAN OF HIS WORD.

(Continued.)

One evening, to his amazement, she announced that she had made up her mind to be a Conservative; and, in answer to the indignant queries put to her, explained that, although she knew next to nothing of the principles of political parties, she liked the Tories best because they were not Radicals.

"Thank you for the compliment," growled out Mr. Hobday, who had already listened to several such speeches in good-humored contempt, but whose patience was now fast ebbing away. "You're a dutiful kind of daughter, I must say; and you make a man's home a pleasant place for him."

"You lost a fine opportunity of getting rid of me, papa," observed Josephine, smiling.

"Give me another, and maybe I won't let it slip," returned her father. "I told you before that I'm not particular. Please yourself and you'll please me. As for that young beggar Denno, I wonder you haven't pride enough to drop talking about him, now that he's dropped you."

Then he went away into his study and repented a little of his coarseness—as, indeed, he did more frequently than was generally supposed by those who know him.

The next day, while he was glancing at his newspaper after breakfast, Josephine invaded his solitude, dragging after her the mild Mr. Sampson, who looked dreadfully frightened and bewildered. "Papa," she said, "I have been trying to hit upon some way of doing what you wish, since it seems to me that I am not to be allowed to do what I wish, and I think it would be a good plan for me to marry Mr. Sampson. You want to get rid of me, and Mr. Sampson, I am sure, will be willing to take me to the uttermost ends of the earth, provided that all expenses are paid. You asked me to offer you a son-in-law who was hard-working and didn't give himself airs. Mr. Sampson works hard, when he gets the chance, and cannot be accused of giving himself airs. In short—"

"What is the meaning of this tomfoolery?" interrupted Mr. Hobday, in a stentorian voice. "Sampson, sir, how dare you lend yourself to such disrespectful jokes? Take care, sir—take care! I can make allowances for silly schoolgirls; but hang me if I'll put up with any of *your* impudence!"

"Indeed, sir, I know nothing about it," cried the unhappy man in an agony of alarm. "It was Miss Hobday who brought me in here—very much against my will—and I hadn't an idea of what she was going to say—I wouldn't marry her for the world, I do assure you, sir."

"Of course, if Mr. Sampson deserts me I can say no more," remarked Josephine; "but it is a pity; because I can't think of any one else who would do. The coachman, unfortunately, is married already; and John, the gardener—"

"Get out!" shouted Mr. Hobday, taking two steps towards his secretary, who got out with the utmost precipitation. "As for you, miss," he continued, turning to his daughter, "you had better go up to your room and stay there till you can behave yourself. I never heard of such unladylike conduct!"

"But I always thought you didn't wish me to be a lady, papa," answered Josephine, with an air of innocent surprise. "How difficult it is to give satisfaction!"

This absurd incident discomfited Mr. Hobday greatly. It was not agreeable to him to be turned into ridicule in the presence of his underlings; but that vexed him less than the conviction, forced upon him by repeated experiences, that his daughter was not in the least afraid of him. He did not know how to manage people who were not afraid of him; he began to doubt whether he knew how to manage women at all. With men, however, he flattered himself that he did know how to deal, and there was one man in particular with whom he was resolved that his dealings should be short, sharp, and decisive. Possibly it was in some degree with a view to recovering his shaken self-confidence that he made up his mind to seek at once an interview with Lord Rye which he had long been meditating.

Making his way across the fields by a short cut, he reached Rye Court early enough to find its owner still at breakfast, and was admitted into the dining-room where Lord Rye was munching dry toast and sighing over the morning's batch of correspondence. Lord Rye was a tall, spare old gentleman, with a Roman nose, a clean-shaven and rather long upper-lip, and iron-gray whiskers which met beneath his chin. His forehead showed those three horizontal furrows which are the trace not so much of years as of worry. His eyes, of a greenish-brown color, were deeply sunk under overhanging brows. Probably he was very much astonished at seeing his visitor, but he did not look so. He rose, bowed with grave courtesy, and pointed to a chair.

"Good-morning, Mr. Hobday," he said. "Please sit down."

Mr. Hobday hesitated a little before availing himself of this invitation, but finally decided to do so. He put his hat down upon the table, and, resting his great, coarse hands upon the top of his stick, stared at the old nobleman, not without a certain novel sense of embarrassment and compunction. Something in the atmosphere of the place—in the old-fashioned furniture, in the oak-panelled walls, in the gloom and stillness, and in the vast space—impressed him a little, in spite of all the practical common-sense upon which he so prided himself. Though not in general an imaginative man, he seemed at that moment to realize in himself the embodiment of modern wealth and democracy, and in Lord Rye that survival of ancient feudalism which these are destined inevitably to sweep away, and he could not help thinking it almost a pity that so much grace and dignity should have to disappear from the world. However, he had not come there to

indulge in sentiment, and the sound of his own rasping voice sufficed to harden him once more.

"Lord Rye," he began, "I've got to say some things to you which you won't like, but we can do business in a friendly way if you choose; only I shall speak plainly, because we'd best understand each other."

Lord Rye bowed again, and looked impassive.

"I dare say you are aware," continued Mr. Hobday, "that your cousin, the old lord, was kind to me when I was a boy?"

"I had not heard of it," Lord Rye answered.

"Well, so it was. He didn't do anything very out of the way for me, but he did something, and I've borne it in mind. I'm not a man who leaves his debts unpaid."

"I am sure," said Lord Rye, with laborious politeness, "that my relative would have considered any little assistance that he may have been able to render you amply repaid by the—or—successful use which you have made of your opportunities."

"I don't know why he should," rejoined Mr. Hobday, bluntly. "My getting on in life hasn't done him any good. I say I'm under an obligation to the family, and I'm anxious to discharge it. Such as it is, you know; we musn't overvalue things." He raised his voice a little, so as to dominate that of his interlocutor, who was beginning to say something. "You're feeling pretty sore with me for trying to get this borough out of your hands. Very natural that you should, but there's no help for it. I mean to be member for Stillbourne—always said I would; and I'm a man of my word. It's a whim which I'm ready to pay a handsome price for. Now I'll tell you what I'll do with you, Lord Rye. You shall withdraw all opposition to me in this election, and I'll hand you over Lord Grinstead's acceptances to the value of £20,000 odd to do what you like with. I believe I've bought every scrap of paper that he has out, and I've got the lot in my breast-pocket at this moment."

The offer was not very delicately made, but it might have tempted some men. Lord Rye, who knew that he could not raise £20,000, who had already sold the only portion of his estates that he was entitled to dispose of, and who would have submitted to almost any personal privation rather than that his eldest son should incur what he considered the eternal disgrace of passing through the Bankruptcy Court, felt little emotion except wonder and contempt. He remained silent for a moment or two, casting about him for adequate words, and it was with no intention of being insulting, but in perfect good faith, and even with a touch of pity, that he said at last:

"I don't know whether I can make you understand, Mr. Hobday, that your proposition is one which no man of honor could possibly entertain. Perhaps you have not realized that you are asking me to do nothing less than to sell you a seat in Parliament at the expense of the party to which I have the honor to belong. I am not very well acquainted with the commercial code of morality, but I assure you that these things are not done among gentlemen."

Mr. Hobday was not put out of countenance. "Oh, come!" he said; "I've read a little history, though I don't set up to be an educated man, and I think I've heard of seats in Parliament and votes in Parliament being sold before now. Don't let us have any humbug about it. You're not bound to find a member for the borough. Let the Tories send down another man, and I'll beat him easily enough, provided you don't oppose me. The plain English of it is that you've got to choose between doing as I ask you and something very like ruin. And, mind you, this isn't an offer I'd make to everybody; for I'm by no means sure that I can't win in spite of you."

"Then, my good sir, pray do your best—and your worst," said Lord Rye, getting up. "I am only sorry that you should have thought fit to come here upon such an errand."

He paused, evidently expecting this to be taken as a dismissal by his unwelcome guest, who, however, did not stir. Mr. Hobday, notwithstanding the equivocal bargain to which he was ready to be a party, was an honest man, according to his lights, and respected honesty in others. If he had been able to believe in Lord Rye's sincerity he would not improbably have offered to tear up the terrible acceptances there and then; for he was capable of a generous action, and was so rich that he would hardly have missed the money that he had paid for them. But, upon reflection, he found that he couldn't believe in Lord Rye. He assumed that aggressive manner which was never more conspicuous in him than when he suspected some one of trying to get on his blind side. In a loud voice, and without preface of any kind, he began to make accusations which were quite unintelligible to the subject of them. He begged to say that he was not a fool—he could see through a brick wall as well as other people—if Lord Rye imagined that he (Mr. Hobday) was going to hand over a shilling of his money to any member of the Denno family without having an equivalent for it he was very much mistaken. And then, becoming more explicit—"It won't do, my lord, and that's the long and the short of it. I told your son that I wouldn't support an ornamental idler, and what I've said I stick to. You must find some other way out of the difficulty."

"I may be very dull, Mr. Hobday," said Lord Rye; "but I am afraid I must ask you to tell me what you are talking about."

"Why, I'm talking about your son, Egbert, who came to me a good while ago, wanting me to consent to a marriage between him and my daughter," answered Mr. Hobday, rather sulkily. "Am I to understand that you didn't know of this?"

He turned his sharp, beady eyes incredulously upon Lord Rye, who, for his part, was feeling a little incredulous also.

"I can hardly suppose," said the latter, "that such a proposal can have been seriously made; but, in any case, you acted very properly in refusing to hear of it, Mr. Hobday. I trust that your daughter has not been caused much annoyance by this—this foolishness."



"Well, I don't know about that," Mr. Hobday replied, with a short laugh. "I believe she is rather put out about it. So was your son at first; but he seems to have recovered. Perhaps you have put him on the scent of some other heiress."

"Your extreme discourtesy," answered Lord Rye, coldly, "relieves me of any hesitation in telling you that if I had desired my son to marry an heiress it would have been some one of his own rank in life. I should certainly never have permitted him to make such a match as the one that you mention."

"Well, this does beat everything!" Mr. Hobday exclaimed, in genuine amazement. "Stavely prepared me for something of the kind; but I wouldn't believe him. Here are you, about as hard-up as you can be, and here am I, a man to whom your oldest son owes £20,000—and now you tell me that you wouldn't permit the youngster to marry my daughter, who'll have money enough one of these days to set the whole of you on your legs again! Why, it's downright insanity, you know!"

Lord Rye rather liked this. He had been within an ace of losing his temper the minute before, but now his equanimity was restored, and he answered, smiling for the first time since the beginning of the interview: "I have no doubt, Mr. Hobday, that my ideas upon many subjects would strike you as insane. Your surprise at my preferring some slight pecuniary inconvenience to the sale of my conscience or a mesalliance on the part of my son is probably not unnatural. To tell you the truth, I have as much difficulty in understanding your point of view as you have in understanding mine."

"You're getting upon too high a horse, my lord," returned Mr. Hobday, somewhat nettled. "You can call £20,000 a slight pecuniary inconvenience if you choose; but, hang me, if you shall call my daughter names!"

"I am not aware of having been guilty of such a breach of good manners," answered Lord Rye, still smiling.

"You said 'mesalliance.' Now that's rubbish, you know. It was I, not you, who refused to sanction this match; and, though I don't value a lord above a chimney-sweep myself, I'm bound to say that I don't believe the most prejudiced aristocrat in the kingdom would deny that a girl with my daughter's means is entitled to look for a husband a little higher than the Honorable Egbert."

Lord Rye regretted that he must hold an opposite opinion whereupon Mr. Hobday waxed wroth, and a somewhat animated discussion followed, in the course of which both parties completely lost sight of the original object of the interview. They were only recalled to a sense of the absurdity of the wrangle by the entrance of Egbert, whose astonishment at the sight of his father and the opposition candidate engaged in earnest conversation was equalled only by the embarrassment of the disputants.

Mr. Hobday speedily decamped, only remarking, as he left the room, "Well, my lord, I've made you a fair offer, and you've refused. You'll have yourself to thank for the consequences."

"What in the world brought him here?" asked Egbert, as soon as the door had closed with a slam.

No longer feeling bound to keep up appearances, Lord Rye sank into the nearest chair, and groaned. "That man will bring about my death!" he ejaculated. "What he means by it I can't conceive, for I have never done him an injury, but he himself considers that he is under some obligation to the family. However, he has laid a mine to blow us all up, and I suppose he has gone away now to light the slow-match."

Egbert was then informed of the course pursued by Mr. Hobday in buying up Lord Grinstead's notes of hand, and of the conditions upon which he had declared himself ready to part with these valuable securities. "Naturally," concluded Lord Rye, "I sent him about his business as soon as he would go; but he wouldn't go for some time. And, by the way, that reminds me that he made a curious assertion about you. He said you had actually proposed to his daughter."

"That was quite true," answered Egbert; "and he might have added that he turned me out of his house for my presumption. I don't consider myself beaten yet, though; and I think you'll admit, when you see Miss Hobday, that she is a prize worth striving after."

"When I see her! Do you mean that you are enamoured of this tallow-chandler's daughter, then?" asked Lord Rye, in amazement. "I supposed that, if you had really offered marriage to her at all, it must have been her money."

"Certainly not," interrupted Egbert. "I don't care whether she has a million or a sixpence. If I marry her it will be for her own sake, and for that alone."

Lord Rye's disgust was too deep for words. He could only mutter, "Well, well; I don't know what we are coming to, I'm sure!"

"Grief," answered his son, laconically. "At least, it appears so. I don't know whether you mean to pay up all this money for Grinstead; but, if so, I suppose we shall be pretty well done for. It wasn't from any mercenary motive that I proposed for Miss Hobday; but I should have thought you would have done all you could to back me up, considering how often you have urged me to marry money."

"Not for all the wealth of the Rothschilds," exclaimed Lord Rye, energetically, "would I acknowledge that man as a connection of mine. No!—I can submit to ruin, which seems likely to overtake me through no fault of my own; but I will never consent to disgrace. It is needless for me to threaten you, or to forbid this marriage, for, if you wait until you are earning an independent income, I am perfectly assured that it will not take place."

With that he rose and went out of the room, leaving Egbert to his reflections.

(To be continued.)

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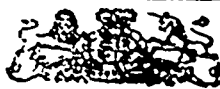
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By order of the Commissioner of Public Works and Mines.

E GILPIN, JR.,  
Inspector of Mines.

Halifax, Dec. 9, 1885.

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100 quarter " } Raisins,  
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200 " Onions,  
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LEATHER & SHOE

FINDINGS!

HALIFAX, N. S.



## MINING.

**MOUNT UNIACKE.**—Work at the Mount Uniacke Mines is going on entirely factually. The quartz, though not remarkably rich in gold, contains a sufficient quantity to pay well, and as it is taken from several leads in a slate belt, a large amount of quartz can be got out at a comparatively small cost.

The report of the discovery of gold at Hilldale has been confirmed, but as yet it is impossible to say much respecting the new find. It has, however, had the effect of reviving the prospecting fever.

**BADDECK.**—A merchant, now retired, writes from Baddeck, C. B., with reference to an article which recently appeared in the *Halifax Chronicle*, respecting "placer-mining" in Nova Scotia. He says that he has sold barrel upon barrel of flour to the farmers in and about Middle River, and that many of them paid for the same in bottled gold dust, which they themselves panned from the gravel and sand-beds near the mouths of the second and third brooks flowing into the River. Practical miners have assured us that in their opinion, placer-mining would pay well in several localities in this Province.

**NEW ROSS.**—We understand that the clay recently discovered at New Ross, by Mr. Keddy, has turned out to be of excellent quality for fire-brick, etc. The manganese discovered at the same place, by Mr. Keddy, is said to be deposited in large quantities; its distance from a port of shipment is, however, a great drawback.

**ENGLISH TOWN.**—The Smith Mountain mine is still there awaiting the upheaving of American capitalists. The present owners have expended over \$2,000 on it, and they are now negotiating with an American company with a view of selling it, and are in a fair way to strike a bargain. The ore in this mine is very rich, and, to all appearance, there is plenty of it, the only thing needed is capital to develop it.—*Island Reporter*.

As the manufacture of iron is attracting a good deal of attention at the present time in Pictou and Cape Breton Counties, we subjoin some extracts from a paper on the subject by Mr. J. Bartlett. The extracts refer to what has been done in that way in Nova Scotia:

**ACADIA IRON WORKS.**—We now come to the most important iron works of the Dominion, viz., those at Londonderry. The great vein of the Acadian Mines was discovered by the late Mr. G. Duncan, of Truro. In 1844, Dr. Gresner, and in 1846, Mr., now Sir Wm Dawson, visited and reported on the iron deposits in the Cobequid Hills; and again in 1849, Sir William Dawson, this time in conjunction with Mr. J. L. Hayes, of Portsmouth, N. H., went over the ground, and their report made to Mr. Charles D. Archibald, of London, resulted in the property being developed, and a charcoal blast furnace, with the necessary buildings, being built in 1853 by the Acadia Mining Company. In 1850, a Catalan forgo was put up, and a small quantity of bar-iron made, but this was discontinued, when the furnace was put in blast. The charcoal blast furnace, which was built in 1853, continued in blast till 1874, and it is estimated produced about forty-five thousand tons of pig-iron.

In October, 1873, the Acadia iron mines were purchased by the Steel Company of Canada (Limited). In the previous year, Dr. A. R. C. Selwyn, F. G. S., Director of the Geological Survey of Canada, made a report on the Acadia iron ore deposits.

The property consisted of 55 square miles of freehold land, with all the mines and minerals. Dr. Siemens was the chairman of the company, and they proposed to work the main bulk of the ore by Siemens' direct process for the production of iron and steel. Two of the furnaces were rotators, specially designed for the work, 9 feet in diameter, and 8 feet long, and were revolved by machinery, others were afterwards built 7 feet in diameter by 10 feet long.

About two and-a-half million dollars were spent in opening the mines, building tramways, furnaces, a rolling mill, coke ovens, etc., and in 1877, over 10,000 tons of pig-iron were produced, and the amount has been increased every year since.

Although the works were built with a view to the manufacture of both cast and spring steel of the very finest description, this was not carried on for any length of time, and a large portion of the plant has since been discarded. Probably, the sudden stoppage of the proposed construction of the Canadian Pacific Railway by Sir Hugh Allan, made a change in the product necessary, and the company never made any steel rails, but turned its attention to bar iron, nail-plate, car axles, car-wheels, castings, and pig-iron. The brand is "Siemens," and the quality of their products is the very best.

Like all pioneer enterprises, they have had a great many difficulties to contend against, and it is to be much regretted that the company is now in liquidation, and its property is for sale. They advertise that their works consist of "two modern blast-furnaces, 19 feet bosh, 65 feet high, with Siemens, Cowper & Ford's patent hot-blast stoves, spacious stock-houses and all necessary tracks and rolling-stock, 67 bee-hive coke ovens, puddling forgo and rolling mill, including car-axle plant, capable of manufacturing 10,000 tons of iron per annum, a car-wheel foundry of a capacity of 100 wheels per day, machine, pattern and carpenters' shops, dwellings, etc.—*Trades Journal*.

Lead mining began in Missouri in 1720, while that country belonged to Franco.

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Supplies for Gold Miners,

Including Explosives, Steel, Candles, Shovels, Picks, etc., etc.

Supplies for Coal Miners,

Including Metals, Powder, Riddles, Lamps, Oils, etc., etc.

Supplies for Millers,

Including Rubber and Leather Belting, Lace Leather, Saws, Files, etc., etc.

Supplies for Metal Workers,

Including Tin Plates, Sheet Iron, Lead, Zinc, etc., etc.

Supplies for Builders,

Including Nails, Glass, Paints, and an extensive assortment of Locks, Knobs, etc.

Supplies for Fishermen,

Including Nets, Lines, Twines, Hooks, etc., etc.

Supplies for Country Merchants,

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Boilers Engines and Machinery,	Gage Glasses, Steam Gages,
Bolts and Nuts,	Hand Grenades,
Bells for Churches, Fire Alarm, etc.,	Hose, Rubber, Linen, Cotton, etc.,
Beating Rubber and Leather,	Injectors Inspirators,
Brass Valves, Fittings, etc.,	Shovels, ALL STEEL,
Emery Wheels,	STEEL Black Diamond,
Oilers, Lubricators, etc.,	Scales, Saws, Files,
OILS of all descriptions,	Safety Lamps and Fittings,
Pumps, Steam and Hand,	Wastes, Wrenches,
Packings and Caskets,	Wire Ropes and Scissors,
Piping and Fittings,	Water Wheels,
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Best Salmon Twine,	Seal Twine, twisted,
Patent Top'd Salmon Twine,	Seal Srawl, do
Salmon Trawl Twine	Mackerel Twine,
Trawl Twines,	Caplin Twines,
Mullet Twines,	Herring Twines,
Net Norsels,	Net Marline,
Cotton Nets,	Hemp Nets.

MULLET SEINE NETTING; ENGLISH SEINE NETTING.

BUCHANAN'S Hand Line and Trawl Hooks  
THE DART MOUTH ROPE WORK CO'S Pure Manilla Rope, Sisal Rope, MM  
Manilla Rope, Hemp Rope, Lobster Marline, etc., etc

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**MINING—Continued.**

The value of the gold, silver, copper and lead produced by the mines of Montana for 1884 was \$16,293,000. The yield for last year will be far in excess of those figures.

From 1638 to 1828 the mines of Cerro de Pasco, Peru, are said to have produced nearly seventy-two thousand tons of silver.

A new steel-making process has been discovered at Pittsburg, by which it is claimed that the quality of Bessemer steel can be made equal to that of crucible steel at about one tenth the cost.

Baron von Richthofen, one of the greatest of geologists, who has explored fourteen of the nineteen provinces of China (every one of which contains more or less coal,) reports in the province of Chan-si a coal field of 14,000 square miles, containing 730,000,000,000 tons of coal.

The lead mines of England are ceasing to pay. Within a few years 169 mines have been closed and 30,000 men thrown out of employment.

ALASKA.—At the Lucky Chance a shaft is down twenty-five feet, from which a drift has been driven thirty feet in quartz which is very rich in free gold—the gangue, which is of a clayey nature, being especially so. The vein, which is over five feet in width at the bottom of the shaft, having widened out to that extent from only six inches on the surface, has talcose slate on the foot-wall side.

The Cleveland shows some fine nuggets of free gold, and carries the sulphurets in great abundance. The ledge lies in the slate formation, and a drift into the hill shows a vein over five feet in width, with every indication that it will rapidly widen in going down.

The Free Gold quartz lode is six feet wide, so far as known. The vein is a porphyritic quartz, and shows equally as rich as the Cleveland.

The Shamogue is a vein of red and rose-colored quartz, with blue ribbon, very rich in free gold and black sulphurets, and about five feet wide.

The Bullion is from one to eight feet wide on the surface, and outcrops for a length of over 760 feet. Specimens taken from this ledge show free gold to the native eye. The quartz is very similar to that of the Eureka mine, in Grass Valley, Nevada. It carries, also, an abundance of sulphurets.

The Haley & Son's placer claim extends south-east from the Lucky Chance shaft, and the ground prospects exceedingly well.—*The Alaskan.*

MORE GOLD FIELDS.—The Chinese, having recently found gold in their territory bordering on the Amoor river, have put several thousand men at work on the new diggings. Now comes the news that the French have discovered gold in paying quantities in Madagascar. No special sensation has been caused by the latter announcement, although some \$7,000 or \$8,000 has been received as the first results of the discovery. The gold is in the mountains which lie in the territory of the Hovas, with whom the French are carrying on a kind of a skirmishing war, which, however, will no doubt be put an end to if the gold discoveries are as extensive as supposed.

The Granite Iron Rolling Mills of the St. Louis Stamping Company received 600 tons of soft steel from Germany last week for the manufacture of steel sheets.

Another steel-making process is called the Besley process, and is conducted in an ordinary puddling furnace. The steel shows a breaking strain of twenty-four tons to the inch.

During the last ten years the output of pig iron in Russia has remained stationary at about 300,000 tons yearly.

A process has been discovered by which castings of iron and steel could be produced which would have all the properties of wrought metal.

The first patent on record for chains was taken out in 1634; but it was not until the commencement of the present century that they came into general use for cables.

The first few tons of Bessemer steel ever produced in Spain were successfully made recently at the new steel works in Baracado.

The Comox section is the only oil-producing territory that has been brought to light in Vancouver's Island.

The recent discovery of crude petroleum in Vancouver's Island has had the effect of stimulating prospecting in localities in which it was supposed these beds existed.

A project for investigating the petroleum resources of Italy has been formed.

Austria is the only country, at present, taking oil from Russia in competition with the United States.

Last year the yield of the German copper mines was estimated at 14,780 tons.


**R. WALLACE**  
**GOLD AND SILVER WATCHES,**  
**SEWING MACHINES.**  
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 Reports written  
 Address by letter or telegram—  
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 MANUFACTURERS OF  
 Bread,  
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 Fruit Syrups, etc., etc.  
 Salesroom - 128, 130 and 132 Argyle Street,  
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 Agency of Department of Marine.  
 HALIFAX, N. S., Dec. 26th, 1885.  
**NOTICE TO MARINERS.**  
**LIVERPOOL AUTOMATIC BUOY**  
 NOTICE is hereby given, that the Automatic Whistling Buoy off Liverpool, Queen's County, N. S., discontinued since the 8th November, 1884, has been replaced.  
**H. W. JOHNSTON,**  
 Agents.

**READY FOR CHRISTMAS!**  
 New Valencia and Extra Quality Table  
**RAISINS,**  
 Fresh Currants, English Mixed and other  
 Pure Spices, Assorted Essences,  
 Carolina and E. India Rice.  
 Best Golden Syrup and Bright Molasses, Large  
 Fresh Figs and Jordan Almonds Assorted Nuts,  
 French Prunes, and every kind of Preserved  
 Fruits  
**Fancy and General Groceries**  
 suitable for the coming Holidays. For sale at the  
**Army and Navy Depot,**  
**JAMES SCOTT & CO.**

**PRICES REDUCED**  
 AT THE  
**Nova Scotia Steam Laundry,**  
 No. 9 Blowers Street,  
 HALIFAX, N. S.  
**JOHN A. POND --- Proprietor.**  
 Shirts, 10 Cents.  
 Shirts, with Collars, 12 Cents.  
 Cuffs, 4 Cents.  
 Collars, 2 Cents.

**DUMARESQ & MOTT,**  
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 all makes.  
**FANCY WOOL CLOVES,**  
 Scarfs and Ties, Silk and Cashmere  
 Mufflers, Silk Umbrellas, Studs and  
 Scarf Pins, and a variety of goods  
 for Gents' wear, at

**FREEMAN ELLIOT'S,**  
 Opposite Halifax Club.  
**THE ANGLO-AMERICAN**  
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 HALIFAX, N. S.,  
 Manufacturers of Waterproof Clothing in all  
 styles Horse Covers, Suits for Miners, Fishermen  
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 Office and Warerooms,  
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 Orders by Mail will receive prompt attention  
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**R FLEMING,**  
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 WINDSOR, N. S.

[FOR THE CRITIC.]  
AGRICULTURE.

## RUFUS RUSTIC—NOTES BY THE WAY.

The quantity of fruit grown in Nova Scotia in the apple line is something enormous, if individual statements, flashing editorials, with a sprinkling of local brag, is a criterion. Also the list of varieties that adorn the spray is a longitudinal sequence. Out of the 999 different kinds under cultivation, only 12 are mentioned as the best and most profitable orchard apples. The *Omega* of the best is "Ben Davis," with its multitude of synonyms. It would be a pleasing incident to learn the name of the worst on the list. A slight discussion arose in regard to the merits of "Ben." The Pro's referred to some two-year old specimens to establish its reputation as a long-keeper. Its color was a favorable market characteristic, and in size and outline a desirable dessert fruit. The Con's did not question its keeping qualities; they said there was nothing in it to spoil or fit to eat, that it hadn't flavour enough to attract an apple-moth, that it sold well where fruit was not known, and since the C. P. Railway had become an accomplished fact suggested the markets of Alaska. Ben Davis was skimmed over with the remarks that it was not in accord with the refined Nova Scotia palate, that an apple with a plethora of aliases was suspicious, and like an Indian dog no one disposed to acknowledge the quadruped.

Some objections were raised to a further extension of orchards. The profit on fruit not being adequate to the out-lay, the quantity exceeding the demand even in years of low average. That in years of plenty, as a farm product, there is no profit in it. Instances were cited where orchards have paid well, that intelligent handling will in most cases give good returns. The extension of markets, the improved methods of evaporating and preserving should be an inducement to farmers to look sharp after their trees, that the time is past for two-cont views. Tree peddlers and nursery men were keel-hauled by the splenic evaporations they had paid for plants, that when they came to maturity were incumbors of the ground, they deplored their ignorance and were determined "to keep an eye to windward next hitch." The jargon was rounded off with something like, "With all thy faults I love thee still." In the giving of orders for trees the Wandering Jews who furnished the stock were usually allowed to be authority for the recommendation of suitable sorts. By that fortuitous method of doing business many orchards have trees the fruit of which is worthless for market purposes.

The question what to do with them is not easy of solution. So many essential conditions of a variable and complicated type are involved that a practical and decisive answer would require to be deciphered by accurate data. Raking together some fallen leaves, it appears evident that autumn fruits are much in excess of the wants of recent available markets. In this class are some really good kinds, many of the trees are well established and quite hardy, but from some unaccountable causes, either faulty cultivation or unnatural conditions, are not remunerative. It is somewhat paradoxical to hear practical fruit-growers denounce varieties which have been generally considered first-class and threaten annihilation because they fail to give satisfaction. Some trees fail from over-bearing, and if the habit is encouraged they fail unexpectedly; the easiest remedy is thinning, if that is objectionable, annihilate the one-half in fruit, buds, twigs, and spray.

With some it is a habit to denounce tree peddlers, and award to that class of persons a large portion of blame for introducing unsuitable varieties. No doubt some have been taken in, others disappointed in their orders, but for all that tree agents are liberally patronized. How many trees would have been planted or orchards set out had it not been for imported trees. The few nursery men in the country were not in a position to supply a tithe of the required stock. The adage that a home prophet is without honour will scarcely apply, as there is a pretty general feeling to patronize home grown trees, they being easier of access and considered better adapted to the climate. If we examine the matter candidly, perhaps we shall find that a full share of the disappointment may be attributed to our want of tact.

What shall be done with these unprofitable trees; cut them down and make fire-wood or graft them with *strictly prime* fruit? Under existing circumstances the latter is preferable. The destruction of 15 or 20 years growth would be too great a sacrifice. With care healthy stocks top grafted with varieties durable and in demand will, in four seasons, be productive trees. In an effort to alter the bearing habit of a tree some special knowledge will be necessary. Cutting off much top endangers the life of the trees. A medium course will afford the scion a sufficient healthy growth. The location, the characteristics of the tree, and reputation of the desired fruit are connections requiring due consideration. There is a salutary adage, "Who so keepeth the fig tree shall eat the fruit thereof." There are several ways of doing things, and the right way is as good as any. Work well planned is half done especially if spread over a series of years. When fruit growers who have grown old in the business declare an intention to graft out their Baldwins, as being unprofitable, to curtail their Gravenstien trees two-thirds, that the old standard Rhode Island Greening is unsatisfactory; that the Bishop Pippin, alias Yellow Bellflower, is getting demoralized. That Esopus Spitzenburg is blotched with small-pox, and other varieties of doubtful nomenclature are to walk the plank. When such lunatics are fertile themes of discourse, it is time to say "good-night."

**WHITE SPECKS IN BUTTER.**—A correspondent would like to know what causes little white specks in buttermilk or butter when it has just been churned.

Answer: The cream has been allowed to stand too long before churning, causing the milk mixed with it to get into small hard flakes.

**E. J. POWER, NEW ACADIAN HOTEL.**  
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Infants' Robes, with Bonnet, \$2.25.

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Children's Dresses, Tires, Pinafores, Aprons,  
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630 Sacks Cracked Corn.  
132 Tons Bran and Shorts.  
16 Tons Middlings.  
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200 Hams, just smoked.  
25 Puns Good Molasses.  
20 Bbls. Halifax Sugar.  
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Every description of W. I. Produce always on  
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Consignments and Orders solicited. Goods ship-  
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fertilizer is now shipped, unscreened, at \$25,  
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Canso. Orders for next season are booked  
from this date at Halifax, No. 67 Hollis  
Street. One ton of this Guano spread broad-  
cast on a field with a sowing drill or other-  
wise, is equal in effect to fifty tons of common  
lobster waste as now used, but has no perni-  
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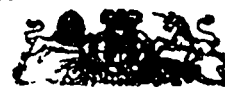
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**Welland Canal Enlargement**

Notice to Contractors.

SEALED TENDERS addressed to the under-  
signed, and endorsed "Tender for the Welland  
Canal," will be received at this office, until the  
arrival of the Eastern and Western mails on MON-  
DAY, the 23rd day of JANUARY next (1886), for  
raising the walls of the locks, weirs, &c., and  
increasing the height of the banks of that part of  
the Welland Canal between Dalhousie and Thor-  
old, and for deepening the Summit Level between  
Thorold and Ramsey's Bend, near Humberston

The works, throughout, will be let in Sections  
Maps of the several localities, together with  
plans and descriptive specifications, can be seen at  
this office on and after MONDAY, the 11th day of  
JANUARY next (1886), where printed forms of  
tender can be obtained. A like class of informa-  
tion relative to the works north of Allansburg will  
be furnished at the Resident Engineer's Office,  
THOROLD; and for works south of Allansburg,  
plans, specifications, &c. may be seen at the Resi-  
dent Engineer's Office, WELLAND.

Contractors are requested to bear in mind that  
tenders will not be considered unless made strictly  
in accordance with the printed forms, and, in the  
case of firms, except there are attached the actual  
signatures, the nature of the occupation and place  
of residence of each member of the same; and  
further, an accepted bank cheque for the sum of  
Two THOUSAND DOLLARS or more—according to  
the extent of the work on the section—must accom-  
pany the respective tenders, which sum shall be  
forfeited if the party tendering declines entering  
into contract for the works, at the rates stated in  
the offer submitted.

The amount required in each case will be stated  
on the form of tender.  
The cheque or money thus sent in will be returned  
to the respective parties whose tenders are not  
accepted.

This Department does not, however, bind itself  
to accept the lowest or any tender.

By order,  
A. P. BRADLEY,  
Secretary.

Department of Railways and Canals,  
Ottawa, 9th December, 1885.

**APPLES! APPLES!**

250 bbls. Assorted APPLES, at lowest  
Wholesale Rates

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which we are disposing of at outrageously low prices, also a line of

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ONE CARLOAD

**Rattan Furniture**

just received. New Designs in Easy and Rocking Chairs, Children's Chairs, Tables, Work Baskets, Wall Pockets, Brackets, etc.

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