CORONERS.

The Final Issue of the Undue Haste In-"Medical Examiner."

HALIFAX, March 14.—The coroner has been legislated out of the city of Halifax. It was the only way to get clear of a highly objectionable, not to say expensive official. In his scramble after the dead, by the Halifax coroner as a class, disgrace was brought upon the ancient office, and scandal fell upon the city. 'Tis true, all our city coroners were not of this hustling, "grasping" sort, but those who were could not be reformed or curbed. The innocent coroner had in a measure to suffer with the guilty coroner. So the legislature has stepped in and enacted that henceforth in the city of Halitax and town of Dartmouth there shall be no more coroners. Their usefulness is gone-gone since the time when the coroner's only object in holding his quest seemed to be to pocket the \$7 profits accruing to him for his alleged work.

It is noteworthy that it is only here in the capital that the coroner is swept away. Elsewhere in the province he still exists. The reason of that is that it was only in Halifax that the coroner as a class abused his office and disgraced himself.

Here in place of the coroner there has been created a new office-one only for the city and Dartmoutb, so that there will be oneof the old-time rivalry and competition for cases. The new official is called the "medical examiner." All cases of sudden death, where no physician is prepared to give a certificate of the cause of death, will come under his supervision. When such deaths occur, or when fatal accidents happen which may be the canse of carelessness, etc., or where foul play is suspected, the medical examiner will be notified. He will investigate and if everything is all right, will grant a certificate of the cause of death. For this he will be paid a fee of \$4. In case an autopsy is deemed by him to be necessary, it will be made, and an additional fee of \$8 will be payable by the municipality. Supposing that the result of the medical examiner's work convinces him that wrong doing of any kind has unlawfully caused death, or if he thinks such may have been the case, then the medical examiner is to hand his evidence over to the stipendiary magistrate, who shall find it his duty forthwith to hold

Three objects are gained by this change. Competition for dead bodies is prevented, farcical coroner's juries will be seen no more, and economy will be secured. It is estimated that the new system will not cost more than \$200 or \$300 per year, while the old took \$800 or \$900 out of the taxpayers' pockets.

"Who shall be "medical examiner?" It is easy to say who shall not be, and the provincial government will probably not find it a hard matter to say who shall be. The new official shall not be any of those coronors who under the old system "made haste to be rich" out of the fees of ill-gotten inquests, or out of legitimate inquests they rushed with unseemly speed to hold.

The chances are that the office will be given to ex-coroner W. D. Finn, a young man who never abused his office. No one ever accused him of rushing after a dead body. His good work was the only redeeming feature of a system which was discredited by other men who had its administration in their hands. Dr. Finn has the experience required; he has all the abilities necessary; he is on the right side of politics, being an enthusiastic liberal; and he is a popular physician. The chances are ten to one that Premier Fielding will make Dr. Finn medical examiner for Halitax and Dartmouth.

A QUEER WAY OF JUDGING.

Depending on the Reports of Half a Doz-

en D. A. G.'s. HALIFAX, March 14.—The 63rd rifles are in high teather because they have been given first place in the efficiency returns over another Canadian city corps of militia. D. A. G. Irving has given them a standing of 143.73 points compared with 142.75 for their great rivals, the 66th P. L. F. This is a decided victory for the rifles, after all, the talk of increased establishment and that sort of thing in the fusiliers. The 63rd feel their success all the more because there is friction between their officers and their commanding officer, or rather the old trouble still exists. And yet the 63rd are not satisfied, for the officers claim that their real superiority over the 66th is not represented by a difference of about one point, but that they are forty points oetter, as one of the 63rd remarked when the news first came of the efficiency returns. But a change from second to first place ought to be sufficient reward for one year's work, even to such a proud battalion as the 63rd Halifax rifles.

The 62nd battalion of St. John are eredited with only 125.50 points. That may or may not be all they deserve, but how absurd it is that battalions all over Canada should compete for efficiency standing on the reports of half a dozen D. A. G's, each of whom has a different standard of merit. There is absolutely acts to the best of his ability and is 'as ed up.

EX-CORONERS UNHAPPY possible, every one knows that their standards ideas cannot but vary. It is BECAUSE THEY ARE NO LONGER pure nonsense to compare the efficiency of a New Brunswick or Outario battalion, bised on reports of D. A. G.'s in those dulged in by a Hallfax Coroner Last districts, with the efficiency of Nova Year-There is a New Office, That of Stotia battalions based on the report of the D. A. G.'s of this province.

A Surprising Change.

HALIFAX, March 14.—The provincial rifle association of Nova Scotia made a surprising change in leaving off from the council one who has for years been upon it, and who has been the efficient secretary, Major B. A. Weston. A man must be popular with his comrades to secure some offices, and this is one of them. Major Weston's ability gained for him the place year after year, but in the absence latterly of the requisite amount of "popularity," he has this year been left in the ranks. His successor is Captain Adams, H. J. A., who will have a chance the coming season to show his metal. Members of the P. R. A. council anticipate good shooting this aeason with Colonel C. J. Macdonald as president of the P. R. A., and Captain Adams secretary- treasurer, a good record should be made.

WOMEN ARE PERSISTENT. A Reply to "Sorosis" Charge That Women

are not Persistent. It has been declared by some one who has, or who professes to have watched the career of the modern woman, that she is not persistent enough. The masculine element of the human race—that is the modern masculine element-will hardly endorse this assertion, when the matter is viewed from a purely modern standpoint. Nor is ancient history wanting in proof that when once "lovely woman" has made up her mind to carry out some particular project its failure, if failure followed, was not due to want of persistency; inconsistency may have had something to do with the matter, but want of persistency-never. Indeed she has clearly proven that the opposite only is true, and it should be the more readily conceded by modern man, because with the most wonderful courage, in the face of adverse public criticism, she has achieved successes in arenas where for centuries man has held undisputed sway. To decide whether this be her proper sphere is not the object of this article, as upon that subject opinion must ever be divided.

In many countries she has now the political privilege, if privilege she esteem it, hitherto enjoyed by man alone. It might be remarked en passant that if her aspirations in this direction alone, were but a passing fancy of the hour, unsupported by persistency, courage, ambition or whatever term one may prefer, she would long ago have given up the fight as worse than useless. If in the field political face to be able to seize a troll dragged she has shown a persistence which has been | along at a speed of three or four miles an so effective, there is scarcely any need mentioning other battle fields where her success has been equally great and the victories there achieved, surely have not been the result of chance, but rather of patient persistent effort. With scarcely anything in her favor she has quietly gone to work and now in this nineteenth century, where is she not? The hitherto closely guarded university doors are thrown open at her approach; legislative halls echo the music of her voice; even St. Paul's caution, "Let the women keep silence in the churches" has been disre. garded and feminine draperies adorn even

But it were useless to further enumerate the various fields where laurels have been won after many years of thought and work. Were the person, whose remarks I have taken exception to, to bring forward any charge against womankind, except that of not being persistent enough, I would certainly hold my peace, but I think the majority of male readers will agree with me that persistency is a woman's strongpoint, whether be directed towards the minor details of every day life, or the greater and more important matters.

Prescribing for a Dead Man.

A medical student, having failed to pass in London for his utter ignorance of every branch of medicine, went to a city in another part of Great Britain in his endeavor to obtain the coveted diploma. Having ascertained the names the examiners, he entered as a student in their respective classes about a month before the examination in medical jurisprudence. The examiner -a Scotchman-propounded the fol-

"You are sent for, sir, to a patient four miles distant, whom you are informed has swallowed an ounce prussic acid. Tell me

pect to find him "looking pale and faint." "And what would you do for him?" "If I had no antidote with me, I would

scrape some whiting from the ceiling and give it to him in water." the examiner.

"Yes, I think he would." be deid an hour before ye got there!" was for one of them.

the crushing rejoinder. Scarcity of Water in Venice.

In Venice water is something of a luxupon the rains. There is no company for means of which a number of scenes could ing and domestic uses is collected in sub- machinery be substituted one for the other, terranean reservoirs, where it is said to be thus doing away with the necessity for filtered. It is doled out at the public stage waits. Something of the same kind nothing of value in such a comparison of merit. While each —D. A. G. doubtless that purpose, and then are carefully lock-ported by M. Juleppi, and it is to be tried at the purpose, and then are carefully lock-ported by M. Juleppi, and it is to be tried at the Porte St. Martin. At this theatre a N. B.

TALES OF MAINE FISHERMEN. Fish in Strange Places-A Duck Caught by a Clam-Eels Ashore.

It sometimes has happened that in some pond or river of Maine a fish has been caught that is the only specimen of its kind ever taken from those particular waters. The question naturally arises, how did this lone fish get there? Thus, in Little Bear Pond, which discharges its overflow into Sebec Lake through a precipitous rocky channel, usually dry and impassable for fish to ascend at any season, a fisherman named Blood, about forty years ago, caught a ten-pound trout of the variety known as togue, or laker, the only one ever caught there before or since. There are no togue in Sebec Lake, and the only way that the presence of this fish in the tributary pond was accounted for by the local fishermen was that it had dropped from the talons of a fish-hawk that had captured it in Long Pond several miles away, where togue abound.

Another instance of the way in which a curious transpartation of the shellfish may take place through the agency of aquatic birds was observed by Eugene Barry of Lynn, while hunting water fowl about Sebec Lake. He was accustomed to station himself at a certain point on the shore to get a shot on the wing at a flock of ducks which flew up the lake in the morning and back at night. For several days he noticed that one duck flew lower than the rest and lagged behind. This duck he at last shot. When he came to examine his trophy, he discovered the cause of its difficulty in flying. A clam had closed its shell on the leg of the bird and refused to let go. and had been borne back and torth between widely separated parts of the lake by the unwilling bird. So long and so fast had the clam been attached to the duck's leg that the sharp-edged shells had nearly

severed the limb. Jerry Cross, once of Sebec, a tamous angler and teller of fish stories, now dead, used to tell how one day he was chopping in the woods in company with another man in a place remote from water. A fish-hawk, sailing overhead with a trout in its talons, lets the fish fall directly at Jerry's feet, where it landed, still alive and flopping, upon the dry ground. The wonder and observed the hawk, was great, and Jerry affirmed that to the end of his lifetime, the man never could get it into his head how that trout came to be there.

"Did you ever hear of catching an eel by trolling?" said Capt. Frank A. Jordan of the steam launch Frolic on Sebec Lake in Maie. "I have taken two in that way in this lake while trolling for land-locked salmon. You think of an eel, you know, as living always in the mud and finding his food on the bottom, but these rose to a minnow bait in deep parts of the lake. You know that is the kind of water we troll in for salmon. The first eel, weighing three pounds, was taken at the surface in water fifty or six'y feet deep; the second, weighing two and a quarter pounds, was similarly caught in water 130 feet deep. They must have been lying near the sur-

"Speaking of the eels of Sebec Lake, they go from the lake up the stream in the spring and return in the autumn. I mean that many of them do. There are always plenty of them left in the lake, as every isherman who sinks for salmon is pretty sure to find out. It is a sight to see them go up over Greely Falls in the Wilson stream. The water rushes down over the rock through a narrow opening in the ledges, with ten times the force of a mill race, and the current is a stronger one than the eels care to fight egainst in getting up the stream. So they take to the rocky sides and work up along them, in or out of the water as may happen like

It's a sight to see them climbing up the perpendicular face of the smooth, high ledge, but they do it, and get on the smoother waters above. Over at Ship Pond stream, at the rips, men come every autumn and catch eels to ship to the Boston markets. They use the empty flour barrels to put them in and as fast as the barrels are filled with eels they head them up and send them to Boston. The eels are put into the barrels as fast as they are caught, and the fishermen say they arrive in Boston alive and squirming.

"There's another thing about eels that perhaps you don't know, and that is they come ashore by night in low wet lands, to hunt for food I suppose. In the meadows back of my farm in Bowerbank I have often found them working about in the long grass of a morning after rain or a heavy dew, at a considerable distance from water, and their trail showed that they had been inland further still. I have heard that the salt water eels in the creeks and inlets of Long Island have this habit of making overland expeditions, and I suppose eels do the same thing in many other local-

They Illustrate Their Letters.

A bright family have invented a peculiar when separated. They call the result illustrated letters. They use large sheets of paper and write what they wish to say ow you would expect to find bim!" paper and write what they wish to say
The candidate replied that he would expasting on, as they go on, pictures which they cut from papers, etc., to illustrate their news, or to comment upon it. They sometimes find sentences, or words, in print that may be used with telling effect. "And d'ye think he'd recover?" queried (Altogether, the recipient of one of these epistles is always vastly amused by it. The children of the family find employment "Hoot upon ye, ye blatherin' fule. He'd and endless fun in getting materials ready

A Revolving Stage.

Nothing seems to have come on this side of the Atlantic at all events, of Mr. Steele ury, as the inhabitants have to depend | Mackay's plan of a revolving stage, by supplying the city. The water for drink- be laid at once, and by a mere turning of

drama of the reign of Louis XVI., on the subject of the famous Queen's necklace, is at present being played, and scenic accessories play an important part in it. There are no fewer than thirteen elaborate set scenes, and M. Juleppi, it is claimed has contrived so that there need be no necessity for dropping the curtain during the whole of the representation. M. Rochard, the manager of the theatre, has invited all the members of the Municipal Council to see a performance of the play, at which the new device will be employed.

A Reporter's Dilemma. Bailie X-, the worthy dispenser of justice at a police court in a Scottish city, loves not the newspaper reporter, and once he detects him amongst his auditors he is very guarded in his deliverances. At the petty division recently, his honor's eye got focussed on a well-known local pressman. whose great forte is little gossipy paragraphs. Pointing a significant finger at nm, the bailie ejaculated from his box-"Noo, my man, I see ye fine trae here; but. fegs! ve'll get naething frae me, I can tell ye. Ye'll need tae mak' it oot o' yer beid!"

New Dangers for the Belated.

French footpads have discovered a new weapon for assulting travellers at night. It is a hollow gutta-percha cudgel, which has the advantage over the old-time saudbags or loaded stick of inflicting an equally effectual blow without producing any visible wound. Consequently, the belated wanderer who has been robbed finds it difficult to persuade the authorities that his tale is a true one, since he can produce no evidence of having been struck.

Head and Chest, Cough, Sore Throat, General

Keep your feet dry and if you catch cold take Seventy-Seven.

Grip usually attacks a person whose system is weakened by some other disease and accelerates amazement of his companion, who had not that disease. Everybody appears to be troubled with a Cold or Catarrhal affection at this season of the year, and the only thing to do is to take "77" at the first appearance of the mulady and avoid ex-

> The atmospheric condition and the wet sidewalks and stree's are extremely conducive to such affections, and you cannot be too careful about keeping your feet dry.
> "77" will "break up" a stubborn cold that "hangs The praises of Dr. Humphreys' Specifics are on every tongue and sound like.

Miracles.

Fred rick Carr, Esq., Geologist, 145 East 16th St., New York, formerly of Montana, writes; "The change from the high altitude of the Rocky Mountains made me an easy victim of GRIP. I had intense fever; bad cough; pairs everywhere. 'Twas then I commenced taking '77,' and the results have been extremely satisfactory, beneficial and wonder-tul. After ten hours I felt great relier, and the second bottle cured me."

C. S. Bascom, Southampton, Mass, writes: "I have used your Specifics for many years and value them highly. Your "77" for GRIP is a marvel. It has just carried us through SEVERE COLDS, or s most people would say, 'Grip.'
H. J. Gude, Duluth Minn., writes: "Have been using your Specifics in my family for the past three years, and with the greatest success. Your No. 1 Specific for FEVERS is a perfect wonder."
S. T. Nict olson, Raleigh. N. C., writes: "Your No. 10 Specific for DYSPEP-IA has done won-

ders for me. I have gained eleven pounds in ten F. W. Burdick, Chleago, writes: "I am using my third bottle of your Specific No. 10 for DYSPEP-SIA, and I feel better since I have been using it

SIA, and I feel better since I have been using it than I have before in a year."

Thos. Foster, New Bedford, Mass., writes: "I used your Specific No. 15 for RHEUMATISM and it has made a new man of me. I was so bad that I could not get up or down stairs, but thanks to you and your grand medicines, after taking two bottles I could go about my work as well as ever. It has been a God-send to me, and I shall never be without it."

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MEDICAL BOOK. A copy of Dr. Hum-phreys' Specific Manual of all diseases mailed free Humphreys' Specifics are put up in small bottles of plea ant pellets, 25c. each, or flask to fit the t'e pocket, holding six times as much, for \$1.00. Sold by all druggists or sent prepaid upon receipt of price. HUMPHREYS' MEDICINE COMPANY, cor. William and John Sts., New Yerk.

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