

## NEWS OF THE WEEK.

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NOTICE TO CONTRIBUTORS.—As we not infrequently receive contributions which are either not up to our mark, or not of sufficient interest to warrant insertion, contributors who desire the return of their manuscripts in case of rejection, must enclose with them stamps sufficient for that purpose.

Small-pox is reported in Toronto, and typhoid fever of a malignant type in Kingston.

The Provincial Fair at Truro was opened by the Lt.-Governor on Tuesday with a good practical speech.

There are now settled in the Dominion over 8,000 Icelandic immigrants. 1,100 of these hardy sons of the soil arrived during the past season.

The St. John *Progress* thinks that Halifax papers in their remarks on the recent base ball match, might be able to "give valuable points to Sodom and Gomorrah."

Mr. Bowell, it is said, sticks to his duty on peach-baskets. It does not become Canada very well to follow suit, because the United States chose to do a petty thing in lobster cans.

Morrison, the Megantic murderer, is, to the disgrace of the police, still at large, and, it is said, takes but little trouble to keep out of harm's way. They seem to be thoroughly afraid of him.

The Colonel's inspection of the 66th P. L. F. took place in the drill yard on Tuesday evening. The prizes won at the Battalion shooting competitions at Bedford Range were presented by Colonel McDonald.

The mounted sword contests between Sergt.-Major Bailey and Duncan C. Ross takes place this afternoon, commencing at 3.30 o'clock, on the riding ground. A close and exciting contest is expected.

The case of Phillipine and Trafton, held for the murder of Mrs. Howie, on the Tobique River, N. B., was before the Grand Jury on Tuesday. The Grand Jury adjourned until Wednesday, without finding a bill, which caused some excitement.

Yesterday week traffic through Imperial Government property in Halifax was barred by extra sentries, etc., for twenty-four hours, in accordance with the annual custom, in order, we presume, to maintain the rights of exclusion in case of necessity.

The firm of King & Barss, solicitors, etc., has been suspended from the privileges of the N. S. Barristers' Society for six months, for violation of its rules in maintaining an agreement with one W. H. Ferguson, he not being a solicitor, to divide with him fees and remuneration for professional services.

The St. Clair Canal is not the only portion of the regular navigable channel through the great lakes which is in Canadian waters. The Lime Kiln crossing near Amherstburg is in Canadian waters, and from this crossing to Point au Pelee passage, the navigable channel through Lake Erie is entirely in Canada.

The indications of the Montreal East election are that M. Lepine, the labor candidate, will carry the labor and prohibition votes, having on the latter score the support of the *Witness*, and that the Conservatives have captured Lepine. M. Poirier, the Liberal candidate, is the translator who was dismissed last session.

Stanley's second in command is Lieut. W. E. Stairs, R. E., a son of the late John Stairs, Esq., of Halifax. Lieut. Stairs is a graduate of the R. M. College, Kingston, is about 26 years of age, and was selected from 250 applicants. Major Bartelott was Stanley's second, but, it is presumed, Lieut. Stairs succeeds that unfortunate officer.

H. M. Troopship *Orontes* arrived on Wednesday forenoon from Bermuda, with the 2nd Batt. (76th) of the West Riding Regiment, Lieut.-Col. Fenn, to relieve the 2nd Batt. (84th) of the York and Lancaster, Lieut. Col. Luck, which will, it is understood, embark on Saturday for Jamaica, when there will no doubt be a good deal of "girl I left behind me."

Many letters are appearing in the Press warning Canadians against leaving home for the States. The latest is against California, the sole advantage of which State the writer asserts to be its climate, with which advantages, however, its fruits are not equal to those of Canada. Those who have tried the flavorless California fruits sold this year by Halifax fruiterers know this to be true.

The annual tournament of the St. John Lawn Tennis Club took place last week. Among those participating were: Messrs. Ings, Stewart, Bartlett and Brecken, of Charlottetown, Lieut. Brady and Misses Almon, of Halifax; Messrs. Dimock and Hensley, of Windsor. In the ladies and gentlemen's doubles, Miss Almon and Lieut. Brady defeated Miss Burpee and Mr. Mills. In the singles, Brady defeated Bartlett, and George Jones defeated Ings.

A direct mail service with the West Indies is in future to be made up every five weeks via Halifax. The steamship company for the present will receive nothing but the usual postal rates, as there can be no special appropriation until next session. The Government have promised to have the matter looked into before next session. Meantime it is encouraging to find the Halifax people enterprising enough to start a direct line of steamers.—*Canadian Trade Review*.

Mr. Henry Moore, agricultural editor of the London *Times*, has returned from a tour of inspection of Manitoba and the N. W., much impressed with the capabilities of those regions. He is of opinion the damage to wheat is less than has been conjectured.

It would appear that the question of Confederation for Newfoundland is, for the present, completely shelved. It appears to be unpopular. The reasons are of little consequence. If a majority is against it, there is nothing more to be said while they remain in that mind.

A shocking case of reckless and stolid brutality has been recently reported. A woman had thirteen teeth extracted. Before the number had been completed, she could bear no more, and endeavored to stop the process, but her brutal husband held her down, and the callous dentist observed that he always finished what he began. The unfortunate victim died in about four hours. The case has been attended to by Mr. Naylor, who, it is reported, has one of the teeth with a strip of gum two inches long attached to it. If the circumstances are as reported, the miscreants ought to be hung. The body is to be exhumed for inquest.

The Military Tournament at the Exhibition Building, on Saturday, though somewhat marred as to attendance by the bad weather, was carried out with much success, and was extremely interesting. Major Cutbill's steady hand secured him first place in tent-pegging, and Turk's head, and a second to Capt. Jenkinson, A.D.C., in tilting at rings. Capt. Black, R.A., was second to Major Cutbill in three contests. The *Bellorophon's* and *Canada's* distinguished themselves in Field Gun Drill, and Sword vs. Sword. Color-Sergt. Flynn (V. and L.) was first in Sword vs. Bayonet, and Major Mansell, Asst. Mil. Sec., won the silver cup for the Victoria Cross Race.

H. M. Gunboats *Ready* and *Wrangler* are reported to be coming to Halifax with yellow fever. Alderman Hechler has drawn the attention of the Health Department to the fact, but it is desirable to impress upon the citizens that there is not the slightest cause for alarm, as the Naval authorities have it in their power to ensure every efficient safeguard, and are too well accustomed to emergencies of that kind to omit any precaution. In fact the Naval Medical Regulations lay down all that is necessary. If the gunboats really have yellow fever on board, they will come in with the yellow flag, but it is usually on the wane in infected ships before they reach this latitude.

Commissioner Hechler has very properly called the attention of the Board of Works to the destruction which has been going on for some time of the trees intended for the future adornment of the Grand Parade. Stones and debris have been thrown against them, clothes hung on them, and gypsoes made fast to them. Alderman Hechler has done well in procuring the passage of a resolution to put a stop to this recklessness in the future; but if the whole City Council had not been asleep, or at play, half their time, steps ought to have been taken in the matter long ago; and, to go further, it may be said that citizens living in the vicinity, might have moved in the matter.

A proposition is being mooted to erect a common slaughter-house for the city, and to cause the eight private slaughter-houses now existing to be discontinued. There is much to favor this proposition. There is at present not a slaughter house in Halifax that is properly constructed or conducted as the law directs. None of them have concrete floors, conduits for the blood to run off in, nor vats to receive it when it does run off. If the plan should be adopted, the fees might perhaps pay the interest and current expenses, and yield some revenue towards a sinking fund that would in time wipe out the debt that would have to be incurred. But it behooves the ratepayers of Halifax to keep a sharp eye on any project likely to saddle the city with additional debt.

Senator Sherman has written a letter to a gentleman in Canada, expressing the hope that Canada and the United States may have the freest commercial intercourse, and live together on terms of intimacy.

Electricity is being successfully adopted as the motive power for street cars in New York. It is to be hoped, in the interests of humanity, that it will speedily become universal, the work being exceptionally hard on poor suffering horse-flesh.

"That unspeakable brute," John L. Sullivan, is reported to be quite broken up by drink and debauch, and Boston is unhappy, the nine which for a time took the place of the slogger in her affections having bitterly disappointed their backers.

The New York *Herald* has a story that another American lady is booked for the "strawberry leaves." A Miss Zarega is said to be engaged to the young Duke of Newcastle, who is a cripple and an invalid. Miss Zarega is said to be pretty and amiable.

A horrible affair is reported from Nebraska. John Baker, while feeding a threshing machine, was cut in the hand by the band-cutter, through the carelessness of a boy. In a rage he grasped the boy, and deliberately fed him into the machine, feet first. The boy's screams attracted the attention of the other hands, but before they could interfere the boy's body had half disappeared in the machine. Baker was lynched on the spot.

The report of the Ameer's death seems to be doubtful.

The Bank of England has been experimenting with the electric light, and has determined to make it a permanent service instead of gas.

Lord Melgund has been appointed a Brigadier of Volunteer Infantry for the South of Scotland. The appointment creates some criticism, but it is significant to the point we have frequently urged, that our own D. A. G.'s should have the rank of Colonel, and be also made, what they essentially are, Brigadiers.