

NEWS OF THE WEEK.

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Work has begun on the Cape Breton Railroad.

Mr. Justice Armour has accepted the Chief Justiceship of the Queen's Bench, Ont.

The Joggins Railway was formally opened by Sir Charles Tupper on the 3rd instant.

The total assessment of Winnipeg for 1887 is \$19,392,410. The taxes for the year are \$357,381.

The present year has been unprecedented for the amount of building operations carried on in Halifax.

The North-West Council proposes that the Mounted Police should be employed in suppressing prairie fires.

Accounts are to hand of the good effects of the Canadian exhibits at the Liverpool and Saltaire Exhibitions.

The death is announced of the Hon Judge O'Connor, who held several portfolios in the ministries of Sir Jno Macdonald.

Mr. Justice Galt has been promoted to be Chief Justice of the Court of Common Pleas, Ont., vice Sir M. C. Cameron, deceased.

Iceland seems to be rapidly becoming uninhabitable, and a great influx of immigration thence to Canada is expected next session.

The seat in the senate, vacant by the death of Mr. McMaster, has been accepted by Mr. John MacDonald, of Toronto, a Liberal.

Both the Argentine Republic and that of Uruguay are, at the present day, advancing in civilization and importance with rapid strides.

The sub-contractors on the Red River Valley Railway who have not yet been paid, are besieging the Manitoba Government for their money.

Capt. Peters, 2 sergeants, 4 bombardiers and 36 gunners of B. Battery, left Quebec last Friday, to join the new C. Battery at Victoria, B.C.

A number of conductors and porters on the C. P. R. have been dismissed for accepting bribes from the public, and defrauding the company of fares.

A company is being organized to run a first-class line of steamers between Halifax, Charlottetown and Boston. The boats are building on the Clyde.

The potato crop is short in Ontario and short in the States. There will be a heavy demand for them wherever they are to be found in the other Provinces.

A Buenos Ayres millionaire, who has been travelling for two or three years, is much pleased with Canada, and thinks there is a market for lumber in his country.

A lumber concern at Keewatin, will build a barrel factory the coming winter, of a capacity, it is said, sufficient to supply nearly all the barrels required in Manitoba.

Judge Clarke has accepted the Solicitorship of the C. P. R., salary said to be \$15,000 per annum. Both Judge Clarke and the new Chief Justice Armour are Cobourg men.

The *Moncton Times* says:—"Lake Beauport, about fifteen miles from Quebec, is entirely frozen over, the ice thick enough to bear a horse and vehicle. This is much earlier than usual."

The Hon. Jas. Winter, Attorney-General of Newfoundland, will represent that colony at the Fisheries Commission at Washington. Mr. Winter's appointment is generally approved.

The Elderslie woollen mills at Middle River were totally destroyed by fire last Saturday week. Loss \$20,000; Insurance \$5,000. This is the third time that these mills have been burned.

The *St. John Globe* gives currency to a report that the Hon. Edward Blake will shortly be a candidate for a seat in the English House of Commons, for an Irish constituency, as a Home Rule member.

There is some discussion over the failure to sign the Red River Valley Railway contract, and it is thought that the solution of the question will be found in a compromise between the three parties concerned.

Capt. Warren, of Victoria, a native of Prince Edward Island, is said to have lost \$150,000 by the piracy of the Alaskan authorities in Behring's Sea, and to be nearly ruined. He owned five of the captured sealers.

The beautiful and distinguished *artiste*, Miss Scott Siddons, who, as a dramatic reader, has few equals and no superior, appeared in Quebec on Monday and Tuesday evenings. It is understood to be her farewell visit to that city.

The Mayor of Halifax has seen fit to suppress an exhibition calling itself the Royal Museum of Anatomy, as one not calculated to raise the morals of the community, and the press thinks His Worship's action was most timely.

Last year about 700 buildings were erected in Montreal. This season the building inspector anticipates that quite 1,000 will have been put up. This is equal to a good-sized town, and if ten persons be counted to every building, to an increase of 10,000 in population.

No less than six fishing schooners are building at Lunenburg.

Sir Charles Tupper's majority in Cumberland was as far as learned on Thursday morning, 1361, but the returns were not complete. Mr. Bulmer, by the same returns, polled 899. The total ballot was less than that of last February by some 1900 votes.

The Montreal Fire Brigade seems to be badly and corruptly managed. Aldermen of each nationality claim a proportion of nominations, so that a man is put on the force as an Englishman, a Frenchman, or an Irishman, without the least regard to competency or efficiency.

An Ottawa despatch says that several residents of the city have received their winter supply of soft coal, adapted for grate and furnace use, from the Spring Hill and other Nova Scotia mines, and report having accomplished a considerable saving as compared with prices of the American article.

The *Farmouth Times* says:—"A despatch from Toronto has received circulation in American newspapers to the effect that Cardinal Taschereau had been mobbed by Orangemen. Mr. Howland, Mayor of Toronto, instituted enquiries, and the falsehood was traced to one of the *Globe* staff.

A collision of freight trains on the C. P. R. at Summit, thirty-two miles east of Rat Portage, occurred on the 7th. Both engines were demolished, and eight car-loads of wheat and coal dumped down the embankment "promiscuously." Engineers, firemen and brakemen more or less seriously injured.

The Halifax public is beginning to think it is about time that some signs should be visible of the extensions and improvements to the P. & C. Hospital, which were to convert it into the Victoria General Hospital as a Jubilee Memorial, and for which \$20,000 was voted in the last Session of the Legislature.

Recruits are wanted for the Royal School of Artillery, unmarried; 5ft. 8in.; age, between 18 and 45; British subjects. Staff Sergeants, \$1. Sergeants, 80c; Corporals, 75c; Bombardiers, 56c; Buglers (under 18), 40c; Gunners, 40c. We fancy there is an error in the corporal's pay as stated, it seems disproportionate to that of the ranks above and below it.

The *Moncton Times* publishes the following:—"Tell our friends and compatriots in Canada to give up their mania of coming to the States where there is nothing to be earned. In the environs of Baltic, Conn., there are now over 15,000 workmen out of work in the direst misery, regretting they left Canada and wishing to return, but in vain. They are penniless and in the deepest poverty.

The large audiences which greeted the Fiske Jubilee Singers at the Academy of Music on Monday and Tuesday evenings, may be taken as a proof that our citizens thoroughly enjoy the singing of this now celebrated company. Of course the music is in no sense classical, and there is a sameness about the themes that makes it tedious to listen for any length of time; however, the singers possess rich and, in a measure, cultivated voices, and, owing to long practice, are in perfect touch with each other; hence, the singing is always in good tune, and their piano passages sweet and effective.

The Kentville brass band, under the skillful leadership of Mr. W. H. Watts, has made remarkable progress during the past two months, as was manifested by the faultless rendering of a choice programme of music at their grand ball, held in Scotia Hall last week. The alternate numbers were ably executed on the piano by Mrs. Pyke, whose reputation for accurate time is so widely known. It goes without saying that the ball itself was a grand success, as Kentville, above all other Provincial towns, is noted for its pretty girls, nearly all of whom seem born waltzers; in fact it would be difficult to find their equals elsewhere. The brilliancy of the occasion was heightened by a large attendance from the surrounding towns, two gentlemen, having driven 140 miles expressly to attend it; and the visitors all expressed approbation of the band, which it was generally agreed rivalled our military bands. A programme of twenty-two dances, with three extras, was gone through with, and at the close the dancers still lingered, seeming loathe to leave the scene of so much pleasure. Some of the ladies' toilets were exquisite, and perfect good taste in dress was the rule.

The California railway depot at Los Angeles, valued at \$200,000, has been destroyed by fire.

The New York Chamber of Commerce desires a peaceful solution of the Fisheries question.

Mr. Jefferson Davis is reported to be so seriously ill that great doubts are entertained of his recovery.

More "sticking up" of trains by masked desperadoes is reported from the States. It is about time that some scheme of prevention of these outrages should occur to some clever American.

Mr. Jas. M. Bailey, the celebrated *Danbury Newsmen*, has, it is reported, the heavy affliction of the insanity of his wife, who has been for years in ill health. Mr. Bailey is said to be a devoted husband.

One Moses Chamberlain, of New York, sent fourteen postal cards to Aaron Van Valken. They were expensive to Mr. Chamberlain, what was written on them being libellous to the tune, altogether, of about \$23,000.

A young Methodist minister in Illinois has created a sensation by a sudden burst of profane language while superintending his Sunday-school. He is insane from religious excitement, and roared hymns all the way to jail.

A significant vote has been given in Chicago in the contest for the position of Superior Court Judge. The candidates were Judge Garry, who tried the Anarchists, and W. P. Black, attorney for their defence. The vote stood, Garry, 38,048; Black, 5,112.