

NEWS OF THE WEEK.

Subscribers remitting Money, either direct to the Office, or through Agents, will find receipt in next paper.

Wholesale dealers in Montreal complain that discriminating rates over the G. T. and I. C. Railways are given in favor of Halifax and St. John Merchants upon flour purchased from Ontario millers. The railway authorities reply that the cost of carriage per mile reduces as the mileage increases.

The new Halifax and Dartmouth Steam Ferry Company have purchased from the old Halifax Steamboat Company their docks, workshops, plant and machinery, coal sheds, real estate, ferry boats, and business, with the good will of the old company, for \$81 000. Although the sum seems large, those who are in a position to judge, consider the bargain a good one. The real estate could probably be disposed of at an early date, which will reduce the outlay of the new company, and leave them sufficient funds to purchase the new boats.

Meetings have recently been held in several localities in Hants' Co., for the purpose of furthering the projected Hants' County Central Railway. The proposed railway would open up a section of country possessed of great natural resources, both agricultural and mineral.

The sudden prorogation of the New Brunswick House of Assembly, and the still more sudden appeal to the electors, has created much excitement in political circles. On the 19th inst., nominations are to be made, and on the 26th inst., the elections will be held. This allows very little time for palaver and baby-kissing; but it will be well to have the elections out of the way before farming operations commence.

Some of the New York aldermen are in trouble. It is said they have used their positions to further the interests of the Broadway Surface Railway. Rumors to this effect have been afloat for many months, but the evidence of direct bribery were wanting. The matter will now be thoroughly sifted.

A cablegram announces the destruction by fire of 600 houses at Mandalay. Insurgent incendiaries will have to be put down promptly, or serious trouble will follow.

Business men in Yarmouth report trade as being brisk; but they complain of close competition which has cut profits down to the vanishing point.

It is a curious fact that Jesse Collings, the representative leader of the "three acres and a cow" movement, by whose amendment to the address Lord Salisbury's Cabinet was overthrown, was not legally a member of the British Parliament. Collings has since been obliged to retire from the Commons.

The interest manifested by all classes of the British public in the great annual boat race upon the Thames between the representative crews of the Universities of Oxford and Cambridge, was this year brought to a pitch of excitement by the unusual closeness of the contest. For nine-tenths of the course neither crew gained any noticeable lead, and the race was won by the Cambridge crew putting on a spurt, which gave them a lead of half a boat's length at the end of the race.

Consul-General Phelan appears to doubt the right of officials serving under the Canadian Government seizing American vessels found trespassing upon Canadian fishing grounds. He thinks that the British interpretation of the treaty of 1818 will differ from that of the Canadian Government. If the Consul imagines that Britannia will look at this question through Columbus's spectacles, he is mistaken.

The British and American Governments have formulated a new extradition treaty; but the former Government insists upon the insertion of a clause to the effect that all persons shall be tried for the offence for which they are extradited. The American Government objects to the insertion of this clause, and the question thus remains *in statu quo*.

Recent troubles in Annam prove that the French conquest of that remote region is far from complete. The French have succeeded in securing a strong foothold in Annam; but in order to maintain it, they are obliged to keep up an army of occupation.

The somewhat unexpected death of the Right Hon. W. E. Forster removes from the political arena a man who, under the previous Gladstone administration, occupied a prominent position as chief Secretary for Ireland.

At the annual meeting of St. George's Society, Mr. Wm. Murray was unanimously chosen president for the ensuing year. The Society was established in Halifax on the 25th Feb., 1786; and this being its centennial year, it is proposed to hold a grand centennial celebration on the 27th inst. St. George's Society has done a noble work in Halifax, and its centennial should be in keeping with the splendid record of which it may justly be proud.

Moody, the evangelist, is to be invited to visit Halifax during the coming summer. If the results of his mission be equal to those of like missions in Montreal and elsewhere, Halifaxians will experience a revival such as has never yet stirred up the city.

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When you speak to a Yarmouth man of the probable early construction of the missing railway link between Annapolis and Digby, he smiles and gives vent to an emphatic "humph." No wonder. We have learned to appreciate the true worth of promises made before elections, and we have had reason to know how easily these promises are forgotten.

No correct answer to puzzle published last week has been received.

In consequence of the press upon our columns we are compelled to hold over "Fredericton Sessional Notes," and an article on "Some Brilliant (1) Nonsense," by "Gleaner."

There is now a strong probability that Halifax will have its Dry Dock begun and completed within two years. The company who have undertaken its construction have put up the money as a guarantee that they mean business, and the prospects are now encouraging.

The Stipendiary Magistrate of Halifax has been a long time in office, but if the City Council do not move a little faster it will be a long time before any conclusion is reached as to his superannuation.

The failure of the enterprising shipowner, James Kitchen, of River John, Pictou Co., will be heard with regret by business men. Mr. Kitchen's failure is due to misfortune not to mismanagement.

Read the advertisement of A. McDougall & Son, wholesale grocers, which appears in another column.

Few men are particular as to the style in which their clothes are cut, provided the garments are comfortable, and fit the wearer; but for those who go in for the fashions of the season and fine tailoring, the establishment of Davidson & McManus, 139 Hollis street, should have a special attraction.

Try one of the mutton pies sold at the Scotch Bakery, 223 Barrington street. They are good enough to make an Englishman's mouth water. Mr. H. Montgomerie, the proprietor, has always on hand a fresh supply of mince, apple and blueberry pies, oat cake, short bread, etc.

The most important discussion which has taken place in the House of Assembly this session, is that on the Liquor License Act. Mr. McKee, M. P. P., scored the strongest points against the bill. Among the best "temperance speakers" are Messrs. Gayton, Fraser, Bell, and Dr. McLennan.

Try the laundry soap, manufactured by the "Halifax Soap Company," office, 149 Maynard street.

Comelli's Japanese Jugglers are giving excellent entertainments at the Academy of Music this week. Their acrobatic and balancing feats, and their wonderful sleight-of-hand tricks, always call forth rapturous applause. The Matinee, Saturday, will be one of the most remarkable and most enjoyable exhibitions of legdeman and juggling ever shown here. Saturday is the company's last day here.

Those who enjoy a properly roasted piece of beef should look at the new Charter Oak Stoves, now offered for sale by J. E. Wilson, 208 Hollis street. The oven door is made of wire gauze or perforated tin, thus allowing the air in the oven to be frequently changed.

Gladstone still holds the helm of the state despite the backing and filling of his supporters. By the time our readers receive THE CRITIC the grand old man will have announced his Irish policy. Should that policy be to grant Ireland unrestricted Home Rule, a dissolution of Parliament will be inevitable.

The Greeks are not satisfied to sit quietly by and allow the European powers to dictate the policy she must pursue. She is burning for a fight and the sooner she is allowed to have her way the sooner will matters settle down into their normal condition. The Spartan fire is not yet extinct.

The Provincial Legislature have discharged another broadside at the Dominion Government, and will probably continue to do so until the Province obtains better terms. When the Hon. Joseph Howe secured an increase of \$80,000 to our annual subsidy, he foresaw that the question of better terms for Nova Scotia must again come before Parliament. Something must be done, and that soon, to replenish the provincial treasure box, otherwise the public service must suffer.

The Avon Bridge Company have sold to the Government the bridge connecting the township of Falmouth with the town of Windsor for the sum of \$6,000. This makes free to the public the only toll bridge now remaining in the Province. The farmers of Falmouth will know how to appreciate the facility thus afforded them for free access to a good market.

The quality of the manufactures turned out by the Acadia Powder Co., continue to improve, and in view of the necessity of having a first-class article for blasting purposes it is well it is so. The red and black dynamite as well as the blasting and sporting powder manufactured by this company, are well known to the trade.

In connection with an article in our issue of April 2nd, on "Opportunities at Home," we would say that one of our Provincial Colleges, King's College, Windsor, gives a very thorough course in Civil or Mining Engineering, and the degree of B. E., particular attention being given to practical work in surveying, chemistry, geology and mineralogy. The expenses of the course are also small.

Reformers in India are making use of the theatre in condemning child-marriages, the ostracism of widows, and other objectionable social customs.