

NEWS OF THE WEEK.

Subscribers remitting Money, either direct to the office, or through Agents, will find a receipt for the amount enclosed in their next paper. All remittances should be made payable to A. M. Fraser.

Those who wish to secure pleasant and profitable reading matter for the winter evenings should note our exceptional offer which appeared recently. For \$3.00 in cash we undertake to send THE CRITIC to any subscriber for one year, supplying him in addition with seventy-nine of the most readable of readable books. Those who are renewing their subscriptions, as well as new subscribers, should take advantage of this offer.

Mr. Blake is said to be about to visit Southern Europe, Egypt and Palestine.

An elegant sleigh, built by Mr. H. Dimock, of Halifax, for the Duke of Wellington, goes by the *Danvers* to England.

An I. C. R. station agent named Rioux was found dead with several bullet holes in his breast on the beach at Trois Pistoles recently.

The Assist. Indian Commissioner reports that the condition and attitude of the Indians in the N. W. were never better than at present.

Two young men named Crawford and Gutro were crushed to death by the giving away of a mass of frozen clay last week at the Springhill Mines, N. S.

The *Hants Journal* has published a Christmas Supplement, exceedingly well got up, and containing seven very pretty and well executed engravings of Christmas subjects.

The detailed claims on account of British Columbia sealers seized in Behring's Sea, are said to amount to \$300,000. The document has been forwarded to Washington.

A reward of \$500 is offered by the Provincial Government for information of Joseph Preston, the missing barber of Halifax, if alive, and \$100 for particulars of his death.

A number of conductors, agents, &c., on several Canadian Railways have recently been dismissed for dishonest practices in the sale of tickets, and pocketing freight money.

The annual meeting of the Halifax School for the Blind was held on Saturday afternoon. Ample testimony was borne to the efficiency and good condition of this valuable institution.

The "Sorcerer" was presented by Mr. C. J. Ross' Amateur Opera Co. at the Academy last evening, and will be repeated this evening. An extended critique will appear in our columns next week.

Mr. Van Horne considers that 12,000,000 bushels would not be an excessive estimate of this year's Manitoba wheat crop. He further states that over 4,000,000 bushels has already been taken by the C. P. R.

The last English mail brought no word from the Archbishops of a Bishop for Nova Scotia. The *Windsor Tribune* suggests that they may be still consulting the map to find out in what part of America Nova Scotia is situated.

The affairs of the Central bank, Toronto, have been found in a deplorable condition. All the directors are heavily indebted to the bank for unsecured loans, and the liquidator threatens criminal proceedings against some of them.

Suggestions for Christmas presents are in order, and should be acceptable about this time. What could be a nicer one to put in papa's or grandpapa's stocking than a receipt for a year's subscription to THE CRITIC. We shall be happy to send the receipt to any one who will mail us the requisite \$1.50 in time.

The Australian Governments have been invited to co-operate with Canada, in surveying the route of the proposed Intercolonial Cable between the Dominion, New Zealand and Australia, and an answer will likely reach us in the course of a month.

A paragraph in an exchange says that there is to be no carnival at Montreal this year. It is doubtful whether these carnivals and the reports and illustrations of them which have gone across the ocean, have not done more harm than good to Canada.

Private Detective Fahey, City Detective Nagel, a son of the Deputy Chief of Police, and City Constable Bureau, of Montreal, were arrested last week on charges of complicity in a number of mysterious robberies in that city, and people are asking how many recent robberies have been committed by those paid to guard its interests.

Three tenders have been made for the Atlantic Mail Service. The Allan and Dominion jointly, the Orient, which revolutionized the Australian Service; and Anderson, Anderson & Co., of London. It is about time the slow Allan monopoly was put a stop to. Our mails ought to cross the Atlantic in 36 to 48 hours less than they do now.

The Chief Inspector of Licenses for the city of Halifax says that he has had more applications for licenses handed in this year than last, but that it is probable that about the same number will be recommended by him. It is an open secret that the working of the present Act is unfavorably looked upon by genuine temperance men, and by a large majority of the City Council, who, we must assume, are in accord with the sentiments of the community. Some persons have tried to get the City Council to dismiss the Chief Inspector, on general, and therefore vague, grounds, of inefficiently carrying out the License Act of 1886, and a special committee of the City Council was appointed to consider the matter, and to report thereon. That committee met on Monday last, and decided to meet again on Monday of next week, when they will require the petitioners to present specific charges, and to prove them against the Chief Inspector. Of course, if they fail to do so, it will be impossible for the committee or the council to proceed further in the matter.

It is rumored that the Dominion Parliament will meet for business on the 26th January.

Nearly 300 teams crossed over to Halifax from Dartmouth on Saturday forenoon, after considerable delay from fog.

Mr. John V. Ellis, M. P. for the city of St. John, has come out squarely in support of Annexation in a leader in the *St. John Globe*. This is at least honest.

The Postmaster-General of Canada has gone to Washington to make arrangements, it is said, for a parcel-post service between Canada and the United States.

The foundry of W. S. Symonds & Co., at Dartmouth, was destroyed by fire yesterday morning. It is understood that the establishment was partially insured, but it is feared the loss to Messrs. Symonds will be very heavy.

Serious freshets are reported from various parts of Nova Scotia. A huge boulder, loosened by the heavy rains of Sunday night and Monday, rushed down the Folly Mountain and nearly wrecked the Halifax express for St. John, smashing the cow-catcher.

Timothy Clifford was shot dead at Truro on Sunday morning by Robt. Welsh. Clifford had just been released from jail. He had been living for eight years with a widow Kent, who apparently wished to get rid of him. Clifford came and annoyed a Mrs. Welsh, with whom the woman Kent was boarding, and her son shot him. Apparently a bad lot all around.

Regarding the lack of light in this city at night, it appears that a first-class muddle exists. The Board of Works has made one of its elastic contracts with a company to do the work, and it is probable that that company, "when it gets nice and ready," may possibly fulfil its part of the contract. Meanwhile innocent citizens and taxpayers are expected to stay at home o' nights or to run their own risks of possible accidents. We would not be at all surprised to learn any day that some recalcitrant citizen or visitor, not appreciating the thissness of thus, has met with an accident in trying to grope his way through the streets of "our metropolis," and has the impudence to sue the city for compensation therefor.

The bucket-shops of Philadelphia have been extensively raided by the authorities of that city.

The Revd. Chas. Berry, of Wolverhampton, G. B., has declined the call to Plymouth Church, Brooklyn.

Reports from the Mexican frontier say the Yaqui Indians have become so bold that the troops have again been called out.

The Fisheries Commission has adjourned for a month, and Mr. Chamberlain is, it is said, to spend his Christmas in Ottawa.

The work on the Short Line in the State of Maine is described as extremely hard, some of the compressed gravel, &c., defying the pick.

A town in Arizona has been destroyed by an earthquake, and many persons killed. Great suffering was endured from the exhaustion of supplies.

A challenge for the America's cup is expected from John Jamieson, owner of the cutter *Irex*. Jamieson will build a yacht to beat the *Irex* if possible.

Another train has been stopped in Arkansas by train robbers, and \$40,000 taken from the express car. The passengers were not molested, and the robbers spared the mails.

The Committee of the American Philosophical Society on "Volapuk" do not think it suited to the needs of modern thought, but consider it "a retrogression in linguistic progress."

A dinner was given by Mr. Chamberlain on the 10th, as the first of a series to be given by the English Fishery negotiators, to return some of the splendid hospitality extended to them by the American Commissioners.

The recent trouble with the anarchists has suggested the preparation of a bill which will be introduced in the House by George E. Adams, of Chicago, providing for the expulsion of dangerous aliens from the United States.

Three negroes, Adam Charles, Andy Miller and William Smith, who had assaulted a ten year old girl at Obrion, Tenn., were caught by a mob of 100 whites and blacks on Wednesday, near Rivers, Tenn., and hung.

The celebrated violinist, Miskahauer, is dead.

Miss Florence Nightingale is reported to be seriously ill.

It is thought the Panama Canal bubble must shortly burst.

Many ladies in Dublin have been reduced to poverty by the loss of their rents.

Twenty-two persons were drowned in a recent hurricane off the Orkney Islands.

The most magnificent presents continue to pour in on the Pope as tributes to his Jubilee celebration.

The new French Cabinet, under the Premiership of M. Tirard, does not seem to be very firmly established.

Russian semi-official journals disclaim any offensive manifestation in the movements of troops on the Gallician frontier.

The charges against M. Wilson, the late President's son in law, have failed of proof before the tribunal which tried them.

The Queen-Regent of Spain is immensely popular, and is said to have captivated even the great and able Republican, Castelar.