

NEWS OF THE WEEK.

The bankers' regatta which takes place on Saturday afternoon, is always regarded in Halifax as one of the events of the season. Speculation as to the probable result of the race is freely indulged in.

The 150,000 members of the Loyal Orange Institution in Canada, hold their customary celebration on Monday last. Their street marches and festivals were conducted in an orderly manner, and the demonstration was happily concluded without bloodshed.

"Kentville" says: "The wedding of Miss Bertha Blanchard and the Rev. Mr. Chase, last Wednesday, was the prettiest seen in Kentville for some time. The church was beautifully decorated with flowers and streamers of red and white. Three floral arches stood over the reading desk, which was covered with geraniums, lilies and roses, and greenhouse plants in pots, a bell of water lilies hanging from the middle arch. A large horse shoe of white marguerite daisies, placed diagonally on a rich green background of ferns, was especially effective. The bride wore an exquisitely fitting dress of dove colored Surah. Her bonnet was of dove colored tulle with *ayrette*, to match, *veut* of cerise ribbon and veil of white tulle. The bridesmaids, Miss Clara Dodge and Miss Nora Blanchard, wore dresses of apricot colored nun's veiling with *gilet*s richly embroidered in gold. Hats of apricot colored crape trimmed with gold color. After the wedding breakfast at Judge Blanchard's an immense crowd assembled at the station to witness the departure. The bride's travelling dress was of dark brown with brown hat and feathers. She went off with the usual shower of rice in token of good wishes.

Our contemporary *The Critic* will pardon us for omitting to notice its fine exhibition number, with its special articles bearing upon the leading industries of Canada, not having seen the first edition. The number is creditable to all who had a hand in its preparation. Editor and printer have alike done their work well. The number is full of interesting matter, worthy to be placed on file.—*Hants Journal*.

DeLesseps has abandoned the idea of his grand lottery in aid of the Panama Canal. He proposes to raise the wind by a new issue of bonds.

"Let my grave be in Turkey," such was the dying request of Hobart Pasha, Admiral of the Turkish fleet. Hobart lived for Turkey and it is fitting that his body should find its last resting place upon the shores of the Golden Horn.

The cork and bung manufacturers of Canada have, during the past few years succeeded in fully supplying the home markets. Mr. John Auld, of Montreal is one of the largest manufacturers of corks and bungs in the Dominion and has by the use of good material, care in manufacture and prompt attention to business, built up an extensive trade, which is growing year by year.

The colored folk of Boston have come to the conclusion that it is the lack of ownership of real property that hinder the race from leveling up with the whites. A hall in which to hold public meetings is to be the first start in this direction. The saloon waiters have subscribed liberally, but the African barbers declare they are strapped.

We are to have a terrific storm on Wednesday, Sept. 29th, so saith Prof. E. Stone Wiggins, the astrologer royal of Canada, and who will dare to gainsay the prophet. We usually have a big equinoctial storm within a few days of the 20th of September, and this will probably fill the bill for Wiggins.

Free schools have done much towards the intellectual development of our people, but unless free public libraries are established in every centre of population, a large percentage of the good that might otherwise result from our educational system is lost. The ladies of St. John, N. B., deserve credit for the determined efforts they are making to place really good books within the reach of all by establishing a free city library.

"Baddeck" says: "What with statute labor by day and a series of open air lectures by night, the streets of Baddeck have presented for the past few days quite a lively appearance. After many trials and tribulations the Kennedy family arrived here on Friday. Although it was not positively known until the afternoon that they were coming, they had a full house. About dawn on Saturday our quiet little town was aroused by a cry of fire. It was soon discovered that the residence of I. S. McLean was in flames, and in a short time nothing remained standing but the chimneys. It is understood that the loss will not be very great as the place was insured. On the afternoon of the same day, Seymour Foylo, of Big Baddeck, committed suicide by hanging himself in the barn. Sportsmen expect some good salmon fishing in the Margaree River, in consequence of the destruction, by the late storms, of the nets along the Margaree shores."

The performances in the Roberts-Gardner circus are such as cannot fail to charm and delight all who attend them. The Roberts-Gardner is a real old-fashioned circus in which equestrian skill is the chief attraction. The programme includes many other excellent features, and as it is entirely free from the slightest tinge of vulgarity, recommends itself to public patronage. It is years since Halifax has been visited by a circus company of such high standing.

Three hundred educationists are now holding their annual meeting at Truro, several most interesting papers have been read, and the gathering will be both pleasing and profitable to all taking part in it.

So far the British elections have resulted in the Conservatives winning 308 of the 633 seats that have been contested, there are still 37 constituencies to hear from. The returns at present are as follows:—Conservatives, 308; Unionists, 75; Liberals, 170; Parnollitics, 80.

McAlpine's Halifax Directory for '86-'87, is now out: its publishers deserve credit for their promptness in issuing this indispensable work, and for the increased care and attention they have bestowed on its compilation. D. McAlpine & Co., in the preface to the new directory, very properly remark, that except newspapers the directory offers the best medium for advertising.

"Bridgetown" says: "Dominion day was celebrated here this year instead of at Annapolis Royal, the town was crowded with visitors from all parts of the county, and not a few from the adjoining counties. In the morning there was a cricket match; in the afternoon, horse races and a tea meeting, the latter held in the grounds of the new Episcopal church; and in the evening an entertainment was given in the rink in aid of the band. It was largely patronized, and a success in every way. The country is looking as best, at present the prospect for the various crops being very good, though rain is much needed."

The new British Parliament will be convened in August. At present writing it is uncertain what course Gladstone will pursue, but it is thought probable by his friends that in view of the overwhelming verdict of the people against his Irish policy he will resign and allow Lord Salisbury to form either a straight tory or a coalition government.

The resignation of Major Crozier, whose name will be remembered in connection with the North-West Rebellion in the Duck Lake encounter, will be heard with regret by the members of the police force in the Territories. Major Crozier was a capable officer, and the coolness which he displayed during the interview with the rebels in which his men were unexpectedly fired upon, was much to his credit.

In consequence of the German forces in Alsace Lorraine having been supplied with improved rifles, the French government has purchased 60,000 repeating rifles for the army stationed in Eastern France. France is ready to put up dollar to dollar with Germany in preparing for what appears to be an inevitable conflict.

Our city fathers when in council devote much time and attention to the affairs of Halifax, for which they receive as a rule the gratuitous abuse of all those who happen to differ from them, but as a body of men they display energy, enterprise and patriotism. Their recent grant of \$1,000 in aid of the Firemen's Tournament is worthy of every commendation, and the taxpayer who would audibly grumble at such an expenditure, should be voted permanent residence beyond the city limits.

"Windsor" says: "The crop prospects are far from encouraging and have had a somewhat depressing influence. Good upland that always yielded from one and a half to two tons of hay to the acre, has this year cut, in many instances, only one-half to three-quarters of a ton. The potatoes are looking splendidly, but the turnips will be a miserable crop. The rumors as to the appointment of a new collector of customs, appear to be somewhat contradictory, but each person is positive that he has the only right version of the story."

It has been acknowledged by the traveling public that in the matter of hotel accommodation, St. John stood far ahead of Halifax, but with the opening of the new Queen Hotel in this city, such an assertion can no longer be made with truth. The Queen Hotel which is situated in Hollis street, a short distance south of Sackville street, has recently been thoroughly remodeled, the work having been done most satisfactorily by Messrs Rhodes, Curry & Company, of Amherst. The wainscoting in the offices, dining room and throughout the lower flat, is in native woods, and is most pleasing in its effect. The table ware, china and glass used in the dining room are of the latest and most elegant styles. The drawing rooms and parlors are furnished in a manner like to the Windsor Hotel of Montreal, the mirrors and hangings being most tastefully arranged. The sleeping rooms have been furnished in modern style with every regard to the comfort and convenience of their occupants. The Queen Hotel, which has accommodation for 200 guests, is to be lit by electricity and gas. The outside of the hotel is alike creditable to the enterprising proprietor. The handsome plate glass windows contrasting well with the prettily painted casements and doors. Mr. Sheraton the proprietor has done everything in his power to make the Queen Hotel a credit to Halifax, and we confidently anticipate that the travelling public will accord to him the patronage his enterprise deserves.

The Royal Commission appointed to investigate and settle the claims of the halfbreeds in the Saskatchewan country has finished its labors and will shortly make a full report to the government. Upwards of 800 claims were investigated, and in every instance in which the claimant had taken up arms, it has been proved that he did so under coercion, fearing the wrath of Louis Riel.

According to promise the government has appointed a commission to make enquiries and report upon the advisability of establishing a Court of Railway Commissioners for Canada. We note with pleasure that Sir A. I. Galt is Chief Commissioner, and from his record of thoroughness, we may hope the investigation will be most searching. Complaints as to unfair rates charged by railway companies in the Dominion, have been of frequent occurrence, during the past few months, and it is time we came to an understanding as to whether railways were to be run in the interests of the people or the people flocked in the interests of the railways.