

# THE WEEK'S NEWS.

## CANADIAN

Senator McInnes has given notice of the establishment of a Canadian mint.

A branch station of the Dominion Fathers will be shortly opened in Montreal.

Archbishop Fabre has issued a strong circular urging the faithful to temperance.

New York capitalists have arranged to start a sugar refinery in Vancouver, B. C.

A large immigration of American gypsies into Essex county, via Windsor, took place last week.

There is a movement on foot to start a system of free schools in the Province of Quebec.

The York County Council has decided to abolish toll-gates on the roads within that county.

Some petitions from the Northwest in support of the McCarthy Dual Language Bill have been sent to Ottawa.

Toronto's Board of Trade Council is opposed to the exemption from taxation of church and school property.

Kingston is moving to have the reduction of tolls on grain passing through the Canadian canals made permanent.

A Calgary despatch says Canadian Pacific railway trains are delayed two or three days by a snow blockade on the mountains.

The victims of a drowning accident at Kingston on Sunday were six in number, five being members of the Slater family.

The official declaration gives the standing of the political parties in Prince Edward Island at 16 Government and 14 Opposition.

Rev. John Burton, Toronto, in a speech at Cardinal on the single tax, estimated that one-fifth of Canada's product goes for government.

A case at present before the Superior Court in Montreal turns upon the very interesting question as to the morality of Victor Hugo's works.

A meeting of Prohibitionists was held in Ottawa last week, and it was decided not to press a prohibition resolution in Parliament this session.

Mr. S. A. McGow, wheat buyer for the Lake of the Woods Milling Company, denies the rumour of there being a corner in Manitoba wheat.

Mr. John Carling has decided to purchase in England \$25,000 worth of the very best two-row barley, to be distributed at cost price to barley growers in Canada.

In the big Pacific railway arbitration case Mr. Edward Blake last week concluded a six days' argument in reply, and the matter now rests in the hands of the arbitrators.

Winnipeg grain merchants are receiving letters from various points throughout the Western States, as far south as Colorado, asking for Manitoba wheat for seed grain.

The mayor of Halifax has sent a complimentary telegram to Lieut. Stairs, in London, in recognition of the Nova Scotia's services as a member of the Stanley expedition.

The plasterer's strike in Montreal has assumed a serious aspect. There are 350 men away from work, and this has condemned upwards of 150 labourers in addition to enforced idleness.

The railway committee of Hamilton city council have decided to grant right of way and a bonus to the Toronto, Hamilton and Buffalo Railway Company, thus settling a long vexed question.

Sir Adolphe Caron presented his Militia report to the House last week. From beginning to end it is a mass of complaints, which are headed by Sir Fred Middleton's criticisms, showing that if the service is to be more than an expensive farce, it must be made more efficient by a judicious expenditure of a large amount of money.

The wholesale liquor men of Winnipeg held a meeting recently and took measures to oppose the adoption of the Local Option Act here. They will petition the Government to hold the vote by ballot, and if the Act is carried they say they will move their establishments across the river to St. Boniface and carry on business there.

The late Senator John Macdonald, whose estate is valued at \$1,500,000, bequeathed \$100,000 to the proposed Park Hospital, which sum includes the \$40,000 previously granted; \$25,000, in addition to \$30,000, to Victoria University, for the purposes of the University in Queen's park, Toronto, in connection with federation; and \$4,000 to Toronto General Hospital.

GREAT BRITAIN.

The Marquis of Hartington has left London for Egypt.

The Queen will leave Windsor for Aix on March 25 or 26.

The dock laborers at Newport and Monmouth have struck.

The strike of dock laborers at Dundee has been settled, the masters granting the advance demanded.

The owners of docks, wharves and river warehouses in London have formed a league to fight the men.

Col. Sanderson's friends are persuading him not to visit America on a lecturing tour for fear of the Clan-na-Gael.

Lord Salisbury has arranged for the immediate occupation of the Makololo country and the Shire river district in Africa.

Mrs. Lucas, a sister of the late John Bright, and an agitator and speaker in the cause of temperance, is dead in England.

The Parnellite members of Parliament held a meeting on Tuesday, at which a vote of confidence in Mr. Parnell was adopted.

The Prince of Wales will visit Berlin on March 22 to be present at the festival of the Order of the Black Eagle, established in 1701.

A number of volunteer battalions of infantry and batteries of artillery in Ireland are to be called out for training in field operations.

Mr. Gladstone has again refused an offer made by a firm of American publishers of £6,000 yearly for everything he writes for the public.

The owners of English coal mines at their recent conference determined to establish a federation of owners, to resist unfair demands made by employees.

The Australian Federation Conference met at Melbourne on the 6th inst. The Premier of Victoria was elected to preside over the deliberations.

An amendment to the address in reply will be moved in the Imperial Parliament by

a Welsh member to the effect that the affairs of Wales should be administered by a special department.

A sensation has been caused by the Archbishop of Canterbury allowing, in the trial of the Bishop of Lincoln, rearrangement of the propriety of using lighted candles on the communion table.

An explosion occurred on the 6th inst., in a colliery at Abseychan, in Monmouthshire, England, by which it is estimated 190 men have lost their lives. The bodies of 170 have been recovered.

At the election on Tuesday in the Partick division of Lanarkshire to fill the vacancy caused by the death of Mr. Craig Sellar, Mr. Parker Smith, Unionist, was elected. This does not change the complexion of the constituency.

All the Australian governments have forwarded to the secretary for the colonies protests against the use of the vetoing power by the Home Government as exercised regarding bills dealing with colonial domestic legislation. The protests are apropos of a divorce bill passed by the Victorian Parliament that has been sent to London for approval.

UNITED STATES.

Portland, Oregon, was last week flooded and completely cut off from the outside world.

The Gentiles defeated the Mormons in the municipal elections of Salt Lake City on Monday.

Ruth Woods died at Lancaster, Pa., on Saturday, at the well authenticated age of 107 years.

Sixteen men, of whom three were white, were publicly whipped at Newcastle, Del., on Saturday.

President Fitzgerald, of the Irish National League of America, has issued another appeal for funds.

It is said that all the principal starch factories of the United States are now controlled by an English syndicate.

The corner-stone of Rev. Dr. Talmage's new tabernacle in Brooklyn was laid on Monday in the presence of a large congregation.

Graham, charged with attempted jury bribing in the Cronin trial, has not turned up, and his \$15,000 bail bonds are forfeited.

The town of Burke, in Idaho, was almost destroyed on Tuesday by an avalanche. Three men were killed and half of the business houses are in ruins.

A storm recently played havoc among the oyster boats of Norfolk, Va., a number of which went to the bottom. It is supposed twenty lives were lost.

Burglars shot and killed Ransom Floyd and his wife at Westport, N. Y., the other night. The scoundrels secured \$3,000, the proceeds of a farm just sold.

A strike of yard brakemen and conductors is reported at Suspension Bridge in the New York Central freight yard. The men want extra pay for Sunday work.

The Chicago board of trade directors have decided to appoint a committee of three to canvass for subscriptions to buy seed for the destitute farmers in South Dakota.

Andrew Carnegie, the famous iron master, has offered to spend \$1,000,000 for a central free library and branches for Pittsburgh, Pa., provided the city will maintain them.

A special despatch from Washington says that Sir Julian Pauncefote and Secretary Blaine are both very hopeful that an understanding will be reached on the Behring Sea fisheries' trouble.

At Ironton, Ohio, on Sunday, a young man named Ferrell interfered to protect his mother against his father. The father attacked the boy with a poker, and the boy broke his father's neck with a chair.

Petitions emanating from the headquarters of the Farmers' Alliance are being circulated throughout Kansas praying the governor to convene the Legislature in extra session, and asking that the Legislature be called to extend relief to them by the passage of a law providing for the relief of the farmers.

IN GENERAL.

Emin Pasha has decided to leave Zanzibar direct for Europe.

Gen. Salamaca, captain-general of the island of Cuba, is dead.

Cardinal Jacobini, secretary of state at the Vatican, is believed to be dying.

The pope has decorated the Shah of Persia for his kindness to the Catholic missions.

A Portuguese councillor of state has challenged the British minister at Lisbon to a duel.

Losses at the gaming tables in Monaco caused the ex-king of Serbia to threaten suicide.

There is a revival in Portugal of the demonstrations against England and the English.

Cardinal Pecci, elder brother of Pope Leo XIII., died at Rome on the 8th inst., at the age of 82.

Prince Bismarck is said to be in perfect accord with Emperor William in his labor proposals.

The Chinese Government is considering a project for the introduction of silver coinage into China.

Prince Augustus of Saxe-Coburg, Dom Pedro's grandson, has been placed in a lunatic asylum.

The pope has issued a decree absolving the faithful in countries visited by influenza from fasting.

The Portuguese government has decided to increase both the army and navy and to strengthen her forts.

France has refused Germany's invitation to a labor congress, having already accepted one from Switzerland.

King Carlos, the queen and dowager queen of Portugal have subscribed \$85,000 to the national defence fund.

A plot has been frustrated in Sofia, the object of which was to kill Prince Ferdinand and hand Bulgaria over to Russia.

The Spanish Government is disposed to be annoyed at the continued presence of the British squadron at the Canary Islands.

The French Minister of Marine proposes to ask the Chamber for money to build 78 new ships of war, including ten heavy iron-clads.

Emperor William's proposed labour scheme is not popular in Berlin, where his Majesty is spoken of as "the beggars' Emperor."

Six Italian Cardinals will be created in March in view of the minority of the Italian cardinalate as compared with the number of foreign Cardinals.

It is reported that the German emperor has requested the government to send the English squadron to attend the German naval manoeuvres.

Russia has ordered two large iron-clad frigates to be built in England, to be provided with the biggest engines and the heaviest Krupp guns.

M. Rouvier, the French Minister of Finance, admits the pecuniary embarrassment of the country, but thinks the difficulty can be overcome by a loan.

Emperor William has caused an order to be issued prohibiting the exhibition of portraits of himself, his ancestors or any of his family without his sanction.

In the French Chamber of Deputies M. Pradene's motion to repeal the law banishing pretenders to the French throne was defeated by a vote of 328 to 171.

There is great distress in the drouth-stricken countries of Northern Dakota, and the sufferers are in dire need of provisions, clothing, fuel, and feed for stock.

England and Germany will refer to an arbitrator their respective claims to the islands of Patta and Mauda on the East African coast. Patta was formerly held by Portugal.

Emperor William is desirous of holding a conference of representatives from England, France, Belgium, and Switzerland to take into consideration the labour question as revealed by recent strikes.

Russia is at present in the throes of a temperance campaign, which the central government does not appear to be judging to any great extent, if one may judge by the news from the department of Kiev. In that section 36 villages sent petitions to Petersburg demanding the abolition of all liquor selling establishments within their boundaries. Thirty-five of these petitions were rejected, but the 36th being accepted, the inhabitants of the village thus deprived of their drink turned out and beat to death the man who had drawn up the petition. They said he had been altogether too eloquent.

The Duke of Orleans, who has just reached his majority, appeared in Paris last week and was at once arrested for violation of the law banishing members of previously reigning families. On the duke is said to have been found a manifesto to the people of France and there are suspicions that a movement was afoot for a Royalist coup d'etat. An enquiry was commenced, and the duke declared that he had no other intention in visiting France than to place himself at his country's disposal as a soldier. He had, in fact, intended to offer himself to the military authorities. The inquiry was adjourned.

THE DUC D'ORLEANS.

Probably few people were aware that the historic title of Duc d'Orleans is now borne by a young man who has just completed his 21st year, when that person suddenly obtained a notoriety which makes it worthy while to give an account of him. He is the oldest son of the Comte de Paris, the chief of the House of Orleans-Bourbon, who is now in his 52d year. The Comte, Prince Philippe d'Orleans, is not only the heir of his grandfather, Louis Philippe, whom the revolution of 1830 made King of the French, and the Revolution of 1848 deprived of the crown, but also heir to the political claims of the Comte de Chambord, the last representative of the elder branch of the Bourbons. The Comte de Paris was born in 1820, and the French Crown was his apparent in 1848, when his grandfather vainly abdicated the crown in his favor. At the age of ten he became a pretender and was exiled from his native country, to which, however, he returned in 1871. Subsequently the Comte de Paris recognized the Comte de Chambord as the chief of "the House of France," and succeeded to the latter's pretensions in 1883. He is married to Princess Isabella, eldest daughter of his uncle, the late Duc de Montpensier, and has four daughters and two sons. Three of his children, including the Duc d'Orleans, who is named Louis Philippe, were born in England, as the Comte de Paris and his wife for a long time resided at Twickenham, near London. Prior to his marriage the Comte and his younger brother visited America, and during the Civil War he served for a time, as a volunteer on Gen. McClellan's staff. He has written a military history of the great American war, which is recognized as a work of merit. After the establishment of the third French Republic the members of the former French dynasties were permitted to return to France. The Comte and Comtesse de Paris then took up their residence in the castle of Eu, where their younger children were born.

In 1886 the French Legislature adopted a law which banished the French pretenders and their oldest sons, and also authorized the executive branch of the Government to expel from the country other members of the pretender families whenever such a measure should be required by the public interest. Under this law the Comte de Paris and his oldest son, the Duc d'Orleans, then a youth of 17 years, were obliged to leave France as time, the Comte's residence lately has been at Sheen House, in England. The Duc d'Orleans was arrested in Paris because by his return to France he had violated the law of 1886. He has declared that as a Frenchman who has attained the age of military service he desired to enter the army as a private soldier. But the law which banishes him from the country of which he is a citizen, though born in England also deprives him of the right to serve in the army. There is nothing to indicate that the young man acted with the knowledge and consent of the older and wiser members of his family, and the rumors concerning an intended attempt to seize the government and an alleged resignation of the pretender-ship by his father apparently had no foundation. The title of Duc d'Orleans was previously borne by his grandfather, Ferdinand, King Louis Philippe's eldest son and Prince Royal, who had obtained it after his father's accession to the crown in 1830, and retained it until his death in 1842. It was never borne by the Comte de Paris, but devolved upon his eldest son and heir, who was born in 1869. The title was therefore dormant 27 years. The cable dispatches state that the Duc will be tried for having violated the law, but it is not likely that the French Government will make of him a political martyr. He will probably be released after a short term of imprisonment involving no serious hardship for him, and then be conducted to the frontier. Apparently the only figure in store for the young man is the possession of a large estate and a high social rank together with the absurd and wretched role of a pretender.

**A PLAGUE FOREBODED.**

**So Insist Some of Those Who Have Looked Up the Record of "La Grippe" in the Past.**

**A Curious Account of Former Epidemics of Influenza and of Pestilence Which Followed.**

While doctors may disagree it is well for us all to look at facts and strive to prepare for the worst. That influenza, like that which has raged in Canada, and, in fact, throughout the world, has been followed by cholera, yellow fever, or some malignant disease of that character can not be denied, as statistics will plainly show. Some claim that diphtheria is a new discovery, but the disease dates back nearly to the creation.

In the year 590, at Rome, in the time of Pope Pelagius II., there was a horrible destructive pestilence prevalent and also in Spain. The air was observed to be impregnated with a kind of mist and foetidness, which by irritation induced a sneezing, hence the custom of saluting a person sneezing with the expression "Dominus tecum," or some similar expression, a practice which has reached our time. The year following, 591, Britain suffered from a severe pestilence, also Tureme and the provinces of Aragon and Vivares.

In 1728 influenza was epidemic in Spain; it was named by Pedro de Rotundis "un catarro sufocatio." Yellow fever the same year was very fatal to the inhabitants of Charleston, United States. It was termed a "bilious plague" from its severity. A similar disease carried off great numbers of the population of Cartagena and Portobello, in South America; the most fatal symptom was black vomit. This disease made great havoc among the crews of the vessels under Don Domingo Justiniani and the galleons under Lopez Pintado. Epidemic pestilence was also rife in Poland, Austria, and Siberia, the island of Bourbon, and also Tripoli, Damascus, and Aleppo. Scarlet fever raged in Edinburgh and chincough in England. About this period military fever, or sweating pestilence, prevailed with great mortality in various parts of the world. The seven following years, 1729 to 1735, pestilence raged throughout nearly all Europe, being especially severe in Russia, Bohemia, and Sweden. In 1730 an epidemic pestilence commenced at Cadix. The disorder was called "el vomito negro," and it was supposed to have been imported from South America. It extended in all directions, to various parts of the continent, and persisted until 1738, in which year a frightful dysentery invaded the coast of Malaga and Seville and nearly all the seaboard of Andalusia. During the prevalence of this pestilence horses were first afflicted with a general epizootic, and birds and poultry which fed on grain suffered severely, and large quantities of insects, called by the Spaniards "lagostas," were generated. In 1734 1,500 persons died in London of pestilential fever in one week; in the month of April yellow fever was destructive to many of the inhabitants of several states in the union. The year following influenza overspread Spain and many other parts of Europe. The island of Mallorca suffered severely. In 1737 the plague destroyed thousands in Egypt and afflicted nearly all of Europe, and yellow fever raged the large cities of the United States, and during the winter in North America, which was cold and wet, a distemper like that of influenza affected the throats and respiratory organs of the children, almost exterminating the younger element. In 1736 an epidemic pestilence raged with great violence at Grand Cairo, and from the 1st of February to the 12th of March more than 100,000 persons were carried off. Some days not less than 7,000 were buried. Later on many thousands died of what was then called black vomit.

In 1740 the vomito negro was destructive to the inhabitants of Spain, prevailing to an alarming extent at Malaga, also at Tobolsk, in Siberia. In 1761, in the northern parts of the United States, severe catarrh or influenza prevailed. In the spring it changed its character to malignant yellow fever during the summer and autumn. The disease also prevailed in the West Indies to an alarming extent. The symptoms were a slight cold, aching of the bones, followed by extraordinary prostration of strength. The malady presented the signs of a bilious distemper, the countenance becoming yellow; insensibility and coma, and oftentimes delirium when the patient was taken off with all the symptoms of a regular bilious plague or yellow fever. The celebrated writer and authority, Dr. Edward Bascome, in speaking of influenza and pestilence says: "The extensive prevalence of epizootic disease indicates a pestilential condition of the atmosphere and a disturbed state of the seasons." In 1810, following a winter siege of influenza, a yellow-fever pestilence raged in the United States carrying off great numbers, especially in New York and Philadelphia. It was also rife in the West Indies and various parts of South America, one plague in every instance seeming to follow another, and all who have given descriptions of catarrhal epidemics, similar to which we are now passing, are reminded that they will be closely followed by some dread disease like that of black vomit or cholera.

In 1833 the influenza raged severely along the Mediterranean coast and in 1834 cholera reigned supreme even to the rocks of Gibraltar. In 1835 cholera was rife at Leghorn, carrying off sixty or seventy persons daily, and in 1837 it prevailed at Rome, from 200 to 300 dying daily; the same year out of 16,000 attacked in the province of Caucasus 10,000 fell victims and at Moscow nearly one-half of the population perished.

In 1837 influenza appeared in London in the first week in January and lasted for some six weeks and nearly one-half of the population were attacked, and the mortality during the time was nearly double; it also held sway in many places of Europe and on the islands of the Atlantic coast, and in March yellow fever broke out in the garrison on the Island of Ascension and committed great ravages. In short, it may be said that influenza has from time immemorial pretty generally preceded and accompanied epidemic pestilence in every quarter of the globe.

Many writers claim, and we think justly, that the appearance of comets materially affect the elements. For instance, in 1401 a comet was discovered and pestilence broke out at Florence, and 30,000 persons died in London; in 1531 a comet was seen at Lisbon, and a pestilence followed throughout Portugal, destroying nearly one-half the population.

In 1556 a comet was seen, and Vienna, Holland, and many parts of Europe suffered severely from some malady which then was

termed "Adaluzian fever," and it is well known that the terrible pestilence, cholera, of 1817 and subsequent years was preceded by influenza, and influenza has ever preceded a commotion of the elements, and with many scientific men a comet prophesies no good. Be that as it may, it behooves not only the authorities in charge of our health department to guard cautiously against any liable and probable epidemic like cholera or yellow fever, but it is the duty of every citizen to see that his own household is in order.

**THE CZAR'S 400.**

**Doings of Gilded Youth in St. Petersburg—Deadheads and Hard Liquor**

Herr von Proskowetz, an Australian nobleman and traveller, has just published a bookful of stories concerning the bad side of Russian life as he saw it on a two years' trip through the country. The most striking peculiarity of Russian railway travel, he thinks, is a lot of deadheads in the high-priced compartments of the coupes. Between Moscow and St. Petersburg he shared a first-class compartment with a dragoon officer. The guard took Herr von Proskowetz's ticket, but said nothing to the officer. For some time after they were left alone together the military man eyed the Austrian nobleman curiously, and finally asked: "Did you really buy a first-class ticket?" Von Proskowetz confessed that he did. "Too bad! too bad!" ejaculated the officer. "And your good money is squandered beyond recall. You ought to have done as I did. I gave the guard a rouble and a cigar. He is a good fellow and doesn't bother about tickets."

Proskowetz suggested that a dragoon officer might do things that a foreigner might not.

"Yes, that may be so," answered his companion, "but just think of the fun you might have had with the fifteen roubles you squandered on a ticket."

As the founder of the Austrian Society for the Prevention of Drunkenness, Herr von Proskowetz collected many statistics as to the amount of hard liquor swallowed by the Czar's subjects. From Jan. 1, 1885, to Jan. 1, 1886, Russia's 2,331 distilleries produced 3,861,568 hectolitres (a hectolitre is a little less than 100 quarts) of water-free spirits; 233 other factories manufactured spirituous liquors from various fruits, and 308 others produced schnapps and purified brandy. In 1886 the average consumption in Russia was thirty-two quarts of "hard" liquors to every man, woman, and child in the country. In the province of Wilna, where the peasants are famous for their temperance, the consumption in 1888 was more than ten quarts per head.

Since 1885 the population of St. Petersburg has fallen from 861,000 to 842,000. This falling off has taken place among the working people, and may be ascribed to the wretchedness of the quarters in which the working-men at the capital are obliged to live. One-tenth of the workmen's lodgings are in cellars. When higher up, however, the accommodations are little better. A working-man's sleeping room has usually only one window, and is occupied at night by between ten and fifty other laborers.

Herr von Proskowetz's opinion of Russian society is pretty poor. The young men in Moscow's 400, he thinks, are about the most reckless and extravagant in the world, and are always full of a desire to smash things. A man, therefore, who gives a stag dinner at a Moscow restaurant or hotel invariably contracts to pay for the meal "inclusively of crockery." As soon as the last dish has been served his guests begin to slam things about the room, and before the last bottle of wine has been served the floor is carpeted with small bits of the service, the mirrors, and the pictures from the wall. In the Winter Garden the young bloods drive their sticks through the fish globes and hew down all the flowers and shrubs they can get at. They are not altogether bad, however, for they pay the proprietor lavishly for everything they destroy.

Another freak of the lively young men in Moscow is to hire an elephant for an evening and get it drunk on champagne. About six months ago a young blood beat the record for originality by giving his friends a dinner, at which the only meat was the pork from a trained pig, bought of its trainer by the host for 14,000 roubles. At least that was the story the host told in good faith to his friends at the beginning of the feast. He learned the next day that the owner of the pig, Clown Tanto, had swindled him by substituting a common pig for the educated animal. A lawsuit followed, but before it could be decided Tanto and his pig and the 14,000 roubles in question got out of the country.

The Moscow dudes and officers have also an overweening passion for the stars of the cafe chantants and for gypsy street singers, whom they marry with astonishing frequency. Herr von Proskowetz tells all these stories of the Czar's 400 with perfect seriousness, and presents abundant proof of their truth. His opinion is that the half has not been told of the unique madness of Russian fashionable life.

**Not a Bad Idea.**

The Legislature of the Province of Quebec has just passed a law giving a hundred acres of the public lands to the father of twelve living legitimate children. The act which makes this remarkable provision says more of the principle presumably underlying it than that the gift is intended as a mark of "consideration for fruitfulness in the sacred and civil bonds of matrimony." Fathers of large families were similarly rewarded in Canada, when it was a French dependency in the time of Louis XIV. In almost all countries, at some time in their history, productiveness has been made profitable to the parents by the State. The Roman Republics also thought such measures good policy. In England a premium was put upon large families under the reign of the earlier kings, but all legislation of the kind has long since been repealed except the royal gift of three guineas which still rewards the happy mother of triplets. There may be good reasons known to the Quebec Legislature for the new law; a desire to bolster their Province against the more rapidly increasing population of other parts of this Dominion, or with a view to encouraging the settlement and cultivation of the northern part of the province of Quebec, which is still virgin forest for the most part. Anyway the idea is not a bad one and might be followed with profit in other provinces and territories.