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NEWS OF THE WEEK.

The following appointments are gazetted: Hon. George Brown, to be a Senator; William S. Senkler, of Brockville to be judge of the County Court of Lanark, *vice* judge Mallock, deceased; William Ambrose, of Hamilton, to be judge of the County Court of Wentworth, *vice* judge Logie, deceased.

Mr. Moss has been elected for West Toronto, to the Commons, by a majority of 508, Mr. Chisolm is elected to the Ontario Assembly for the County of Peel, by a majority of 248.

The Kingston infantry school which was opened about ten days ago, is now in full working order. Twenty-three cadets are in attendance. Lieut. Colonel Jarvis is commandant; Lieut. Colonel Phillips, Adjutant; Sergeant Ryan, Sergeant Major; and Sergt. Smith, instructor.

A Postal Convention has been entered into between the United States and various European powers, including Great Britain, under which frauds upon the Customs revenues through the mails will be prevented.

The Kingston City Council has signed petitions to the Dominion Parliament and Governor-General praying for the prohibition of the manufacture and sale of spirituous liquors as beverages.

A Mass meeting of workmen was held in New York on Tuesday night of last week when it was stated that there are 10,000 homeless men and women in that city; and that, out of eleven Trades Unions 20,250 men are idle.

A carefully compiled statement shows that the damage done to shipping on the lakes, during 1873 was \$3,976,000, or nearly a million more dollars than the year previous, and the number of ships lost or damaged was 1,318.

About 9 o'clock last Thursday night Mr. W. B. Wood, Agent at Nashville, Tenn. for Adams' Express Company, had his skull crushed in and his safe robbed of \$1,200. Three of the men concerned in the affair have been arrested.

The Pacific Division, 115 miles in length, of the Northern Pacific Railroad was finished on the 17th inst. This completes rail connection between the Columbia River and Tacoma.

The Richmond *Guardian* states that during the past week, not less than 5,000 French Canadians have returned from the United States, and that hundreds will leave every week for some time to come.

About 7 p. m. on Sunday evening a young man, accompanied by a young lady, both of Pembroke, were driving on the lake near that town with a fine pair of horses, valued at \$400. The ice not being sufficiently strong, suddenly gave way, in an instant the team and cutter disappeared under the ice, but the young man and lady escaped from a watery grave.

The *Toronto Globe* favours the use of the American line as part of the scheme of the Canadian Pacific Railway. The following is the *Globe's* explanation of the effect of that policy:—"If this scheme is carried out, our national enterprise, *instead of being the successful rival of the American Company, competing for the Asiatic trade, which is now in its infancy, and building up the Dominion as no other undertaking will do will simply be the Canadian branch of the Northern Pacific Railroad entirely under its control, dictated to by it relentlessly.*"

Sir Garnet Wolsely is making things rather lively on the Ashantees. He recently attacked them at Abrakampa, and defeated them in the most thorough manner. The *Times* correspondent sums up the fight by declaring that the affair at Abrakampa was the worst disaster the Ashantees have met with since 1826. Not a single life was lost on our side, but twenty were wounded, ten slightly. It is possible the King may now be inclined to negotiate, but the correspondent thinks that negotiations should be conducted in Coomassie alone. It may now be affirmed that the Ashantee invasion is over, and that soon the Protectorate will be clear. In two months the second act of the drama will commence, and in three months probably Coomassie will be taken. The *Daily News* says the main body of the Ashantees had attacked Abrakampa in great force and with much persistence. They were unable, however, to stand against the fire of the troops, who were completely protected. After two unsuccessful attempts, the Ashantees, numbering 15,000, fled in the utmost confusion from their camp, leaving every thing behind them. Sir Garnet Wolsely had returned in triumph with spoils of war to Cape Coast Castle, and the excitement among the natives was immense. The Ashantee camp at Alampou has been deserted and burnt. Colonel Esting attacked the Ashantee forces near Dunquah on the 3rd November, and caused so much loss to them that, after a council of war, they decided to break up and reach the Prae as best they could.

A correspondent of the *Liverpool Daily Post* writes as follows:—"To give the public an idea of the amount of reluctance, that can be placed in native Fantee levies, I may mention that during the fight near Dunquah

that portion of the native levies which happened to be under the command of Lieutenant Pollard, R. N., suddenly became panic-stricken, and bolted. Most fellows would probably have felt inclined to follow their men when left alone under such very trying circumstances, but not so Mr. Pollard, who coolly began to fire off his revolver and fight by himself, when some few of his men, feeling a certain amount of compunction at leaving such a plucky fellow to fall a victim to the Ashantees, returned, and thrusting him into a hammock, ran off with him. A ludicrous termination to what might have been a very tragical story; but I think it is sufficiently proved the Fantees are worthless as fighting men, and are only fit to be employed as laborers."

The Prince of Wales has given 25 guineas to the newspaper press fund.

Advices from Cape Coast Castle to the 24th ult., report that General Sir Garnet Wolsely had completely recovered his health and had resumed active duty. During his illness the expedition was at a standstill, and movements had since been difficult owing to the large number of sick. The authorities at Madeira were placing all the obstacles they could in the way of the establishment of sanitary measures for the British soldiers stricken with fever.

A Prussian ordinance, was officially promulgated on the 17th, ordering that in future all Bishops, upon their installation shall swear to maintain complete subordination to the State and co-operation in the suppression of all disloyal intrigues.

At the Mansion House, the Lord Mayor said he had received a letter from the Duke of Argyll, respecting the Bengal famine, stating that things wore a hopeful aspect, and that it was not yet necessary to open subscriptions in England.

A society has been formed in Belgium for collecting all waste paper, and selling it for the profit of the Pope. The society has appealed to all the possessors of "bad books, such as the works of Voltire, Rousseau, Diderot, Volney and other detestable authors," to hand them over as waste paper.

A scheme is being considered for constructing a railway to the Isle of Wight. The proposal is to run a railway from Totton, a station at the top of Southampton water, on the Dorchester Line, to the Isle of Wight, by tunneling the west channel of the Solent. Totton is about twelve miles from the west channel.

A tornado passed over the town of Milton California, on the 16th destroying the entire place. Several houses were blown away from their foundations. A number of persons were badly injured. No lives were lost.