## NEWS OF THE WEEK.

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Those who wish to secure pleasant and profitable reading matter for the winter evenings should note our exceptional offer which appears on page 13. For \$2.50 in cash we undertake to send The Critic to any subscriber for one year, supplying him in addition with ninety-seven of the most readable of readable books. Those who are renewing their subscriptions, as well as now subscribers, should take advantage of this offer.

St Peters Canal, C. B., is now free from ice.

The Quebec Legislature was prorogued on the 21st iust.

New Glasgow has decided to organize a Board of Trade.

Kent County, N. B., has three breach of promise cases in prospect.

Gabriel Dumont is at Morris, Manitoba, and will shortly visit Winnipeg.

The Nova Scotia Central Railroad is now being ballasted—a large gang of men are at work.

Moncton expects to have a boom in building operations during the spring and summer.

An Ottawa dispatch says the twenty-four hour notation has been adopted on railways in China.

The "modus vivendi" is to be continued in operation during the forthcoming fishing season.

Digby is asking for government aid in the construction of a building to be used for exhibition purposes.

Winnipeg grocers have formed a Mutual Protective Association, with William Hunter as President. Amherst and Truro are to have street cars soon, companies having

applied to the legislature for incorporation.

Mr. J. R. Cowan has been appointed manager of the Spring Hill mines in the place of Mr. R. G. Leckie, resigned.

Chandler, who shot Mr. J. A. Sheffield of the C. P. Railway, in Montreal, has been sentenced to imprisonment for life.

The Maccan coal mines are shipping coal from Dorchester and expect to forward from there during the summer about 100,000 tons.

The Albion Hetel on Sackville St. is an excellent and long established Temperance House, whose accommodations are good and rates notably moderate.

Both St. John and Portland have voted for union by a majority of over one thousand. St. John is now the fourth city in population in the Dominion.

The Windsor Tribune is now printed on a superior quality of paper which adds greatly to its appearance, and will no doubt be appreciated by its sulscribers.

It is said that eight hundred men have been thrown out of employment in Lunenburg Co., in consequence of the closing of the mills by the enforcement of the sawdust law.

Spring Hill has been suffering from the depredations of youthful thieves. There have been five burglaries there recently. Some boys have been captured and have confessed their guilt.

Spring is advancing in Manitoba and the Northwest, seeding operations are going on throughout the country, and navigation will probably be open on the Lake of the Woods in a few weeks.

Col. Gunter has, by order of Sir John Ross, officially conveyed to the Halifax Fire Brigade the thanks of the General for the valuable assistance lent by them at the recent fire at the Citadel.

It is said the sales of Nova Scotia coal in the Upper Provinces this season will be about 100,000 tons less than last year, owing to the railways contracting for large quantities of American coal.

Large numbers of immigrants are arriving by the steamers from England to settle in Manitoba and the North-west. Many who have reached their destination express themselves as delighted with the country.

The British American Hotel, Upper Water St., is well known as a favorite resort of the farming and mining communities. Mr. Broussard's card apprises us that French is spoken at the British American.

The United States Consul-General Phelan left for St. Johns, Newfoundland, in the steamer Conscript on Tuesday. It is reported that there will be no change in the Halifax Consulate under the Harrison administration.

The spruce gum trade bids fair to be a source of profit to Hants county. Three tons have already been shipped this season to the United States, where it brings sixty-eight cents per pound for use in the manufacture of rubber shoes.

The furniture factory of Hess Bros., Toronto, was recently burned to the ground. The total loss is \$125,000, insurance only \$17,000 so far as known. Five cars standing near the factory were entirely burned, one was loaded with furniture.

Hon. A. W. McLelan, Lieutenant-Governor of Nova Scotia, is said to be improving in health, and will probably return to Nova Scotia about the end of April, visiting Washington and other principal cities in the States on his way. He is now staying in Thomasville, Georgia.

Wilmot Spa Springs are as good as a mine to Captain Hall, as it is reported he has large orders from the United States for the healing waters, and as there is an inexhaustable supply which only has to be bottled or barreled for transport, a goodly sum should be the result of the awakening trade in medicinal water.

At a recent meeting of the parishioners of Christ Church, Windsor, Rev. Canon Mockridge, of Hamilton, Ont, was elected Rector by a large majority. An exchange says that Canon Mockridge resigned his position in Ontario because the church-wardens declined to make the sittings free.

The steamer City of Monticello will not have her name changed to the Digby, as was reported would be the case. She commenced her regular trips this week, leaving St. John every Monday, Wednesday, and Saturday morning at 7.45 a. m. for Digby and Annapolis and returning the same day.

St. Peter's Cathedral in Montreal is slowly but surely advancing towards completion. Thirty men are employed in constructing the portico, which is a massive work. On account of the tremendous weight of stone it will take, the architects have thought it wiser not to complete more than half of it this season, in order to test the ground.

Miss Blackadar, a missionary of the Presbyterian Church to Trinidad, is now home on furlough, and has been telling her friends in different parts of the province about her labors among the coolies. Large audiences have listened to Miss Blackadar, and quite a renewed interest has been awakened in the mission. Miss Blackadar will shortly return to Trinidad.

The St. John letter carriers have united in a petition to the Dominion Government for an increase of pay. The letter carrier has to work in some cases for eight or ten years before he reaches the maximum salary of six hundred dollars. He has to be out in all kinds of weather and is a faithful servant of the public. It is to be hoped that they will succeed in getting an increase.

The McGill University library is indebted to the Dowager Lady Vernon for four volumes uniformly bound. Three volumes consist of Dante's "Inferno," and the other of Dante's "Divina Comedia." The edition is most luxurious, and the plates are of great value and beauty; one volume consists entirely of illustrations beautifully executed. The late Lord Vernon possessed possibly the most valuable collection of editions of Dante

We are in receipt of the first number of a new weekly journal—the Restigouche Pioneer, published at Campbellton, N. B. Our new contemporary gives every promise of being a bright paper. We note with pleasure that it intends to be thoroughly independent, and we admire the terms in which it sets forth its purpose. There is also about it an entirely satisfactory tone of patriotism. We wish the Restigouche Pioneer the We wish the Restigouche Pioneer the satisfactory tone of patriotism. success it will evidently deserve.

An Ottawa despatch dated the 12th says: "Lt. Colonel Bacon, captain of this year's Wimbledon team, gives the following as the riflemen who compose the team so far as heard from: Captain S. M. Rogers, 43rd batt., Ottawa; Lt. J. A. Wilson, 33rd batt., Seaforth, Ont.; Pte. J. A. Armstrong, Governor-General's Foot Guards, Ottawa; Staff Sergt. T. Mitchell, 10th Royal Grenadiers, Toronto; Pte. R. McVittees, 10th Royal Grenadiers, Toronto; Sergt. J. A. Rolston, 20th batt.; Major B. A. Weston, 66th batt., Halisax; Staff Sergt. F. G. Corbin, 63rd, Halisax. Out of the sixty men from whom the team is selected so far only one man, Sergt. W. Short, of G.G.F.G., Ottawa, has refused to accompany the team.

The strike at Fall River has ceased.

Mr. R. T. M. Lincoln has been nominated by the President as United States Minister to England.

A New Jersey cannery has contracted for 200 acres of tomatoes at \$7 per ton for next season's pack.

The will of Hiram Kelley, of Chicago, lest \$20,000 to the public library and \$15,000 each to five asylums.

Gold bars worth \$1,200,000 were taken from the assay office at New York recently for export to Europe.

The city of Scranton, Pa., is caving in. Coal miners have undermined the city and the supports are giving way.

Jefferson Davis is now more than 80 years of age. He moves about with the agility of a much younger man.

The Connecticut House has passed a bill prohibiting the use of tobacco for smoking by minors under sixteen years of age.

It is said that the deseat of the temperance amendment in New Hampshire cost brewers and distillers in that state \$50,000.

A strong boad of friendship has been formed between Mrs. Cleveland and Miss Mildred Lee, daughter of the famous general.

St. Louis has no less than seventy-eight Chinese laundries, and pays out over \$100,000 annually to Mongolians to have its washing done.

Nantucket has some lively old ladies. At a recent gathering there a lady 95 years old played dance music on the piano while an ancient dame of 85 danced a jig.

Latest advices report a state of comparative tranquility at Samoa, and the ships of other nations joined with the American men-of-war in celebrating Washington's birthday.

The French steamship "LaChampagne," which recently sailed from New York for Havre, took out the contributions of American artists to the Paris Exposition. The value of the paintings is over \$200,000.

Evidently the life of an actress cannot be a healthy one, for we hear that Mary Anderson is ill, Mrs. Langtry could not appear this week, Minnie Maddern is laid up with tonsilites, Mrs. Potter's health is giving out, and now comes the report from Baltimore that Marie Jansen is on the sick list. It looks as if the menagers might be obliged to go back to the old English custom and employ boys to take the female characters.