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NEWS OF THE WEEK.

Parliament was prorogued on Thursday last.

Recent Newfoundland papers show a growing feeling in favor of Mr. Fleming's proposed railway across that Island. The "shortest route to Europe" is dependent on the completion of this road, and we may safely predict that at no very distant day the majority of Canadian and American voyagers to Europe will be going *via* Gaspé and St. John's Newfoundland.

All the cloth for the militia uniforms has arrived. Some three thousand suits have already been manufactured.

Considerable damage seems to be done in different parts of the country by the breaking up of the ice.

Arrangements have been made between the Grand Trunk and Great Western Railroad Companies for a return to the old rates charged by these companies and the Canada Southern prior to the 1st of January last, between Detroit and Buffalo.

We learn from Quebec that a Military Court of enquiry has been summoned there composed of Lieut. Colonels Lord Aylmer, of Sherbrook; Jackson, of Kingston; D'Orsonnens, of Montreal, and the Brigade Majors of the district, to enquire into a matter connected with a letter ordering the Beauce Volunteers out to drill.

The London *Times* is endeavouring to damage our credit in the English market, by cautioning capitalists lending money for Railway projects in Canada. It says—"No amount of argument can, we hope, lead sensible people in this country to invest their money into Railway projects in the Canadian Dominion, for not only is there no traffic for such Railways, but supposing there were, their owners are exposed to constant danger that the Dominion Parliament may grant subsidy for competitive Railways to run half a mile off. In this way the Canadian Southern has been built to ruin the proprietors of the Canada Great Western. If belief in the value of schemes such as we have criticized, is too profound amongst Canadians, as we are told, we say again, let them find money at home. Millions enough have been presented to the Dominion already by this country."

The Hon. Mr. Willis, of the New Brunswick Administration, has been urging for some time the Union of the Maritime Provinces, and, with a view to securing a vote on the question, offered a resolution, which was discussed at considerable length. Mr. Willis is not supported by the Government, of which he is a member, and although there appears to be several members, of the House who have admitted that at some fu-

ture date the matter may take practical shape, they were not yet prepared to accept the resolution presented, which was negatived by a vote of 11 to 25.

At a meeting of the Chamber of Commerce of New York, held the other day, the action of Gov. Elden in exposing the enormous frauds committed by the officials, was very warmly endorsed. Among the remedies suggested are the proper disposition of the unproductive lateral canals, the securing of a uniform depth of seven feet in the Erie, and modifications in the present plan of administration. One of the resolutions passed was: "That, in the judgment of the Chamber, it is absolutely essential to the efficient management of the canals that this department of the State Government should be under the control of a single executive head, appointed by the Governor and Senate and removable at the pleasure of the Governor, with power to appoint and remove his subordinates, and who alone should be held responsible for the proper management of the canals. All experience goes to prove that this is the only safe method of securing efficiency, fidelity and economy in the administration of public affairs."

President Grant in an interview with Dr. J. P. Miles, General Secretary of the Association for the Reform and Codification of International Law, expressed hearty approval of the work of the Association and said it would be a great blessing to the world if the rank and file of the standing armies could be transferred to industrial pursuits, and he declared himself strongly in favour of the settlement of questions between nations by arbitration.

During the winter Nevada miners have purchased in San Francisco immense quantities of mining machinery—thousands and thousands of tons—and still orders for more machinery are being sent almost daily.

The Duchess of Edinburgh while out driving was caught in a shower and borrowed an umbrella at a cottage of an old woman, who refused to loan any but the "second best one," and next day the Duchess sent it home with her compliments, one sovereign and a pound of tea.

The French Government has sent instruction to its Consuls to summon for the last time French subjects living abroad, who are liable to military service, to have their names registered at their consulates.

Fourteen officers who abandoned the cause of Don Carlos have arrived at Biarritz. The Carlists tried to stop them from crossing the frontier. It is said that Gen. Elío has given in his adhesion to King Alfonso.

Cardinal Manning opened the Catholic College at Kensington on the 9th with an address, in the course of which he said he

regarded himself as intrusted with a commission of warfare, for he believed the Church was approaching a crisis the most fiery for three hundred years.

Advices from Calcutta in relation to difficulties between the Indian Government and the King of Burmah concerning boundaries and other matters, state that the King is making warlike preparations.

Germany's military forces, including those of Bavaria, comprise at this moment 31,830 officers, 1,329,600 men, 314,970 horses, 2,700 field and 820 siege pieces of cannon.

All the guns on the great ram *Thunderer* will be worked by machinery. If they keep on increasing the dimensions of iron clads the notion of men handling them at all will be comparable to ants running a windmill.

The *Times*' Berlin special says Herr Sigl, editor of the *Ultramontrano Vaterland*, of Munich, who was recently sentenced, in default of his appearance for trial, to imprisonment, for publishing an article insulting to Bismark, has been arrested by the Austrian authorities at Salesburg, on the application of the German Government. It is understood that he will be sent to Berlin, instead of Munich, where he was tried. The case is likely to attract attention.

It is reported that the Government intends to prosecute the German subscribers to the Carlist fund for fomenting rebellion against a friendly power.

The widow of the late Emperor of China died on the 27th March.

By the advice of his physicians, the Emperor William has abandoned his proposed journey to Italy, to visit King Victor Emmanuel. The Crown Prince and Princess will go instead.

The Emperor of Austria left Venice, on the 7th. Before his departure he conferred numerous decorations, and earnestly congratulated King Victor Emmanuel upon the consolidation of Italy.

The public prosecutors at Liège opened an investigation on April 7th, into the Duchesse's plot for the assassination of Prince Bismark. The action was taken in consequence of the German note to Belgium.

The Bishop of Breslau has refused to resign. Legal proceedings will be commenced immediately to enforce compliance with the decrees of the court.

In France a man has been condemned for a libel which he wrote with a sharp stick on the skin of a green pumpkin growing in the field.

The conflict between the Spanish Government and the University is becoming serious, and may cause the fall of the Ministry. Several more of the professors were exiled. The king's principal physician was offered the head position in the University, but refused to accept it.