

NEWS OF THE WEEK.

Subscribers remitting Money, either direct to the office or through Agents, will find a receipt for the amount enclosed in their next paper. All remittances should be made payable to A. Milne Fraser.

Recently we sent our accounts to subscribers, many of whom are considerably in arrears, and who must understand that we have reached the end of our tether, and now demand immediate payment. Failure to respond will oblige us to take proceedings unpleasant alike to ourselves and to those in arrears.

Sleighting is reported to be excellent in and around Montreal.

Rufus England, Conservative, has been elected in Bromar, Quebec, by a majority of 197.

The Quebec Legislature has been summoned to meet for despatch of business on January 7th.

The snow is sixteen inches deep in Quebec city. The recent storm did much damage to shipping.

The trial of William J. McDonald for the murder of Mrs. Macrae of St. John was to begin yesterday afternoon.

The Scott Act has been sustained in Fredericton by a majority of 68. There is much rejoicing among the temperance party.

It is positively denied by the Minister of Militia that there is any truth in the report that 10,000 militia were to be massed at Kingston next year.

The thermometer is reported to have been down to 22 below zero in Montreal; in more fortunate Halifax it only managed to get down to 5 above on Tuesday night.

The opening day's sale of the Christmas number of the *Montreal Star* is stated to have exceeded 34,000 copies, 10,000 ahead of the first day's sale last year.

The Allan steamship company has appealed to the Privy Council from the recent judgment of the Vice-admiralty Court at Quebec re the *Polynesian-Cynthia* disaster.

The Laval-Victoria University trouble in Montreal has been settled by the parties to the union agreement binding themselves to accept the Pope as arbitrator in the matter.

Mr. R. G. Leckie, late Managing Director of the Springhill mines, has been appointed Manager of the Londonderry Iron Works. He took his position on the 1st inst.

Messrs. J. F. Stairs, of Halifax, and Graham Fraser, of New Glasgow, have been visiting Ottawa in the interest of the proposed scheme to erect large iron and steel works at New Glasgow.

The remains of the late Lt. Col. A. K. Mackinlay arrived in Halifax in the *Damarra* on Saturday last. The funeral took place from the residence of his son on Monday afternoon and was largely attended.

Large shipments of Finnan haddies are being made from Digby to the Upper Provinces and Winnipeg. They are sent across the bay to St. John and thence by Short Line railway. Formerly they were shipped via Boston.

St. John is greatly excited in some quarters over the ghost of a colored man named Jackson, who died about twelve months ago. The ghost is employing the time honored methods of making strange sounds and showing himself at intervals.

Philip McInnis, a brakeman, had both his legs crushed at Richmond yard on Tuesday night. They were amputated below the knees by Dr. Farrell, but the unfortunate man has succumbed to the shock of his injuries. He leaves a wife and six children.

The first of the Y. M. C. A. Popular Talks was given by Prof. J. G. MacGregor on Tuesday evening, when an attentive audience listened to his instructive remarks on "The Circle of the Sciences." The subject will be continued next Tuesday evening by the same gentleman.

The November number of the *Universal Review*, the great London artistic illustrated monthly, contains part two of Mr. Bliss Carman's *Corydon*, the trilogy in memory of Matthew Arnold of which the first part appeared in the *Atlantic* last April. Mr. Carman is now employed on part three.

The question of a monument to the late gallant Major Short has been informally discussed in the road committee of Quebec, two propositions being broached, one to purchase the lot on which he lost his life, to erect a monument on it hereafter, and the other to obtain permission to place a suitable memorial stone in the wall of any house erected on it.

A fire broke out in the machine shop in connection with the Nova Scotia Steel Company's works at New Glasgow on Tuesday, and spread to the main building. The men in the works soon had streams of water playing from the hydrant and the New Glasgow fire department also soon arrived on the scene. After an hour's hard work the fire was got under control. The loss will not hinder the company in their work, as the heavy engines, furnaces, etc., are not damaged. It was a narrow escape.

The semi-annual meeting of the Wanderers' A. A. Club was held in the Halifax Hotel on the 28th ult., when the reports of the officers and various sub-committees were read and proved satisfactory. The cricket season was shown by the report to have been particularly successful. The financial affairs of the club are in a most flourishing condition. The reserve fund amounts to upwards of \$400. There are 322 members on the roll besides 31 lady members. The committee expressed regret at the death of their late President, Lt.-Col. A. K. Mackinlay. A notice of motion was given to make the first year's dues \$10 instead of \$5. Also a motion limiting the age at which boys shall be eligible for membership to sixteen years.

The "didn't think it was loaded" excuse has often been given after the thoughtless person has maimed or killed a victim, and now we hear of a "didn't think it would go off" accident at Bridgeport, C. B. A young man named Grace was playing his violin before two young women, who were dancing, when suddenly one of them, named Day, drew a self-cocking revolver from her pocket and pointed it at Grace. She pulled the trigger and the revolver went off. The bullet entered the young man's head behind his ear and came out on the other side. It is expected that he will recover.

The North British Society and their guests held their annual dinner in honor of St. Andrew at the Halifax Hotel on Monday evening. About eighty-four sat down, among whom the clergy were well represented. After well testing the merits of the menu, which met with approval, the messages from other societies were read by the Secretary and answers to them despatched. The toasts began with "The pious memory of St. Andrew," proposed by the President, Mr. William Nesbet, which with the various other loyal toasts which followed, were duly honored in coffee. The speeches were good, as was also the singing, such well known vocalists as Mr. S. Crawford, Mr. D. C. Gillis and others contributing to the pleasure of the evening in this respect.

The Christmas Number of the *Toronto Globe* is in every way worthy of the enterprise of that journal. Admirably printed—with liberal margins—on excellent paper, its photographic illustrations are of a high quality. The illustration entitled "Harmony"—a lady at the piano-forte—is very pleasing and strikingly natural. The colored illustrations are only rather too highly colored, and are lacking in repose of tone. This is true even of the pretty one, "Our Friends," a study of a little girl with two dogs, but the fault is still more apparent in the illustration of the uniforms of the Canadian Militia, among which surely such brilliancy of color was never seen. If it had only been a little toned down it would have been admirable. Nevertheless the whole number is a most creditable production. We have not space to refer to the literary matter, which, however, is excellent.

The U. S. Senate opened in Washington on Monday. There were 372 members present.

Two thousand Chinese laundrymen in New York have formed a combination and will advance prices 15 per cent.

Matters are more hopeful in Lynn, Mass. Over \$30,000 has been subscribed in the city for the sufferers.

New York insurance men say that on account of recent heavy losses rates will be advanced all over the country.

A man was instantly killed in Gloucester, Mass., the other day, by attempting to shut off an electric light with a wet iron gaff.

There is no truth in the story that General Lord Wolseley has accepted General Fitzhugh Lee's invitation to assist at the unveiling of the statue of Lee.

The *Tribune* building at Minneapolis, Minn., ten stories high, occupied by the *Tribune* and Minneapolis department of the St. Paul Pioneer Press, and numerous business offices was burned last Saturday. Eleven lives are believed to be lost, and the damage is placed at \$250,000.

Following close upon the disastrous fire at Lynn came the news of a four and a half million dollar blaze in Boston. The fire started on the 28th ult. in the six story building, owned by Jordon, Marsh & Co., and occupied by Brown, Darrel & Co., on Bedford St., corner of Kingston St. It was soon beyond control. Four brave firemen lost their lives, and another died at the hospital from his injuries. Over two acres of territory covered by magnificent structures was laid desolate by the flames.

Under any circumstances the gum-chewing habit is as unpleasant as it is an unnecessary one. Of course it is not as nasty or as unwholesome as tobacco-chewing among men, but we fancy, if only on account of the facial contortions induced by it, no really ladylike girl or woman would consent to disfigure herself, or compromise her sense of delicacy and good breeding, by attempting it. The following item culled from an exchange, however, shows that other and more serious consequences than a little vulgarity may ensue from the habit, and we trust its further publication may operate to the discouragement of the practice. "A few days ago Amy Murphy, living in New Bedford, was chewing gum, and not feeling well, gave the gum to another little girl. The latter chewed it, and passed it to two other playmates. The four girls were soon afterward taken down with diphtheria, and two have died. The physicians say the disease was carried from the Murphy child to the others in the chewing-gum."

The Parnell Commission is closed. It had long ceased to excite any interest.

Dom Pedro and party arrived at St. Vincent on Sunday, in the steamer *Alagoas*.

A Scotch weekly paper announces that it will shortly publish a stirring and tragical love story written by the Marquis of Lorne.

An epidemic of influenza prevails at St. Petersburg, the Czar and Czarina being among the victims. Half the population is afflicted.

The Russian Minister of the Interior is preparing a scheme to check the increasing immigration into Russia, especially of Germans.

The Geographical Society is arranging to give a grand banquet and splendid popular and official reception to Stanley on his return.

Admiral Rarib Pacha has sailed for Crete. He is the bearer of a decree of amnesty which is conditional only, as it deprives the Cretans of certain liberties or privileges which they now enjoy.