

NEWS OF THE WEEK.

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There were 62 fires in Winnipeg last year, but only two serious.

A movement is on foot in St. John to establish a sugar refinery there.

The liquor bar in the Quebec Legislature building has been closed by order of the House.

In Toronto, it has been estimated that only five persons out of every twelve attend church.

Harris & Co., of Portland, whose rolling mills were destroyed by fire last week, will it is understood rebuild at once.

Sault Ste. Marie, Ont., claims to be the best lighted city in Canada, having 1,000 incandescent electric lights in the streets.

Nova Scotia fishermen are it is complained almost monopolizing the command and manning of the Gloucester fishing boats.

The English and Canadian Governments have arranged to subsidize new lines of steamers running between Liverpool and Japan via Vancouver.

Messrs. D. MacPherson and Dr. Campbell, in response to requests from many influential citizens, have consented to become candidates for the mayoralty.

Scarlet fever has spread to such an extent in St. John, that the Board of Health have been obliged to enact strict regulations for the purpose of stamping it out.

There is no ice in the Avon river, and the boats have been running for the past two weeks, carrying passengers and freight between Summerville, Hantsport and Windsor.

English Church circles in Toronto are excited over a circular distributed at the doors of churches on Sunday last, warning against Popery in the Church of England.

Hattie & Mylius, the enterprising young Hollis Street drug firm, intend opening a branch of their business in New Glasgow, to be known as the Acadia Drug Store Branch.

The government has decided to construct a telegraph line from St. Peter's, Cape Breton, to Louisburg, with an extension to Scatarie Island. The estimated cost will be \$23,000.

The town of Truro is about to erect a new academy. The building will contain four class rooms, with assembly hall, laboratory, museum, gymnasium and other necessary equipments.

Principal Grant of Queens College, Kingston, Ont., has been nominated by the Halifax Presbytery for Moderator of the next General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church in Canada.

The Town of Brockville claims to have the largest Mayor in America. His name is Daniel Derbyshire. He is 42 years old, stands 6 feet 7 inches in his stockings, and weighs 250 pounds.

The Baptists of Amherst are making a move towards providing a new church building. It will be of modern construction, large seating capacity, and will probably be built of brick or stone.

French is now taught in the New Brunswick schools, lessons being given twice a week after the regular school session. The classes formed in St. John and elsewhere have been very successful.

Messrs. Isbester & Reid are reported to have obtained the contract for the Cape Breton Railway Bridge at Grand Narrows. The structure will cost over \$500,000. The report is not officially confirmed.

It is estimated that there is fully \$5,000 worth of hides stored in Kingston for sale. "There were more hides brought to this city," says the *News*, "this winter than for several seasons. The prices are low."

A hundred bridge carpenters will work for three months preparing the timber for the C. P. R. bridge over the Fraser River at Mission, B. C. It will take 3,000,000 feet of timber and will cost something like \$220,000.

It is probable that Kentville will have a county exhibition held there next Autumn. It is thought Hants and Annapolis may be induced to join with Kings, and, if so, the necessary steps will be taken towards securing the Government grant.

Truro is following Moncton's example, and is having all the houses numbered. Mr. W. H. Smith, the gentleman who superintended the work in Moncton, is doing the same for Truro. It will doubtless be a great improvement to the town.

On May 1st a Kindergarten department will be added to the Dartmouth Public Schools. This town has taken the lead in the Atlantic Provinces in this direction, and the new departure is in keeping with its progressive educational spirit for some years past.

Between forty and fifty crofter families, selected under the State-aided scheme, will leave Glasgow for Halifax on April the third, per the Allan steamship *Corsan*. Every precaution is being taken to ensure that no repetition of last year's blunders be possible.

A Mrs. Bell some time ago brought an action against Sir Charles Tupper for services rendered as a private detective on the Intercolonial. The case has been tried at Ottawa and decided in favor of the defendant. There is some talk of prosecuting Mrs. Bell for perjury.

The ship *St. Cloud*, Captain Walley, has been burned at sea, and her crew landed at Rio Janeiro. She was owned by Wm. D. Lovitt of Yarmouth.

The Yarmouth *Telegram* says:—We are informed that Capt. Albert H. Kelley, of Yarmouth, formerly of the steamer *Electra*, has been secured as captain of the new steel steamer shortly to be placed on the route of the *M. A. Starr*, between Halifax and Charlottetown, P. E. I.

The season's tide of immigration has set in. Large parties of colonists have already reached Manitoba, and more are expected. The movement to Manitoba this year is said to be tremendous, and consists of a good class of immigrants, owing to the stoppage of assisted passages.

There will be an occultation of Jupiter by the moon on Sunday morning next, but, as it begins at 6.55 a. m., at Providence, Rhode Island, the daylight will probably be too far advanced to allow of its being generally observed here, which is much to be regretted, as such a phenomenon is a beautiful spectacle if the weather is clear enough to admit of its being seen.

The finding of the military Court of Enquiry, which has carefully investigated the case of the sentry of the Duke of Wellington's Regt. who was shot while on duty at the Magazine, has been made public. The military authorities are of opinion that the injuries suffered by this sentry were self inflicted, but that there is not sufficient evidence to shew whether by accident or design. The evidence shews, however, that no such attack on the sentry as reported by him was made.

The heirs to the Edwards estate held a meeting in Kingston Ont., lately, and retained Messrs J. L. Snook and James Steel to proceed as might be expedient. It seems that in 1768 a Crown grant was made to Robert Edwards of 34 acres on Broadway, New York city, and in 1771 Robert Edwards leased this land to the British Government for a term of 99 years. The estate is now worth \$20,000,000 and there are 200 heirs who are confident that they have a good claim.

The Montreal *Witness* has on foot a great scheme of prizes for the best true stories of adventure and life in Canada to every public school in the Dominion and Newfoundland. The writer of the best story from each school receives a small prize. The stories from all the schools of a County will be handed to judges, and the best will receive a County prize. These are again collected and reviewed for a Province prize. The Province prize essays will be submitted to the Marquis of Lorne, who will from them adjudge the Dominion prize—a type-writer worth \$125. The Province prizes being the works of Francis Parkman, and the County prizes Macaulay's History of England. This extensive scheme reflects great credit on the enterprise of the *Witness*.

The American Pilgrims have arrived at Rome.

There are 335 churches and 10,000 saloons in New York City.

One hundred and thirty Arab immigrants have arrived at New York during the past week.

The damage done to summer resorts along the Atlantic each winter is estimated at \$2,000,000.

The wealthy Chinese of Portland, Ore., have subscribed money to build a large hospital for their countrymen.

A San Diego (Cal.) man has planted ten acres of mulberry trees preparatory to going into the business of raising silk worms.

No less than fifteen boys are said to have been drowned this season at Pawtucket, R. I., while skating on thin ice or near holes.

Miss Mary Anderson, the actress, has been ill in Philadelphia since Wednesday of last week, and is now reported to be worse.

P. T. Barnum is worth from \$4,000,000 to \$6,000,000, half of which he has made out of his show ventures during the past fifteen years.

The skeleton of a mastodon has been unearthed in California. It is thirty feet long, and has tusks between six and seven feet in length.

A prohibition amendment to the constitution was voted on in New Hampshire recently, and was defeated by two or three thousand majority.

In Chicago during 1888, according to official figures just published, 4,958 buildings were erected—a larger number than in any previous year.

A despatch from Rome says Harrison's Cabinet fully satisfies the Vatican, and information has reached the Propaganda that under Harrison's administration the relations between the United States and the Holy see will be most cordial.

An official report says there were fifty deliberate murders in Chicago in 1888. Only one of the murderers was hanged! Thirty-six escaped punishment, and thirteen are in prison, though the law as it stands says the murderer shall go to the scaffold.

The jury in the case of the Park Central Hotel disaster at Hartford, Conn., have returned a verdict of wilful negligence against Alexander Thuer and Amos E. Risley. Thuer and Risley are under bonds to the Superior Court on the charge of manslaughter.

Mrs. John Crosby Brown, of New York, has presented to the Metropolitan Museum of Art her rich collection of musical instruments. The collection comprises in all 266 pieces. There are similar collections at Berlin, Paris, and Vienna, but it is said that none are finer or more complete than that of Mrs. Brown.

The recent reports of big gold discoveries in Lower California are now said to be false. The excitement was probably worked up by San Diego and Ensulado merchants who wished to make a profit from the outfitting business. Trouble is feared when the army of swindled prospectors are forced to walk home.