

NEWS OF THE WEEK.

Halifax is to be lighted with the electric light. It yet remains to be proven that this means of lighting our streets is as reliable as gaslight.

Sir J. E. Commerell, one of the most popular admirals that have been upon this station for many years, is succeeded by the Earl of Clanwilliam. The new admiral arrived on Tuesday, and will, in the absence of the *Bellerophon*, hoist his flag upon H. M. S. *Dido*.

We are happy to learn that the rather serious injury received by the esteemed lady of ex-mayor George Fraser, is not likely to prove so serious as at first supposed.

Prof. F. C. D. Bristowe, who was appointed to Christ Church, Fredericton, as organist, is a brother of Prof. Bristowe of this city.

The house at the corner of Barrington and Cornwallis Sts., has been handsomely painted by the House Painters' Association, and presents a very attractive appearance.

An attempt is shortly to be made to float the steamer *Hanoverian*, recently wrecked upon the coast of Newfoundland, and there appears to be every prospect that the stupendous undertaking will be successfully accomplished.

Potatoes will be cheap in the Maritime Provinces the coming winter. The crop in P. E. Island and Cape Breton was never surpassed in either quality or quantity. In New Brunswick it is fair, and in Nova Scotia Proper considerably better than last year.

Nova Scotians will see with pleasure that Sir William Dawson, himself an eminent Nova Scotian, has been chosen to act as President at the next meeting of the British Association for the advancement of science. Such an honor seldom falls to the lot of a colonist; it is, however, well merited.

The elevation of Mr. J. Norman Ritchie to the bench of Nova Scotia will be recognized as a fitting tribute to the ability and integrity which that gentleman displayed during his brilliant career at the Bar. Judge Ritchie has our most cordial congratulations, and we feel certain that the honor which has been conferred upon him will be advantageous to the interests of the people of the Province.

The report of Rev. Dr. Hill's intended resignation of the rectorship of St. Paul's, Halifax, will be heard with regret both by his parishioners and his many friends in the city and Province. Dr. Hill has been a prominent figure in literary circles for many years, and his absence will leave a blank in the community which it will be difficult to fill. We trust that the reverend gentleman may find in his Alpine retreat that restoration of health which he seeks.

The Guy Family now at the Lyceum are attracting good audiences. The heavy weight balancing is the most wonderful feature of the entertainment.

English manufactured goods are keeping pace with the other improvements of the day. The woollen cloths are remarkably fine, judging from the samples lately imported by W. Moody of the London House, Granville Street.

The new bridge which now spans the St. John River, was formally opened on Wednesday last; by it, Halifax will now have direct railway communication with Boston.

Not one person in five, it is said, can read the advertisement of J. Godfrey Smith, which appears in another column, without the aid of spectacles. Try, and if you fail, get a pair of Dr. Laurence's spectacles.

The races at the Polo grounds on Saturday last were scarcely up to the average. The best race, by all odds, was that open to all, and was closely contested by Mr. McFarbridge's Electrician and Mr. Kenny's Emissary, being won by the latter, Electrician having been disqualified. Fortunately the day was fine, otherwise the long and tedious waiting between the races would have been unendurable.

The Irish drama "Kerry Gow," is to be put upon the boards of the Academy on Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday evenings next. The *Cleveland Plain Dealer* thus refers to the play:—

Fred. Marsden's drama, "The Kerry Gow," was presented at the Academy of Music last evening to a large and demonstrative audience. Mr. J. S. Murphy, as Dan O'Hara, is the same old J. S. Murphy, a faithful delineator of Irish wit, Irish maudliness and Irish patriotism. The play was splendidly mounted; the blacksmith scene especially being true to life. Mr. Murphy is an accomplished blacksmith and horseshoer, as was evidenced by his skill in providing footwear for Valentine Hay's horse on the stage.

For the information of students intending to study at King's College, the President wishes to give publicity to the following regulations:—

All unmarried students, except those living in Windsor and the vicinity, will be expected to reside in the College.

All students just entering the College, either in the preparatory class, or as matriculants, or from other colleges, will be required to bring a certificate of good moral character signed by their own clergymen, and in the case of those who have been at public schools, such certificate will have to be signed by the master or masters of the school or schools which they have been attending during the past eighteen months.

Divinity students will apply to the President for special regulation's affecting their entrance to the College.

Mr. W. H. Rogers, Inspector of River Fisheries, was in town on Thursday, on his way to the Western Counties.

The Indian Settlement at Frog Lake, near Pitt, is likely to be abandoned. The Indians have a dislike, or dread, of the scene of the murders committed by them.

There is no need to stint our young folk's supply of hce-cakes, nor to limit the quantity of porridge served out to them at breakfast, since the corn crop of America has this year outgrown itself, and dealers are at a loss how to successfully corner it so as to raise the price. Cheap Indian meal will be in order during the coming year.

The Boston Fish Bureau believe in the removal of all duties upon Canadian-caught fish. So do we; but Uncle Sam must look alive if he would have cheap herring.

Mr. R. W. Raymond, of New York, Secretary of the Institute of Mining Engineers, has gracefully acknowledged, in a letter to Mayor Mackintosh of Halifax, the many courtesies extended to the members of the Institute by the citizens of Halifax, and the people of Nova Scotia.

A wonderful century this; Morse outdone by Bell, and Bell now outdone by Brown. The latter, an American of course, has invented a magneto telephone and telegraph, in which no battery is required. With such a telephone we may converse with our cousins in London, and chat with our relations in the antipodes.

British Columbia now adds to her rich natural resources petroleum of excellent quality, of which there is said to be an abundant supply. Our Pacific Province bids fair to rival her Atlantic sister in the variety of her natural wealth.

The general introduction of quadriduplex wires into the telegraphic service of Great Britain, has enabled the government to reduce the telegraphic charges to sixpence per message. The penny post and the sixpenny telegram are luxuries never dreamed of by our grand sires, yet they appear to have enjoyed life without them.

On Nov. 27th, the spirit of the murderer of poor Quinn of Duck Lake is to wander away to its proper hunting grounds; that is, provided certain sympathy is not roused to save from the gallows a man bereft of gratitude and having the instincts of a beast, rather than those of a human being.

The American duties upon fish caught by Canadian vessels, are avoided by the transshipment of cargoes at sea from Canadian to American ships. Happily it is impossible to prolong the customs line seaward, otherwise our fishermen might fare badly.

Heligoland, that morsel of red sandstone near the mouth of the Elbe, upon which the British flag waves triumphantly, is again agitating the mind of the covetous German. Its possession by Great Britain is said to be a constant source of friction between the Germanic and the Britanic powers. If Germany would but possess her soul in patience, and allow fathers Time and Neptune to go on with the work which they have begun, she may yet live to see the coveted possession reduced to the proportions of a shoal or dangerous sand-bank.

An important libel suit has just been decided in Montreal. Major Dugas of the 65th Battalion brought an action for libel against E. E. Sheppard, Editor of the *Toronto News*, for publishing some damaging statements as to the sobriety and general conduct of the French volunteers while on their way to the North-West. Judge Ramsay sentenced Sheppard to pay a fine of \$200, and to be imprisoned until it was paid. Sheppard paid the fine immediately. When on his way out of the Court House he was met by Capt. Normandeau, who attempted to horsewhip him. Sheppard defended himself with an umbrella and then drew a revolver. The combatants were separated without receiving any injury.

Montreal must have an inferior force of police, or her citizens include more roughs than are commonly found in well-organized communities. Three policemen met their death in the discharge of their official duties during the month of September in Montreal. Our city fathers should offer the services of some of our stalwart policemen; rioters and unruly persons would find them able to preserve the peace despite the odds against them.

New York is a thirsty city, and now finds that its water supply is utterly inadequate to the requirements of its people. The contract has just been awarded for an aqueduct or tunnel, cylindrical in form, 14 feet in diameter, 30 miles in length, and bricked throughout; through which, it is hoped, a sufficient supply of water may be drawn from the lakes to meet the immediate wants of the citizens.

Compulsory vaccination in Montreal has caused serious riots. The several health offices were attacked by the mob, and the police were armed with rifles and bayonets before they succeeded in quelling the first outbreak. The French inhabitants are non-believers in the efficacy of vaccination, and are opposed to compulsory measures; they likewise have a strange superstition that luck follows the person who has recovered from small-pox, and they therefore court the disease.

Mr. Gladstone and Lord Rosebery have each written a letter for publication, stating that the question of the disestablishment of the Scotch Church is purely a matter for Scotchmen to deal with, and ought not to be a test question at the coming parliamentary elections. At the last sitting of parliament, there were 1,261 petitions with 690,022 signatures against the Church of Scotland Disestablishment bill, and only 108 petitions with 17,790 signatures in favor of the bill.