

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 \$3.00 in cash we undertake to send *THE CRITIC* to any subscriber for one year, supplying him in addition with 110 of the most readable of readable books. Those who are renewing their subscriptions, as well as new subscribers, should take advantage of this offer.

A prohibition alliance has been formed in Halifax.

A board of trade has been formed in Sydney, C. B.

There is a good deal of ice about the coast of Cape Breton and in the Strait.

The *Amherst Gazette* advocates the formation of an Historical Society in that town.

A set of chimes is being spoken of as a desirable thing to have in the tower of the New City Hall.

The Wimbledon team has been filled. But two provinces, Ontario and Nova Scotia, are represented.

No mails were brought by the *Sardinian* from England last Saturday night, the mail having been sent via New York.

It is announced that Hon. George E. Foster, Minister of Finance, will shortly be married to a young lady residing in Ottawa.

A complimentary address was presented to Captain Hill and the officers of the steamship *Halifax* on her last trip from Boston to this port.

Emily Dillman, the important witness in the Preeper-Doyle murder case, is still in St. John, Detective Phelan having failed to induce her to return home.

The Little Bras d'Or Bridge is not quite finished, but it is temporarily arranged so that horses and foot passengers can pass over it with perfect safety.

The contract with the Allan Line for the carrying of mails has been renewed for another year, or until such time as the fast Atlantic service is in operation.

The contract for building the missing link has been awarded to Messrs. Campbell & O'Neil, who were contractors on the Oxford Railway. Work is to be commenced at once.

The Haydn Club, under the conductorship of Herr Klingensfeld, will, in all probability, give a concert at an early date. A number of new members have recently been added to the Club.

Deer are said to have been plentiful on the west coast of Newfoundland during the winter. They were driven to the seashore by wolves, which have been prowling around in great numbers.

Henry Hardie, the New York forger, who has been exciting considerable interest for some time, returned to New York under the care of Detective McAulay and Mr. Somers, on Wednesday.

William Nunn, a Customs officer who was on duty when the steamer *Sardinian* was discharging her cargo on Sunday morning last, suddenly dropped dead while in the act of lighting his pipe.

The small-pox epidemic at St. Johns, Newfoundland, is said to have abated, but diptheria is very prevalent. For the week ending April 14th 49 new cases were reported, out of which there were four deaths.

The *Maritime Sentinel* has made its appearance in an enlarged edition, the number of columns being increased to thirty-two, and somewhat extended in length. We congratulate our contemporary on this sign of prosperity.

The Restigouche *Pioneer* says:—"The Bay Chaleur Railway is now carrying passengers from Metapedia to Carleton, connecting with express morning and evening. They will in a few days publish their summer time table."

A movement is on foot in Moncton to form a salvage corps and fire police association. A number of citizens, insurance agents, merchants and clerks have signified their willingness to join the corps on a purely volunteer basis, and it is understood the town council are willing they should go ahead and organize.

Interesting experiments were made with the telephone under water by divers on Saturday afternoon last in Barry & Evans' ship-yard, Dartmouth. There is no doubt that this most useful instrument will be of great value to divers, as communication can be kept up with the surface as well as with other divers under water.

Mr. Menger read his paper, "The Stage, is it moral in its tendency?" before the Church of England Institute, on Tuesday evening, before a good audience. Mr. Menger's views were on a liberal basis, and he thought that the stage should not be decried because of the faults of some of those who made it a profession. A discussion followed the reading of the paper.

Sir Charles and Lady Tupper, and their son Mr. Stewart Tupper and wife, and Mrs. Cameron their daughter, have been visiting Vancouver and Victoria, B. C. Sir Charles said the object of his visit was to note the progress of the country and keep in touch with its needs. He looks to a speedy and satisfactory settlement of the fishery and Behring Sea difficulties.

The Union Act with regard to the cities of St. John and Portland will come into operation on the 18th of May. Until that date the cities will continue each to attend to its own business. Two Aldermen from each of the Portland wards will then enter the St. John Council, which will perform all the public business until the election of their successors on the 4th of June.

Campbellton, N. B., is to have another new paper, to be called the *Rail-roader*. Mr. Bruce McDougall has retired from the managership of the *Pioneer*, and will become editor of the *Railroader*. Mr. J. J. Fraser will be editor of the *Pioneer*.

We desire to draw attention to the advertisement on page 5 of this issue of *THE CRITIC*, of Cambridge House, 18 Morris street, boarding and day school for young gentlemen. There can be no question that, under the new management of Mr. Walter Leigh and Mr. Bradford, with the able assistance they command, this educational institute is well worthy of patronage.

There are said to be 300 men working on the Cornwallis Valley railway. The masonry on the culverts at Pereaux road and Weaver's Brooks are in progress, and upwards of 4 miles on the various sections have been graded. Sleepers and posts are being delivered all along the line. The purpose is to keep continually at work and run trains into Kentville by October at latest.

An arrangement has been made looking towards ultimate amalgamation between the Canada Atlantic Steamship Co., Limited, and the Boston, Halifax and Prince Edward Island Steamship line. This will have the effect of placing the properties of both companies on a good paying basis. It is understood that the S. S. *Halifax* will continue as now her weekly trips between Halifax and Boston.

We are indebted to Mr. J. H. Brownlee, Surveyor and Map Publisher, of Brandon, Man., for an excellent map and railway guide of that Province. It is so constructed that any one at a distance owning land in Manitoba, and having the description of it, could we should think locate his property by its aid. Settlements are indexed, railways, townships, rivers, grain centres, etc., are shewn, and the price, 25 cts., places it within the reach of all.

During the heavy thunder storm of last Sunday evening the house of Richard Schofield of North Alton, about three miles from Kentville, was struck by lightning. A young son of Mr. Schofield's who was leaning out of the window at the time was instantly killed. Mr. West and Mr. Forsyth who were present were seriously but not fatally injured, and a number of other inmates of the house were prostrated by the shock. The barn of Mr. Alex. Smith on Beech Hill was also struck and partly demolished.

Captain Harvey Doane, who has just retired from the command of the steamer *Yarmouth*, has been for a period of thirty years in command of steamboats, the greater portion of the time between Yarmouth and Halifax, and Yarmouth and Boston. He has never met with a serious disaster in all that time. Captain Doane will settle down in his native place, Barrington. His successor in command of the *Yarmouth* is Captain Samuel Stanwood, whose experience as a pilot and captain of steamers eminently qualifies him for the position.

George Liston, the well known colored boatman, on Saturday last added another to the list of lives saved by him. About one o'clock a boy who was playing about the boats at the city slip, lost his balance and fell in the water. The cry of "boy overboard" was at once raised, which attracted Liston, who threw off his coat and boots and plunged into the water. In a few minutes he rose to the surface with the child, who had been washed under a schooner by the current, and was apparently lifeless when rescued. George Liston deserves the credit of his heroism. It is said he has rescued twelve persons from drowning since he became a boatman.

On Wednesday the civic elections in Halifax resulted in the return of Alderman David McPherson for Mayor by acclamation. This should be considered quite an honor, as it is stated that it is the first instance in the history of Halifax that a mayor has been returned unopposed to his first term of office. The following aldermen were also returned by acclamation. Ward 2—Alderman Keefe. Ward 5—Alderman Lyons. Ward 6—Alderman Mosher. In the contested wards, John D. Mackintosh was elected in ward 1, over Alderman Cooke, by a majority of 85. In ward 3, Mr. Edward O'Donnell defeated Alderman O'Brien by a majority of 41, and in ward 4, Alderman Heckler was defeated by R. J. Sweet, by a majority of 23.

Universal regret will have been felt at the intelligence yesterday morning of the death of John S. Maclean Esq., a gentleman not more prominent in the mercantile circles of Halifax than in all good works. Mr. Maclean was president of the Bank of Nova Scotia for many years, an active worker in the Presbyterian denomination, President of the Y. M. C. A., and of the Board of Directors of the School for the Blind, and a leading figure in all christian, charitable and benevolent institutions of the city. Mr. Maclean had not been in good health for a twelvemonth, but was only confined to his house for a fortnight before his death. The deceased gentleman took an intelligent grasp of a very wide range of subjects, and being of a highly benevolent disposition it is not surprising that he became a valued member on the Boards of Directors of so many philanthropic institutions, and it will be long—yes very long—before his vacant seat will be filled by a gentleman having equal mental acumen, and with the like will to do good as opportunity offered. Mr. Maclean's family will have the sincere sympathy of the whole community.

We have received from the National Publishing Company, Toronto, "Dolly," by Justin McCarthy; "A False Scent," by Mrs. Alexander; and "In Exchange for a Soul," by Mary Linskill. They are exceedingly nicely got up, and are all of their class, superior books. The names of Mr. McCarthy and Mrs. Alexander are sufficient to guarantee a readable book. Both these are short, and pleasant reading. "In Exchange for a Soul" is in some ways a rather ambitious book. It has the merit of sustaining a very high plane of conscience and morality, and it must be said that the characters are drawn with great force. If anything it is overstrained, and the authoress has devoted herself to so torturing her sensitive personages through-