

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.

Dominion Parliament opened yesterday.

It is said Hon. Edward Blake has been secured to defend Hon. Thomas McGreevy at the assizes in Ottawa.

The new railway dining saloon at Annapolis was opened on February 17th, when a large company sat down to the tables.

A report that the dreaded cattle disease had broken out in Canadian herds was cabled to England, but there was no truth in it.

Solemn memorial services were held in the churches at Springhill on Sunday in commemoration of the explosion of February 21st, 1891.

Fishing oysters through the ice has been prohibited by order in council, for it has been shown that this method is fatal to the health of the oyster beds.

Hon. Thos. McGreevy retired from the contest in Quebec West, and Arthur H. Murphy, Liberal, and Hon. John Hearn, Conservative, were nominated.

The many friends of Mr. Hugh McD. Henry will be glad to learn that he is to be appointed to the Supreme Court bench of this Province in a few days, at least so it is said.

Mr. E. H. Armstrong, who conducted the editorial department of the *Weymouth Free Press* since December 13th, 1889, has retired from that position and removed to Yarmouth.

Hon. Mr. Patterson, Conservative, was elected in West Huron, Ont., on Tuesday by a majority of 21 votes over Cameron, Liberal, who had a majority of 379 in the last election.

The Academy of Music at Annapolis was opened on Monday by H. Price Webber's Boston Comedy Company. A large audience was present. The cost of the building was about \$3,500.

Miss Curson, of Toronto, is the first young lady in Canada to undergo and pass the examination in the laboratory of the Inland Revenue Department for the certificate of public analyst.

An order of Scottish clans was formed in Halifax last Friday evening by a number of sons of the heather. The name chosen is Clan McLean, of which F. G. Forbes, M. P., was elected chief.

Messrs. Thos. H. and William F. Francis are a new firm of general auctioneers, etc., who will carry on business at White Hall, opposite the City Hall, corner of Duke and Barrington Streets.

The first ice boat of the season crossed from Cape Tormentine to Cape Traverse on Tuesday of last week. She carried 5 passengers. This is probably the latest date on record for the first trip to be made.

It is reported that Hon. Mr. Mowat will introduce a bill in the Ontario legislature to prohibit the selling to and use of tobacco by youths under 18 years of age. Such a law as this will never be enforced we fear.

Charles Crouch, an old soldier, while going up-stairs in his house on Sackville Street last Friday, ruptured an artery in his leg, and it was some time before he obtained any assistance. He was sent to the hospital.

The many friends in this city of E. A. McDowell, the well-known actor and manager, will be sorry to learn of his sad affliction. He has become quite insane, as the result of a long illness, and is now confined in a private asylum.

A burglar made an entrance to E. W. Metzler's store on Gottingen St. on Monday night, but being surprised at his nefarious work made off as fast as possible, leaving behind him his cap and a pair of new overshoes. A case of the biter bit.

Edward Hardright, a lad of 18 years of age, has confessed to stealing letters repeatedly from the Amherst mail bag. Meanwhile Postmaster Purdy has been temporarily suspended, and Miss Mullins, his head clerk, placed in charge.

There is some talk of the Garrison Artillery big gun competition being held at Halifax instead of the Isle of Orleans in future. That arrangement would prove convenient on many accounts. The matter may come up during the session of parliament.

A telegram from Lord Knutsford has been received by the Mayor of Halifax, thanking the City Counsel in the name of her Majesty for the expression of condolence forwarded to the Royal Family at the time of the death of the Duke of Clarence and Avondale.

The dismissal of a large number of employes on the I. C. R. at this season of the year in order to economise expenses, is regarded as pretty hard lines. Public opinion is against such a summary proceeding, which without warning throws a number of mechanics out of employment.

The annual meeting of the Church of England Institute was held last Friday when the usual reports were read and officers for the year elected. W. C. Silver was re-elected President. The past year has been very successful, and there are 529 members of the Institute in good standing on its books.

We rarely hear of a married couple who have spent six-five years of life together, but a New Glasgow paper tells of a case in that town where it has occurred. Mr. and Mrs. Kenneth Forbes, aged 88 and 84 years respectively, have lived together for sixty-five years, and recently celebrated their wedding anniversary.

A man named Larose living at St. Cunegonde, Montreal, has shocked

everybody by cremating the body of a dead infant in his cooking stove, and burying two other children in the back yard. Shocking as this is there is no law by which the man can be punished, but this will probably be attended to during the session of parliament.

The *Winnipeg Commercial*, an excellent paper for business men, celebrates the beginning of its tenth year of publication by issuing a special supplement containing much interesting information.

A retirement camp, by name N. H. Martin, who was pastor of Christ Church, Clatham, Ontario, engaged himself to several excellent young ladies, some of whom had made active preparations for a wedding in the near future. Complications arising out of this state of affairs obliged the clergyman to retire from the scene of action. He is not to be found.

What came very near being a disaster of large proportions occurred near Mill Stream, some thirty miles from Campbellton, N. B., on Sunday. The English mail train, which left Halifax for the west on that day, ran into a snow-slide which had come down the mountain, and the locomotive turned over, rolled down the embankment and fell into the river; the passenger coaches fortunately did not follow, but stuck in the snow. The baggage-master, who is a telegraph operator, cut the wires and dispatched a cry for relief to Campbellton.

Dr. Smith, in charge of the lazaretto at Tracadie, N. B., reports that on January 1 there were twenty-two lepers under treatment in that institution, eleven males and eleven females. During the year six new cases were admitted and two patients. He states that for several years no lepers have been admitted from Tracadie district, the new cases being from outlying districts to which the relatives of leprous persons in Tracadie had removed years ago. They were ferreted out by the doctor and removed in the face of determined opposition. Dr. Smith thinks that leprosy has been finally stamped out in the Tracadie district, so long its home, and attributes this result entirely to segregation.

The *Toronto Mail* has conveniently summarized the following information regarding life insurance, which we give for the benefit of our readers: Canadian life insurance companies issued 20,830 new policies during the twelve months ending with December. These policies cover \$23,386,478 of insurance, and bring the number of policies in force at the close of the year up to 99,130, a gain of 6,306. As only 912 policies became claims during the period, while over 20,000 were taken out, the percentage of lapses continues very large, exceeding 60 per cent. of the applications acted upon. The total amount of insurance in force by Canadian companies is now \$148,343,000, the average amount per policy being \$1,500. The premium income last year was half a million greater than in 1890, the exact figures being \$464,000, while the amount of policies which became claims rose from \$1,236,168 to \$1,391,194. Endowment claims caused an outlay of \$163,000, as compared with only \$66,940 in the preceding year. One-half the life insurance business done in Canada is now in the hands of home companies, whereas fifteen years ago our own companies had less than one-fourth of the whole business.

The anniversary of the disaster at Springhill mines last year has brought to mind once more the fact that the subscriptions of Halifax friends to the relief fund have never been handed in by the Halifax committee owing to the differences of opinion existing as to the proper administration of the fund. The clergymen of the various denominations in Springhill, with the exception of Mr. Wilson, Episcopalian, who is not at home, have written a joint letter to the Halifax daily papers making some suggestions for utilizing the money as it was intended to be utilized, and it really seems as if it were time some such move were made. The idea of founding a hospital in Springhill, if the money cannot be used for the direct relief of the widows and orphans, is a worthy one, for accidents are frequent in a mining place and comforts are not always in proportion. The following are the suggestions offered by the clergymen:—"First, that the Halifax committee make another effort to come to such an agreement as will result in the payment of the money into the general fund for the specific purposes for which it was subscribed; secondly, that in case it is absolutely impossible to come to such an agreement, the Halifax committee send three reliable commissioners to Springhill, before whom the widows and orphans may appear, and who shall have power to make such grants as shall appear to them equitable and right; thirdly, that in case both these suggestions should fail, the money be divided amongst the trustee boards of the several churches, according to the number of killed in each communion, which trustees shall give bonds for the distribution of the money placed at their disposal, and who shall make detailed report to the Halifax committee. Should all these suggestions be discarded, we would then suggest that the Halifax subscription should be applied to the building and equipment of a hospital at Springhill."

The wife of J. G. Blaine, jr., has obtained a decree of divorce with \$100 a month alimony and the custody of her child. The trouble in the family is said to have come from interference by Mrs. Blaine Sr.

A desperate attempt was made to rob a New York train last Saturday night, but the robber after making a bad break for liberty was caught. The manager in charge of the express car was wounded in several places by the would be thief.

The *Chicago Graphic* for February 20th fully welcomes the members of the Congress to the World's Fair City by publishing handsome illustrations of some of the unique exhibits which will be presented at the Exposition. A Moorish Palace is particularly attractive. The portraits of several of the prominent members of the World's Fair Committees of the Senate and House are given, as also portraits of the Board of Reference and Control of the Fair. The number is an unusually handsome one.