

NEWS OF THE WEEK.

Subscribers remitting Money, either direct to the Office, or through Agents, will find receipt in next paper.

The Wilbur Opera Company will occupy the boards at the Academy of Music next week. They will play "Girofle-Girofle," "The Mascotte," and "The Three Black Cloaks." The last is a comic opera which has been running in Paris steadily for two years.

"Baldeck" says "Last week a yacht with the 'Stars and Stripes' at her masthead, and a number of Telegraph Operators on board, visited our harbor. Mr. Vance, the Evangelist, and Mr. McKay, formerly conductor on the H. & C. B. Railway, are trying to stir up the inhabitants of our town. What with their three meetings every day, and the usual services, our Spiritual welfare is being well looked after. As funds are needed for the completion of the new Presbyterian church, the ladies have determined to put their shoulders to the wheel once more, and have a tea meeting. With the same object in view, a few energetic spirits are practising for a parlor concert."

The Canadian Artillery team have been very successful at Shoeburyness. In addition to obtaining a number of prizes they won the first prize in the 64 pounder shooting competition, beating 92 teams, and winning Sir Richard Wallace's prize of nine silver cups and £12.

It is stated that the British Government intend to send out to the North American Station the corvettes *Pylades* and *Tourmaline*, so that better protection may be given to the fisheries.

The despatches received show that there is a reign of terror in Belfast. Many of both factions have been killed, and there is a bitter feeling on both sides against the police, who are regarded as deadly enemies rather than protectors. About 5,500 extra military are quartered in the city, and it is hoped that peace may soon be restored.

Reports from Newfoundland state that, should there be no marked improvement in the shore fishery soon, there will be great destitution among the fishermen next winter.

The new cruiser *Yosemite*, purchased by the Dominion Government for the protection of our fisheries, will leave New York for Halifax in a few days.

The Halifax Street Railway Company are constructing the line as rapidly as possible. They exhibit commendable enterprise and industry, and are deserving of every success.

Mr. Gatling has invented another gun, which is warranted to shower bullets like hailstones.

The grind of public business does not agree with Congressmen. Seven of them have died since the session began.

Papers, like individuals, have sometimes curious names. The latest is the *Texas Gimlet*, which is guaranteed not to bore its readers.

"Bridgetown" says—"About half past nine last Sunday evening, a meteor was seen to fall. It seemed to come from the eastern portion of the heavens, falling toward the south east. The illumination was quite bright, a sort of white glare, like an electric light, and a long pinkish trail was left in the sky, which slowly faded.

Messrs. O'Brien, Redmond, and Leary are on their way to the United States, they having left Queenstown on Sunday last. They are Parnellite delegates to the Irish League Convention to be held shortly in Chicago.

The French people evidently have full confidence in the Panama Canal scheme, as appears by the fact that one hundred and fifty thousand new subscribers have applied for the new bonds issued by the company.

The announcement is made that General Booth, the leader of the Salvation Army, will arrive in Canada the latter part of next month. He will hold a great war congress in Toronto, commencing September 28th, and will then visit the principal cities and towns of the Dominion.

On the 8th inst. connection was made by the C. P. R. telegraph system with New York and the "Mackay Bennett" cable.

Mr. James G. Foster, senior member of the firm of Foster, Foster & Mills, has been appointed Registrar of Probate in place of the late William Howe.

On the 19th of June the vessel *W. B. Flint* left Yokohama with a cargo of tea and arrived at Vancouver on the 28th of July. Two days later the tea was despatched over the C. P. R., and reached Montreal on the 6th inst. This is a splendid record for our great highway.

An expert who was sent on from New York to the Joggins to examine into the condition of the large timber raft, and report upon the prospects of its being launched, states that there will be very little trouble in getting it to float. It is sincerely to be hoped that the enterprise may yet prove a success.

Mr. W. H. Hart, late Vice-Consul for Italy, was last week presented by his Majesty the King of Italy, through Mr. W. Wingfield Bonyon, Consul-General, with the decoration of Chevalier of his order of the crown of Italy. The decoration is a handsome piece of workmanship of gold and ivory. It is in the shape of a Maltese Cross, with the crown on one side and the arms of Italy on the other.

The well known Larno House, having been refurnished throughout, has been opened by Mrs. W. A. Curry, late of Dunedin Cottage, Horton Landing, for the reception of boarders. We bespeak the patronage of any who may be desirous of obtaining first class board.

The success which has attended the performances of "The Private Secretary" and "The Rajah" by the Madison Square Theatre Company at the Academy of Music during the present week demonstrates most forcibly the fact that actors of merit will always be liberally patronized by critical Halifax. A more irresistibly funny or thoroughly enjoyable piece than "The Private Secretary" has seldom been witnessed here. Its intricate plot and laughable situations drew from the immense audiences round after round of applause. In one or two instances some of the characters were overdrawn, but on the whole the acting was good, and the piece well sustained. Should the company return to Halifax they may expect to again state that they are prepared to execute all descriptions of plain and ornamental printing in the superior style for which their house has so long been noted.

It is estimated that the area sown in wheat in Manitoba this year is 450,000 acres. Four years ago it was 94,000. An average of 25 bushels to the acre, which present appearances would seem to warrant, would give 11,250,000 bushels as the total crop for this year.

As will be seen by advertisement in another column, Messrs James Bowes & Sons have removed to the building formerly known as the *Reporter* building, next to Harrington's corner. This firm, having been established since 1836, is so well and favorably known, that it is hardly necessary for us to state that they are prepared to execute all descriptions of plain and ornamental printing in the superior style for which their house has so long been noted.

The United States postal department has made arrangements to forward liquids by mail, provided they be put up according to instructions. When the Canadian authorities make a similar arrangement, persons residing in the country can order perfumery, etc., to be sent to them by mail. J. Godfrey Smith should agitate for this reform.

The representative of the English Society of Friends, who visited the west coast of Ireland to relieve the starving sufferers, supplied 7,000 families with 1,400 tons of seed-potatoes and oats, thus relieving from 35,000 to 40,000 persons.

The Historical Society propose to celebrate this season the 800th anniversary of the completion of the survey of England, made by William the Conqueror in 1086, and contained in the celebrated "Doomsday Book."

A meteor which recently passed over London traveling eastward, is supposed to be the same which 2 hours and 32 minutes later passed over Bombay, the distance between the two points being about 5,500 miles. In interstellar space meteors travel at the rate of 40 to 50 miles per second, but the speed here recorded was only about 36 miles per minute. This is supposed to be accounted for by the retardation due to the passage of the meteor through the earth's atmosphere.

Tennyson is just preparing for publication a new poem, which is said to be a sequel to Locksley Hall. The poetical fire of the Laureate burns less brightly than of yore, but there are few men at 77 years of age who would undertake a task such as that which Tennyson has just accomplished.

The large number of visitors to Halifax will return to their homes more than satisfied with the Firemen's Tournament. On Tuesday thousands assembled on the Common to see the procession start, while all along the line of march the streets, windows and balconies were crowded with people. Of the procession we are unable through want of space to give any description. It was a magnificent display and far above anything ever before attempted in Halifax. The universal opinion was that the sight far exceeded all expectations. The decorations of the engines, reels, and waggons were so elaborate, and the costumes so appropriate, that the firemen well deserved the praise accorded them. The procession dispersed about two o'clock, and later on the firemen and their guests to the number of nine hundred assembled at the Exhibition Building, where a substantial repast awaited them. The good things having been partaken of, His Worship the Mayor read an address of welcome on behalf of the citizens of Halifax and the Fire Department to the visiting firemen. Toasts were then proposed and responded to appropriately. On Wednesday and Thursday afternoons the Firemen's Sports were held at the Polo Grounds, Quinpool Road. The greatest interest was taken in the half-mile hose cart race, in which teams from the Union Engine Company, Halifax, Dartmouth, Windsor, St. Stephen, Yarmouth, St. John, Portland, Bangor, and Charlottetown took part. The Windsor men succeeded in carrying off the first prize, which is a silver trumpet and \$300, their time being 2.43½. The St. Stephen team carried off the second prize, \$150, they being only a half second behind the winners. The Windsorians made a splendid run, and showed great staying power. It was their coupling which gave them the victory. They have succeeded in lowering the best time on record by three quarters of a second. The other races were well contested. On Wednesday evening, a large crowd attended the concert given at the Public Gardens. Last evening, the firemen turned out for a torchlight procession, which was witnessed by a great concourse of people. Private houses and business establishments along the line of march were beautifully illuminated.

We direct attention to the advertisement of John R. Findlay in another column. We recommend those who require anything in his line to call and see his large stock of books, music, and stationery. THE CRITIC will be found on sale there.