

NEWS OF THE WEEK.

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The militia will go into camp at Aldershot this year on September 3rd.

The Halifax took from the city on Wednesday the biggest lot of passengers of the season.

All the British men-of-war have left us for a few weeks, and the upper part of the harbor looks quite forsaken.

A sunfish was captured near Rockingham on Sunday morning. At first the people of Rockingham thought it was a sea-serpent.

The largest casting ever made in Canada was made at the steel works at New Glasgow last week, in the shape of an anvil block weighing thirty-five tons.

Last Saturday night the large gold cross which stood in the chancel of the Garrison Chapel was stolen. It was presented to the chapel a number of years ago.

Provincial Secretary Prendergast, French representative in the Greenway Government, has resigned because of the Government's attitude in regard to dual language.

Mrs. Scott-Siddons, the reader, has taken up her abode in Canada for the summer, having rented a cottage in the Thousand Islands on the Canadian side of the river.

The water supplied to the people of Charlottetown is described as of a greenish tinge. It had remained stagnant in the reservoir for days and weeks until it became little better than ditch water.

Excellent reports of Canada Northwest Land Sales have created a good impression, though repeated statements of damage to the Northwest harvest, which are now believed accurate, have kept down all land shares.

The officers of B Battery are having a brass tablet with a suitable inscription prepared to commemorate the heroic death of their late lamented comrade Major Short. It is to be placed in the English Cathedral at Quebec.

Capt. Scott, R. N., who was formerly in command of the Canadian fishery cruisers, and family left for England in the *Damara*. The cause of the removal of Capt. Scott to his native land is his continued ill health.

Le Courier du Canada, Sir H. Langevin's personal organ at Quebec, and edited by his son-in-law, says:—"The Federal Government is alone responsible for the Governor-General's reply to the anti-Jesuit delegates and has no desire to shirk its responsibility."

Salt Springs, near Amherst, experienced a cloud-burst on the 8th inst. The area was limited to a few miles, but such portions of the country as were visited were deluged. Portions of the Intercolonial track were filled and the fields looked like rivers. The crops were sadly damaged.

It is rumored that the cabinet considered the Behring's Sea question at yesterday's session, and a claim against the United States Government for compensation for the seizure of the *Black Diamond* will be transmitted to the Imperial authorities as soon as further documents arrive from Victoria.

Mayor Erratt of Ottawa has been charged by a contractor named Mallette with being a member of a local gambling organization, called the "Circle of Friends." It is reported that Mayor Erratt will enter actions for libel against certain newspapers which have connected his name with the gambling den.

The Postmaster-General some weeks ago entered proceedings against parties in Montreal and Hamilton for private delivery of letters. A conviction has been secured against the Montreal parties, and now the Hamilton concern is asking for a settlement outside the court, offering to pay costs and promising to obey the law in future.

The farmers in the N. W. are making quite a profit out of gophers. These animals being very destructive to the crops, there is a government bounty for their destruction paid on production of their tails, which, it is stated, are used as a currency without discount on the Government rate. Possibly it may lead to the manufacture of bogus tails.

Mr. Lockhart, the new mayor of St. John, was sworn in on Saturday last. He made appropriate reference to the late Mr. Barker. Mr. I. Allan Jack, acting mayor, presented the city with a suitable two-oared boat, for the use of future mayors of St. John when visiting men-of-war or other ships in the harbor, and suggested that the oarsmen employed should have proper uniforms.

The steamship *Sarmatian* was threatened with destruction on Saturday evening. Shortly after 10 o'clock clouds of smoke were seen issuing from the hold, and on investigation the fire was located in the bunkers. The crew were immediately set to work and succeeded after an hour's labor in extinguishing the blaze. The fire is supposed to have originated in cotton waste by spontaneous combustion.

The religious bodies of Stellarton seem disposed to be energetic. The Church of England congregation are about to begin alterations and improvements in their little church; the Kirk members are meditating a new spire on theirs, and the United Presbyterians are putting up a fine large building with a strong stone foundation on the pretty street between the station and the residence of the popular manager of the mines, Mr. Poole.

The jury in the case of James Cosman, killed at Yarmouth by the discharge of a cannon, have found Capt. Jolly guilty of gross negligence and carelessness in using the means he did to extract the shot from the gun in a crowded community. Graduates of the Military School of Quebec testified that Capt. Jolly had proceeded according to regulations. The inquest failed to show who had placed the shot in the cannon. The probability is that there was powder in the chamber before the expelling charge was put in.

The new number of *The Season* for September is at hand and is unusually brilliant. It contains the latest Paris fashions in Costumes, Millinery, Linen, and the most elegant designs in Art Needle Work of every style and description. The costumes for early Autumn wear are new, quaint and pretty; the short waists and clinging draperies shown are suggestive of good taste and combine beauty and artistic clothing for women and children. All illustrations being original, ladies will appreciate the advantages of these exclusive designs.

Our exchanges are unanimous in praise of our Summer Carnival. Thousands of visitors had their fill of enjoyment last week, and have returned home enthusiastic over the advantages of Halifax as a Summer Resort. The money expended on the carnival has been wisely used, and our city has been advertised as it never was before. Next year we hope to see another carnival which, with the experience we have had, will exceed this one in attractiveness. There is every reason why a summer carnival should be an annual event in Halifax.

The Summer School of Science, recently assembled at Parrsboro, has completed its session. The school (now in the fourth year of its existence) is merely an association of teachers from the public schools, organized with a view to stimulating a more thorough study of scientific subjects than would be possible or convenient at home, and to learning from those more gifted the best methods of imparting elementary instruction in connection with such subjects; how to study with the fewest materials, and how best to illustrate the truths of science to interest and instruct the young, are among the problems to be solved. A large amount of useful work was carried on during the session just closed.

Bodies are still being found in the sand at Johnstown, Pa.

The schooner *Fannie Lewis*, of Portland, Mo., is reported to have made a find of ambergris weighing a hundred pounds. It is worth about \$25,000.

In obedience to the mandate of a "trust," the mines at Braidwood, Ill., have been recently shut down, and the direst distress prevails among the families of the miners.

The Women's Exchange of Kansas City is to build a home for working women. The house is to cost \$30,000, and a \$14,000 lot has already been bought to put it up on.

Otto Siegler, aged 15, let himself drop from the Suspension Bridge, a distance of 80 feet, in the Ohio river last night for the amusement of a few companions. The boy was not hurt.

Martin Burke, the Cronin suspect, was identified on Monday by Mr. and Mrs. Carlson, the owners of the cottage in which Dr. Cronin was murdered, as the man who rented it from them giving the name "Frank Williams."

A sea turtle ten feet long, five feet wide, and weighing 1,000 pounds, was caught recently in a trap off South Harwich, Cape Cod. This monster is estimated to be fully 200 years old. As it stands the distance between its fore flippers is over ten feet.

Rev. T. DeWitt Talmage has been "attached" at St. Paul, Minn., at the suit of the Waseca Chautauqua Assembly, for having broken an engagement to lecture for them last year. Mr. Talmage was lecturing at St. Paul when the writ was served upon him. The disappointed Chautauquans want \$2,500 damages.

A story comes from Aspin, Colorado, that a remarkable cave has been discovered in one of the mines in Aspin Mountain. It contains several rooms of great beauty. A flint axe was discovered and also the petrified remains of several human beings in different attitudes. The bodies are not those of Indians.

Phineas T. Barnum's activity and energy at this period of his life are surprising even to the people who know him best. He is now in the 80th year of his age, was the editor of a paper sixty years ago, and is yet full of novel ideas. During his long career as a showman Barnum has always taken good care of his health.

The atmosphere for miles round Portland in Oregon is reported to be thick with smoke and cinders, and all that region seems to be burning with forest fires. The damage from this cause in the North Western States this year is estimated at \$500,000. Many houses and barns have been burned. Some of the fires are the work of tramps.

Great excitement prevails at Albany, Wis., over the finding of pearls. They are found in clam shells and are of all sizes, from a pin's head to a large sized pea, and of all shades. Some have been sold for as high as \$75, and \$100 has been refused for others. A shipment estimated to be worth \$1500 was made to Chicago last Monday. Clam fishing is now the most popular amusement in that place.

Experiments are being made in several places in the United States with the Brown-Sequard elixir of life. The stuff is made from the organs of a guinea pig, and is injected into the patients to which it is said to impart new vigor. Of course it is death to the guinea pig, and it does not seem at all certain that it will make the patients live forever, although it is reported to make them lively for a time.