

## 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 three. For \$2.00 in cash we undertake to send THE CRITIC to any subscriber for one year, supplying him in addition with forty five of the most readable of readable books. Those who are renewing their subscriptions, as well as new subscribers, should take advantage of this offer.

For the five months ending May, the C. P. R. cleared \$552,633.

Lieut.-Governor Masson is said to be suffering from softening of the brain.

The army horse buying in Canada is a failure, owing to the limitation of price by the authorities. The amount prescribed is insufficient to procure good cattle.

Sir John was not absent from the house a single day during the whole session, and stood it out during the long all-night sittings in a way that excited the envy of younger men.

Sir Ambrose Shea is seventy-three or four years of age. Having spent his life in temperate climates it is to be hoped that a removal to the tropics at that advanced period of life may not be found too trying.

Charlottetown, Amherst, and other towns celebrated the Queen's Jubilee on the 1st inst. Visitors to those places express themselves as highly pleased with the manner in which the programmes were carried out.

The cricket match at Seabright, N. Y., between the Canadian cricketers and a team selected by the clubs of New York, which took place last week, resulted in a victory for the former by five runs. We trust they will be as successful when they meet the crack cricketers of England.

The citizens of Toronto are to enjoy a free band concert once each week during the summer months, the proprietor of the *Evening Telegram* having generously offered to pay all expenses. Had the Queen City a public garden as handsome as the one in Halifax their concerts would be as delightful as those enjoyed every summer by our people.

The news from Newfoundland is not of a very encouraging character, owing to the shore fishery being very poor, and the injury to crops on account of dry weather. At Harbor Grace one hundred men broke into the Poor Commissioner's store. They demand that the government furnish them with employment in order that they may obtain the necessaries of life.

The second C. P. R. steamer, the *Parthia*, arrived at Vancouver on the 4th with 150 passengers, amongst them the Marquis and Marchioness of Huntly, the senior marquis of the Scotch peerage. Her cargo included 35,472 packages tea, besides 121 packages of sample tea, 21 of silk, and 12 sacks of mail. Merchants in China and Japan are evincing a decided preference for the C. P. R. route, and it is evident that we are only witnessing the beginning of an enormous traffic destined to flow through the Dominion.

We have received the following pamphlets: The "Calendar of St. Joseph's College, Memramcook, N. B.," for 1886-7, containing all information concerning that educational institution. "The Manufacture, Consumption and Production of Iron, Steel and Coal in the Dominion of Canada," by James Herbert Bartlett, (Montreal, Dawson Bros.) Though published in 1885, much of the copious information and elaborate statistics contained in this work of 167 pages are of use for reference to-day. "The Uses and Abuses of the Electoral Franchise," by J. L. McDougall, Mabou, C. B.; a few pages of practical information and advice on matters of assessment and registration addressed "To the people of Inverness."

A great desideratum in Point Pleasant Park, to which we would direct the attention of the Commissioners, is drinking fountains. The park is already a much-sought resort of men, women and children throughout the summer months, and is a beautiful and in many respects a pleasant spot. Still the only place in its precincts where drinking water is obtainable is from an old pump on the Tower Road, and that has not even a cup attached, and any thirsty person on a hot day after going there has to pump with one hand while catching the water as best he can in the other and then conveying it to his mouth. A dozen or more little shady grottoes, judiciously located where water could be obtained, each furnished with one or more drinking cups, would be a decided boon to thousands, and greatly increase the attractiveness of the park. It would cost money, of course, but how better could part of the bequest of the late Sir William Young be utilized? The money was left for improving the park, without restriction as to how it should be employed.

On the 30th June a New York lady, Sadie Walford, wife of Robert Walford, of the well-known shipping firm of H. B. Bailey & Co., of that city, committed suicide in an apartment of the Queen Hotel. A report of a firearm discharged in the room occupied by Mrs. Walford was heard, and on the proprietor and others entering the apartment she was found sitting in an easy chair with a revolver in her hand. She gasped heavily and rapidly, but uttered no word, and within half a minute after the report was heard expired in the arms of those supporting her. Upon investigation it was found that the bullet had entered the breast just above the region of the heart, and had entered that organ. The body was removed to the morgue, and next day an inquest was held, which resulted in the coroner's jury returning a verdict to the effect that the deceased came to her death by a shot fired by her own hand. Her remains were interred on Saturday. She was about 32 years of age, of a prepossessing appearance, and, during her stay in Halifax, had made many friends. There can be no doubt that the act was a deliberate and premeditated one, brought on, it is believed, by domestic troubles.

McAlpine's Halifax Directory for 1887 has been issued, and will be valuable to all professional and business offices.

A branch of the British Medical Association has been formed in the city, with Deputy Surgeon-General McDonnell, C. B., as president.

Mackerel are reported plentiful, and schooling in Antigonish Bay and around Cape George. Several schools were seen in Port Hawkesbury harbor on Tuesday.

The *Bellorophon* and *Pylades* sailed yesterday for St. John. The ship will be away about twelve days. *H. M. S. Canada* left Charlottetown on Tuesday, for Pictou, Georgetown, and Souris.

The intense heat during the latter part of last and the first of the week was far from pleasant. On Monday the thermometer registered 92, the highest in Halifax, it is said, for a great number of years.

The election of the Episcopal Synod on Wednesday fell upon Dr. Edgell, Chaplain-General of the Forces. The result seems to have been received with mixed feelings of surprise, gratification, and disappointment. The Bishop-elect probably owes his elevation, if it may be so called, to the local knowledge of him arising from his having been Garrison Chaplain in Halifax eleven years ago.

The ball given by the York and Lancaster Regiment on Thursday night was one of the pleasantest entertainments that Halifax has had for some time. All the arrangements were excellent. The tent accommodation was distinguished by the taste with which the marquee, etc., were adorned, and the subdued light of colored lamps shining softly on ferns and flowers was charming. The supper-room was particularly well-arranged with small tables for four, and two bottles of champagne, well cooled, kept going on each, and, there being no crowding, tho' the rooms were full, there was perfect comfort.

The Keene Dramatic Company are giving a series of most excellent performances to an array of almost empty seats. Halifaxians have long been complaining that the attractions offered at the Academy were not sufficiently elevated in their tone to warrant their patronage; and now that Manager Clarke has, at great expense, brought on one of the best companies that has ever appeared here, our citizens neglect to avail themselves of the great treat offered. It is not at all creditable to the good taste of the public, and the want of appreciation displayed will almost certainly deter really good troupes coming this way.

A most horrible murder has been discovered in P. E. Island. A girl named Mary Tuplin, of Margaree, having disappeared suddenly, a search party was organized, and on Monday last her body was found at the bottom of the south-west river, with a large stone attached to her waist, and on further examination it was ascertained that two bullets had been fired into her head. According to the story of the mother of the victim it appears that her daughter had been seduced by a young man named William Millman, and on the Sunday night previous to her disappearance had a conversation with him outside of her house. On her return the girl informed a married sister that Millman intended making arrangements for their marriage on Tuesday, and on that evening left the house to meet her betrayer. That was the last seen of her alive. Millman and two other men, Nelson Evans and Thomas Bryenton, have been arrested on suspicion.

The *Eucenia* at King's College was celebrated on Wednesday and Thursday of last week, and the various ceremonies and festivities were enjoyed by a large number of visitors, in addition to the townspeople, college officials and the students. The weather was perfect, and the extensive college grounds, which are so beautifully situated, were seen at their best, the well-kept lawns and the grand old trees of the park vying with each other in the "wearing of the green." On Wednesday morning the old graduates defeated the undergraduates at a game of cricket, which was mainly remarkable for the poor playing on both sides. The *Conversazione* in Convocation Hall in the evening was attended by the *elite* and beauty, and a more brilliant or more delighted audience has never before been gathered within its walls. The Hayden Quintette Club played a choice selection of music, and the only regret expressed was that the programme was too short. Formerly the galleries, with their snug alcoves well lined with books, were thrown open to the public, but this year the students had evidently determined to kill off flirtations, and so admittance to the galleries was denied. The following morning the president, professors, governors, students, and the boys of the Collegiate School formed in grand procession and marched to the parish church. It was a pretty sight, the bright red gowns of the D.'s C.L. being in vivid contrast to the sombre dress of the undergraduates. Divine service was impressively celebrated, and at 2 p. m. the Convocation assembled, when the usual formal exercises in connection with the presentation of degrees were gone through with. We need not enter into details, as they have already appeared in the daily papers, but we might hint that the exercises were rather marred by some of the audience going out before the conclusion "to see Blomidon." Visitors should remember that this is hardly good form, and not offend in the future. The festivities were wound up by a grand subscription ball at the Clifton Hotel. The students, out of respect for the late Bishop, did not give their usual ball, and so the townspeople and the visitors, who were aching for a dance, got up an entertainment of their own. The Windsor Brass Band furnished the music, and played most acceptably. Even here the rule against flirtations was rigidly enforced, all loving couples that attempted to stroll away being pounced upon by active chaperones and quickly coralled. Dancing was vigorously kept up for some hours, and the guests finally dispersed to their homes, declaring the ball a great success. King's College has now quite recovered from the unfortunate disputes of a few years ago, and its *Eucenia* was most heartily celebrated.