

THE WEEK'S NEWS

CANADIAN.

Mrs. McLaren, of London township, was 100 years old on Monday.

Mr. Black, City Treasurer of Montreal died suddenly on Monday.

About 125,000 salmon fry were placed in Lake Ontario, near Kingston, on Monday.

The rails are laid on the Regina & Long Lake Railway to within sight of Saskatoon.

Henry Smith, convicted of wife murder at London, has made full confession of his crime.

Mr. Justice Proudfoot, vice-chancellor of Ontario, has resigned on account of advancing years.

Mr. Geo. Munro Grant, second son of Principal Grant, of Kingston, died last week of typhoid fever.

The Toronto Trades and Labor Council have decided to take steps to agitate in favor of the eight-hour movement.

Having \$100,000 in hand for a new library, the Toronto University Senate has decided to procure plans for a new library building.

A syndicate composed of parties interested in the Canadian Pacific has purchased a large block of stock in the Commercial Cable Company.

Dr. J. P. Russel, one of the old practitioners in Toronto, having been born in 1821, died suddenly at his residence last week of apoplexy.

The marriage of Miss Ward, the daughter of Mrs. Alexander Cameron, of Toronto, to Prince Caraman de Chimay, took place in Paris on Thursday.

There is a rumour current in Ottawa that Sir Fred Middleton intends to resign, but the gallant general refuses to make any statement on the subject.

During the month of April the deposits in the Dominion Government savings bank aggregated \$205,014, while the amount withdrawn was \$390,181.

Western railways on Saturday made heavy cuts in passenger rates between various points, and the rate from Winnipeg to Toronto has been affected.

Sir John Macdonald announced in Parliament the other night that there were no negotiations in progress looking towards the annexation of Newfoundland.

The annual meeting of the shareholders of the Canadian Pacific railway was held in Montreal last week. The report shows a surplus of \$1,226,926 on the year's business.

Suit has been brought against a Winnipeg teacher to restrain him from imparting religious instructions, on the ground that he is violating the new School Act by doing so.

The death is announced of Sub-Chief Frank McCulloch, of the Montreal fire brigade, who had been a servant of the citizens, fighting fires, for nearly half a century.

Mr. Dewdney has received the medal presented to Crofton, the late chief of the Blackfeet, by Lord Lorne, bequeathed by him to the Minister in memory of their long friendship.

Premier Greenway, of the Manitoba Government, who is at present in Ottawa, says the crop outlook is magnificent and that the wheat yield is expected to be about 26,000,000 bushels.

Monsieur Blais was consecrated at Quebec on Sunday as coadjutor bishop to Monsignor Langevin for the diocese of Rimouski. Cardinal Taschereau officiated and Bishop Langevin preached.

Senator McCallum the other day protested against railway subsidies, believing that the \$27,000,000 voted since Confederation for such enterprises was as heavy a burden as Canada could safely bear.

It is stated that the Ontario Government has intimated its intention next session to vote an appropriation for the establishment in Kingston of a School of Science and Metallurgy for Eastern Ontario.

The traffic managers of C. P. R. and Grand Trunk have notified train shippers that, owing to frauds practised by some shippers, all grain carried hereafter must come through the companies' elevators.

The Winnipeg Free Press says that such arrangements have been made between the Dominion Government and the Hudson Bay railway as will enable the company to at once commence the work of construction.

Mr. Samuel Grigg, late proprietor of the Grigg house in London, Ont., who was converted under D. L. Moody's preaching, has been appointed manager of the Northfield, Mass., summer resort, owned by Mr. Moody.

The members of the press gallery of the Dominion House paid their annual visit on Friday to the Experimental farm. A dairy department has been added to the farm, and strenuous efforts will be made to improve the quality of Canadian butter.

At the conclusion of Major-General Cameron's lecture on Thursday night at the Canadian Military Institute, Toronto, on the "Messenger Pigeon," a motion was carried in favour of the formation of a Dominion Messenger Pigeon Association.

The Montreal Board of Trade on Monday passed a very strong resolution of sympathy with Newfoundland in having a portion of its coast ceded to the French by Downing street ignorance, from which in the past Canada has been so serious a sufferer.

A report comes from the St. Vincent de Paul penitentiary that Donald Morrison, the Lake Megantic murderer, attempted to starve himself to death. For sixteen days he did not taste food of any kind, and for a few days he even refused to drink water.

In London, Ont., on Sunday night Rev. Mr. Porter, Baptist minister, preached on the subject, "From Brewery to Gallows," in which he referred to the Smith wife murder as the result of drink. He vigorously denounced the manufacturers of liquor, and said he would rather be the humblest beggar that walked than a brewer with all his curse-stained gold.

GREAT BRITAIN.

Count Herbert Bismarck is very popular in English society circles.

The Great Northwest Central Railway is offering £500,000 of land grant mortgage bonds in London.

The tenants' defence fund in Ireland has been closed, the subscriptions reaching a total of \$300,000.

The English syndicate which bought nine breweries at San Francisco for \$6,000,000 has sent on an instalment of \$1,000,000 of the purchase money.

Lord Salisbury declares that the statement that Germany in 1888 had requested England to join an offensive and defensive alliance is utterly untrue.

The London Chronicle and Post have joined H. M. Stanley in asserting that Britain has been badly cuckolded by Germany in the African business.

Negotiations are in progress between England and Germany for the delimitation of their possessions in East Africa, but no agreement has yet been reached.

Harrison, Parnellite, has been elected to fill the vacancy in the House of Commons for the middle division of Tipperary. He was returned without opposition.

Mr. Goschen, in defending military expenditures, accused some of the Opposition of having lost their instincts of Imperialism in an excess of sentimental gush.

The British Government was defeated on a vote for the second reading of the Irish Agricultural Labor Bill yesterday, due to the blundering of the Conservative whips.

The Marquis of Lorne presided at a meeting at the Mansion House the other day in aid of the restoration of the library of Toronto University. He stated that 2,400 books had already been received and many more were promised.

It is stated that Lord Salisbury has yielded to Germany's claim for disputed territory in Africa, and the London Chronicle takes the Premier readily to task for ceding important strategic points, upon the keeping of which the Imperial position in two continents depends.

UNITED STATES.

Two pronounced cases of leprosy are reported in the Chinese colony of Chicago.

Frosts in Iowa and Illinois have caused considerable injury to fruit and vegetables.

Eight inches of snow fell Monday night at Neche, North Dakota. The farmers are jubilant.

At Columbia, Texas, a funeral procession was obliged to go to the cemetery in boats, the whole district being flooded.

An effort is being made by the Castle Garden officials of New York to bring Mormon immigrants under the contract labor law.

A farmer of Ipswich, Mass., while ploughing in his field the other day, found an Indian idol in the shape of a serpent, an undoubted relic of the stone age.

A bill has been introduced into Congress providing for reciprocal rights in affording assistance to wrecked vessels on American and Canadian waters.

Senator Gorman has introduced a bill intended to practically bring the Canadian railways under the provisions of the Interstate Commerce Act.

The two Presbyterian General Assemblies of the States met in annual session on Thursday, the Northern at Saratoga and the Southern at Asheville, N. C.

Secretary Blaine has sent to President Harrison a plan for the proposed railway to connect the commercial centres of the nations represented in the Pan-American Congress.

Black leg has appeared among the cattle in sections of Schoharie county, N. Y. One farmer at Sharon Hill, Jacob L. Kito, lost seven cows last week. The rapid spread of the disease causes great alarm.

Edward Spellman, who was a witness in the Cronin murder case, has been indicted on two counts of aiding and abetting illegal voting, whereby he is accused of securing a seat in the Peoria, Ill., city council.

George Francis Train arrived at New York on Sunday on his trip around the world and left for Tacoma, Wash., where his journey ends. He will have been 65 days on the trip, beating Nelly Bly's time by 10 days.

IN GENERAL.

Typhoid fever is epidemic in Cairo, Egypt.

Russia is pressing the Porte to pay up the arrears of the war indemnity.

The International Prison Congress will open in St. Petersburg on June 16.

Bogosolov, the Alaskan volcano, after a lapse of seven years, is again in a state of great activity.

Russia has ordered an immense supply of smokeless powder cartridges from the factory at St. Etienne.

It is denied on the authority of Bismarck that he ever asked for the adhesion of Britain to the Triple Alliance.

There has been a rising of the people of the province of Rio Grande do Sul, Brazil, against the government.

There has been more fighting between the French and the Dahomians, in which the former were decidedly victorious.

A destructive fire occurred recently in Tomsk, Siberia and hundreds of lives were lost. The military remained quietly watching the conflagration, and refused to render any assistance.

The Paris Figaro publishes two columns of Bismarckian maxims, communicated by an intimate friend of Prince Bismarck, and in which the young emperor is not too highly spoken of.

The St. Petersburg press express great surprise at the warlike tone of Emperor William's speech at Koenigsberg, for which they fail to find any justification in the European situation.

Signor Crispi, in his speech in the Italian Chamber of Deputies, said that the policy of the triple alliance was unchanged. In Africa, Italy does not intend to pursue an aggressive course, and will act in accord with England.

Respecting the protests sent to Russia against the barbarous treatment of prisoners in Siberia, Mr Gladstone says the Czar might well retort by pointing to the English Government's action in shooting down Irish citizens for attending a public meeting.

The Irish members of Parliament have raised a subscription among themselves for a wedding present for Mr. William O'Brien on his approaching marriage with Mlle. Raffalovitch. The wedding will take place next month. M. Raffalovitch is not, as has been said, a Greek financier. He is a Russian Jew.

Gen. Von Moltke, speaking on the Military bill before the German Reichstag, said that the days of war waged by Cabinets are passed. The danger now lies in the discontent of the people. To avert this danger the Government must be strong, and to preserve peace the strength of the army must be maintained.

SHOCKING CASE OF CHILD TORTURE.

A Fiendish Stepmother's Barbarous Cruelty to Her Husband's Two Daughters.

A shocking case of child torture is reported from Oldtown, a dozen miles up the river from Bangor, Me. Fred Sawyer and his wife, with his two little daughters, aged 8 and 10 years respectively, live in a little frame house on the outskirts of Oldtown village. Sawyer himself is not regarded as a particularly vicious man, but his wife is a veritable fiend. It had long been known to the neighbors that the two little girls were not well treated, but last week it was learned that they were subjected almost daily to shocking abuse, the eldest, Myrtle, being especially maltreated. Several persons declared that they had seen the stepmother, Mrs. Sawyer, take Myrtle by the hair, pull it from her head in handfuls, and then throw her violently to the ground while others had seen the unnatural woman strike the child across the face with a club with such force as to make her unconscious.

It did not require much of this kind of talk to excite the wrath of the townspeople, and on Saturday night a mob surrounded Sawyer's house with the expectation of capturing him and his wife. They were too late, however, for it was soon learned that the couple, having got wind of what was going on, had skipped for Bangor, leaving the children behind.

It was just as well that Sawyer and his wife did get out of town, for when the people came to know the extent to which the woman had carried her barbarous practices, unhindered by her husband, the pair would not have been safe a minute in the hands of the mob. The eldest child presented a pitiful appearance, her frail little body being covered with cuts, sores, and bruises from head to foot. Her left wrist was broken and the arm fractured, while the bridge of her nose was smashed in as though by a blow from a club. It was found that the wrist and arm had been broken six weeks before by the stepmother throwing the child heavily to the ground and then kicking her. No attention was paid to the child's sufferings, the savage stepmother threatening her with instant death if she did not stop crying, and, moreover, the helpless victim was told that she would certainly be killed if she complained to any one of her treatment.

About a week ago the girl, hardly able to walk, and suffering intensely from her broken arm and other hurts, was taken to visit an aunt, and was told at the outset that if she did not run along briskly and appear cheerful she would be whipped to death. This, of course, was impossible. The child could not appear well and happy when she was miserable and terrified, and so the fiendish stepmother dragged her back home, where she was whipped and beaten into a state of insensibility.

Who Is She?

On the materialistic hypothesis that matter and force are the only entities, a question more difficult than the Sadducean query concerning the seven-times married woman is raised by a recent surgical operation performed in the New York General Hospital. A young lady partially asphyxiated with gas was taken to the hospital in a comatose condition, when as a last resort to save her life it was decided to try the transfusion of blood. A big, healthy, telegraph lineman under treatment for a muscular affection of the arms volunteered to give the blood needed to fill her veins. Accordingly about forty ounces of blood, poisoned by the inhaled gas were drawn from her and about twenty-five ounces, taken from the young man's arm and inserted through the radial artery in her wrist, were inserted into her body. For a time her recovery was very slow and doubtful, but after four months careful nursing she has just been discharged from the hospital about as sound in mind and body as ever.

And now with twenty-five ounces of the vital part of another flowing through her veins the question comes, not "whose wife shall she be?" but "who is she? Herself or somebody else?" Perhaps Colonel Ingersoll will rise and explain.

No Need for Immigrants.

The wonderful fecundity of the French Canadian people has long been a subject of public comment. Attention is again directed to this peculiarity of our fellow-countrymen by the action of the Quebec Legislature, which has offered a free grant of one hundred acres of crown lands to each family in the province comprising a dozen children, living at the time of the application. Up to the present time no less than five hundred and forty-seven claims have been filed, that is, so many heads of families have made a sworn statement, before a local magistrate, that they have now living twelve or more children. Nor does this represent the full complement of those who are entitled to the favor. A gentleman connected with one of the provincial departments estimates that the outside number is likely to reach seven or eight hundred. The palm in this race is carried off by Wolf county, a small division, which boasts no less than forty-four families counting twelve or more children. Now it does not require much mathematical knowledge to perceive that a continuation of such fruitfulness will in a few generations solve the problem of settlers for our Western Territories. If Canadians would only exercise a little patience, they might save all those expenses involved in our present immigration policy, though so far as the present generation is concerned, economy in this direction might prove a doubtful gain.

What can It Be?

It might prove a real gain to the man whom London and all England is delighting to ho: or, if I min would publish the information, so sensational, which he claims to have in his possession. Though it might slightly wound the feelings of Mr. Stanley, it might be the means of saving him much weariness of flesh and spirit in attending receptions, public dinners and all the rest of it, which are being given in his honor. For, of course, the intimation of any anything dishonorable or immoral could not fail to dampen the ardor of those who are vying with each other for the honor of playing the part of "mine host."

Perhaps the disappointed Pasha has concluded that by leaving his rival to his fate he will be quite as sure of his revenge, while at the same time he will gain a reputation for kindly consideration and forgiveness. It was inconsiderate, however, for Emin to arouse the curiosity of those who have become interested in African affairs, and then refuse to tell. The world will want to know what it is that "would create a great sensation."

FIVE MILES HIGH ON A TRAPEZE.

The Adventures of a Parachute Man Whose Parachute Got Away From Him.

Great excitement was caused at Croydon England, on Saturday afternoon in connection with the ascent from the old fair field of Prof. Higgins, the parachutist, and for several hours doubts were entertained as to his safety. The balloon, which had that day been named "The Duke's Motto," and was of the capacity of 12,000 cubic feet, was fully charged by 5 o'clock. Higgins said the direction of the wind, which was north-east, would necessitate his travelling a considerable height, but he hoped to return to the field in about half an hour. When he gave the signal to the attendants to "Let go," the machine gradually rose, and appeared to go in the direction of Norway. Upon reaching an altitude of something like 4,000 feet, the parachute became detached from the net of the balloon, which was evidently proceeding upward at a great rate, as the parachute was fully expanded, although inverted. It was now evident that something was wrong with the apparatus, and

AMID BREATHLESS EXCITEMENT,

he parachute dropped from the balloon and fell into a garden in East Croydon. The balloon rapidly disappeared in the clouds. When darkness set in and no news had been received of the parachutist, much anxiety was evinced as to his fate. Shortly after 8 o'clock, however, all fear was dispelled by the receipt of a telegram, stating that Higgins had landed safely near Tunbridge. Higgins and his balloon arrived at East Croydon by the 9:20 train.

In an interview with a correspondent Higgins stated that he had experienced the most wonderful of all his aerial voyages. When he had reached a height of 4,000 feet he began to get into a strong current, and the balloon twisted right round. The current then caught his parachute, causing the wooden ring of it to catch him very tightly under the arms. The test cord which held the parachute then broke. Directly that happened he saw that the parachute was hanging below him fully inflated, and the pressure on him was so great that it was impossible for him to descend into the middle of the town with anything like safety. He therefore opened his penknife with his teeth and cut the parachute away. This caused the balloon to shoot up 6,000 feet higher, and on

REACHING THAT ALTITUDE

he met another current, which brought him back, and he saw nothing until he passed through some sleet and snow. He could hear, however, the sound of trains.

All of a sudden he found himself in darkness, caused, he presumed, by the snow and the thick atmosphere. He was in this snowstorm for at least ten minutes, and when he had passed through it the sun was shining beautifully. Below him he could see what appeared to be snowy mountains rising up and down for miles. He could see a distance of some forty clear miles, and was able to discern the sun glistening on the water at Brighton. It was evident to him that he was going toward Tunbridge Wells. He found the air getting very sharp and keen; icicles were hanging from his moustache, and he had no sooner rubbed them off than others formed. For a few minutes he was quiet deaf. He now seemed to be descending on

THE MOUNTAINS OF SNOW,

and he thought he was getting near Hastings or Brighton. He could smell the sea. Thinking he was coming down, he took hold of four of his gny ropes, and pulled the balloon partly over on one side to allow the gas to escape at the mouth.

The balloon then turned round three times, and he felt he was descending. He did nothing more to the balloon, merely sitting on his trapeze watching for terra firma, which he did not see for some time. At length he saw ploughed fields, and close by there was what he took to be a large park, with white roads across it. He then travelled about five or six miles at a very rapid pace, and saw more ploughed fields, which he thought would be a suitable place to land on. When he was about 2,000 feet from the earth, he prepared to descend by hanging by one arm to his trapeze rope as if he were using his parachute. When his feet touched the ground, the balloon, which was in front of him, dragged him for ten yards, and then rebounded some sixty feet in the air, between two trees. Two laborers ran from opposite directions, and, in response to his signals, they arrived just as he came down a second time, and held the balloon until he let out the gas. He found that he had landed on a farm in the occupation of Mr. Nash of Penhurst, about thirty miles from Croydon; in reply to questions, he said that at one time he must have been five miles above the earth, the highest he had ever been. He added that the balloon had no escape valve.

The Glade.

What is the reason such rare verdure grows In this green glade? And by the brook whose water haply knows Why we delayed Our stolen interviews among the boughs In vesper shade.

It was a lovely and a peaceful place Secure from sight. The sun was finishing his fervid race Far off in light, The larch bowed lowly with poetic grace, She was so bright.

Where yonder waving alders slowly trail The ground's dark green, Beyond the dewlit spicewood of the vale, Which formed a screen, All accidentally, but without fail, She came—my queen.

This is the reason such fond verdure grows In this green glade. O secret brook, full well thy water knows Why we delayed Love's stolen interviews among thy boughs, O sacred shade!

—ANDREW RAMSAY.

Dr. W. G. Grace, who is publishing a series of articles, entitled "Forty Years of Cricket," tells this story: "George Brown, born at Stoughton, Sussex, April 27, 1783, is supposed to have been the fastest under-hand bowler that ever played. He was so very fast that two long stops were needed for him, and nearly all the fieldsmen were placed behind the wicket. At Lord's a man once tried to stop the ball with his coat, but Brown bowled through it and killed a dog on the other side! He was a dog of some size, too."

Living Without Eating.

What with the upward tendency in the price of all things that go to nourish and sustain these physical frames, with beef racing towards twenty cents a pound, and lamb at two dollars a quarter, and with even the poor man's loaf showing a disposition to disregard the law that holds all things down, the announcement of a more excellent way than that of living by eating will come as a delightful sound to the ears of many a hard-pressed son of toil. That we are on the brink of a new discovery would appear from the reports that come from Bourdeaux, France. The Paris correspondent of the London Standard writes, that a woman in that district has not eaten anything for nine years, and, that though thin, she is not emaciated, and has been able to attend to her household duties all this time. Her case is said to have aroused great interest and has led to the appointment of a committee to investigate the matter and confirm the report or expose the deception. It is to be hoped that the committee will perform its work thoroughly, as an anxious world will eagerly await its report, which, if it contains the lady's secret will do more than even Edward Bellamy and his industrial army to solve the great labor problem of our times. Only think of it! Living without eating. Who can estimate the feelings of relief that would come to many an anxious parent as he sees the wolf fleeing forever from his door? What a sense of relief would come to the tired housekeeper to feel that she was rid of the endless round of cooking and baking, and washing of dishes. For of course if our French lady can live without eating, all others can do likewise. The solidarity of man is such that people are very much alike the world over as far as their internal physiology and anatomy are concerned. Until the evidences are forthcoming, however, and the secret clearly revealed, prudence dictates that impatience be curbed and the time of trial delayed, lest for reasons which all can understand the necessity for eating should be permanently removed.

The Panama Canal.

The French scheme to overcome the obstruction which nature has placed in the way of commerce, and cut through the string of land connecting North and South America has not proved a booming success. The old Panama Canal Company having gone into liquidation, M. Burnet, the liquidator, has had a commission sent out to make investigations. This commission reports that it would cost \$97,000,000 to complete the canal on the lock system; that to this 20 per cent. must be added for unforeseen expenses and interest; and that the total cost would amount to \$180,000,000. The report further says that it would take between seven and eight years to complete the canal. The annual cost of management is estimated at \$2,000,000. According to the estimates of the commissioners the net receipts for the first three years after the opening of the canal would be \$7,600,000 annually, gradually increasing year by year until twelve years after the opening, when they would amount to \$12,200,000 per year. If the hopes held out in this report could be certainly depended upon the enterprise would stand a good chance of being pushed to completion; for as a matter of fact many capitalists are now returning from investments a much lower return than that promised by the report. But just in this uncertainty lies the difficulty and the feature that will tend to dampen the ardor of those who might otherwise be disposed to carry the project through. Altogether the outlook for what our neighbors are wont to call "De Lessep's great ditch" is not at present very promising.

Liverpool and Manchester.

The proposition to remove a great ledge of rocks from the harbor of Holyhead, so as to make that place a port for the arrival and departure of large steamships, is said to be looked upon by those interested in the commercial prosperity of Liverpool as likely to be of serious injury to their city. Liverpool now disputes with London for the commercial primacy of the world, but in order to hold her own, it is evident that the great city on the Mersey must strain every nerve. Greatly against her interests and wishes, permission was granted to build the Manchester ship canal, which will be completed in a year or more, and which when in operation is likely to carry to the wharves and docks to be constructed in that inland city not a little of the commerce that has hitherto paid toll to the Liverpool merchants. The people of Bristol are also endeavoring to obtain by improved facilities a share of the transatlantic trade which Liverpool has hitherto enjoyed, and now that the backing of the London & Northwestern railroad, the authorities at Liverpool will need to bestir themselves in order to prevent a loss of tonnage which has hitherto come to that place. Of natural advantages Liverpool has but few. The river Mersey is a serious obstruction to trade, and it is only by wise forethought in liberally expending money in the construction of great docks and providing these with splendid railroad facilities that the town has held its own. Complaint is now made that the dock facilities are not all that they should be in order to accommodate the immense steamships that have recently been built, and both the Inman and White Star lines have petitioned the dock authorities for improvements in this respect. We have little doubt but that these will be made, and that nothing that can be done will be left undone in the struggle that Liverpool will make to hold her commercial supremacy.

The truth as to the extent and causes of the abandonment of New England farms is gradually coming to light, although it may be a long time before the relative importance of the various influences at work in producing this unfortunate condition of things is accurately gauged. The last report of Mr. Valentine, the Vermont Commissioner of Agricultural and Manufacturing Interests, is largely occupied with a discussion of the causes of abandonment of farms in his own state. The state is about 100 miles long by 30 to 60 in width, and embraces an area no greater than half a dozen Ontario counties. Yet in this very limited area the official returns from municipalities reporting show that there are over 1,000 abandoned farms with an area of 118,000 acres. Many towns—or, as we would say, townships—have failed to report, but Mr. Valentine estimates the total area of abandoned farms and occupied land (not including timber land) at 500,000 acres.