

NEWS OF THE WEEK.

The *Herald*, which delights in noticing the mistakes or discrepancies that sometimes appear in the columns of its contemporaries, calmly recommends THE CRITIC to study the *Herald's* news column, as if, forsooth, it were always free from error. A journal that publishes the obituary notices of men enjoying excellent health should be the last to make such a recommendation.

"Widely and slow; they stumble that run fast."

"The Brunswick Hotel ball at Moncton to night promises to eclipse anything before attempted in that quarter."—(*Herald*, Jan. 8th). In a telegram from Moncton, dated *January 7th*, which appears in the same issue, an account of the ball is given.

Purchasers of dry goods will do well to note the advertisement of Wm Moody in another column. Mr. Moody has in stock at the London House a large assortment of fur tippets, dress and fancy goods.

Among the death claims paid last week by the Mutual Life Insurance Company of New York was that of Cardinal John McCloskey, whose original policy for \$10,000 has been increased by dividends to \$15,672. This was all the personal property left by the eminent prelate. The New York Mutual can justly claim a first place among the best companies on the continent.

Expenditures for military purposes during the past year, together with the depreciation in the price of silver, have caused a deficit of \$10,000,000 in the Indian budget. A bill has been introduced into the legislature imposing a tax of two per cent. on the incomes of professional men and officials.

Affairs in both Upper and Lower Burma are in a very bad condition. The country is over run with Dacoits, and it is thought that a large force of Ghorkas will be necessary to drive them off.

Sydney, C. B., and Sydney, New South Wales, have both been suffering from the small-pox scourge. In the former town the disease was speedily stamped out, thanks to the prompt and effective measures taken by the authorities, but in Sydney, N. S. W., many hundreds fell victims to the scourge. It is now under control.

At the Vendome Hotel, New Glasgow, one evening last week, the late employees on the Eastern Extension were banquetted by their friends. Owing to the Extension having been made a part of the Intercolonial, Messrs. F. D. Laurie, Buley, Punch, Bain, Gray, Stewart and Pushee have vacated their respective situations, and the evening was devoted to an interchange of good offices between them and their many friends in Pictou County. The viands, wines, etc., are said by "one who was there," to have been of the very best, and laid out in Mr. McDearmid's usual good style. The evening was very pleasantly spent.

British capitalists have invested in foreign railways, government bonds, and other securities, upwards of \$10,000,000,000, upon which they annually realize, in the form of dividends, interest, etc., \$625,000,000.

Australia is now preparing to export her surplus harvest of wheat, amounting to 90,000 tons.

There appears to be a discrepancy in the reports as to the Treaty recently arranged between France and Madagascar, but the weight of evidence goes to show that the brave Hovas are by no means willing to allow the French a permanent foothold in their magnificent island.

Leith House, which is well and favourably known to the trade, under the successful management of the firm of Kelly & Glassey, was established by Alex. McLeod & Co., in 1818.

Dr. Freycinet, who succeeds M. Brisson as Premier of France, finds it difficult to fill the several portfolios in his cabinet in such a manner as to assure the stability of the government.

The recent illness of the Princess of Wales demonstrated beyond a doubt the fact of her continued popularity among all classes throughout Great Britain. The Princess is in very truth the pet of the people.

Half the farm lands in the United States are owned, or controlled by non-resident capitalists. Are our American cousins to escape Landlordism in its various forms?

Lunenburg, which aspires to be the Gloucester of Nova Scotia, has exported during the past five years fish to the value of a quarter of a million of dollars.

Mr. Noble, of Toronto, is now in the city making arrangements for the quick transit of fish between this Port and the markets of the West. The Halifax merchants will find in Mr. Noble a man well qualified by his commercial training to push business successfully. His references are most satisfactory. A more extended notice of the prospects of this new trade will appear in a subsequent issue.

While all will be ready to congratulate Dr. Schurman upon his appointment to the Chair of Philosophy in Cornell University, and will feel proud to think that a Lower Province man is to fill that distinguished position, many persons will regret that by its acceptance, Dr. Schurman has severed his connection with Dalhousie College, thus depriving one of our most promising Provincial Institutions of his valuable professional services.

Correct Answers to Double Acrostic published last week were received from Miss J. C. A., Acadia Mines, and Donald Rory John McDonald, Port Mulgrave.

The establishment of Clayton & Sons is a perfect hive of industry. Thousands of suits of ready-made clothing are yearly made up, and sold at reasonable prices. Clayton & Sons are enterprising and prompt in business and they deserve the success which these qualities never fail to achieve.

The Centennial celebration of the formation of the Charitable Irish Society, which takes place on Monday next, promises to be a most brilliant affair. The main features of the celebration will be the address at the Academy of Music by the Hon. Thomas J. Gargan, the celebrated Boston orator, and a grand banquet in the Mason Hall. The Charitable Irish Society has done noble work during its five score years of existence, and its many friends will gladly aid in making the Centennial celebration an unqualified success.

Herr Klingensfeld has on many occasions willingly aided in concerts given for the benefit of religious or benevolent institutions, and it is therefore not unreasonable to expect that the concert which is to be given for his benefit on Thursday evening next, will be right loyally patronized by our citizens. Herr Klingensfeld is an acquisition to the musical talent of Halifax, and the attendance at his concert should be made a suitable testimony of our appreciation of this fact.

The work now being turned out from the planning mills of E. Gibson is most creditable. The venetian blinds, scroll sawing, moulding and turning display first-class workmanship.

The annual meeting of the friends of the Halifax Dispensary was a most satisfactory gathering. An institution which relieves the pain and suffering of the poor, and dispenses its aid in times of sickness and disease, certainly deserves unstinted support. It is gratifying to note that the finances of the Dispensary are at present sufficient to carry on the humane work.

The Khedive refuses to sanction the alteration in the Treaty, having in view the widening of the Suez Canal.

The contract of the Chignecto Ship Railway is virtually settled. By next spring the work of its construction will be commenced, and it will be completed with all requisite dispatch. Among the contractors are several London capitalists.

Germany, which is now keeping a sharp lookout for unappropriated morsels of land, has seized upon the Island of Samoa in the Pacific, dethroned the King and planted the German flag upon it. The American missionaries protest against this unprovoked land piracy.

Austen Bros. have on hand a large stock of Cylinder, Lard, Machine and Black Oils, also Wire Rope and Mining Supplies, etc. See adv. page 12.

The meeting of the British Parliament on Thursday next is awaited with anxious expectation. Salisbury, Gladstone, and Parnell, are the three most interesting figures upon the political stage. Whether Parnell will support Salisbury or Gladstone remains an open question; certain it is, he will force from the hands of one of these leaders a measure of Home Rule for Ireland.

Most men have experienced the discomfort of an ill-fitting shirt, but why they should do so when Millican & Co. are prepared to make to order well-fitting shirts, it is difficult to understand.

The "Grand Old Man" will probably visit the United States and Canada during the coming summer. The warmth of his reception will depend much upon his course during the ensuing session of Parliament.

Mr. A. Hart, who represents the Ontario Mutual Life Insurance Co. is preparing to do a larger insurance business during the coming year than ever before. Insurance, says Mr. Hart, has become popular with the ladies, and that accounts for the increase in business.

Calgary, N. W. T., appears to have a Stipendiary Magistrate of the "flint" species. He imprisons for contempt of court the editor of a journal who questions his ruling, and he otherwise acts in a harsh and arbitrary manner.

The Commissioners who have in hand the framing the new Assessment Act, have issued a circular letter which has been sent to the leading men of both parties throughout the Province in which some pertinent questions relating to the taxation of incomes, church property, etc., are asked.

Mr. Bennet Smith, the well-known ship-builder of Windsor, N. S., is dead. He amassed a fortune of \$1,000,000 by his honest industry and persevering enterprise.

The unanimity of the Chamber of Commerce upon the question of Reciprocity with the United States was made quite apparent at their meeting on Wednesday afternoon. A few persons took advantage of the opportunity for airing their political hobbies; but, taking all in all, the meeting was one of the most satisfactory that has taken place for many months.