

NEWS OF THE WEEK.

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Prince Edward Island's wheat crop is the best in forty years.

Nine hundred head of cattle have been shipped at Calgary for the British market. This is the first shipment of cattle from a Canadian ranch.

The town of Gravenhurst, in Ontario, has almost been entirely destroyed by fire. Nine blocks of buildings with their contents having been levelled to the ground.

There is to be a general meeting of Provincial Premiers at Quebec early in October, but it is not yet certain that Premier Sullivan will attend. If he does the conference will be taken part in by seven persons.

Robert McConnell, formerly editor of the *Truro Guardian*, and afterwards of the *Moncton Transcript*, will be editor of a new paper called the *Montreal News*, the first number of which will appear in October.

Messrs. Carrier, Iaine & Co., Quebec, have received a \$300,000 contract from the Dominion Government, for the construction of iron snow sheds, to replace the wooden ones now in use along the Intercolonial railway.

The new building of Dalhousie College, which is fast approaching completion, will be ready for occupation at the commencement of the coming term. The Convocation of the College will take place October eighteenth, when Prof. Seth will deliver an address.

The *New Glasgow Chronicle* says electric light is a fixed fact, as far as New Glasgow is concerned. About twenty-five of her merchants have signed contract with the agent of the New Glasgow Electric Light Co. to place electric light in their stores before the first of December.

In a collision near Little Metis, on the I. C. R., two trains were badly wrecked, an engine driver killed, and a fireman fatally injured. The cause of the accident is said to have been forgetfulness on the part of a conductor to obey crossing-orders. Such forgetfulness is simply unpardonable.

The Seamen's Home Society have made an urgent appeal for funds, which will be required to finish their new building, now under construction. \$8,000 will complete the structure, and the money should be subscribed, as the Home is unquestionably one of our most necessary institutions.

On Monday evening last, a train was derailed on the Canada Atlantic Railway, fifteen miles from Ottawa. Bush fires had burned away the ties, which was the cause of the accident. Although the passengers escaped with some slight injury, the train with its contents was soon reduced to ashes.

Four children found a shell which had been left on the range by the D. G. Artillery after their recent practice on the Isle of Orleans, just below Quebec. One child tried to set fire to the shell with a burning match, when it instantly exploded, killing three and fatally injuring the fourth child.

A young student named Cormier, attending the Norman school at Fredericton, attempted to take his life by cutting the main artery of his left arm with a razor. He was discovered before life was extinct, but his recovery is thought doubtful. No cause for the attempted suicide has yet been made public.

As Bishop Perry has signified his unwillingness to leave his present bishopric in Iowa, the election of a new bishop to fill the vacant see of Nova Scotia, will now be in the hands of the Archbishops of Canterbury and York, and the Bishop of London. It is uncertain how long a time may elapse before the appointment is made.

Sir Chas. Tupper has admitted bribery through agents in Cumberland Co., and the seat will be declared vacant, it being understood that the personal charges are not to be pressed. Hon. A. W. McLellan also admitted bribery through agents in Colchester Co., but the personal charges were proceeded with, resulting in Mr. McLellan being vindicated.

Hon. Senator MacMaster, who recently died at Toronto, was an Irishman by birth. During his life of seventy-seven years, the greater part of which has been spent in Canada, he has been a prominent philanthropist, and to his zeal on behalf of education, the Baptists owe the establishing of MacMaster University, the senator having endowed six of its chairs.

In the office of the sub-editor of this journal, says the *Toronto Globe*, is a 32 candle-power Edison lamp, which has been burning full power five hours every night, six nights a week, ever since the installation of the system in November, 1884. The lamp was guaranteed for 600 hours, but is still burning with undiminished power after more than 4,700 hours' service.

Montreal has again suffered from the fire-scurge. St. Roch's Hospital, which, during the small-pox epidemic, was utilized as a special hospital, and the Montreal Company's large furniture factory, valued at two hundred and fifty thousand dollars, were completely destroyed. Since the above was written we learn that Barrington's Trunk Factory was burnt on Wednesday last. Loss, \$300,000.

The *Charlottetown Patriot* says:—"Quite a number of new sidewalks are being laid on Queen street. The people appreciate, commend, and venture to suggest that the other streets of the city undergo the same treatment." What a pity it is that the repairing fever has not extended to Halifax. True, the pavement along one block has been put in tolerably good order, but this is not one hundredth part of the work that is required to be done.

An effort is being made to settle the lands in New Brunswick belonging to the estate of the late Sir Albert Smith with a colony from Denmark. In Nova Scotia, all efforts at colonization appear to be at a stand-still, why, we know not.

In referring to the "Joe Howe Memorial," the *New Star*, of Kentville, says:—"When we consider how ready other countries are to erect memorials to their great men, it seems an unpleasant reflection that Nova Scotia has so long delayed to provide a lasting memorial of her greatest son. We hope now that the attempt is being made that there will be a response that indicates a power of appreciation in our people for that which has reflected honor upon the country of its origin. The editor of THE CRITIC is ready to receive and promptly acknowledge subscriptions."

The *Montreal Herald* says that the Recorder of Quebec has decided that the Salvation Army, being an association of peaceable citizens, with a good object in view, are worthy of the protection of the law, and has fined one of the assailants what, it is to be hoped, is a sufficiently large sum of money to deter others from attacking the Army. At all events, the highest punishment permitted by the law was imposed, and the magistrate, a French Canadian Roman Catholic, deserves the respect of all lovers of liberty, and all the more since he has been attacked unmercifully by the persecuting bigotry of some Quebec newspapers.

Balabrega's Modern Miracle Co. have been drawing good houses at the Academy this week. They give a first-class entertainment, with the exception of the burlesque skating of Messrs. Battey & Nedo, which might, with advantage, be omitted from the performance. Balabrega himself is an adept in the art of magic; and Miss Lynden's second sight and mind-reading is a wonderfully clever performance. Mr. C. W. Littlefield's whistling and imitations of birds and animals is one of the best features of the entertainment, while Balabrega's mesmerism would certainly be more appreciated if he left out those of his own company whom he operates on.

Several ruffianly characters have been guilty of assault in Halifax during the past few days. A son of Stipendiary Motton was stabbed while returning to his home, but fortunately the weapon used did not cut through his clothes. A guard on duty in Bedford Row was stabbed in the abdomen by one of two men who were apparently walking quietly along the street. A young man leaving the Salvation Army Barracks was assaulted by a gang of four desperadoes, one of whom struck him a severe blow, which broke his jaw-bone. Our police will need to keep a sharp lookout for these law-breakers. Hitherto, the city has been comparatively safe at all hours of the night, and disorders have been of rare occurrence, but the police will now have to be on the *qui-vive*.

The Exhibition season has opened. That of Hants and Kings Co. was opened at Windsor on Tuesday afternoon by the Lieut. Governor. The display is said to have been almost equal to that of our Provincial Exhibitions. Windsor had on gala attire, and welcomed her guests right nobly. The procession on Tuesday evening, and the promenade concert on Wednesday evening were unqualified successes. The Barrington section of the Shelburne Co. Exhibition opened on Wednesday morning. The show of cattle was particularly fine, and the vegetable display was above the average. Although the day was fine, the attendance was not up to the average. Colchester Co. is holding its Exhibition at Middle Stewiacke to day, and most of the other counties hold them next week.

The *Liverpool Times* says that Mr. McLeod, Dominion Government engineer, will shortly visit that town, for the purpose of examining and reporting upon the proposed line of railway between Liverpool and Annapolis. To have such a railway constructed would be a great boon to the people on that portion of the Atlantic seaboard. Now a days railroads are almost as indispensable as highways were fifty years ago; and if the Dominion Government undertakes the contract, there will be a much better prospect of its speedy completion than there would be if some company had to be depended upon. We have had a good sample of the way in which companies manage these matters, in the past history of the Missing Link between Digby and Annapolis, and the people of Queen's County may congratulate themselves on the fact, that the general government have taken the matter in hand.

The *Chronicle* of Wednesday contained two remarkable articles, one was a humorous satire, by "Mack Dee," of New Glasgow, in which the writer refers to the fact that in the Upper Provinces Nova Scotia is usually spoken of as "down by the sea," which is certainly an indefinite description. The other article to which we desire to call attention is entitled "Pet dogism," and this is the way the writer of it spreads himself:—"Pet dogism, if we may be allowed the term, is getting to be one of the most fashionable amusements of the day. Ever since modern society came into existence the useless pieces of ornamental animation which are so highly prized by certain ladies and gentlemen were popular enough. But now they seem to be all the rage." Pet dogism a fashionable amusement, fursuothe! who ever heard of such nonsense! and then, too, note the language of the writer when he speaks of dogs, "useless pieces of ornamental animation." Surely the man that penned that must have imbibed too freely, otherwise his verbosity cannot be accounted for.

Michael Davitt will arrive in the United States in a few days. His visit is not likely to be prolonged.

By a queer freak, Rev. Mr. Knott, of Chicago, married Mr. Halter and Miss Rope. Their lines should be cast in pleasant places.

A straight line can be drawn through seventy five miles of the Indian River, Florida, without touching shore. It is called the straightest river in the world.