

NEWS OF THE WEEK.

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The Spanish Consul-General at Quebec has committed suicide, owing, it is said, to business troubles.

Serious losses are reported, due to the recent storms and freshets in New Brunswick, of sheep, hay, and other products.

Two festive policemen, of Toronto, who were found drunk in a house of ill-fame, have been summarily dismissed the force by the Commissioners.

General Goodenough, R. A., arrived on the steamer *Nova Scotian*. He will inspect the fortifications of Halifax in company with Major Clarke, R.E.

There is a decided movement in and about Truro for the repeal of the Scott Act, and some influential Templars are reported as favoring the movement.

Prompt action has been taken by the Government as to repairing the break in the Cornwall canal, and the work is to be pushed with the utmost despatch.

Chief Justice Allen, of New Brunswick, celebrated the fiftieth anniversary of his admission to the bar at St. John on Saturday. The Bar Society presented his Lordship with a piece of plate and an address.

The Canadian hen, says the *Montreal Gazette*, is the latest object of the United States Congressional wrath, being threatened with a prohibitive duty on the product of her industry shipped across the border.

"KNIT GOODS."—A correspondent, writing on the material of "alleged woollen goods," must send in his name and address (not for publication). We cannot enter into subjects brought before us anonymously.

Quite a number of cases of typhoid and gastric fever are reported from Truro; one death has occurred and another was expected, but the Board of Health is on the alert, and active measures are being taken to abate the trouble.

The London, Ont., *Free Press* opens up the question of allowing American fishermen to tranship their cargoes over Canadian railways, and is favorable to the concession, which we are inclined to think would be a desirable measure.

Mr. Edward Blake, Q. C., has been retained by the C. P. R. in its interests with regard to the question as to whether other lines of railway in Manitoba can legally cross its track. It seems a great pity that this great corporation should adhere so persistently to an obnoxious line of policy.

A correspondent of the *Toronto Empire* asserts that Mr. Erastus Wiman, although born in Canada, is of American parentage on both sides, and was born during a brief residence of his parents in this country. If so, it will be satisfactory to Canada to be in a position to repudiate him as a Canadian.

Morrison, the Megantic murderer, is reported to be coolly arranging to give himself up, claiming, it is said, the reward offered for his own apprehension, in the name of a friend who is to use it for the purposes of his defence. This is a climax to the disgrace of the Quebec authorities and police.

The wheat of Manitoba is the highest priced in the British market, but it is only a small quantity that is so rated. The people of that Province would, however, rather have the standard lowered, as a larger quantity would attain it, and bring a price little less than that now obtained for the highest.

The new Government steamer *Stanley*, especially built at Glasgow, for the winter mail service between Prince Edward Island and the mainland, has been successfully launched, and will probably leave for Canada in December, under charge of Capt. McElhinney, nautical adviser to the Marine Department.

The value of goods entered for consumption in Canada during August was \$20,022,710, and the duty collected thereon \$2,128,648. The total dutiable goods was six and three-quarter millions. The imports are half a million in excess of those of August, 1887, and the revenue shows an increase of \$140,000. The exports amounted to \$8,153,560.

Buckley, for beating to death a woman whose last words were "Don't hit me, Tom, I love you so!" gets an amended sentence of 15 years. One Farley, at Peterboro', shoots a bigger and stronger man, who was always ill-treating him, and is at once sentenced to death. We should like to have that Toronto jury at our absolute disposal for a couple of hours!

The *Halifax* sailed on her first trip to the eastward early on Tuesday morning with a full cargo. Sailing under the British flag she has open to her a coasting trade, from which lines sailing under that of the United States are debarred. In this respect, also, we hail her as an initiation of the new spirit of enterprise which we trust is now aroused in Nova Scotia. It is understood that a full freight awaits her on her return trip.

The Canada Pacific Railway has commenced staking out its twenty-four acres of ground at Brownville, where it is to have extensive repair shops, store-houses, and all other erections necessary for a great centre. By vote of the people, the C. P. R. is to be free of taxation for ten years. Brownville is destined to become quite a centre of local trade, and the location of the works of the company at this point necessary to the operation of the road from Montreal to St. John will benefit all the surrounding portion of Maine.

The London *Athenaeum* announces that the November volume of the "Canterbury Poets" (Walter Scott, London,) will be "Poems of Wild Life," edited by Professor Roberts, of King's College. The most prominent place in the collection will be given to selections from Joaquin Miller. Several Canadian poets are represented in the collection.

Some forty gentlemen, shareholders of the Canada Atlantic Steamship Line, were entertained on Monday evening on board the *Halifax*. The spread was everything that could be desired, and the dishes well selected and admirably cooked. The *Halifax* is undoubtedly one of the finest and most elaborately fitted vessels afloat, and it is to be hoped it may not be long before the construction of a second steamer is announced.

A heavy thunder storm broke over the city yesterday morning, and it rained pretty continuously the greater part of Wednesday. The weather reports from various stations in New England indicate that the rain-fall for September in that region exceeds any on record. Hitherto that of October here would seem to have kept well up to it. Considerable damage to the potato crop has, it is feared, been the result of the continuous wet.

It would appear from the report of a meeting of the Gaelic Society, of Toronto, that payment of arrears of rent to Scotch landlords has been deducted from the \$600 voted to Crofter emigrants by the Imperial Parliament to ensure their comfortable settlement in Canada. A resolution was submitted for examination and report, condemning the British and Dominion Governments for permitting this perversion of the legitimate object of the grant.

"C. M. Cole," who has been arrested, brought to trial, and sentenced to one year in the penitentiary at Winnipeg for presenting a forged draft on an American bank, is, it is said, supposed to be the Mr. Miller who, as a yacht owner, did some sharp swindling in Halifax about three months ago. He had a number of similar drafts in his possession when captured, and, if the same man, his plan of operations does not seem to have been quite so clever as his tactics here.

The Rev. F. W. Vroom, M. A., Rector of Shediac, N. B., has been elected by the Governors of King's College, Windsor, to fill the vacant chair of Divinity in that institution. Mr. Vroom is a native of St. Stephen, N. B., and matriculated at King's with much credit in 1876. The new Professor is a diligent student with a strong taste for original investigation, and the appointment will be decidedly popular. It will also tend to remove the reproach, sometimes levelled against King's, that the University cannot supply her teachers from the ranks of her own sons. A canonry in St. Luke's Cathedral is attached to this Professorship of Divinity.

Buckley, the Toronto murderer, who brutally beat to death a woman who had but a few hours before paid his fine in a police court, got off with a verdict of manslaughter and a sentence of five years. A burglar who had broken in a door and injured a safe would probably be sentenced to three times as long a term of imprisonment. It is such verdicts and sentences as these which drive indignant people to lynch law. The people of Toronto feel outraged, and Mr. Irving, the counsel for the Crown, has only acted in accordance with public opinion, as well as a proper regard for his duty under the circumstances, in moving for the setting aside of the sentence, and for another sentence.

The pioneer steamer of a new line, to trade between Charlottetown, Halifax and Boston, arrived at Halifax on Saturday about 5 p.m. This vessel, built by the London and Glasgow Engineering and Iron Shipbuilding Company, for the Canada-Atlantic Steamship Company, resembles the largest channel steamers in size and speed, but in one or two respects exceeds them, notably in her extensive accommodation for passengers. The *Halifax* is 250 ft. in length, 35 ft. beam, and 23 ft. draught, and is about 1700 tons burthen. There are three decks—main, spar and shade. Her promenade deck is 220 feet in length. The first-class state rooms give accommodation to 423 passengers, and there are rooms for fifty second-class passengers. Steam-heating, electric lighting, thorough ventilation and sanitation have been carefully treated, and pneumatic bells are fitted in state and public rooms. The public rooms are finished with the artistic taste which characterizes all Clyde passenger steamers. The dining saloon, which is seated for eighty persons, is decorated with oak, satin, mahogany and walnut. There is on the shade deck a large smoking saloon. The accommodation for carriages and horses has been specially considered, and the machinery for working the general cargo and the ship itself is very complete, including a steam winch at each of the three hatches, steam warping capstan aft, steam windlass and capstan forward, and steam steering and sounding gear. In view of the probability of icebergs being frequently met with on the coast, the ship has been made specially strong, with heavy scantlings forward. She is divided by water-tight bulkheads, and has double bottoms, with water ballast cells between them. The engines are triple expansion. The boilers worked on trial at a pressure of 160 lbs per square inch, and the engines developed 3100 horse power. When tried on the measured mile on the Clyde, speed of 15½ knots was attained, but she made the high rate of 17 just before coming into port. She will be an immense addition to the facilities and comfort of the increasing passenger traffic on the route for which she is destined. The *Halifax* will be under the command of Captain S. R. Hill, formerly of the *Utunda*, who has superintended the construction of the vessel, and by his advice assisted the builders in arranging some of the specially suitable features of the steamer. Crowds of people have visited the new boat, and all express unqualified satisfaction with her.

The *Farmers' Review* of Chicago, referring to the wheat crop in the United States, says the shortage this year will amount to 40,000,000 bushels, as compared with last year. The total yield is placed at 418,998,372 bushels.