

NEWS OF THE WEEK.

LOCAL.

The Enceenia of Kings College, Windsor, is to be held on Thursday, 25th inst. It promises to be of more than ordinary interest. All friends of old King's ought to be there on Thursday.

Our City Schools are to get their holidays about Friday, 10th prox.

It is said that a Boy's Reformatory will soon be opened at Dutch Village. Funds for this purpose are in the hands of the late Patrick Powers executors. We certainly need one more institution of the kind in Halifax.

The Society for P. C. A., ought to have looked after the dog from "down alongshore," which, having strayed into the city the other day, was by some loafers plied with whiskey, until it became so like a certain class of citizens that it went on a howl. The ferry-man at the arm kindly brought it back to its own dear heath.

We have received the Dalhousie College Calendar for 1885-86. It is neatly printed on first-class paper by the Nova Scotia Printing Co. It contains the examination papers in Law and Arts that were used at the terminal examinations in April last. It announces the acceptance of the Principalship by Prof. Forrest, and the affiliation with Dalhousie of the Halifax Medical College. The Calendar can be obtained from Rev Principal Forrest.

At a meeting of the congregation of Granville St. Baptist Church on Tuesday evening, the question of building a new church, which has been under discussion for years took definite shape. Several resolutions were passed in favor of going on with the work as soon as possible, and speeches were made by the Rev. W. H. Cline, Dr. Parker, and Messrs. Graham and Ackhurst and others. The building will be erected on the corner of Spring Garden Road and Queen Street at an estimated cost of \$25,000.

The Hon. William Frederick DesBarres, ex judge of the Supreme Court, died on Tuesday night at the age of 85. Born in 1800, he was educated at the Halifax Grammar School, and studied Law under Judge Wilkins, father of the late Judge Wilkins, who died recently at Windsor. He was a follower of Joseph Howe, and held under the Howe government the position of Solicitor-General.

"Canada: a ballad in three parts," is the title of a little poem by James Whitman, B. A., which has just been published. It is "dedicated by permission to the Earl of Dufferin." It opens with a description of the wonder and terror of the Indians along the St. Lawrence when they saw, for the first time, European ships approaching. We quote:—

"Then throwing what remained of robe upon his birch canoe,
He, plunging in the sparkling wave, its crystal back ward threw,
But suddenly a tremor seized those limbs that ne'er had quailed,
And clammy sweat with icy chill that iron frame assailed;
"Great Spirit! what is that?" he cried, "far yonder on the sea,
Like mighty bird with stretching wings and flying fast to me?"

The latter part of the poem deals with the Canada of the present day in a lively and readable style. Altogether this little work well sustains the author's reputation for literary ability.

Monday, 22nd June, is proclaimed a public holiday in the city. Races at Polo Grounds Monday.

The really fine buildings on Granville, corner of Sackville St., that have taken the place of several hovels, are being handsomely painted by David Roche.

The closing exercises of the Halifax School for the Blind were held in the Institution yesterday afternoon. The programme, which was of a varied nature, was successfully carried out and at its close a number of prizes were presented by the President of the Board, J. S. McLean, to those students who had obtained the highest number of marks throughout the term. The limited seating capacity of the school-room in which the exercises were held was quite inadequate to meet the requirements of the visitors. The need of a suitable hall in connection with the establishment was quite evident. The Board of Managers of the Institution are to be congratulated on the satisfactory manner in which the educational, technical and domestic affairs are conducted.

If we can judge from appearances, we would infer, by the last large cargo of coal from the Ontario Mines, C. B., that this colliery is turning out a really superior article. Mr. Alex. McPherson has been appointed manager at the mines, and Mr. Alexander G. Bremner agent for this city.

The communication of "Anti-Sham" has been received; but as the writer does not give us his name in confidence, we cannot publish the same. We are grateful to him for his friendly commendation of the critic.

FOREIGN.

News has been received at Paris of the death of Admiral Courbet who commanded the French fleet against the Chinese.

Cholera is spreading westward and people are deserting Madrid in thousands. At Castellon and Cartagena many deaths from the terrible disease have already occurred.

Large numbers of the Mahdi's prisoners have become converts to Mahometanism. A letter has been received at Dongola signed by ninety six of them, Greeks, Copts, and Syrians, stating that they are unwilling to leave the Mahdi.

The Marquis of Salisbury has consented to form a new ministry. In the House of Commons on Monday, Gladstone, in answer to a question from Labouchere as to whether Salisbury had only consented when assured of the assistance of the Liberals, said that he was ignorant of any such arrangement.

Prince Frederick Charles, nephew of the Emperor William, died at Potsdam on Monday last at the age of 55. His name is dear to the Germans on account of his brilliant military career. He commanded in the war against Denmark in 1864. During the war of 1866 against Austria he won the great battle of Koniggratz. As leader of the second German army in the Franco-Prussian war, he won the battles of Spiechtern and Doncourt and captured Metz, Orleans and Le Mans.

The Russian Fleet has taken possession of a port in Corea. The composition of Salisbury's Cabinet has been partially arranged as follows:—

The Marquis of Salisbury, Prime Minister and Foreign Secretary.

Sir Michael Hicks-Beach, Chancellor of the Exchequer.

Lord Randolph Churchill, Secretary for India.

Sir Richard Asheton-Cross, Home Secretary.

Right Hon. Edward Gibson, Lord Chancellor of Ireland.

Large amounts of forged Spanish bonds are in circulation in London.

It is reported that the Grand Duke of Hesse-Darmstadt will soon marry Princess Hilda of Hainault-Dessau.

The Princess Beatrice is to be married with a good deal of pomp and ceremony. The wedding cake will weigh 250 pounds, and will repose on a pedestal of gold.

The best obtainable statistics show one or more cases of cholera in each of the fifty-one towns scattered among eight provinces along the Mediterranean.

CANADIAN.

A number of skeletons discovered at Frog Lake seems to indicate that more massacres than we yet know of have taken place there.

Mr. Blake has delivered a six hour speech about the C. P. R.

Premier Norquay, of Manitoba, is mentioned as one of the prominent new men soon to enter the House of Commons at Ottawa. He is a man of tremendous energy.

A fund has been started to secure a proper defence for Louis Riel. The Montreal Catholic clergy refused to help it in any way. This does not look like sympathy for the rebel.

Big Bear's flight to the North was the only step that could have saved him from a humiliating defeat last week.

The Dominion Government is trying to do something for railways in Nova Scotia.

BATTLEFORD, June 16.—General Middleton and staff returned to-night. The rest of the command accompanied him and will be in to-morrow. Eight days hard work has proved fruitless; the country was impassable save to Indians. The troops have done all that mortal men could do and gave up pursuit only when it had become clear they could go no further. There was much misunderstanding about the route, owing to the country being terra incognita. General Middleton advanced eight miles beyond the lake where Steele had fought and had much trouble in crossing the stream between two lakes where the fight occurred. Indians had destroyed every possible means of water transport. However we got across, but found that the Indians had gone. Further on the lake, which is a very long body of water, there Big Bear found 20 or more lodges of Loon Lake Indians whom he induced to join him. They went in such a hurry that they left their nets set. Big Bear had four days good start and we were never nearer to him than twenty to twenty-five miles.

It is understood that the United States Government has approached that of the Dominion with a view to re-adjust and renew the fishery clause of the Treaty of Washington. Negotiations are satisfactorily progressing. We trust a fair Reciprocity will be the result.

Settlers from the United States are coming into British Columbia.

New York Sun says that the late rebellion will advertise the Canadian West all over Europe. French, German and Italian papers have been telling how it should have been settled.

The Dominion Government have received a copy of the Manitoba Exemption Act passed during last session, and will probably decide at once as to whether or not they will disallow it. Long petitions are coming in against the Act, as it leaves Eastern merchants and manufacturers without security for advances made.

A water motor has been attached to the organ of the Presbyterian Church at Windsor.

A movement has been started in Quebec to organize a company to prosecute seal hunting in the Gulf with properly prepared steamers which will engage in the coal trade after the sealing season is over. If successful, operations will be begun next spring.