

## NEWS OF THE WEEK.

Subscribers remitting Money, either direct to the Office, or through Agents, will find receipt in next paper.

Next week the hotels and boarding houses of Halifax will be crowded with visitors, attracted hither by the firemen's tournament. Our firemen may be trusted to give a good account of themselves, and the programme of the proceedings is sufficiently varied to please the taste of the thousands who will gather for a holiday.

Lord Salisbury has formed his Cabinet, the principal members of which, in addition to the Premier, are the Marquis of Londonderry, Lord-Lieutenant of Ireland; the Earl of Ildesloigh, Secretary for Foreign Affairs; Sir Michael Hicks Beach, Chief Secretary for Ireland; Right Hon. W. H. Smith, Secretary for War; Lord George Hamilton, First Lord of the Admiralty; and Lord Randolph Churchill, Chancellor of the Exchequer. Lord Churchill will be leader of the Conservatives in the House of Commons.

The citizens of Belfast have again been thrown into a state of excitement by the rioters. Conflicts between the Roman Catholic and Protestant portions of the community are now becoming too frequent. The police were obliged to use buckshot in dispersing the late mob.

The death of the Abbé Liszt, the great Hungarian pianist, will be heard with regret by those who have heard or who are familiar with this great musician. As a piano player Abbé Liszt was one of the marvels of the century, while as a composer he may be considered as ranking high.

The trial of the anarchist rioters of Chicago has revealed the fact that three thousand men were connected with the organization, and that it was the intention of the anarchists to use the dynamite bombs freely in overcoming the police.

The rumor that Sir Charles Tupper is to return to Canada for the purpose of re-entering public life is said to be well founded. The friends of the High Commissioner will doubtless be pleased to have him again assume a government portfolio.

Persons wishing to forward parcels from Canada to Great Britain, or *vice versa*, can now do so provided the weight of the parcels does not exceed three pounds. Parcels will be forwarded from the Maritime Provinces to any place in Great Britain at the rate of 30 cents per pound. They must be mailed at a custom post of entry, and be labelled with a certificate of the value of contents, signed by the sender.

The graving dock at Esquimalt has been completed and handed over by the contractors.

A panic prevails at St. Pierre on account of small pox having made its appearance. Fifteen persons are now in hospital, and it is feared the disease will become epidemic, as comparatively few of the inhabitants have been vaccinated.

A large number of persons were poisoned at McNab's Island last week. Some attribute the poisoning to picnic ice-cream, which is now considered a deadly luxury; others believe the poisoning to have resulted from the boiling of the coffee in copper kettles. The poisoned ones recovered shortly after their return to the city. As many persons not attending the picnic have suffered in a like manner during the past ten days, who had not indulged in picnic ice-cream or copper kettle boiled coffee, it is presumable that some other cause may be assigned.

The Madison Square Theatre Company will play "The Private Secretary" at the Academy next week. We clip the following about this company from the St. John Sun: "The popularity of the Private Secretary and the Madison Square Theatre Co., was attested by the excellent attendance last evening, and the applause with which most of the characters were greeted. The play abounds in comical situations and incidents, all of which were fully appreciated. Mr. Kennedy as Mr. Cattermole, Mr. McDowell as Douglas, Mr. Grandin as the Secretary, and Misses Reeves and Tallort were especial favorites and very happy in their parts."

The centennial celebration of the first ascent of Mount Blanc is to be held in Berne on the 8th of August next, and it is expected will attract to the Swiss capital many tourists and lovers of Alpine scenery. When De Paccard and Jacques Balmat succeeded in reaching the summit of Mount Blanc, August 8, 1786, the feat was considered one of the greatest triumphs of the age, but since that time hundreds of adventurous spirits have undertaken the three mile climb now rendered comparatively safe and easy to a man of nerve by means of rope ladders and artificial steps cut in the ice.

"Baddeck" says: "The farmers are busily employed in getting in their hay. The hay crop is very light in some places. Last Monday morning the Marion with the Y. M. C. A. delegates passed through here on an excursion to Whycomagh, returning the same afternoon. In the evening they held a meeting here and started for home on Tuesday. A large number of Americans have been in Baddeck during the past week. They all complain of the night travel, and that the Lake boats are not sufficiently advertised."

Mr. Woods, the Canadian Agent-General for Australia, has been visiting the chief centres of trade in the Dominion, for the purpose of encouraging Canadian merchants and manufacturers to seek new business in the Australian markets. His reception in St. John and the Upper Province cities was most enthusiastic, but in Halifax he was received in a lukewarm manner.

The launching of the immenso timber raft at Two Rivers, near the Jogins, Cumberland Co., was unsuccessful, the cradle holding the raft breaking, leaving two thirds of the raft high and dry on the shore. The failure is regarded as most serious, the raft which contains 2500,000 superficial feet of piling and other timber, having cost \$30,000. The raft is 450 feet long, 33 feet wide, and 35 feet high, and weighs 8,000 tons.

One hundred and nineteen representatives attended the late Convention of the Y. M. C. A. at Sydney, C. B. A paid travelling secretary is to be employed to further the work of the Association.

The rebels at Kartoum have been dislodged and driven out by a new faction which has but recently been organized. The present occupants of the city are friendly to the Egyptians, and it is thought that an army advancing up the Nile would now meet with but slight opposition. The weather, however, will prevent any movement being made before October.

Only 900 land warrants have been applied for by members of the Volunteer Militia who served in the North-West. The remaining members of the corps preferred to take the scrip value of their grant of land.

American tourists who wish to spend a holiday outside of Halifax should not overlook the attractions of our southern and western shore. Chester, Lunenburg, Bridgewater, Liverpool, Lockeport, Shelburne, and Yarmouth, may be reached from Halifax by steamer once a week. The City of St. John, which now plies on this route, is a clean, speedy, and commodious steamship, and her officers are courteous and attentive to passengers. In any of the places named, good hotel accommodation can be obtained at moderate rates. Our cousins should visit the western shore before leaving the Province.

The Firemen's Tournament, which comes off next week, promises to be a grand success. On Tuesday morning there will be a grand procession of Firemen, with apparatus, through the principal streets. On Tuesday afternoon the Y. M. L. A. will play a game of baseball with the Shamrocks of St. John. At 4 p. m. the Corporation will entertain the Firemen at a lunch in the Exhibition building. On Wednesday evening, there will be a grand Promenade Concert in the Public Gardens. On Wednesday and Thursday, the races, etc., will be run at the Polo grounds, and on Thursday evening, there will be a grand torchlight procession. The firemen have gone to great expense and trouble in getting up this tournament, and our citizens should turn out and support them *en masse* at the races.

"Windsor" says: Plaster shipments at Wentworth have been brisk during the past few weeks, and it is expected that the season's business will be well up to the average. The new post office has at length been opened, and Mr. P. S. Burnham, the popular postmaster, is comfortably ensconced in his roomy and comfortable quarters. Mr. O'Brien, the collector of customs, occupies the second floor of the building, which is admirably adapted for customs' purposes. The third floor is occupied by the janitor, Mr. Smith, and family. The building, which is of brick faced with freestone, is a credit both to the architect and builder.

A cable despatch says: The balloon "Torpilleur," which left Cherbourg, France, July 29th, at 11 o'clock, p. m., descended on London at six o'clock next morning. The aerial navigators will return to Cherbourg and attempt a voyage to Norway.

Madagascar has granted an English company a charter to establish a royal bank, with power to coin money and to issue bank notes. The bank will have a capital of £2,000,000.

According to a report just to hand, Lady Dufferin is indebted to the tenacity and courage of Lord William Beresford for an escape from imminent peril at Simla. Her ladyship was, it appears, driving on the mall, when her pony became unmanageable and bolted off at a furious pace. Attempts to stop the animal were made in vain, but at the critical moment Lord William Beresford came along on horseback and instantly dashed at the runaway, but could not restrain it. Quick as thought, his lordship went ahead, leaped from his horse and threw himself upon the pony as it came up, and by a desperate effort stopped it in its headlong career.

In 1783 the amount of £75,000 was deposited in banks in London, G. B., by a Mr. MacDonnell, an East Indian merchant. It was subsequently bequeathed to three brothers whose whereabouts were unknown. Their heirs have been found in Glengarry, Canada. Mr. D. McMaster is likely to go to London one of these days to press their claims.

The report of the Postmaster General is interesting reading, showing as it does the letter carriage for the last fiscal year. According to it there are 7,084 post offices in the Dominion, an increase of 247 last year. The expenditure was about \$3,000,000, and the revenue \$2,400,000. In this connection it should be remembered that among the heaviest business of the department is the carriage of newspapers to their subscribers, and that newspapers sent from the office of publication are carried free of charge, so that the post office derives no revenue from them. The report says that correspondence in Canada appears to have been affected by the condition of general business on this continent during the past year, and as business improves so will the post office revenue. Over 3,000,000 registered letters passed through the post office last year. Two hundred and ninety-nine of these, or one in every 10,000, were destroyed, lost or stolen, while passing through the mails. The total number of letters which passed through the mails last year was about 23,000,000, and of newspapers which paid postage, that is, newspapers sent by private parties, 8,500,000. Of the 25,000,000 letters no less than 700,000 got into the dead letter office.