

NEWS OF THE WEEK.

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Those who wish to secure pleasant and profitable reading matter for the winter evenings should note our exceptional offer which appeared lately. For \$2.50 in cash we undertake to send *The Critic* to any subscriber for one year, supplying him in addition with seventy-nine of the most readable of readable books. Those who are renewing their subscriptions, as well as new subscribers, should take advantage of this offer.

The new Dartmouth ferry boat was launched at Yarmouth yesterday.

The *Caspian* left St. John's, Nfld., at noon on Wednesday for this port.

Lord Stanley leaves Liverpool for Canada in the *Sarmatian* next Wednesday.

The Royal Society met at Ottawa on Tuesday; their programme is large and comprehensive.

Lord Lansdowne left Ottawa on Wednesday, en route for England; much cordiality was evinced at Ottawa on his departure.

The summer arrangements of the Intercolonial and Windsor and Annapolis Railways are to come into operation on the 1st of June.

Very gloomy prognostications are rife as to the inevitable shortness of the fall wheat crop, both in Ontario and the States, this year. It is to be hoped the evil is exaggerated.

The Manitoba Legislature has been making a conspicuous exhibition of itself in the way of rowdyism, in a debate on the charges brought by Mr. Greenway against Mr. Norquay.

The Lunenburg *Progress* publishes two pages of brief sketches of the principal business houses in Lunenburg, comprising 45 notices of the chief establishments of every sort in this rising town.

There is an exhibition of paintings this evening from 8 to 11 o'clock at the studio of Mr. J. L. Blauvelt, 87 Hollis street, which will no doubt be well worth the attendance of those favored with cards of reception.

Sir Charles Tupper has left Ottawa en route for England, to resume the duties of High Commissioner. He will shortly relinquish his seat for Cumberland. Hon. Geo. E. Foster has been appointed Finance Minister.

Those of our Subscribers whose subscriptions are two years or more in arrears, are reminded that they will be handed to our Solicitor for collection, if not paid on or before the 1st JUNE NEXT.

The Parliament of the Dominion was prorogued on the 22nd with the usual ceremonies. The prorogation was marked as being the occasion of the last official act of Lord Lansdowne, who spoke of the termination of his connection with Canada in feeling terms.

Attention is drawn to the two Concerts under the auspices of the Orpheus Club, by the Weber Male Quartette of Boston, assisted by Miss Clara Linch. These concerts are under distinguished patronage, and will, no doubt, be highly enjoyable entertainments to the lovers of good music.

Archbishop Fabre, of Quebec, has issued a pastoral, warning his flock against some Catholic journals, whose tone on the subject of the Papal Rescript is calculated to suggest distrust of the Pope, and utterly repudiating the insinuation that His Holiness was capable of intrigue with England against Ireland.

A disgraceful assault case is reported from Digby. A dirty savage named Copp is reported to have squirted tobacco juice in church during a confirmation service. He was remonstrated with by the church warden, and afterwards assaulted that functionary in a manner quite in accordance with his original foulness.

The pessimists have consistently cried, "so much the worse for the facts," but the facts are too strong for them. Not only is the European emigration to the North-West unparalled, but it is supplemented by emigration across the line from the American N. W., and by large returns of exodists to Ontario and the Maritime Provinces.

The Militia has reason to rejoice: in addition to the excision of useless drill, briefly noticed in *THE CRITIC* last week, the new orders strike out "at one fell swoop," every manoeuvre depending on "double company" formations. The "lock-up" of the rear-rank in "marching past" also goes, and, as the *Militia Gazette* observes—"We shall no longer see Tommy Atkins in rear struggling to get as near Tommy Atkins in front as his valise will allow him, or awkwardly straddling along so as to avoid kicking his heels."

Mr. Rehan's Comedy Company has been affording the playgoers of Halifax a really good entertainment during the week. The pieces performed, "Nancy & Co.," and "A Night Off," have afforded a healthy and legitimate enjoyment, and no doubt many are the better for the laughter they have been obliged to give way to. The management is entitled to the credit of taking care that even the least onerous parts are not intrusted to any but capable artists. This and to-morrow evenings they produce "A Night Off."

Lt.-Col. Macdonald and the officers of the 66th P.L.F., held a most agreeable re-union on Friday evening last at the Masonic Hall. The excellent band of the regiment played some delightful selections, several gentlemen sang, and there was much pleasant conversation over a social pipe. Col. Worley, Col. Murray, Col. Curren, and a large quota of officers of the Garrison Artillery, two or three of the 63rd Rifles, and a number of prominent civilians were present. Among the latter the Hon. Mr. Longley, who expressed, on behalf of the guests, their gratification at their most pleasant entertainment, in one of his humorous speeches. No one favored with an invitation could have otherwise than thoroughly enjoyed the evening.

Sir A. Archibald, Archbishop O'Brien, Chief Justice Macdonald, Messrs. Kenny, Silver, Daly, and several other gentlemen have memorialized Lord Lansdowne to take steps for a conference of delegates from the West Indies, Australasia, South Africa, etc., to devise measures for reciprocal trade, and the consolidation of the common interests of the Empire.

Halifax (the city) is indebted to Mrs. or Miss Ida Shaffelburg, and to H. Weir for two good notices in the *British American Citizen*, of its advantages and pleasures as a summer resort. The *British American Citizen* of 19th inst., contains four more columns of prize descriptions of Nova Scotia places of summer resort, including Arichat, Digby, Kentville, Pictou, Shelburne, and Wolfville.

The premises of Messrs. Coleman & Co., of 143 Granville street, have undergone considerable renovation. This well-known emporium for gentlemen's headgear and travelling requisites, together with the adjacent store (the property also, we believe, of Mr. Coleman) have been much improved by the addition of four magnificent English plate glass, 3 inch thick, and measuring 12 feet by 6, and 4 feet respectively, while the fronts are effectively painted and varnished on dark oak. The sign-painting in red, white and blue by Mr. Thos. Walsh, has added much to the attractive appearance of the place. The windows are lighted by gas burners at a high elevation in porcelain-lined reflectors, showing the goods by night to the best advantage, and thereby doing justice to the tasteful window-dressing of Mr. Adams. Mr. Templeman, the courteous manager of the firm, reports business brisk, having opened out the spring trade with a new and complete assortment of the latest English and Scotch goods, and the latest American styles, English sole leather valises and club bags, of the best quality; together with the best Canadian makes. Well-deserved patronage generally waits upon enterprise so ably directed, and Messrs. Coleman & Co. will doubtless have their full share of it.

The following are the war services of Lieut.-General Sir J. Ross, K.C.B., who is expected to take command of this station, due by the *Caspian* to-day:—Crimean Campaign, 1854-5.—Battles of Alma, Inkerman, and siege of Sebastopol. Mentioned in Despatches. Medal with 3 clasps, Brev. of Major, 5th class of the Medjidie, and Turkish Medal. Indian Mutiny, 1857-8.—Action of Cawnpore, siege and capture of Lucknow, actions of Gowlowlee and Calpee, Jugdespore raids, Central India. Despatches, London *Gazette*, 25th May, '58, 22nd Feb., 18th April, and 9th Sept., '59. Medal with 2 clasps, Brev. of Lt.-Col., and C.B. N. W. Frontier of India campaign, 1863-4.—Action of Shubkudder. Medal with clasp. Perak Expedition, 1875-6.—As Brigadier General at affair of Kota-hama, Larut Field Force. Despatches, London *Gazette*, 18th and 23rd Feb., '76. Medal with clasp. Afghan Campaign, 1878-9.—Commanded 2nd Division Cabul Field Force, operations of Shekabad; commanded the Infantry Division, and was 2nd in command to Sir F. Roberts in the march from Cabul to the relief of Candahar, and battle of 1st Sept., '80. Despatches, London *Gazette*, 30th July, 13th Dec., '80. Received thanks of both Houses of Parliament, 5th May, '81. K.C.B.

The death is reported of the notorious Josie Mansfield, who figured in the Fish-Stokes tragedy in 1872.

Two freight trains have gone through bridges in Missouri on the Rock Island line, killing two engineers and firemen, and two tramps.

The Democrats have fixed the 5th of June, at St. Louis, for the convention to nominate their Presidential candidate, and the Republicans meet shortly after at Chicago.

The Mississippi River was higher last week than has been known since the great floods of 1851. Nearly every levee in the neighborhood of Quincy, Ill., was broken. The loss to farmers will be enormous, and many towns are flooded.

It is to be gathered from the effusions of one Mr. Nimmo, that Canada has bullied, crowded, cheated, and insulted the United States for over a hundred years, and the New York *Tribune* sees its interest, it is to be inferred, in taking up and endorsing Mr. Nimmo's contention. It has been usually supposed that the shoe was on the other foot.

Professor Huxley has been ordered to Switzerland by his physician.

Mr. Gladstone is said to have got £250 for his last magazine article.

The Emperor of Brazil was pronounced to be slightly better on Wednesday.

The reports of the German Emperor's condition continue to be more satisfactory than could have been hoped for a few weeks since.

The death is announced of Vice-Admiral Sir William N. W. Hewitt, K.C.B., V.C., at Portsmouth, while in command of the Channel Fleet.

Lord Walter Gordon Lennox, who has just taken his seat for Chichester, is the youngest man in the British House of Commons, being barely 22.

The new rifle adopted by the Government has been tried in various climates, and under varying conditions, and found to be an admirable weapon.

Twenty-five Crofter families, numbering 113 souls, embarked at Stornoway for Manitoba early this week. Pipes played dirges as they left their homes.

The Irish Catholic clergy have, as was to be expected, found it necessary to bow to the Papal Rescript, Archbishop Walsh having taken the lead in submission.

The Vatican is, as might be expected, wholly unmoved in its assertion of the principles of righteousness by the defiant attitude of the more violent Nationalists.