

THE WEEK'S NEWS.

CANADA.
A fire at Glenboro, Man., last week caused a loss of about \$15,000.

Three nuns from Lachine, Quebec, are to be sent to Alaska to start a mission there. Alec Mercier, brother of the Quebec Premier, died suddenly in Montreal last week from a paralytic stroke.

Mr. C. A. Densereau has been appointed postmaster of Montreal, in the room of Mr. G. Lamothé, who was recently superannuated.

Chief Commissioner Wrigley of the Hudson Bay Company in the Northwest has retired on account of ill-health.

Four more patients were inoculated with the Koch lymph at the Toronto General Hospital last week.

A large influx of Mennonites to Manitoba is promised by a family just arrived in Winnipeg from Russia.

Of the 4,535 immigrants who settled in the Province of Quebec last year 2,600 were farmers and farm labourers.

A strong effort is being made to transfer the shipment of live stock from Montreal to Three Rivers.

The Winnipeg Electric Railway was opened on Tuesday evening and proved successful.

A letter from Missionary Settee, who is located on Lake Winnipeg, states that wolves attacked a band of Indians on the east side of the lake, killing and devouring many of them.

Frank Birdsall, aged 60, of Charleston, Ont., was asphyxiated at the Revere House Toronto, last week. He failed to turn off the gas and was found dead.

Jaques & Co.'s jewellery store in Winnipeg was robbed of \$4,000 worth of goods on Tuesday night, and the robbers got away.

Andrew Rennard, C. P. R. brakeman, Winnipeg, has fallen heir to \$50,000 by the death of a relative in England.

The Belt Line Railway Company of Toronto, have contracted with Mr. Wm. Hendrie of Hamilton, to complete the road by September 1st next.

Five hundred applications have been made to the Department of the Interior for the privilege of boring for oil in the Kootenay country.

Of the 78 samples of milk tested by Dr. Ellis, of Toronto, 43 were found to be of good quality and 35 below the standard of 8 per cent.

Dr. George Mercer Dawson, son of Sir William Dawson, of Montreal, has been awarded a gold medal by the Geological Society of London, England.

During the three weeks ending January 17, 179,696 cars of wheat were inspected by the Winnipeg grain inspector. This represents over a million bushels of wheat, and does not include the quantity shipped through to Port Arthur for storage there.

Jules Bourdon, of Chateauguay, has taken an action for \$150 against Rev. Mr. Quessel for refusing to perform a burial service over his brother, who was entitled to it as a member of the "Union de Prières."

Dr. C. McEachran, dean of the Veterinary faculty of McGill University, has returned to Montreal from England. One of the objects of his visit to the Old Country was the opening up of an increased market for Canadian horses.

Last week Messrs. McLachlin, Bros. & Co. and Messrs. Lindsay, Gilmour & Co., wholesale dry goods firms, of Montreal, officially abandoned their estates. Their bonded liabilities amount to nearly a million dollars.

Dr. J. B. McConnell has returned to Montreal from Berlin and London, where he spent some time studying the Koch system. He reports some wonderfully successful treatments of lung and throat tuberculosis in the City of London Hospital.

GREAT BRITAIN.
Gen. Whichcote, who fought at the battle of Waterloo, has just died in London.

The Balfour-Zetland Irish relief fund now amounts to £200,000.

Death from starvation threatens many of the people of Connemara.

Mrs. John Thompson, granddaughter of the poet Burns, has just died in Glasgow.

The British Parliament re-assembled on the 23rd.

The Dublin *Insuppressible*, the paper started by the McCarthys as a rival to *United Ireland*, has stopped publication.

A letter from Lord Salisbury asserts that there is no ground for believing an early dissolution of Parliament is probable.

In the House of Commons, Under Secretary Ferguson stated that the weather was bad for seal fishing in Behring Sea, but the seals were as plentiful as ever.

The British House of Commons on Tuesday carried a motion to expunge from the records the resolution passed in 1880 forbidding Charles Bradlaugh to take the oath or to make an affirmation.

Serious rioting on the part of the Scotch railway strikers are reported, and the police are said to be unable to protect the property of the companies or save the men who are at work from the assaults of the strikers.

The British authorities have been advised of renewed activity in the ranks of the dynamite party in America, who are said to be actively preparing to resume operations.

It is rumored that Mr. Parnell will visit the States shortly with Mr. O'Brien, and that during his absence Mr. Dillon will lead the Irish Parliamentary party.

The labourers employed upon the works at Hare Island and Skibbereen commenced by the Government for the relief of the existing distress have struck for an increase of wages.

The London *Chronicle* has high authority for saying that the Imperial Government have exercised no pressure on Canada in regard to pending commercial negotiations.

There are rumours in London that England is anxious to secure the transfer to herself or Canada of closer political and commercial relations with Hawaii.

A thaw has set in throughout England, and as an effect there was a disastrous landslide at Folkestone, by which three persons were crushed to death.

The recent suicide of the Duke of Bedford is to be made the subject of a Parliamentary enquiry because the coroner did not inform the police of the fact.

Lord Salisbury is authority for the statement that a portion of the British Pacific squadron has left Panama to protect British interests in Chili.

At a conference of London financiers the opinion was unanimously expressed that the free coinage measure should be passed by the U. S. Congress, but that its provisions should apply only to natural silver.

Lord Hartington, in an address to his constituents on Saturday, at Rosendale, Lancashire, said that the only chance of Home Rule being a practical policy had gone for ever.

On Sunday evening a number of artillery men at Weymouth, became involved in a fight with civilians, and the soldiers to the number of over 70 drew their sword bayonets and charged on the citizens, wounding several. For some time they refused to obey the call to return to the barracks. The men will be court-martialled.

Mr. William Ledderdale, Governor of the Bank of England, was last week presented with the freedom of the city of London in a gold box by the Common Council, for averting a commercial crisis by aiding the Baring Brothers in their recent financial difficulties.

It appears that Capt. O'Shea wrote to Mr. Justin McCarthy last December asking him to apologize for a remark he made in a speech, and his replies so little satisfied the captain that he holds Mr. McCarthy characterized by the two qualities of meanness and mendacity.

UNITED STATES.

Gen. Miles and staff have left Pine Ridge for Chicago.

A. Harris, a Jewish rabbi of Richmond, Va., fell dead in his pulpit Saturday.

The U. S. revenue cutter Bear is fitting out for service in Behring Sea.

The Farmers' Alliance is going to extend its organization to New York State.

The damage to the telegraph and telephone companies in New York caused by the recent storm is estimated at \$500,000.

John Woodbeck, a soldier of the war of 1812, died at Pawamo, Mich., last week, aged 101 years.

Joseph Kling, a young lawyer of St. Paul, Minn., has become a hopeless lunatic through poker playing.

Colored lawyers for the first time in the State's history argued before the Maryland Court of Appeals last Thursday.

Mrs. Mary Ruane died at Jessup, Pa., last week, aged 109. She was a native of Ireland.

Over a third of Wilkesbarre, Pa., is under water, caused by a terrible rainstorm that swept over the Wyoming valley.

Mrs. Hannah Riordan, a widow, was murdered by her dissolute nephew, Thomas Clark, in New York last week. The woman's throat was cut from ear to ear.

A Chicago jury has awarded Stephen S. Young \$6,000 damages against the Grand Trunk for injuries received in the Junction Cut accident near Hamilton.

Lucy Decker Young, eighth wife of Brigham Young, is dead. There are only seven left, including Amelia Folsom, the favorite.

The cigar manufacturers of Chicago have decided to advance prices 10 per cent, on February 1. The action is due to the McKinley tariff.

The Ohio miners in convention at Columbus adopted unanimously a resolution favoring the enforcing of the eight-hour system after May 1 next.

William Foulks, living at Laurel Station, Pa., during a religious frenzy, emptied the contents of a double-barrelled shotgun into his wife with fatal results.

Thirty-two counties in the western part of Nebraska are in sore distress, and an appeal is being made to Congress on behalf of the suffering people.

A surgeon of Decatur, Ill., is reported to have substituted for the diseased bone in a young lady's nose the portion of four ribs taken from a cat.

Archbishop Ireland, of St. Paul, Minn., has issued a letter forbidding the employment of lotteries and similar schemes for the raising of money for church purposes.

Secretary Blaine thinks the United States was purposely snubbed by the English Government in not being invited to be represented at the Jamaica Exhibition.

Bruce Douglas, aged 28, who claimed to be a nephew and heir to the fourth Earl of Douglas, died in a San Francisco hospital on Sunday from dissipation and pneumonia.

In the Supreme Court at Washington on Tuesday the Attorney-General, in reply to the Canadian application for a writ of prohibition, contended that the court had not jurisdiction, and if had that the matter was one for Executive, not legal action.

Michael Kelly, aged 70, was shot and probably fatally wounded by his drunken son in Boston, Sunday night, because the father remonstrated with him about his conduct.

George Kendall, a young farmer of Arlington, N. J., was taken to the Chambers street hospital in New York suffering from hydrophobia, the result of a dog's bite. He died in great agony.

It is stated at Washington that all communications from the United States Government for Canadian officials are sent through the Imperial Government, and this accounts for the fact that Canada has not yet received her notice of the holding of the World's Fair.

IN GENERAL.

Cardinal Simor, Archbishop of Grau and Primate of Hungary, died last week.

The inhabitants of parts of Algeria are dying from cold and hunger.

A Supreme Labor Council is to be constituted by the French Government.

Maximilian Harden, the German writer, is to be prosecuted for libelling Emperor William.

Two Roumanian orderlies cut off a major's head in revenge for ill-treatment at his hands.

On Tuesday fishermen crossed the Zuyder Zee on the ice, a feat that has not been accomplished since 1740.

Affairs in Chili are reported to be growing more serious, with the insurgents gaining ground.

Orders of extra severity against the Jews of Moscow have been issued, and they are regarded as the Czar's reply to the recent London Mansion House petition.

The Cure of Crime.

The Prevention of Crime is too large a topic to be treated in a single editorial; it includes, as the notable collection of papers on another page indicates, the family question, the educational question, the industrial question, the question of law and legal administration, as well as the question of prison reform. We may, however, here supplement the suggestions of our contributors by some additional reflections on the Cure of Crime.

It is certain that we have not yet learned how to cure crime. Mr. Havelock Ellis, in his recent admirable treatise on "The Criminal," is our authority for the statement that criminality has been increased throughout the civilized world during the present century. "In France, in Germany, in Italy, in Belgium, in Spain, in the United States, the tide of criminality is becoming higher, steadily and rapidly." In the United States the criminal population has increased since the war, relatively to the population, by one-third. Even in Great Britain "there is a real increase, in the more serious kinds of crime." Allow for all possible errors in statistics, for better reports, more stringent police regulations, a consequent greater number of arrests and convictions, increase in kinds of crimes which civilization almost necessarily involves—defalcations, breaches of trust, certain forms of forgery, being, for example, wholly modern—still, this alarming increase in crime makes it evident that we have not yet learned how to treat crime so as to cure or even to lessen it.

Our prisons have been reformed. They are no longer in any truly civilized country what they were a century ago in all countries, and still are in Siberia, Morocco, Spain, or some of our Southern States. Who can read McMaster's description of the prisons of New England in 1784 without a shudder of horror! The underground prison in an old worked-out copper mine near Granby, the only entrance by a ladder, the culprits immured in pens of wood, the darkness intense, the caves reeking with filth, vermin abounding, in the dampness the clothes of the prisoners moulding and rotting! At Northampton, Worcester, Philadelphia, prisons not much better. The prisoners provided with no work and no schools; no efforts made for their reclamation; sexes intermingled; old and hardened criminals, first offenders, civil debtors, and imprisoned witnesses mingling together. Such prisons were palpably what Sydney Smith declared the prisons of England to be, schools for the education of criminals.

But if the prisons have been reformed, the criminals have not been reformed. Prison administration is humane, but rarely truly Christian or truly scientific. The prison no longer exerts any very serious deterrent effect on the lower and poorer class of criminals. In the prison the criminal is better fed, better clad, better housed and sheltered, better cared for if sick, than in freedom, and does not have to work so hard. "Hard labor," says an expert, "is such that no prisoner could get a living outside if he did not work harder." The result is that the commission of petty offenses for the very purpose of securing commitment to prison is of common occurrence. A sheriff in the interior of this State informs us that a majority of the residents of the county jail of the canal counties during the winter months are thus self-committed. On the other hand, the prisons are not yet made true reformatories. Prison administration is no longer brutal, but it is mechanical. The prisoner is treated, not as an individual, but as a piece of a great machine. His labor is servile; it is odious in freedom, it is made still more odious in prison. He receives no benefit from his labor; he has no opportunity for the exercise of a free will; he has no rewards, such as life gives to well-doing, and is kept in order only by fear of penalty for breach of rules or by actual inability to break over them. It is the function of religion to reform men; but religion is either excluded from the prison or admitted only under the surveillance of a chaplain who too often owes his appointment to political favoritism, or, without surveillance, by either tact or knowledge. The popular conception of a successful prison administration is one that makes men who are competent to earn an honest livelihood, and determined so to do. There is no effort to create a body of trained prison officials, as there is to create a body of trained nurses for the body and trained teachers for the mind. We assume that any man of courage can keep prisoners in order, and that nothing more is needed; and it is rare to find in any subordinate position men who possess either an intelligent indignation against crime or an intelligent compassion for the criminal, much less that mercy which is compounded of the two. Occasionally a man of natural genius, developed by experience, like Superintendent Brockway, Warden Brush, or Captain Tufts, may be found in charge of a prison, and, happily, their number is increasing; but they have to carry on their work in spite of a public apathy which is reflected in legislative indifference and inaction.

There is great difficulty in applying prison reform, but no difficulty in stating and apprehending the fundamental principle which should underlie criminal administration—this, namely, that it is not the function of this to judge and punish his fellow-man, but it may be, and often is, his function to educate, train, discipline, and reform him. The object of every sentence should be, not the just punishment of sin, but the adequate protection of society, and this is best secured by the scientific and Christian (the two words are synonymous) discipline of the offender. To send a drunken man up for "ten days," month after month, with wearisome regularity, only to find him at every discharge drunk again, is a folly so great as to be well-nigh incredible. We maintain as an absolutely true thesis that:—

No man whatever his offence, ought ever to be discharged from restraint, except upon reasonable evidence that he is, morally, intellectually, and physically capable of earning an honest livelihood.

We do not affirm that all prison reform is involved in this principle. But pretty nearly all prison reform is in it or in its necessary corollaries. For it means wardens and deputies who are moral physicians, not mere jailers; it means labor and education adapted to fit prisoners for honest self-support; it means treating each prisoner as an individual, and adapting discipline to him and his needs; it means insane asylums for the insane criminal, and inebriate asylums, with forceful, and need be permanent, detention for the inebriate; it means life imprisonment for the professional criminals, however petty the crimes which they perpetrate; it means a high and strong resolve that no man or woman shall be permitted to prey upon society, and therefore no one shall be discharged, after society has taken him in charge, except upon reasonable assurance that he will not prey upon society; it means a gradual diminution and an eventual end to that breeding of criminals which now supplies the stock more rapidly than society can take care of it; and it means, above all, the recognition that the redemption of the criminal is the function of Christianity, and therefore of every society which calls itself Christian.

Our Own Country the Best
Hon. Geo. A. Kirkpatrick, speaker of the House of Commons and member for Frontenac, addressed a farmers' institute at Kingston on Saturday, and at the outset pointed out that the introduction of politics into the society would tend to disrupt it. The agricultural depression, he said, began in England. Farm lands began to diminish in value, and prices of farm produce to go down. They were no better off in the United States. The eastern states there was very great depression, and whole tracts of land had been deserted. Good farms could now be had in New Hampshire for \$4 and \$5 an acre. New York was no better off. Roswell P. Flower had recently sent a letter to a farmers' institute meeting in Jefferson county, saying that owing to the opening of the west New York farm land had in 10 years decreased in value by \$216,000,000. In western Illinois, said Mr. Kirkpatrick, the condition of the farmers was no better. The farms were mortgaged, and the farmers had long been crying out to the government for relief. The McKinley bill was in response to the clamor of American farmers for protection. Mr. Kirkpatrick did not believe the McKinley bill was a hit at American farmers. Canada had not suffered as much as the United States. If one went to Minnesota or Dakota the depression was terrible, as attested by the large immigration from those states to the Canadian North-west. We should not lose heart. Great changes for the better had taken place for our farmers within the last 12 years. Twenty-one years ago there was not a single head of cattle sent across the Atlantic from Canada. Last summer 120,000 head were sent from the port of Montreal. To-day the price of cattle was higher in Canada than in the United States. Cheap cattle of the west-ern plains were slaughtered in Chicago and shipped east for a couple of cents per pound. Eastern farmers would have to go out of stock raising. We fortunately were not brought into competition with these western stock men. Twenty-one years ago only 2,000,000 pounds of cheese was sent to England; now we send over 90,000,000 pounds, valued at \$8,000,000. Mr. Kirkpatrick referred to Denmark's expansion of its dairy business as an evidence also of what improvement might be made in a few years. The Atlantic was now so easily crossed, the steamers so well ventilated and so adapted for conveyance of perishable commodities that dairy products could be landed in good shape in London from Canada as easily as in Kingston from Sudbury.

A Prophecy Fulfilled.
Attention has been directed in the English press to the following prophetic utterances in Lever's novel, "The Knight of Gwynne," published nearly fifty years ago:—

"In the Lower House, politics will become a trade to live by, and the Irish party, with such an admirable market for grievances, will be a strong and compact body in Parliament, too numerous to be bought by anything save great concessions. Englishmen will never understand the truth of the condition of the country from these men, nor how little personal importance they possess at home. They will be regarded as the exponents of Irish opinions, they will browbeat, denounce, threaten, fawn, and flatter by turns; and Ireland instead of being easier to govern, will be rendered ten times more difficult by all the obscuring influences of falsehood and misrepresentation."

"You will be asked to repeal the union, you will be charged with all the venality by which you carried your bill, every injustice with which it is chargeable, and with a hundred other faults and crimes with which it is unconnected. You will be asked, I say, to repeal the union, and make of this miserable rable, these dregs and sweepings of party, a Parliament. You shake your head. No, no; it is by no means impossible—nay, I don't think it even remote. I speak as an old man, and age, if it have many deficiencies as regards the past, has at least some prophetic foresight for the future."

As the London *Spectator* says, these extracts read very much as if they had been published in one of the current numbers of a modern magazine.

Hats on at Funerals.
The Rev. Mr. Kerr, rector of St. George's Church, St. Catharines, is evidently a level-headed man. On Friday last, in that place, the burial occurred of a prominent resident, and before leaving the church Mr. Kerr said that, however well and reverent it appeared to see pall-bearers and others with heads uncovered over the grave of a deceased friend, the custom was a dangerous one in our severe winter climate, and would be dispensed with. He trusted that the pall-bearers and others who accompanied them to witness the last sad rites would keep their heads covered on the occasion and remember that they came to bury the dead, and not to kill the living. It would be well if every minister in the Dominion had courage enough to give voice to a similar admonition.—*Brantford Courier*.

"Some Plain American Talk."
The Chicago *Tribune*, in an editorial, says: "The action of the Canadian authorities, taken with the consent of the British Foreign Office, in seeking to transfer the contention of the Behring Sea matter from the form of arbitration proposed by Secretary Blaine to the Supreme Court of this country is both disrespectful and insulting to the Government of the part of the Canadians to avoid our treaty rights and a thorough investigation of the whole question and make a point in their favor by trick and technicalities."

"It is an effort which not only should be, but will be, vigorously resented by the administration, and will call for some plain American talk to the Canadian and English Tories. . . . The question will not tend to strengthen the friendly relations of the two countries."

THE ROAD OF THE FUTURE.

Two Hundred Miles an Hour.—Pennington's Air Ship and What it can do.

"In a few months from now a man will be able to fly over to the continent of Europe on Saturday night and return in time for business on Monday morning," said Mr. W. C. Dewey, of Grand Rapids, after witnessing the working of the Pennington air ship at Chicago a few days ago and subscribing largely to the stock lists. "It is really the simplest practical matter in the world," he asserted, "and if successful it will revolutionize the world even more than the railroad or telegraph has done. We are already in correspondence with the Post Office Department in Washington, and have been assured that the mails will be sent by our airships as soon as we can go faster than the present mail trains."

IT GROWS ON YOU.
"The thing grows on you as you consider it. It is cheap, and that recommends it. There are no lobbies to pay, no franchises to purchase, no tunnels to dig and no tracks to lay. The air is free."

While hundreds of partly successful attempts have been made in the direction of the solution of the problem of navigating the air, the reason the feat has never been accomplished, Mr. Pennington says, is that knowledge of electricity has not until now reached the necessary point of perfection.

The Pennington airship will carry cars about the size of the present Pullmans, and will contain fifty persons each, special cars to be manufactured for quick mail and passenger service. The airship that

IS TO BE GIVEN A TRIAL
in a short time, will weigh about thirteen hundred and fifty pounds. It will be in shape very much like the hull of an ordinary sea vessel, and the crew will consist of but two men, who will however, have the most perfect control of her. On either side, and extending the entire length, are large wings, arranged so as to be convertible into parachutes in case of accident. At the ends of these wings there are propeller wheels by means of which the ship can be raised or lowered at will. A large propelling wheel at the bow furnishes the power by which she can be made to go either forward or backward.

The vessel proper is a huge buoyancy chamber composed almost entirely of aluminum, and the ship that makes the test trial will be 107 feet in length, with a diameter or 28 feet. Underneath this is a storage-carrying a 100 horse power engine, weighing 250 pounds. When every compartment is full of hydrogen, which is the buoyancy power used to elevate the vessel, the full lifting power will aggregate 5,500 pounds. The plan for carrying the hydrogen gas is an aluminum cylinder, which will act as a counterbalance, so that in fact the vessel will weigh practically nothing.

STEERING BY ELECTRIC FORCE.
Above the buoying chamber is a rudder for steering upward or downward. Just in the rear of this is a smaller one to steer either to the right or left. The cabin, or car, is suspended immediately beneath, while under it are the storage batteries, which also act as ballast. At the front of the car is the place for the pilot, who is provided with levers for switching the electric appliances, the rudders and propellers being controlled by electricity. The chief factor in this final and successful (according to the inventor) solving of the problem of aerial navigation has been aluminum. The company manufacturing the ships makes own aluminum at a cost, it is stated, of about ten cents per pound. It is also stated that the cost of the vessel will be but about \$3,500.

LITTLE DANGER OF ACCIDENTS.
All the machinery in the new vessel is of entirely new design, and of the lightest weight possible. One feature of the airship is that in order to cause the vessel to fall or cause the engineer to lose control of its management, the rudders, wings, propeller wheels and buoyancy chambers must all break at once, for any one of them would keep it suspended in the air. But even should anything break, the automatic parachutes, formed instantly by the side wings, would allow the ship to descend gently to the ground, and as special cars are to be made for crossing the ocean the ship would float on the water, should anything happen while making the voyage.

TWO HUNDRED MILES PER HOUR.
When everything is in readiness for a trip the machine will be lifted into the air at the height desired by the aerial engineer by a vertical propeller. The height as it is proposed the ship shall attain is about one hundred and fifty feet above the ground, and when that point is reached a propeller in front of the machine will be started. The gas used to supply the machine is to be furnished from a cylinder by a gas engine through a hose, and when the vessel has been directed on its course it is expected that it will whirl through the air at the rate of fully two hundred miles per hour, according to the computations made of the resistance of the air. It will be steered by an electrical appliance whereby a compass course will be laid and the ship automatically guided through the air.

Another company has been formed in Chicago to manufacture ships after the mode invented by F. N. Atwood, which is in many respects like the Pennington invention. The Pennington company has a capital of \$20,000,000, and the Atwood company \$200,000.

The Emperor of Germany was 32 years old on Tuesday.

Arrangements are now completed for the opening early in March, of telephonic communication between Paris and London.

The Anglo-American Archeological Society is in session in Rome under the presidency of the Earl of Dufferin, British Ambassador.

The severe weather continues in the northern part of Africa, and the Arabs of the mountain tribes are suffering greatly from cold and famine.

Four thousand unemployed persons of Hamburg last week petitioned the Senate to restrain landlords from evicting tenants unable to pay their rent.

In the western portion of Europe a thaw has set in and the rivers are full of broken ice. In Russia and Turkey more snow has fallen, the cold being still intense.

Always wash baby's mouth and gums every morning with water in which you have put a pinch of borax. It keeps the mouth fresh and sweet, and prevents that uncomfortable affliction, a sore mouth, with which so many poor babies are troubled when their mouths are not kept perfectly clean.