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NEWS OF THE WEEK.

In the House of Commons, on Monday the 15th inst., in reply to Mr. Young, Mr. Blackeczio stated "that within the last few weeks a deputation of the leading Menonites in the Province of Ontario had visited Ottawa, and had made a representation that some nine hundred Menonite families were desirous of coming to Canada. These were not so well off as those which had already arrived, and had solicited aid from the Government to the extent of \$100,000, offering to give their personal security for the payment of that amount. The Government had considered the subject and entertained it favourably, and he would say that it was their intention to ask for a vote of \$100,000 for this purpose. He had no doubt that the investment would be a good one, or that the money would be paid to the Government. By this means they would obtain several thousands of the finest class of immigrants."

Mr. Moss has introduced a Bill into the House of Commons for the suppression of gambling houses and the punishment of keepers thereof. It provides that Police Magistrates and Commissioners of Police in cities or towns shall have power to enter any house with force, if necessary, upon it being duly reported that such house is a gambling house.

Mr. DeCosmos has given notice that on Thursday, the 24th inst., he will move that the practice of granting of Divorces by Act of Parliament is, for many reasons, objectionable, and that relief in all matters matrimonial would be best secured by creating a Court in each of the Provinces, with inclusive jurisdiction in matters matrimonial, and with authority, in certain cases, to decree a dissolution of marriage.

The Minister of Militia on Friday evening announced that it was possible Major General Smyth would recommend that instead of annual drill being performed in camp, in future it would be done at head quarters as camp drill involved a great deal of unnecessary expense.

Mr. DeCosmos will on Monday the 8th of March, move an address to Her Most Gracious Majesty the Queen, praying that in future the Governor Generals of Canada may be selected from the public men of Canada.

On Friday Parliament voted \$40,000 towards the expenditure that will be incurred in representing Canada at the Philadelphia Exhibition in 1876. The sum of \$100,000 was also voted as a loan to the Menonites to enable them to emigrate to Canada.

Captain Anderson, late Superintendent of Indian Affairs, died at Port Hope on the 16th inst., aged ninety six.

Instructions have been issued by the military authorities that all officers calling at the office of the Major General or Adjutant General of Militia, must appear in the uniform of their rank. The Major General and his staff attend their offices in uniform.

The annual meeting of the Lennox and Addington Rifle Association was held at Odessa on Saturday, the 6th inst., the President, Lt.-Col. Fairfield, in the chair. The following officers were elected for the ensuing year:—President, Lieut. Col. Fairfield, 48th Batt.; 1st Vice-President, Mr. J. J. Watson; 2nd Vice-President, Capt. Hooper, N. B. G. A.; Treasurer, Capt. J. D. Amey, 48th Batt.; Secretary, George McLeod, Adj. 48th Batt. The names of the "Council" for the ensuing year are—Major Patterson, Capt. Murry, Mr. A. P. Booth, Capt. Joyner, Lieut. Mabee, Lieut. Cox, Capt. Perry, J. G. Ross, Lieut. Abrams, N.B.G.A.; Lieut. Amey, Major Campbell, Mr. Escott Salls and Dr. Ross. The "Range Officers" are Captain Fairfield and Lieut. Abrams, N.B.G.A.

Mr. William Molson, President of Molson's Bank, died at his residence at St. Mary's on the 17th, at the advanced age of eighty one years and three months. The deceased was a financier of great ability and distinguished for his public spirit and liberality, especially to the corporation of the McGill University.

The Montreal Star says:—"A curious case of a cat catching small pox from a woman is at hand. The High Constable, while in St. Anne's, below Quebec, the other day, was informed by Dr. Desjardins, of that place, that recently Mme. Bernier, one of his patients, was attacked with small pox, which in her case, assumed an aggravated and very dangerous form. It appears that this good woman was in the habit of sleeping with her cat, which remained faithful despite her malady, was seized with the loathsome disease, to which it succumbed, while its mistress recovered."

The Montreal Thistle Club played off two rinks each on the 13th inst., for the Governor General's Medal. The score was: Montreal, 41; Ottawa, 23; the former winning by 18 shots.

The Montreal Star of the 17th inst., says: "There is an immense ice jam in the St. Lawrence, that reaches to the second story of the mill at Cedar Rapids. The water has commenced flowing over the country, and much apprehension is felt as the inundations that will occur in the future when the jam gives way."

Late reports from Prince Edward Island states that the whole Island is an immense snow bank, and all kinds of business is at a stand still. Farmers have to use their fences for firewood.

Mr. Eagleson and Mr. J. Metcalfe of Ottawa, have secured the contract from the Militia Department for the supplying of 9,000 suits of uniform, that is, the serge patrol jackets, not tunics. Their tender was the lowest sent in.

Major Leach, Captain of the Irish Rifle Team, has written to Colonel Wingate, that the match for the "All Ireland Challenge Shield," heretofore open to Irish clubs only, will this year be open to American teams but no other foreign nationality. The ranges are to be 1,000 and 1,100 yards, the shield to remain in the country of the winning team until next match.

The United States War Department has ordered rations to be supplied to the sufferers by the grasshopper plague in the Western States.

Lake Erie, in some places, is frozen to the bottom, and fishermen can do nothing.

Instructions have been sent to the British Minister at Madrid to recognize Alfonso as King of Spain.

Dr. Kenealy has been elected to the British Parliament from Stoke-upon-Trent by 2,000 majority.

General Von Moltke is reported seriously ill.

A fire broke out in Port Au Prince, West Indies, on the 11th inst., and was still raging on the 13th inst. Five hundred houses were burned.

Ex-Marshal Bazaine has been grossly insulted by French residents of the town of Santander in Spain.

The British Government are, it is said, about to construct a large dock at Gibraltar. This has long been needed, there being as many as 3,000 large steamers entering the bay every year.

Early in January the villages near Mount Etna, in Sicily, were disturbed by earthquakes, the sure forerunners of volcanic eruptions. On Jan. 8, in a village near Aci Reale, eighth persons were killed by earthquake.

Two Japanese have been in the oil regions of Pennsylvania for some time past studying the oil business in its various branches with a view of manufacturing oil in Japan. They now return to their native country with boilers, engines, and all necessary equipments for oil wells. They also take out practical workmen to assist them in testing the production of oil by sinking wells in the rock.

A bill is under discussion in the Senate at Washington which declares that no constitutional government exists in Louisiana and provides for an election of governor, lieutenant-governor and all other State officers which are to be elected by a vote of the people.

Three iron clad war vessels and 2,000 troops are to be sent to Cuba at an early day.