

The publishers of the *Dominion Illustrated* have in preparation the most magnificent Christmas number ever issued in Canada. Its Literary and Artistic features will stand unrivalled. It will be a purely Canadian work. Wait for it! Published by the Sabiston Litho. & Pub. Co., Montreal.

A banana peel on the pavement was the cause of the death of a Dartmouth lady, Mrs. J. A. Fraser, a few days ago. Mrs. Fraser was in Halifax on Friday afternoon, and when going down George Street stepped on the peel and fell. Being in a delicate state of health at the time, the fall resulted fatally, and all because of the carelessness of the person who threw that peel on the pavement. We have often had occasion to call attention to the carelessness in matters of this kind, but so long as the city imposes no penalties on people who do the mischief so long will the nuisance continue.

The water-front property in Halifax from Cronan's to Cunard's was almost totally destroyed by the fire of last Thursday evening. The fire originated in Merlin's planing mill on Taylor's wharf and rapidly spread to the surrounding buildings. Owing to the quantity of oil stored in the vicinity, the danger was greatly increased, and notwithstanding the fact that the barrels were thrown overboard, they caught fire and threatened to destroy the shipping. The total loss was about \$250,000, and the insurance amounted to \$123,200. Local insurance companies are the heaviest losers. The ruins have been visited by crowds of people during the week. Wharf-builders have started to rebuild Hamilton's south wharf, and the stores on the Liverpool wharf are to be rebuilt at once.

Professor Briggs is to stand his trial on the charge of heresy.

Mrs. Grover Cleveland became the happy possessor of a daughter on October 3rd.

A fire in Somerville, near Boston, on Monday roasted 150 hogs. It was a packing establishment.

The grand jury which investigated the collapse of the building in Park Place, New York, by which over sixty lives were lost, reported its inability to decide whether the overloaded floors or an explosion caused the calamity. The tenants of the building, who claim to have known it unsafe, are blamed for not reporting such knowledge. Legislation for the better protection of buildings and against the storage of explosives is recommended. The evidence gathered, it reports, would not warrant the finding of an indictment.

Mrs. Gladstone has contracted to write a series of articles for the *Ladies' Home Journal*, of Philadelphia, especially intended for American women. The series will be called "Hints From a Mother's Life," and in it the great English statesman's wife will tell the method which she adopted in bringing up her children. As Mrs. Gladstone is one of the most practical women in England, and her children have all attained positions of eminence, her articles for the *Journal* will have a peculiar interest to every mother in the land.

Some months ago Charles W. Hutchinson went to Boston from Nova Scotia to secure employment, leaving his wife at home and promising to take her there when he should have earned the necessary funds. Failing to keep his promise his wife became suspicious and visited Boston for the purpose of looking him up. She located him at the West end, where he had been living with another woman, whom he married last July. Mrs. Hutchinson No. 1 obtained a warrant for his arrest, and he was locked up on the charge of bigamy.

Carroll D. Wright, U. S. Commissioner of Labor, opens the October *Popular Science Monthly* with the first of a series of "Lessons from the Census," in which he traces the growth of the census, and shows that it has come to be a somewhat unwieldy instrument. Under the title "Metamorphoses in Education," Prof. A. E. Dolbear traces the necessary connection between the new character which human life has taken on and the rise of scientific education. Prof. G. T. W. Patrick discusses "The Rivalry of the Higher Senses," and shows that man is becoming less "ear-minded" and more "eye-minded." "Life on an Ostrich Farm" is described in a very bright and instructive way, with several helpful pictures. The second paper of Prof. Frederick Starr's notable series on "Dress and Adornment" is in this number. It deals with the origin and many of the varieties of dress, and is fully illustrated. Lieut.-Col. A. B. Ellis, writing on "Polyandry," shows how the former existence of this practice is indicated by the prevalence of marital customs that grow out of it. There is a pleasant and very seasonable article on spiders, "The Spinning Sisterhood," as they are called by the writer, Mrs. Olive Thorne Miller. In the Editor's Table are an examination of Herbert Spencer's latest book on "Justice," and a sketch of the work done in the School of Applied Ethics, at Plymouth, during the past summer. New York: D. Appleton & Company. Fifty cents a number, \$5 a year.

Famine is wide-spread in Russia.

Affairs in China are still threatening.

Guatemala is credited with quite a revolution.

Japan has some cases of cholera, and fears a general outbreak of the disease.

A tribal war is reported to be raging on some of the New Hebrides Islands, and cannibalism, it is stated, flourishes in consequences.

David Evans, who represents the Castle Baynard Ward in the board of Aldermen, has been elected to succeed Sir Joseph Savoy as Lord Mayor of London.

Princess Beatrice has another son.

The British Government has decided not to call an autumn session of parliament.

The Earl of Portsmouth died suddenly on Sunday from the bursting of a blood vessel.

London has a scandal over the death of a chorus girl who committed suicide a few days ago. She had "friends" in the nobility who hushed matters up.

The death of the Right Hon. Wm. H. Smith, first lord of the treasury and leader of the British house of Commons, is announced. He had been ill for some time.

An unsatisfactory state of affairs exists between the new government of Chili and Minister Egan of the United States over the fact that partisans of Balmaceda are still harbored by the latter.

At a meeting of several thousand working men at Hyde Park on Sunday the Liberal Federation was denounced for suppressing free speech, neglecting working men and giving precedence to Ireland. Resolutions were adopted declaring the Liberal party to be unworthy of the confidence of the labor classes. A league should be formed to secure labor representation in parliament.

An eccentric South of France lady, named Cabouret, has left \$1,600,000 to any Frenchman who penetrates further than anyone has before into the wilds of Africa with 500 or more compatriots, on condition that one half of the caravans return safely. The lady was a fervent admirer of Cardinal Lavigerie and was anxious to suppress the slave trade. Her relations dispute the will.

The White Star Line steamer *Teutonic*, Captain Irving, from New York September 23 for Liverpool, arrived at Queenstown at ten minutes to two o'clock on September 29th, breaking the eastward record. The time occupied on the passage, according to the report given by the *Teutonic's* officers, was 5 days, 21 hours and 22 minutes, which was 1 hour and 28 minutes better than any previous record. According to the ship's log she travelled 2,791 knots. Her daily runs were as follows: 447 knots, 456, 462, 466, 456, 465 and 39.

The sudden death of Charles S. Parnell, the great Irish leader, on Wednesday, from the effect of a chill last week, has startled the world. Mr. Parnell passed away in the arms of his wife, who is utterly prostrated by the shock. Coupled with this announcement comes the news of the death of Sir John Pope Hennessey, who defeated the Parnellite candidate, Mr. Vincent Scully, in December last. Sir John Pope Hennessey's death is said to be due to the mental and physical strain to which he was subjected during the political contest. Irishmen of all shades of opinion express grief over Parnell's death.

The tragic ending of General Boulanger's life on the tomb of Mme. de Bonnemain on September 30th, created much excitement all over France, and the manner of his death has touched the hearts of the impressive Frenchmen. The depth of his devotion to the woman who gave all she had to him, and shared his exile, must have been very great. It is thought by many that even had the General been able to satisfy his highest political ambition he would have committed suicide sooner or later after the death of Mme. de Bonnemain. Boulanger prepared in the most business like manner for the deed, and left a political testament to be published after his death. He felt convinced of the failure of the party to which he had given his name, and stated that he could not get over the frightful misfortune which befell him two and half months ago. His only regret was that he had not died on the field of battle fighting for his country. The will of Mme. de Bonnemain left him free from debt and in the possession of three million francs, so no pecuniary troubles could have hastened his end. On Saturday last the funeral took place in Brussels in the presence of a great crowd. No religious ceremonies were held, and no speeches were made.

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