

NEWS OF THE WEEK.

Correct answers to Enigma, published last week, were received from Rev. W. E. Gelling, Bridgewater; R. McDonald, 2 Bauer street, and Wm. F. O'Connor, 88 Agricola street, city.

Mr. Donald Keith, who succeeded to the business of his father, the Hon. Alexander Keith, displays the same push and enterprise that characterized his Scotch progenitor. The ales manufactured in the establishment of A. Keith & Son, are said to be quite equal to those imported from England.

600,000 bushels of potatoes have been shipped to the United States from P. E. Island during the past season.

The C. P. Railway Company propose adopting the twenty-four hour system, thus obviating the affixes a.m. and p.m., in their time table. Night trains will leave Montreal for the West at 21.30.

Blasting powder, sporting powder, red and black dynamite, are most successfully manufactured at the mill of the Acadia Powder Co. Mr. J. C. Wylde, office 70 Bedford Row, is the business agent and representative of the company.

It is generally understood that Lord Lytton, who formerly ably represented the British Government at Lisbon, and subsequently discharged his duties as Viceroy of India with success, is to succeed Lord Lyons as British Ambassador at Paris.

A correspondent writes:—I am delighted to know of the success of THE CRITIC; and hope it will grow in circulation and usefulness. It presents a fair field and no favour to all parties, while its editorial utterances are vigorous and impartial.

"I believe," says Lord Tennyson, "that the dis-establishment and dis-endowment of the church would preclude the downfall of much that is greatest and best in England."

The Lyceum, on Starr street, looks well in its New Year's dress of paint. Mr. E. J. Power always handles the brush with effect.

It is now proposed to hunt down the war-like Apaches with blood-hounds. The proposal is a reflection on modern civilization.

A new Reform journal is shortly to be published in Toronto. Its editor is to be Mr. Gordon Brown, formerly editor of the *Globe*.

Kentville has organized a tobogganing club, of which Mr. L. DeV. Chipman, the popular manager of the Kentville branch of the Nova Scotia Bank, is President.

Mr. Olds has been appointed traffic manager of the C. P. Railway, Montreal. The position is one which requires experience, foresight and shrewdness, of these qualities Mr. Olds has a goodly proportion.

The appointment of Sir Ambrose Shea as Governor of Newfoundland is generally considered most judicious. Sir Ambrose is a native of Newfoundland, and has always been recognized as a man of superior ability.

Senator Howland has no idea of allowing his proposed subway to P. E. Island to be regarded as a dead issue. He is now holding public meetings in different parts of the island, and is stirring up the people to a sense of the importance of the new enterprise.

Notwithstanding the abominable state of the city streets on New Year's day, and the showers of rain which fell during the afternoon, a number of gentlemen were found heroic enough to undertake the task of doing up their annual visits in the course of a few hours. Gentlemen are frequently debarred by business engagements from calling upon the ladies during the afternoons, and as a rule, are glad to escape the five o'clock tea crushes; but were evening receptions introduced, the inconvenience, formality, and fatigue of New Year's calling would be obviated.

The Hon. G. E. Foster, Minister of Marine and Fisheries, has been returned by the constituency of Kings, N. B., with a majority of 358. Mr. Foster is one of our coming men, who will make his mark in Canadian politics.

W. H. Howland has been elected to the Mayoralty of Toronto by a handsome majority.

Ceylon tea-growers anticipate being able to export within a few years 20,000,000 pounds of tea annually. This will lower the price of tea, and enable the poor to enjoy a fresh steep.

A report comes from Newfoundland to the effect that fresh disturbances have taken place in Harbour Grace, between the Orangemen and Catholics.

The British Parliament will meet on the 21st inst.

Mr. George Fraser, who represents the British American Mercantile Agency, has removed his office to 166 Hollis street.

Have you seen the advertisement of H. H. Fuller & Co., which appears on our twelfth page? Gold miners should read it; coal miners should read it; millers should read it; fishermen should read it; in fact, every subscriber who has ought to purchase, should read it.

The establishment of A. McDougall & Son, wholesale grocers, has about it that air of thrift and industry peculiar to Scotch business houses. The times may be dull, but the wide-awake always secure a fair share of business.

Amherst is an ambitious town. Notwithstanding the number of handsome residences erected during the past season for private individuals by Messrs. Rhodes, Curry & Co., her citizens now propose building an Ice Palace, holding a Winter Carnival, and, in short, stealing Montreal's thunder.

Lord Randolph Churchill has been in Ireland and has come to the conclusion that the time is ripe for reforming the government of that country.

Kentville people know how to manage a Provincial Exhibition. Their balance sheet shows a net profit of \$1,200. Well done, Kentville.

Gentlemen requiring gloves should inspect those for sale at Mr. Freeman Elliot's, opposite the Halifax Club. Mr. Elliot has on hand a large stock of gents' furnishings.

Ottawa had a building boom in 1885, 300 new buildings having been erected.

Prof. F. C. Sumichrast was well received by the St. John lecture course on Monday evening last. Mr. Sumichrast's lecture was much appreciated. The lecturer doubtless fully appreciated the intelligence of the audience addressed by him.

Some persons are of the opinion that the gun which is fired from the citadel at noon is not always discharged to the exact second. Mr. William Bannister, who knows whereof he speaks, being a practical watchmaker, is in a position to test its accuracy to a nicety.

John Chinaman celebrates New Year's Day by paying his debts. The Anglo-Saxon might take a "cue" from the Celestial in this respect.

Anna Swan, the famous Nova Scotian giantess, is said to be dying of consumption.

Wm. F. Foster, dealer in wool and hides, now occupies the large three-story building on Upper Water street, formerly occupied by the late B. O'Neil.

On Monday evening last St. George's Club, London, gave a grand banquet to Sir John A. Macdonald. Sir John in a speech referred in terms of satisfaction to the friendly relations now existing between Canada, Britain and the United States. He deprecated the idea that the French-Canadians were to be held responsible for the extravagant utterances of a few politicians. He defended them against the charge of disloyalty, saying they were peaceable, industrious and orderly citizens, and entirely disapproved the rabid democracy of old France.

The following table shows the number of business failures in the Dominion of Canada in each year for the past seven years, and also the total liabilities of the failures of each year:

1879	1,902	\$29,347,930
1880	907	7,947,063
1881	637	5,770,717
1882	787	8,587,657
1883	1,379	15,901,561
1884	1,308	18,939,770
1885	1,256	8,861,609

The annual average for the five years, 1875-9 inclusive, was 1,820 failures, with liabilities of \$26,460,000. For the six years, 1880-5 inclusive, the annual average has been but 1,045 failures, with liabilities of \$11,000,000. The number of traders during the latter period was very much larger than the preceding, and therefore the above figures manifest a gratifying improvement. Had bankruptcies occurred from 1879 to 1886 in the same ratio as from 1875 to 1879, we would have had in the past six years five thousand more failures than we have had, with \$95,000,000 added liabilities.

The New Year's *Herald* contained a large number of special articles, and speaks much for the enterprise of its conductors.

The *Chronicle* brought out an interesting supplement with its New Year's issue.

A fine ship is being built at Avondale by William Mosher, Esq. Mr. M. is one of the most enterprising of our shipbuilders.

Mr. Klinglefeld, the well known teacher and violinist, has accepted an engagement in Baltimore in connection with the Peabody course of Grand Philharmonic and Chamber Concerts, as first violinist, for February and March. Mr. Klinglefeld is a musician in every respect, and will make his mark wherever he goes. We wish him success, and shall be pleased to see him back here again among us after his engagement terminates.

PARIS, December 29.—Premier Brisson called upon President Grevy, and tendered the resignation of the whole Cabinet. He said he desired to retire from political life for a year, in order to take a much needed rest. The Government's majority on the Tonquin credit was too small, he said, for a stable government. The President has requested M. De Freycinet to form a Cabinet, and the latter promised to give a definite reply. It is thought probable that De Freycinet will accept the Premiership.

Dr. Willoughby, of Saskatoon, N. W. T., reports everything quiet among the Indians and Half-breeds in the neighbourhood of Batoche.

A company is now being organized, backed by the Grand Trunk, to build a road along the north shore of the St. Lawrence River to the Straits of Belle Isle, ferrying across these, and thence run directly to Cape Race, N. F., where connection is to be made with a line of fast steamers to Brest, France.