

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 appears on page 15. 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 inquiry into the Tobique murder is adjourned to the 11th instant.

The murderer Morrison is still, to the disgrace of the Quebec Government and police, at large.

Wheat is being delivered in large quantities at Brandon and Gretna, Manitoba, where it is quoted at 80 to 85 cents.

The Quebec Government have decided to establish a permanent provincial police force, with headquarters in Montreal.

Sportsmen, this winter, will do well to remember that the killing of moose and caribou is prohibited for three years, beginning with first of last April.

Mme. Janauschek and company played "Guy Mannering" last night to a full house, but a Thursday night's performance is too late to enable us to comment on it.

A patriotic but entirely moderate and modest speech of Sir Jno. Thompson is headed "Sir John Thompson gives more sass." It is presumed the heading is sarcastic.

Except for some slight damage by frost in August, the splendid wheat crop of the Canadian N. W. may now be considered past danger, unless it should turn very wet, which is unlikely.

"THE CRITIC, published at Halifax, is a bright, well posted and outspoken little paper, which ought to serve as a literary channel for the Maritime Provinces."—*Dominion Illustrated*.

St. John, ever alert and to the fore, grapples at once with the position which may ensue from the proclamation of Retaliation, and resolves to urge on the Dominion Government the immediate erection of a grain elevator.

It is stated that Capt. P. A. Scott, R. N., Chairman of the Board of Examiners of Masters and Mates of the Mercantile Marine, is about to resign, and that Capt. Smith, of the Allan liner *Parisian*, is an applicant for the position.

Some of the Mormon settlers have, it appears, taken up their abode at Fort Macleod. They are good enough to intimate that they will not practice polygamy until they obtain the sanction of law. They will probably have to wait a little.

The 72nd (Annapolis) Battalion, Lt.-Col. Parker, was omitted from our notice last week, of the corps which went into camp on the 4th instant, at Aldershot. The camp consists of three Battalions of Infantry and the King's Troop of Cavalry.

The citizens of Toronto are fairly groaning under the operations of a coal combine, which compels dealers to charge \$5.75 a ton in the city, while it can be bought in the country at \$4.75. This is rapidly becoming a subject for stern legislation.

A member of the Wimbledon Team has been fined \$25 by the Customs Department for a trophy won by his skill, which he of course brought home with him. These Custom regulations are, some of them, outrageous, or at least are carried out in an outrageous manner.

The Band Tournament at Springhill, on the 29th, resulted in the award of the first prize of \$100 to the Amherst Band, and the second of \$50 to that of Springhill. The other competing bands were the Civilian of Lunenburg, and the Stellarton Band. Bandmaster Coole, of the York and Lancaster Regiment, officiated as Judge.

The Salvation Army has again been constituting itself a most decided nuisance at Newmarket, Ont., by obstructing thoroughfares. They were arrested and locked up, but were subsequently bailed out, and immediately recommenced their annoying proceedings. There is no religion in this sort of thing, and the army wants a sharp lesson.

A visit to Jones' Music Warehouse, corner of Sackville and Granville Sts., revealed the fact that he has a new stock of very fine reed and brass instruments just arrived from leading London houses, also organs and pianos, new and second-hand, and a general well assorted line of musical goods. Mr. Jones reports business very good, orders for goods coming in daily from all parts of the Province in return for price lists, which are promptly sent on application.

Any one wishing to see the prairie region of our great North West has now an excellent opportunity of doing so. For \$33 the tourist can be conveyed from Halifax to Winnipeg (and 200 miles beyond to Deloraine) and return good for two months. This includes colonist sleepers from Quebec to Winnipeg with free berths. This is the finest season of the year to travel, and the country and its products will be seen to the best advantage. Everyone who can spare the time should go.

The eldest son of Sir Chas. Tupper is Mr. Stewart Tupper, Barrister, of Winnipeg. By the way, a great deal of stuff is being talked about Baronets, poor and rich. There are plenty of rich Baronets, and plenty of poor ones. One of the latter, we believe, was Sir John Hay, for many years employed in one of the Government Departments at Ottawa. We don't care much about these honors, but some of the Liberal papers make an absurd fuss about a few more or less, by which the country will certainly not be ruined financially or morally.

Permits are being issued to hotels of a certain class in the North-West to import and sell beer containing 4 per cent. of alcohol. This is a good step, as it is certain that fairly good beer, freely obtainable, will diminish the consumption of bad whiskey. But the North-West papers are justly asking why, if importation is allowed, manufacture is prohibited. A few breweries in the North-West would be a benefit.

A loan of \$5,000,000 has been negotiated in England to resume work on the Hudson River Railroad Tunnel.

Accounts from Jacksonville, Fla., describe the scourage of yellow fever unabated: the deaths recorded number 50, cases over 300.

The instalment of Mary Agnes Tincker's novel "Two Coronets" in the *American Magazine* is particularly interesting this month.

Iowa must be a nice country to live in, a desperado kills two men, and mortally wounds two more. He is shot and his naked body dragged through the streets.

Mr. May, whose quarrel with Mr. J. Gordon Bennett was a matter of notoriety some time ago, seems recently to have got into trouble through some drunken escapade, and to have been indebted to Mr. Bennett for the means of release from confinement.

A new number of *The Season* is at hand. *The Season* (International News Company, New York,) is an excellent Ladies' Magazine, copiously illustrated with the newest Paris fashions, and every kind of fancy work. The information given is clear, comprehensive and practical.

A correspondent of the *Halifax Chronicle* writes to say that, for over a year, "telephoning has been carried on with perfect success between Boston and Philadelphia, nearly 300 miles." In France it is carried on between Paris and Marseilles, a distance of nearly 400 miles as the crow flies.

The city of Hot Springs, Ark., has been devastated by a tremendous rain storm and water spout, considerable loss of life and great damage is reported. The singular immunity of Canada from elemental disasters is really extraordinary to those who observe their constant occurrence in the United States.

Advices from Atlanta, Georgia, state that the tropical fruit men have combined and organized a trust in New Orleans. The idea of these trusts, the object of which is to keep prices high, seems to have become epidemic. They are one of the worst tyrannies to which the unfortunate general consumer can be subjected.

American representatives may perhaps some time or other become ashamed of outbidding each other in boorishness, and making a careful study of offensiveness. The spirit is beyond measure low and despicable, which could jump at the chance of defeating a motion providing for the simple civility of notifying Great Britain of the intention to initiate the retaliatory measures.

High License has proved a success in Minnesota. There are in the State only 1597 saloons as against 2806 when the law went into effect. Every county has shown a decrease in the consumption of liquor. Low groceries have been closed up and the business is under better supervision. Under the old system the average cost of a license was \$300, and the income about \$850,000. Under High License the approximations are \$650, and \$1,100,000 of revenue.

The most notable article in the *American* for Sept. is that of Lt. Fullam, U. S. N., on "The American Navy of to day." It need not be supposed because the U. S. Navy is at present limited, that it is not rapidly acquiring formidable elements. The dynamite cruiser *Vesuvius* is a mastless vessel of 725 tons, which is of the nature of a floating gun-carriage for three of the new dynamite guns, which are exploded by compressed air, and carry a dynamite cartridge 7 feet long and 14½ inches in diameter. This may be a tremendous weapon. It may also be borne in mind that the Americans have not forgotten the efficiency of monitors, and have doubtless improved on their original construction. A low turreted monitor may be built of far larger size than the original ones and show but little surface above water, while what they do show will probably only cause nineteen projectiles out of twenty to ricochet harmlessly over their deck.

It is contemplated to procure from Parliament powers to construct a canal between Liverpool and Birmingham.

General Boulanger is reported to have arrived at Hamburg, and is said to be on his way to Russia via Copenhagen.

The area planted in flax, in Ireland, was 130,000 acres in 1887, against 127,890 in 1886, an increase of nearly two per cent.

There have been continuous rains throughout the eastern portion of Germany. Several districts in Silesia have been flooded.

Floods in Bohemia have again reached alarming proportions. The Danube is rising steadily, and 15,000 persons are reported to be homeless.

There are fifteen Siamese students—four of them ladies—undergoing various kinds of professional training in England. They are sent by the Government of Siam.

An earthquake has done great damage in New Zealand. It is only a year or two ago since a region of natural terraces of extraordinary beauty was destroyed by a similar agency.

Three murders have been perpetrated in London of the most horrible kind within a few months. In each case the victim was a low class woman, and in each was shockingly mutilated. They have all occurred in the same district, and are supposed to be the work of a lunatic of the most dangerous kind.