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NEWS OF THE WEEK.

We understand it is the intention of the employes of the Customs Department to present the retiring Commissioner, R. S. M. BOURGESS, Esq., with a suitable address and testimonial, upon the occasion of his superannuation. A meeting was held on Friday when resolutions to this effect were passed, and a committee consisting of Messrs. Jas. Barry, G. A. Millson, T. J. Watters, J. R. Audy, and Z. Wilson, was appointed to secure the co-operation of the outside service and to manage the whole affair. J. W. Peachy, Esq., was chosen Secretary-treasurer.

It is said that Mr. Oakes, M. P. for Digby, has been nominated to the Legislative Council of Nova Scotia, and has consequently resigned his seat in Parliament. The Hon. Mr. Vail, the new Minister of Militia, will probably be elected for the constituency by acclamation.

The following members of the new Quebec Government have been returned by acclamation, viz: Hon. Mr. Malhot, Commissioner of Crown Lands, for Three Rivers; Hon. A. R. Angers, Solicitor General, for the County of Montmorency; Hon. Mr. Garneau, Minister of Agriculture, for the County of Quebec. Mr. Poupore, M.P.P., for Pontiac, is said to have tendered his resignation as member for that Constituency to make room for Dr. Church, the new Attorney General.

It is announced that the Legislative Assembly of Ontario will meet for the despatch of business on the 12th of November.

The Lieutenant Governor of Ontario has appointed Thursday, the 29th instant, as a day of general thanksgiving in the Province of Ontario.

Mr. Pattison, Manager of the *Mail*, found guilty of libel on the charge of Cressy Whellans, was on Friday last sentenced to pay a fine of \$200. The execution of sentence was deferred until three points of law reserved be decided by the Superior Court. These are: 1st. That the prosecution for libel was illegal because complainant was not a resident of this country when the libel was published. 2nd. Misdirection of the Judge to jury that a verdict of guilty should be returned if every charge in the article alleged to be libellous were not substantiated. 3rd. That the Crown Counsel who conducted the prosecution had no right in a case of this kind, where a private person was virtually prosecuting, to have claimed the Crown privilege of challenge by calling on eleven jurors selected by ballot from the panel to step aside.

The export lumber trade of Ottawa this year has been \$1,635,000 feet, less than last year. Other trade has increased \$32,226.

Three vessels, 1,000 tons each, were launched at Yarmouth, N. S., last week.

The Newfoundland Legislature, one year old, has been dissolved.

It is definitely settled that the Canadian Military College is to be located at Kingston. Fort Frederick is the place chosen, and the building known as the Stone Frigate, situated near that Fort will be utilized as quarters for the students. The situation is a good one, and besides being a healthy location, contains all the buildings necessary, with magazines, stores and barracks.

The shipments from Silver Islet in August were seventy eight barrels, of which twenty four averaged \$2,645 per ton. On the 10th of September there were twenty-five barrels shipped, giving a return of \$2,913,10 per ton. This is the largest yield yet.

The *Victoria* (B.C.) *Colonist* states that the Resident Engineer of the Dominion Government has appointed Mr. G. B. Wright, to organize a party for the purpose of examining and reporting as to the cost of improving the Fraser for steam navigation purposes by the removal of obstructions. The party will be formed immediately and the survey made before winter sets in. The *Colonist* pays a very high tribute to the capabilities of the appointee, and says he has a thorough knowledge of the river, acquired by years of steaming on the Upper Fraser, and will soon lay a thorough and exhaustive report on the subject before Mr. Pearse.

The *Victoria* (B.C.) *Standard* states that a member of Mr. Bell's Railway Survey party had arrived in that city, and so far reported a good grade—some 50 feet to the mile—for the railway by the Big Bend of the Fraser river, a route which Mr. Bell's company was engaged in exploring. The party had reached a point on the Fraser northward of Fort George, between the Bear and Willow rivers, and it was their intention to proceed along the Bend towards the Leather Head Pass until meeting with the Jarvis party, which is travelling from the latter point toward Fort George.

The Lord Mayor of Dublin lectured at the Academy of Music, New York, on 6th Oct., before a crowded and aristocratic audience. Subject "Oliver Goldsmith." The lecturer was well received throughout. The proceeds, which are for the benefit of St. Colm's Roman Catholic Church, are very large.

The late agent of the Pacific Mail Steamship Co., at San Francisco, is charged with having appropriated to his own use three quarters of a million of the Company's money.

The *New Orleans Bulletin* says rumors are current to the effect that Attorney General Williams has issued peremptory instructions to the U. S. District Attorney and U. S. Marshal in New Orleans to commence criminal prosecutions against the members of the White League throughout the State.

The entire losses to the confederated tribes of the Cheyennes, Kiowas and Comanches since the opening of the campaign will approximate eighty or a hundred killed and wounded.

Last year Japan exported 13,864,000 lbs. of tea, all of which came to the United States.

The Gunard steamer *Scotic* arrived at Liverpool under sail, having broken her shaft.

Advices from Buenos Ayres report that an engagement took place on Wednesday morning outside that city. The Government troops were repulsed, losing many killed and wounded.

The *Standard* publishes a rumor that the Princess Thyra of Denmark is to marry the son of the ex-King of Hanover, and supplements it with a rumor that Bismarck has asked for explanations of the proposed alliance.

The *Times* has advices from Vienna that the idea of referring the Schleswig question to the arbitration of the Queen of England, is gaining hold of the diplomatic mind. It is stated that the Danish Government is favourable to such course, which is thought to offer a feasible method for solution.

An Act of Parliament authorizing moneys to be raised on the Tichborne and Doughty estates for defraying the costs and charges incurred in the litigation with the claimant, Arthur Orton, has just been printed. The statute is to be received in evidence in all courts, and has been sanctioned by the Court of Chancery. The trustees under the act are Mr. Henry Lamplough Wickman and the Hon. Edward Ignatius Arundell. The costs, charges, and expenses of the infant heir, Sir Henry Doughty Tichborne, in the now celebrated litigation were settled at £91,577 12s. 2d.

By the latest annual report of the English Post Office, while the business of the Department in general has largely increased the circulation of the postal card has fallen off, showing that the open letter system is declining in popular favor. The reason is probably to be found in the objectionable use which was so frequently made of these missives for libellous or abusive purposes. And besides postal cards being used designedly for offensive purposes, there is no doubt a growing feeling that the occasions when they may be used with propriety and courtesy are rather limited.