

NEWS OF THE WEEK.

The Steamship *M. A. Starr* left for the Western Ports on Tuesday morning. We understand that the Steamship *G. A. Shattuck* is to be put on this route in place of the lost steamer *Edgar Stuart*.

The Windsor Cotton Co. had their annual meeting last week. The Director's report showed that the Co., had cost \$10,000 during the last year, but this was chiefly due to the failure of D. Morrice & Co., their former agents in Montreal. Now, the cotton is sold directly from the Mill, and notwithstanding the depressed condition of the trade, \$2,500 has been cleared during the last six months.

The British Empire Federation Association has issued a circular inviting the colonies to send delegates to a conference of the League, to be held in Exeter Hall, London, on the 14th of June, 1886.

The post office at Truro was broken into on Sunday evening, but nothing of any value was taken.

While on the passage from Yarmouth to St. John the steamer *Dominion* broke her shaft. She drifted about the bay and went ashore on the Isle of Haute, where she was found by the tug *S. King*. The tug pulled her off and towed her into St. John.

It is proposed to form an organization of all the men who participated in the North West rebellion, on the basis of the Grand Army of the American Republic.

After having a pow-wow with Crowfoot, Chief of the Blackfoot Indians, General Middleton and Gov. Dewdney went to the Rockies on a pleasure trip.

A man named McKeevey, who was going to visit his brother in Prince Albert, was shot by Indians, while going down the Saskatchewan. He is now in a very critical condition. A posse of Police has gone in search of the Indians.

Mr. Thomas Mullins has been appointed business agent for the *Critic* in Cape Breton, he will thoroughly canvass the Island for subscribers and will, in conjunction with the local board, supply this office with information relative to Cape Breton. Merchants and others doing business in Cape Breton will find the *Critic* an excellent advertising medium.

The pow-wow at the Gardens on Monday evening last was a brilliant success, at least, so say those who witnessed it. Six thousand persons were admitted at the gates, each and all prepared to enjoy the pow-wow, but of this immense throng only a limited number were in a position to see the performance. However, the attractions at the rink, the several bands and the minor pow-wows in the remote parts of the gardens afforded an opportunity for enjoyment which will long be remembered by our volunteers and their friends.

The Nickel-Plate Circus attracted immense crowds and its proprietor must have realized something handsome from the performances. The horses which generally constitute the principal attraction in a circus, were in this instance well trained, the antics of the pony being remarkable. The trapeze performance was excellent, but the outfit of the company is by no means in keeping with the skill of the performers and the training of the horses. The umbrella-eared elephant was a source of delight to the juveniles, and so far as we can learn the circus is well calculated to please its numerous patrons.

Right royal was the reception given by Halifax to the brave lads returning from the North-West, and royally did our citizens turn out *en masse* to receive them. Their march of two and a half miles from North street to the Exhibition building through the principal streets of the city was one continued and lengthy ovation, such as Halifax citizens never before witnessed. The decorations were unique and tasteful, and the menu of the collation, prepared for the volunteers by the ladies, was well calculated to attract the eye and wet the appetite of those who had for several months been indulging in the delicacies of camp rations, such as hard tack and canned corn beef. The welcome to our citizen soldiers will be complete, when each and everyone of those who responded to our country's call again find remunerative employment in our midst.

The harbor is said to be literally swarming with fish. Large schools of mackerel could be seen every day for the past week. On Monday night the fishermen made a large haul of herring, which for quality exceeded anything taken for years.—*North Sydney Herald*.

At the session of the Medical Society, which closed at Fredericton last week, several interesting papers were read and discussed. The following members were appointed a delegation to attend the Maine society meeting next summer at Portland:—Drs. Walker, Moore, Brown, Botsford and Musgrove. The society will meet at St. John next year. A very pleasant time was spent at the conversazione in Odd Fellow's hall under the auspices of the society. An excellent luncheon was furnished by Mr. Edwards of the Queen.

Cholera is still spreading in Spain. On Saturday 1375 new cases and 1155 deaths were reported.

CAIRO, July 27.—The reports of the death of El Mahdi are confirmed from several sources. Berti says Oliver Pain was alive and well at Korosok on the 8th inst.

The ship *Amanda*, from Pensacola, at Liverpool, reports that on June 7, in latitude 43 32 N, longitude 36 W, passed over a bank, which gave the water a greenish hue, but as the wind was blowing a gale, did not heave to to sound. As no bank is marked on the chart at the place, surveying vessels would do well to find out whether any is there or not. A turtle and flock of birds were seen at the time. Some thirty years ago there was considerable talk in the papers about rocks in the North Atlantic, named the "three chimneys," but their place has not yet been found.

The following is from the *New York Journal of Commerce*, of July 10th, 1885, one of the oldest, most reliable and most conservative financial and commercial journals published:—

A HEALTHY GROWTH.—The successful career of the Mutual Reserve Fund Life Association is marvelous in the annals of life insurance enterprise. Its name has become a tower of strength—and has been well earned by the untiring devotion of President Harper and his associates. Its astonishing prosperity has provoked attacks which are best repelled by a frank and full exhibit of its greatly increasing line of business. Up to July 1, 1885, this shows a gain of no less than \$13,214,500 over that of the corresponding period last year. In June alone its mortuary receipts exceeded \$250,000, of which over \$60,000 went into the Reserve Fund—that triple buttress upon which the association justly prides itself. This reserve now amounts to \$125,000, and is employed for three purposes only—to pay death claims if any should occur in excess of the American Experience Mortality Tables; to make good any possible deficiency in the Death Fund account; and to be apportioned among those who have been members of the association over fifteen years, etc. As the first and second contingencies named are not likely to arise, the third object is the one upon which the fund is practically expended. It is full of other good points, among which may be mentioned the economical salary list—less than \$50,000 for carrying on the whole work of the vast institution—and payments to widows and orphans at the rate of over \$2,000 cash each day. Agent for Nova Scotia, D. ARCHIBALD, 238 Robie St.

The marriage of Prince Henry of Battenburg to Princess Beatrice, the youngest daughter of Queen Victoria, took place on the 23rd inst. at St. Mildred's Church, Wappingham, Isle of Wight. The affair was conducted with great regal pomp, which was scarce in keeping with the purse and position of the bridegroom. As however, Madame Britannia will be called upon to pay the piper, the poor German Prince need not concern himself about minor details such as most men deem important when passing beneath the matrimonial yoke.

CAIRO, July 27.—Osman Digna and his whole camp have gone into mourning for El Mahdi.

LONDON, July 27.—An article in the *Moscow Gazette* reported to have been inspired by the Czar, declares that Russia has reached the farthest limits to which she desires to go and that the government considers its ventures in Central Asia at an end. The *Russia Gazette* says, it fears nothing so much as condition and growth of unwieldy territory. The Czar is anxious to secure a solid frontier within which progressive works of civilization may be carried.

ST. PETERSBURG, July 26.—Lord Salisbury has renewed the proposal that Russia should withdraw her troops from advanced positions in Zullicar pass in order to avoid a possible conflict with the Afghans. Russia will agree to proposal on condition that the Afghans be restrained from occupying positions evacuated by the Russian troops. Such occupations will be the immediate signal for the Russian advance. Military activity at Odessa is maintained. It is rumored that preparations are being made for an early movement towards the Caspian Sea.

There has been a rumor running through the European press for a week or two back, that the Pope was going to come to terms with the Italian kingdom—that is, was going to abandon his sham "captivity" in the Vatican, and accept the allowance set aside for him by the Italian Government of \$625,000 per annum. But this has been emphatically denied on very high authority. The story had its origin in the discipline which Leo XIII. has been compelled to administer to Cardinal Pitta and some others, for trying to be more papal than the Pope himself, and inveighing savagely against the conciliatory policy. The *Journal de Rome*, published at Paris, in which the Cardinal's letter appeared, has been suppressed by the ecclesiastical authorities in consequence of the Pope's reproof. In fact, the Pope's policy, which is evidently now to be carried out with a stern hand, is to be an almost complete reversal of that known as "Ultramontano" since Pius IX.'s day, or is, in other words, to be one of conciliation towards the Church's enemies everywhere; but there is as yet no sign of peace with the Italian kingdom, or the acceptance of its subsidy. Nevertheless, in the opinion of many observers, the steady and rapid decline in the amount of Peter's Pence must bring this about at no distant day.

LONDON, July, 26.—The Oxford crew started from Dover at 10.15 o'clock this morning to row across the channel to Calais. The weather at the time of the start was fine, and there was a dead calm. The crew expected to reach Calais at two o'clock in the afternoon. A great crowd of persons witnessed the starting of the boat. At 10.30 the boat was one mile out, but making slow progress, as the tide was causing it to drift eastward. At 2.30 this afternoon the boat was sighted from Calais. The row across was very exciting. The Oxford's shipped several seas, and had to have frequent recourse to bailing with sponges. When within seven miles of the French shore, two of the crew became completely fagged out owing to heat and exertion, and were compelled to disist and were laid on the bottom of the boat. The others were game to finish.