

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 fifteen. For \$2.50 in cash we undertake to send *The Critic* to any subscriber for one year, supplying him in addition with seventy-five 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 *Guardian* says Truro has forty-two trains daily.

The death is announced of Mr. Cloyes, (Liberal) M. P. for Missisquoi.

The repeal of the Scott Act in Halton County has been carried by a majority of about 200.

Sixty-eight women, out of 446 qualified, voted in the municipal elections held at Montreal on the 1st March.

Lt.-Col. O'Brien, M. P., commanding the 35th Batt., "Simcoe Foresters," is, it is said, to command the Wimbledon team this year.

Mr. P. F. Martin has been nominated by the Amalgamated Trades Union, and has accepted, to run as Alderman for Ward 5.

The Custom's collections in Victoria, B.C., for Jan. and Feb. last, exceed the corresponding periods of last year by \$29,000 and \$17,000 respectively.

The March number of *Woman* more than fulfils the promise of that excellent magazine's earlier issues. It is perhaps second to no periodical of the day in literary quality.

It is disheartening to find allusions to the almost certainty of the acquittal of criminals on account of race in connection with the arrests of two more Post Office thieves in Montreal.

There has been another sickening exhibition of maudlin sympathy with criminals, in the case of the "Human Tiger" McNeil, recently hanged at Toronto for murder, and who ought to have been hanged before. Flowers were sent to him.

We have received from a subscriber a letter desiring that his paper be discontinued, not on account of any dissatisfaction, but because he "cannot afford the luxury of a paper" by reason of the curtailment of his means by the limitation of the lobster fishery time.

The company which proposes to build a "summer city" at Canso, are seeking incorporation at the hands of the Provincial Legislature. It will probably be a beneficial enterprise, but the name proposed, "Terminal City," does not seem at all a well chosen one.

Mr. Greenway, the new Premier of Manitoba, has gone to Ottawa with Mr. Marun, his Attorney General, to endeavor to bring about a solution of the Manitoba difficulty. There are evidences that Mr. Greenway is a man of direct measures and considerable originality of resource.

Complaints are made that the press gallery of the Provincial House is allowed to be occupied by others than journalists. The officials of the House should see to this, which, as our large Assembly requires a deputy, as well as a sergeant-at-arms, there should be no difficulty about.

The "Tides of the Bay of Fundy," a paper by Mr. M. Murphy, C. E., Provincial Government Engineer, &c., read before the N. S. Institution of Natural Science on the 9th May, 1887, forms a highly instructive, and somewhat exhaustive, pamphlet on tidal phenomena, and their causes.

His Grace the Archbishop has, under conditions which he prescribes, rescinded his interdict on the St. Patrick's procession of 17th March. This is rather satisfactory than otherwise. If processions are permitted at all, the St. Patrick's Society has as much right to walk as the Salvation Army, Masonic, or any other body.

A sad accident occurred last Sunday in the death of Lieutenant Valentine, a promising young officer of the Artillery. Mr. Valentine, it seems, was shooting out of a boat off the rocks near Sambro Island, was seen by the look-out party, and a few minutes later had disappeared. His gun and gloves, &c., were found in the boat.

The Halifax Amateur Dramatic Club, who are to appear at the Lyceum on Friday, March 16th (St. Patrick's Eve), are making great preparations for their initial performance of "Exiled from Home, or Ireland as it is." The plot of the piece is a taking one, and abounds in many stirring and pathetic scenes. We wish them every success.

Captain Scott, after due investigation, has cancelled the certificates of Porter and Goudey, master and mate of the *Vancouver*. This is right as far as it goes, but, if no other arraignment follows, the punishment will be altogether inadequate to the almost unparalleled brutalities, for which the commander of a vessel is always primarily responsible.

The mail steamer *Oregon*, which arrived here on Sunday morning, commenced discharging her cargo of over two thousand tons at one o'clock Monday morning, and finished at ten o'clock Monday evening. The through cargo of eighteen hundred tons was all loaded into cars and on its way to destination before ten o'clock Tuesday evening. The despatch was extra good, and shows what Halifax can do as the winter port of the Dominion.

Mr. James Jack has left Halifax, and Bradstreet's Agency here, which he had managed for some years, has been taken over by Mr. Robert Moon, lately connected with the Montreal and Toronto offices of the same agency. He has also been manipulating the agency in New Brunswick for the past fifteen months, and his long experience in the business, coupled with the fact that he is no stranger here, should make him an efficient and popular manager. Mr. Jack has accepted the St. John Agency of Dun, Wiman & Co.

Opium is attracting attention, both at Ottawa and Washington. There are said to be thirteen factories at Victoria, B.C., the produce of twelve of which must be smuggled into the States.

Lord Stanley of Preston, the new Governor General of Canada, has appointed Captain Colville, of the Grenadier Guards, his military secretary, and Lieut. MacMahon and Lieut. Stanley, his son, aides-de-camp.

Lovers of Art will find in the windows of the Halifax Piano and Organ Co. four pictures by Mr. J. L. Blauvelt. There are three landscapes, representing On the Hudson (part of Hook Mountain), the Still Waters of the Charles River, Mass., and a scene from our own Grand Lake, which are worthy of every commendation. A Jar of Roses completes the group. We congratulate Mr. Blauvelt on his skilful treatment of the above. They form part of a collection of 50, an unusually attractive one, the sale of which will close about Easter.

In 1778 the United States pensions amounted to \$27,000,000. This year \$80,000,000 are asked for.

The death, at the age of 56, is announced of Miss Louisa Alcott, the popular authoress of "Little Women," &c.

General Hawley, a possible Republican candidate for the Presidency, is said to be ruled out of the running because his wife (a Philadelphia lady), was born in England.

The Cunard and other steamship companies are now arranging to run extra steamers on their routes. It is expected there will be a large increase in the Irish emigration this year.

Mrs. Langtry recently received, at Chicago, the intelligence of the death of her father, the Dean of Jersey. She was reported to be much prostrated—probably she was! The "Lily" seems to have had "a peck of troubles" lately.

Fifty Canadian engineers arrived at Chicago recently to take the places of strikers on the "Q" road. The brotherhood leaders maintain that the Canadians will be promptly disposed of under the Federal statutes, prohibiting the importation of foreign labor.

Nearly one hundred Canadians were naturalized in a body in one court in Chicago on a recent evening through the efforts of the Canadian-American League. Chicago politicians are beginning to talk very seriously of the new and uncertain factor of the British vote in their city.

A respectable elderly gentleman named Oscar Beckwith was hanged for murder at Hudson, N. Y., on the 1st March. The peculiarity of his case is said to have been that he had been sentenced to death six times. The jovial old party seems to have taken it quite coolly—perhaps he had got used to the sensation—as he is reported to have sipped himself with half a pint of Bourbon before being turned off.

Mrs. "Captain" Polly Von Ericson, of the Salvation Army and bustle renown, is fulfilling her threat of making things lively for "General" Moore and the orthodox salvationists he commands. "Capt." Polly has started an opposition army of her own, in which bustles form a prominent feature of the accoutrements, and as she is said to be very pretty, she will no doubt considerably flutter the orthodox dove-cotes, and, in fact, has already produced disastrous effects in that direction.

Last year 185,000 tons of shipping were built on the Clyde, as against 172,000 in 1886.

Mrs. Gladstone looks forward with a great deal of pleasure to the celebration of her golden wedding next July.

Lieut.-General Sir Henry D'Ovley Torrens, K.C.B., has been appointed Governor and Commander-in-Chief of Malta.

The London firemen are to be equipped in asbestos cloth, which has already been tried in Paris. It does not burn.

The 58th or 2nd Northampton regiment, which is ordered to the Halifax station from England, was at the capture of Louisburg in 1759.

A rumor is afloat that the late Duke of Rutland left a son by a secret marriage, and that his claims are to be brought forward. Large estates go with the Dukedom.

Mr. Labouchere has distinguished himself by attacking the expenditure of the Fisheries Commission, which happens to be the most economical foreign commission on record.

Mr. Justin McCarthy is stated to have declined to become one of the five Deputy Speakers created under the new procedure rules, on account, as he alleges, of his near sightedness.

The death is announced of Admiral Sir Astley Cooper Key, formerly commander-in-chief on this station, and who, if we remember rightly, was married at Halifax during his command.

The author of "Lorna Doone" has just lost his wife after a brief illness. Mr. Blackmore lives at Beddington, near London, where he owns one of the largest market gardens in the kingdom.

All railway traffic in Sweden and Denmark has been stopped by snow falls. Traffic on lines in the northeast of Germany is also interrupted. Dantzic is completely cut off from the world.

Miss Ebba Munck, the lady to whom Prince Oscar of Sweden has proved so true, actually forsook the court at one time, and became a hospital nurse to avoid encouraging her royal suitor.

Mr. Wilfred Bunt, who lately went in for the cheap honor of martyrdom by wilful infraction of the Crimes Act, has been defeated at Deptford, for which place he stood. The vote was—Darling (Cons.) 4,345; Blunt 4,079.