

## 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 11. For \$3.00 in cash we undertake to send THE CRITIC to any subscriber for one year, supplying him in addition with 110 of the most readable of readable books. Those who are renewing their subscriptions, as well as new subscribers, should take advantage of his offer.

A proposition has been made to erect a monument to the late John Norquay.

The Erie and Niagara Railway has been amalgamated with the Canada Southern.

In order to develop the Assiniboine River \$400,000 will be raised in Winnipeg.

A large additional number of Icelanders for Manitoba are expected to arrive next month.

Hon. T. B. Pardee, Commissioner of Crown Lands for Ontario, died at his home in Sarnia on the 21st inst.

There is a proposition before the department of militia to form a company of garrison artillery at Sydney Mines.

It is understood that the Government has offered to withdraw proceedings in the *Mattie Winship* case if the owners pay \$2,000 forfeit together with accrued costs.

A branch of the Imperial Federation league has been formed in Yarmouth with fifty members. Col. P. S. Hamilton is president and T. B. Crosby secretary.

Mr. W. H. Rogers, the efficient Inspector of Fisheries, has applied for and obtained retirement and superannuation. Mr. Rogers' services have been such as to deserve well of his country.

The Royal Humane Society's silver medal has been presented to Danl. Hunt, who, it will be remembered, lost a foot through rescuing a passenger who fell overboard from one of the Boston boats.

Amherst continues to flourish. New buildings are now being rapidly erected. All is activity and bustle. The factories running to their fullest capacity and the trade of the place constantly increasing.

A public meeting of the ratepayers of North Sydney has been held to consider the matter of lighting the town with the electric light. The cost of the plant will be about \$10,000. The meeting unanimously decided to have the light.

The Earl of Dunraven has given his ultimatum in connection with his yacht challenge for the American cup. He will not send the *Valkyrie* across unless the Americans have trial races to choose a champion yacht and make an international affair of it.

The Yarmouth Steamship Company has got out a very neat and well printed folder, as good looking as any of the railway time tables, containing fares, time tables, and every information necessary for passengers together with a map of the route. It reflects credit on the company.

The St. John Carnival is in full blast. The streets are gay with bunting, the processions have been a success, the city is thronged with visitors from all parts, and the weather is delightful. It is to be hoped it will remain so for every day of the ten St. John has devoted to this festivity.

Miss Mamie Tibbits, of Fredericton, who was so badly treated in Montreal, has been honorably acquitted, and the counsel for the prosecution apologized in court for the annoyance caused to her. To judge by the accounts given of the Mulcahy people and their doings, it looks very much as if they were not quite "all there."

Mr. G. T. Monckton of Coldbrook, Kings County, has purchased a share in a property in the immediate vicinity of the Eureka Mine at Ecum Secum, Halifax County. The shaft has been sunk to a depth of twenty-five feet. The lead is twenty-two inches on the surface and shows abundant galena and white iron. Several sights of gold have been found up to date.

The annual competitions of the Halifax brigade of Garrison Artillery Rifle Association will take place on Bedford Range to-day. Entrance fee, 50 cents; no sighting shots. Ammunition sold on the ground. There will be two competitions; 1st at 200 and 400 yards, 7 rounds; 2nd, 200, 400 and 500 yards, 7 rounds. Consolation at 400 yards. Prize list, \$150; also prizes in kind.

At the end of the fiscal year 1879 the amount of deposits in the chartered banks of the country was \$63,636,000, in the saving banks \$14,702,000, and in the loan companies savings department \$9,425,000. The figures are now: in the chartered banks \$122,016,000, in savings banks \$51,915,000; in the loan companies \$19,000,000, or \$193,211,000 in 1889, against \$87,749,000.

The Summer School of Science opened its third session at Parrsboro on Monday evening. The visitors were accorded a cheering reception by the town, and other places are not backward in seconding the good example of Parrsboro. The many places of interest in and around Parrsboro will make this session of the school an especially enjoyable one. Upwards of 200 members now belong to the Summer School of Science.

The *Manitoba Colonist* of Winnipeg, has published a supplement in the shape of a large sized pamphlet under the title, *Port Arthur Illustrated*. It is excellently got up and the illustrations are very good, showing a large town with many handsome buildings on the spot utterly lonely up to 1870, which was in that year marked by the tents of the Red River Expedition. It is quite an interesting publication, and does the *Colonist* great credit.

Mr. M. Sweetnam has been made Chief Post Office Inspector of the Dominion, and Mr. F. D. Birwick succeeds him in the Toronto division.

The new Canadian cable scheme, of which R. R. Dobell, of Quebec, is chief promoter, is now in a fair way of accomplishment. Four hundred thousand pounds has been subscribed in England for the construction of a cable to run from the Strait of Belleisle to a point on the west coast of Ireland. The Dominion Government will, it is believed, continue land lines along the north shore on the St. Lawrence to the Straits of Belle Isle, where it will connect with the new cable. The object is to give to Canada an independent Atlantic cable, and the Government is understood to encourage its construction.

There has been considerable rivalry between the leading dry-goods establishments of Truro in the matter of dressing their show windows. One firm made a decidedly new departure last week when one of their large windows was fitted up with a beautiful fountain and pond of clear water surrounded with a great variety of mosses and ferns. A large aquatic bird of an unusual species, caught at Grand Lake, disported itself in the water and wandered among the ferns, while a number of canaries flitted about amid the overhanging branches. The whole made a picture of great beauty, reflecting credit upon the taste and skill of the decorator. A Boston dry goods firm shows the league base ball games in miniature in one of its show windows.

The procession of the Labor Societies on Tuesday was a really imposing demonstration. The column must have equalled the length of Hollis street from the corner of George street to at least Morris street, and was exceedingly well organized. In every respect the various "guilds" presented an appearance of the highest respectability, and the march was enlivened by the music of every available band in the city. There was a good display of handsome flags and banners, among them two American Ensigns, which might perhaps have been as well dispensed with, and the whole display was in every way creditable. Such a gathering on "Labor Day" is well calculated to inspire our artisan and laboring fellow-citizens with confidence in their numbers, power, and resources, but the respectability and intelligence of the assembled representatives of "Labor" would seem to constitute a sufficient guarantee against the abuse of the influences they wield. The picnic, dinner and sports subsequently enjoyed on MacNab's Island were a pleasant and appropriate wind-up to an anniversary celebration with which we have every sympathy.

The Carnival Numbers of the *Mail* and *Echo* are standing evidence of the timely enterprise of those Journals. Their cost must have been great, and we earnestly hope they will be well remunerated. That of the *Echo* is a splendid sheet, and if the colored engravings are here and there a little highly toned, the excellent paper and type amply atone for it. The photographic illustrations are some of them slightly indistinct, but, judging from the *Dominion Illustrated*, that drawback seems to be, in the present state of art, inseparable from that style of engraving. A pathetic and very well-written story from the pen of a Halifax lady adds interest to its columns. The *Mail* number, if not so brilliant in coloring, has distinct merits of its own, and its literary tone is excellent. A stirring poem by Mr. Douglas Sladen, the Australian poet, is one of its gems, and it contains also one of Mr. Sumichrast's brilliant letters, and a charming poetical tribute to the warm-heartedness of Halifax by M. J. K. L. It is impossible to go into details of the attractions of these charming sheets, but we feel sure they will command an extended circulation among an appreciative public.

American yellow pine is a great favorite for wooden pavements in Berlin.

Thousands of cattle are dying from "Texas fever" in Oklahoma and Indian Territory.

Complaints come from North Dakota about the intense heat, which is ruining the crops.

The number of suicides in the United States last year, as closely as can be figured, was 7,000.

Earthquake shocks of a violent nature were felt in various parts of Tennessee on Saturday evening.

Florida has \$12,000,000 invested in the orange business, and the sales this year were a fourth of that big sum.

A special to the *Inter-Ocean* from Grafton, Dak., says the wheat crop of Dakota is 30,000,000 bushels short.

Max O'Rell, it is said, is coming to this country to lecture again next year. His first engagement is in Boston in January next.

Edison has invented an "ore separator" which attracts from a moving mass of earth and crushed rock, by a powerful magnet, such portions as contain metal.

The Wichita man who sells a glass of beer is fined \$500. The Wichita man who cruelly beats his wife is fined \$10. Thus it will be seen that there are various degrees of prohibition even in Kansas.

The *World* prints a letter from King Mataafa, stating that the war and hurricane in Samoa have caused a famine, and expressing the hope that Americans will send aid to the unfortunate Samoans.

According to Boston papers there is a new feature of life in the Universal Hub. It is the business girl. She isn't afraid of a man, she dresses faultlessly, looks her prettiest, has a soft voice, and does not flirt during business hours.

A tremendous land slide occurred near Miles City on the Northern Pacific Railway. A high alkali bank suddenly gave way and a mass of earth for a distance of 500 feet slid down into the Yellowstone river, completely burying the railroad.