

# THE WEEK'S NEWS

CANADIAN.

Chatham council has decided to abolish market fees.  
The next Dominion census will be taken April 4th, 1891.

John R. Fraser, father of Hon. C. F. Fraser, died at Brockville on Tuesday, aged 86.  
It is proposed to supply St. Catharines with natural gas, piped from Port Colburn.

Southwestern Manitoba farmers buy coal from the Turtle Mountain mines for \$1 a ton.  
The lumber business has an unprecedented boom at Rat Portage and Keewatin this season.

The Club National, of Montreal, last week passed a resolution favoring Canadian independence.

Hon. William Cayley, formerly Inspector General of Canada, died on Sunday in Toronto, aged 83.

A verdict of murder has been found by the coroner's jury against Henry Smith, London, Ont., for killing his wife.

Miss Fowler, who is on her way to nurse the Sandwich Island lepers, has a brother on a farm near Winnipeg.

The Duke of Connaught and his party will leave Yokohama by s.s. Abyssinia for Victoria, B.C., on May 8th.

Valmor Sauve, a pretty little page of the Dominion House of Commons was killed the other day while tobogganing.

Fifteen families from New York State passed through Montreal on Saturday en route for British Columbia to settle.

Mr. R. A. Lucas, the well-known wholesale grocer, of Hamilton, will succeed the late Mr. Plumb in the Senate.

Northwest stockmen are wishing a change in the weather to clear the ground of the tremendous fall of snow on the ranges.

It is reported at Boston that the steamer Dominion from that port for Nova Scotia has been lost, and that all on board perished.

Aldermen Eden and McCarron, of Charlottetown, P. E. I., are serving sentences in jail for third offences under the Scott Act.

Lieut-Governor Royal proposes to go to the Mormon settlement in the Northwest to inquire into alleged polygamous practices.

A young Englishman named Harvey W. G. Philpot, was instantly killed by the electric light wires in Quebec last week.

Two young Englishmen in Winnipeg uttered a forged cheque for \$150 and struck for Dakota, where they were promptly arrested.

An association for the preservation of places of historical interest or beauty throughout Ontario was organized in Toronto yesterday.

The Montreal Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals is proceeding against a wealthy Quebec farmer for dishonoring cattle.

Lord Salisbury and Mr. Gladstone are interested in a movement in London to send over to Toronto University gifts of books for the library.

The telephone cable laid by the Canadian Government between Pelee Island and Point Pelee earned 32 cents more than running expenses last year.

Mr. Tupper, Minister of Marine and Fisheries, left Ottawa Monday afternoon for Washington, to represent Canada in the fisheries negotiations.

Frederick A. Walton, the Dallas, Texas, boodler who skipped to Canada with \$35,000 of other people's money, was arrested in St. John, N. B., on Saturday night.

The annual report of the Department of Marine says the Georgian Bay survey, which is still progressing, and will not be finished for three years, has so far cost \$123,906.

Samuel Scarlett, a prominent Orangeman and well-to-do farmer of the Township of McMillan, County Huron, was trampled to death by a steer in his own yard on Saturday.

The International Law and Order League of America brought its annual meeting to a close in Toronto on Monday evening. The next annual assembly will be held in Pittsburgh on November 20.

Mr. Chas. Bremner, of Bressay, N. W. T., threatens to sue Gen. Sir Fred Middleton, Hayter Reed, and Sam Bedson for \$5,000, the value of furs looted from him during the North-West rebellion.

Major-General Strange, who has returned to Ottawa from his Australian trip, says that colony seeks closer relations with Canada, and is strongly supporting the Imperial Federation scheme.

Lieutenant-Governor McLelan opened the Nova Scotia Provincial Legislature on the 19th inst. The speech from the throne stated that the business of the Crown Lands department was unusually large last year.

According to the Railway report laid on the table of the House of Commons last week, there are 12,162 miles of railway now in operation in the Dominion, which last year yielded a profit over expenses of \$30,652,046. The total loss on the Government railways was \$345,521.

Major McGibbon, inspector of Agencies and Reserves in the North-West, at present in Ottawa, reports a great improvement on the Indian reserves in the matter of better dwellings and advancement in farming, and as a consequence of the former the health of the Indians is much better than formerly.

The Scotch and Welsh Home Rulers have agreed to co-operate.  
Mr. Gladstone is rapidly recovering from his catarrhal trouble.

England has promised to be represented at the Berlin labor conference.  
It is stated that fifty curates are about to sail for Nyassaland from Scotland.

Sir William Vernon Harcourt will contest the seat of the Marquis of Hartington at the general election.  
Lord Tennyson is suffering from a severe attack of influenza, and his condition is considered very serious.

*Le Temps* says that if England joins the labor conference proposed by the emperor of Germany it will be held, but if she refuses it will collapse.  
The Socialists in London, Eng., held a public meeting last week, and passed a vote of thanks to the emperor of Germany for the imperial rescripts.

Mr. Joseph G. Biggar, the well-known Home Ruler and member of the Imperial House of Commons for West Cavan, died on Feb. 19th.

Mr. Henry Campbell, M. P., Mr. Parnell's private secretary, has received an apology and £500 for a libel contained in the Belfast *News Letter*.

It is stated that the Duke of Cambridge will resign the command of the army but will not be succeeded by any member of the Royal family.

Seventy arrests were made on Friday at Newbridge, county Kildare, of persons engaged in re-erecting the houses of evicted tenants on the Clangory estate. The police dispersed the crowds.

The election on Wednesday to fill the vacancy in the House of Commons for Middle Glamorganshire, caused by the death of Mr. Talbot, resulted in the return of Mr. Evans (Liberal), who was unopposed.

A cablegram makes the very improbable statement that Lord Salisbury has proposed to M. Waddington against French intrigues in Canada, the object of which is the separation of this country from Great Britain.

There is considerable excitement in Imperial Parliamentary circles over an allegation by Mr. Joseph Chamberlain, M. P., that the Gladstonians have made a compact with the Parnellites to the prejudice of unemancipated education.

The amendments made in the extradition treaty between Great Britain and the United States are of such an important character that they will have to be submitted to the English Government for ratification before the treaty goes into force.

After a debate on the labor question, in which Mr. Bradlaugh opposed an amendment favoring the shortening of the hours of labor as premature, the address in reply to the Queen's speech was adopted in the Imperial Parliament on Thursday.

UNITED STATES.  
The Montana Legislature has adjourned after sitting ninety days, and not passing a single bill.

Malignant diphtheria is epidemic at Avonlington, Ohio, and the public schools have been closed.

The breaking of a dam in Arizona caused a flood in which forty persons are known to have been drowned.

The American donations to the Land League in Ireland received during the last fortnight sum up \$50,000.

There is starvation among the miners of the Lehigh Valley Coal Company, who have been thrown out of work by the closing of the mines.

The Jung and Crescent breweries at Cincinnati have passed into the hands of an English syndicate for nearly one million dollars cash.

Rev. Henry Duncan, a white minister of the Freewill Baptist denomination, was hanged at Ozark, Ala., on Friday for poisoning his wife.

A Boston, Massachusetts statistician, calculates that 64,000,000 drinks of Boston-made rum are annually exported for African consumption.

Jeremiah O'Donnell, found guilty of attempting to bribe the Cronin jury, at Chicago, was sentenced on Saturday to three years in the penitentiary.

John Jacob Astor, who died in New York on Saturday, left wealth estimated at \$150,000,000, the bulk of which will go to his son William W. Astor.

A shipment of mackerel, caught on the shores of Africa, has just reached Provincetown, Mass. The fish are said to be fully as good as American mackerel.

William Cameron, formerly of London, Ont., who a couple of years ago stole \$40,000 from the Union Bank in Winnipeg, died in Sioux City, Minn., recently.

A Russian, thinking himself about to die, at Pierre, S. D., confessed that he was a Russian exile, and was implicated in an attempt to blow up the Czar.

Washington's birthday, Feb. 22nd, was generally observed in the States on Saturday, and in Paris the United States Consul-General gave a grand reception.

Mr. John Dillon and Sir Thomas Gattan Esmonde, Home Rulers, arrived in San Francisco from their Australian tour on Friday evening, and were accorded a hearty welcome.

John F. Seymour died at Utica, N. Y., on Saturday, aged 76. He was a brother of the Hon. Horatio Seymour, and acted as his private secretary during his term as governor of the state.

Dr. J. T. Blackburn and Dr. W. E. Grant, prominent physicians of Louisville, Ky., were the other night captured, along with two negroes, in the act of robbing graves at New Albany cemetery.

Miss Regina Rothschild will leave Port Townsend, Washington, on March 17 in an attempt to beat Nellie Bly's time in a race around the globe. She will take the Canadian Pacific railway eastward.

The manufacturers of lard in their testimony in Washington admitted that the lard exported is compounded and not genuine lard, but they claim that it is of pure material, and that they now label it as compounded.

A Washington despatch indicates that New England farmers are agitating for more protection against Canadian competition in garden produce; and a special effort is urged against the industrious Canadian hen. Canadian eggs are at present on the free list.

IN GENERAL.  
The influenza has been very severe among the British troops in Egypt.

The French finance minister wants \$140,000,000 to balance his budget.  
Secret negotiations to induce Portugal to propose the Pope as arbitrator of her dispute with Great Britain failed.

Agents of the East African Lakes Co. are said to have provoked the Makololo to make reprisals on the Portuguese.  
A terrible famine is feared in Japan. By the abnormal advance in the price of rice dire distress has been caused.

The Kaiser has ordered the preparation of reports on the labor situation in England and America for comparison.

King Charles of Wurtemberg, who will be 67 on the 6th of March next, is dying. He ascended the throne in 1864.

The Spaniards are alarmed at the intentions of the British Government to build a dry-dock in Port of Gibraltar.

The pope has written the Emperor William a letter of thanks for the law exempting Catholic priests from conscription.  
There is said to be an outcry throughout Italy against the expenditure on the army and for a return to the Pope's temporal reign.

It is stated that Russia and the United States have declined to take part in the Emperor of Germany's proposed labor conference.

Lord Knutsford, Colonial Secretary in London, has advised that the royal assent be given to the Victoria (Australia) divorce bill.

A Belgian senator proposes that at the Berlin labor conference a general disarmament by the nations of Europe.

Russia has demanded 3,000,000 roubles from Bulgaria, being the amount due for maintenance of troops during occupation under the Berlin treaty.

Yellow fever is reported to be playing havoc in the province of Para, Brazil. At Cometa one-third of the population has been carried off within six weeks.

The trial of a journalistic blackmailer in Berlin has led to some terrible scandals, in which prominent society people at the German capital are the principals.

Louise Michel, the noted intransigent, has announced her intention of going out to New Caledonia to nurse the lepers, of whom there are three thousand in the penal colony.

It is stated that the Emperor of Germany has resolved to introduce a complete system of physical culture in addition to mental training in the German system of education.

Emmeline Pankhurst writes that she has declined the khedive's offer of the governorship of Eastern Sudan, and that he is resolved to return to Wadiala and reconquer that country for Germany.

The electors for members of the Portuguese Chamber of Deputies have been fixed for March 27th. Serpa Pinto and other Portuguese African explorers are favorite candidates of the progressist party.

## Undesirable Emigrants.

A kind heart is not always accompanied by a wise head. This statement is borne out by many facts and in particular, by the action of a society of English ladies, who have organized themselves together for the purpose of interviewing criminals, on their release from prison with the view to persuading them to go out to the colonies and lead a life of honesty and usefulness.

That they do persuade many to leave the old country is manifest, but that any great proportion of these jail birds keep their promise in the matter of honest work is very doubtful. Only the other day the Montreal authorities had to deal with a trio of these young scoundrels.

On pronouncing sentence Judge Dugas referred to the fact of the increasing number of young ladies who are sent out to Canada from the old country only to jump into the meshes of the law as soon as they reach the shores of the Dominion. He questioned the wisdom of the so-called philanthropy and remarked, that while it was the means of relieving the old country of its worst criminals it simply foisted them upon us. Canada welcomes any and all good citizens who may feel disposed to make their home among us, but she has scorn enough of her own without taking the filth of any other country.

## Imperial Federation.

Members of the Imperial Federation League in Canada will be especially interested in a resolution recently passed in the Birmingham Chamber of Commerce. At a meeting in December the circular addressed by the Council of the League to the various Chambers of Commerce was considered by the Council of the Birmingham Chamber, and the following resolution was passed unanimously:—"That whilst the Council approve of the objects of the Imperial Federation League as set forth in their circular of November 13th last, they are of opinion that the primary essential condition of Imperial Federation is a Customs union of the Empire."

This view expressed by such a body confirms and gives an added significance to the strong opinion on the subject expressed in the resolution of the Council of the League in this country, which went so far as to regret the holding of any Conference "at which the question of inter-Imperial and Colonial trade would not be deemed a question of first-class importance."

However prickly a subject, it looks as if there was no likelihood that it would be left untouched in the next Conference for lack of some one bold enough to grasp the nettle.

## A Christian Housewife.

"I wonder who lived last in this house," said a gentleman to his better half as they took a survey in company of the house they had just moved into.

"I don't know," replied she; "but the lady, whoever she was, must have been a Christianian."

"What makes you think so?" asked he.

"Why," was the reply, "she left no rubbish in the cellar!"

Not a bad guess; for that housewife evidently practiced the Golden Rule.

The slot machine to test your weight is one of the weights of the world.

Gilroy's metropolitans, his cream rolls and his branny snaps are noted for their excellence. The trade at 281 Gerrard east is steadily increasing, owing to the high quality of the goods manufactured. The home-made candy also grows steadily in favor and well deserves such appreciation.

Exasperated by the repeated and flagrant violation of the liquor laws on the part of the saloon keepers of Lathrop, Missouri, some of the women of that little town have taken the law into their own hands and have instituted a crusade against the destroyers of their peace and of their homes. The plan of campaign which they have adopted is to enter the saloons, and seizing the vessels containing liquor, to empty them in the streets.

They are said to be backed by a considerable portion of the male population, and are setting the offices of the law at defiance. Though the provocation has no doubt been great—for what can be more crazing than to see a son dragged down to ruin before his mother's eyes—it is unfortunate that these crusaders should have disregarded the right of protection against house-breaking and stealing which these violators of the liquor laws undoubtedly have. Such illegal proceedings are calculated to do the cause of Temperance more harm than good. No cause is ever permanently advanced or benefited by unconstitutional and illegitimate methods.

# CHARLES DICKENS.

**A Novelist for Every Day, Date and Place.**  
The subject of this sketch was born in England in 1812. His father intended that he should follow the profession of law, but finding after a short trial that the work was distasteful to him, he soon left it for the more interesting duties of reporter on a London newspaper.

This position bringing him into daily contact with a large mass of humanity, each individual of which possessed some distinguishing peculiarity, his great power of observation and his rich vein of humor soon suggested to him the idea of contributing to the journal upon which he was employed some of the more prominent traits and eccentricities of people whom he met, under the title of Sketches of Life and Character.

These, written in the free and easy manner so natural to Dickens, attracted considerable attention, and when, a short time after, his Posthumous Papers of the Pickwick Club came out, it was received with unbounded delight. Everybody was soon talking and laughing over the adventures of Sam Weller and Mr. Pickwick. The success this work attained led him to continue his writings, and soon Nicholas Nickleby, Oliver Twist, Old Curiosity Shop, and Barnaby Rudge followed in rapid succession from his pen.

His keen sense of humor, his caricature of all that was eccentric and peculiar, his tender sympathy with all the suffering of the poverty-stricken classes with whom he daily came in contact, and his broad, humane nature, which enabled him to interpret at a glance all the emotions of joy or pathos which filled the human breast, as well as the causes which led thereto, combined at once to make him the most able writer of fiction who had yet appeared before the reading public.

He was an earnest and industrious worker, and volume followed volume with great rapidity from his pen, each succeeding volume seeming better than the last. After completing the above-mentioned works he made a visit to this country where his popularity had preceded him, and upon his return home wrote his remaining books. Martin Chuzzlewit has been regarded as a caricature of Americans and American institutions, holding up as it does against a strong light many of our national follies and vices.

That he exaggerated our follies probably no one will doubt; but it is only in keeping with his general style, for all of his characters are exaggerations. He sets forth prominently the peculiar traits of character and dwarfs into comparative insignificance all that is more common and natural.

Although his humor is of the drollest and bubbles up continually all through his works, it is not to it alone that he is indebted for his great popularity. His plots are all well drawn and his pathos is fully equal if not superior to his humor. Where, in the whole realm of fiction can be found a more touching scene than the death bed of "Little Paul" in *Dombey and Son*? We do not read of it—we are there in person. We see Floy place her head beside him on the pillow, and we hear him tell her in weak, gentle accents, about which the river flows so rapidly, and which seizes him away; we see the sunlight glancing on the walls, we see the heavy silent form lying motionless at the foot of the bed, and we hear the constant tread of footsteps in the street, listening to their echoes as they die away in the distance in an imagination so strong as to seem reality.

The character of Mr. Pegotty in *David Copperfield* is also a strong one, and the heart of the reader which does not thrill with sympathy for that honest man in his weary wanderings and desolation, should be made of stern stuff indeed. Many other characters are strongly drawn, for instance, Betsey Trotwood, Dr. Strong and James Steerforth, in the same volume. We have all met just such characters in real life, and it is the fact of their resembling to so great a degree human beings of the present day which gives to the works of this gifted author their chief charm.

We do not feel that they are imaginary characters, they are real persons with whom we have met and been on the most friendly terms.

The broad, kindly, humane character of Charles Dickens is shadowed forth through his works, and we recognize him at once as a friend. We admit him through his works to our fireside circle, happy indeed that so genial a companion should consent to enter our humble dwellings.

LUCIA C. WOODS.

## Slavery in Africa.

One suggestion has been made, which is worth mentioning as coming from an able writer, who, as a negro *purveyor*, and acquainted with West Africa, has a special right to be heard on the question. Dr. Blyden suggests the establishment of black regiments with native officers, under, as we understand him, the British flag, to be stationed at important trading centres in the interior. We have been so accustomed by writers like the author of the biography before us to connect slavery and all the miseries of Africa with Islam alone, that we are apt to forget what a large portion of African slavery is carried on among the heathen negro tribes who have nothing to do with Islam at all. It seems, indeed, an inherent propensity of the race.

Prof. Henry Drummond says that you cannot send three negroes with a message but two of them will seize the third man and sell him. And the main object of this domestic slave trade makes it more horrible still, for a large proportion of the victims are purchased for the purpose of sacrifice, not less than half a million of lives, it is said, being thus consumed yearly. It is sometimes suggested that the practice of selling prisoners of war at all events saves them from being massacred, but there does not seem to be much in this argument, since most of the wars are probably undertaken for the sake of capturing slaves.

It is obvious, if only from the vast extent of the regions involved, that this internal slave trade could never be counteracted by the gradual operation of the great chartered companies, as the British East African and the Niger Company, who will encourage legitimate industry and, especially if backed up when needful by our own Government, will make war more difficult for the tribes under their control.

Everything is twice as large, measured on a 3-year-old's 3-foot scale as on a 30-year-old's 6-foot scale.—[O. W. Holmes.]

The very consciousness of trying for real excellence in anything is a great support. It takes the sting from failure and doubles the joy of success.

# LORD AND LADY.

**A Romance of the British Peasage.**  
A London specialist says—The young Countess Russell has recovered from the results of her fall downstairs and the happy pair have proceeded on their honeymoon. There is a romantic story connected with their marriage, which reads thus: Earl Russell is a partner in the electrical works at Teddington, near the house in which Lady Scott lives, and is an enthusiastic worker in the business, which he constantly supervises.

Lady Scott ordered some electrical fittings at the works and Lord Russell took a gang of men over to the house and set to work, dressed in ordinary mechanic fashion, as foreman of the gang. When lunch time came the men were set down to refresh themselves in the servant's hall and his lordship sat down quietly with the rest to eat. However, "Baby" Scott, as the young heiress of the house was called, had noticed the superior bearing and manners of the supposed young foreman and begged her mother to ask him to lunch in the parlor.

At first the old lady was indignant at the idea of bringing a mere temporary foreman into a position of temporary equality, but in the end gave way to "Baby's" pleadings, and the supposed workman was promoted to the upper chamber, where he made himself so much at home that he won the romantic mood of the young lady, who, in a romantic mood, suffered the handsome young mechanic to whisper in her ear while she blushed responsibly. Chaperone meetings followed with the usual result.

The young couple met, loved and were plighted before Lady Scott was aware of her daughter's rash folly. When a rumor of the state of things reached the maternal ear, her ladyship hurried off to the electrical works on vengeance bent and enquired of the first man she met for the audacious young foreman. "Foreman, my lady," answered the workman. "Bless your art, my lady. That 'wast no foreman, that's our master." "Then your master is a very impudent, presuming fellow," cried her ladyship in a rage. "What's his name?" "Hearl Russell, my lady, and a downright good one he is, too, and knows his trade as if he weren't no lord at all, but a real knight of labor."

The old lady was thunderstruck, and the next time the earl met his loved one he was reproached with his stratagem. The earl excused himself on the old plea that he wanted to be loved for himself alone, without the glamor of rank and riches. The maiden asked him if he was convinced of her truth. He answered in the legitimate manner, and together they faced the mother, who received them graciously, protesting that she had seen his native nobility through the coarse disguise of a fustian jacket. Then came a formal betrothal, then the wedding, afterwards the accident, and now the honeymoon. Lady Russell is a very pretty blonde and only 21.

## A Dog's Value to a Railroad.

A valuable railroad "hand," who, in spite of his services, probably receives no salary, is thus described in the *Scientific American*. He resides at Salida, Col., and belongs to an engineer of the Denver & Rio Grande railroad.

"Napoleon has been engaged for the last two and a half years in helping his master run locomotive No. 86. His apprenticeship began at the age of 6 months, and he can now go into the round-house, where twenty-eight engines are kept, single out and mount his own machine, and, in the absence of his master and the fireman, defend it against all intruders. He rides on the fireman's side of the cab, with both his front paws and his head hanging out of the window, intently watching the track."

"He often scents cattle at a long distance. When they appear in sight he becomes greatly excited and looks first at them and then at his master, as though trying to make the latter understand the gravity of the situation.

"On a nearer approach to them he gives a cry similar to that of a human being. If it is necessary to come to a full stop he bounds out of the cab, runs ahead, and drives the trespassers out of harm's way.

"When it is desirable to communicate with the pumping-stations, frequently at long distances from the track, a note is written and given to the dog, who delivers it and speedily returns with a reply."

"He readily interprets signals to start from his own engine, but pays no more attention to the whistles and bells of other locomotives than to the cattle which are safely grazing by the roadside. If accidentally left at any of the stations he returns to Salida by the next train."

## Little Things of Importance.

If you are a moderate drinker never take a cocktail before breakfast to brace up on. Liquor on an empty stomach acts as slow poison to the digestive organs.

If you are a literary man, always place your name and address legibly on one of the upper corners of the first page of your MS. Your accompanying note may readily become lost or mislaid, especially in handling a large mail; but if necessary directions be placed on MS. itself, the editor will never be a loss how to communicate with you.

If you are a dog-owner, don't give your dog sulphur in his water, with the idea that you will do him any good; though, if you disobey this injunction, you may comfort yourself with the reflection that you have done him no harm. Brimstone is insoluble in water, and passes through the system without any medicinal effect what ever.

If you are a nervous man, don't borrow trouble. People are rarely driven insane by actual sorrows, but the anticipation of them. The greatest calamity is not so maddening as suspense. "I have had a great deal of trouble in this life" said a wise man, "and most of it never came." Wait until it comes, and maybe it won't come at all.

If you are a smoker and don't own a cigarette case, carry your cigars in your upper waistcoat pocket, on the left, with the mouth-end down. The constant motion of the right arm (presuming you are right-handed) is sure to crush the tobacco or loosen the wrapper, if the cigar be on the right side, and the same result is more readily attained with the match-end down. If you have to let a cigar go out, do not pull in the last puff, but blow it through the burning end. This expels the nicotine that would otherwise gather at the mouth, and prevents the cigar from having a rank taste. Indeed, smokers question whether a cigar is not improved by this method of reducing it to an "old soldier."