

NEWS OF THE WEEK.

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The elections for the Municipal Council of the County of Halifax will be held on Tuesday the 20th inst.

Halifax customs receipts for October were \$174,357, an increase of \$19,000 over October of last year.

The steamer *Thingvalla* sailed for New York on Wednesday. The cost of repairs, storage of cargo, etc., amounts to about \$60,000.

It is reported that the 10th of January has been decided upon by the Quebec government as the date of the opening of the session of the local legislature.

The Montreal Grand Jury has found a true bill against a young ruffian named Alfred Bellanger for the murder of the unfortunate girl Emma Genereux.

Mr. Davis will start a glass factory in Napance and give employment to 500 men if he gets a loan of \$10,000 from the council and exemption from taxation for ten years.

We are glad to learn that it is the intention of the S. P. C., through their agent Mr. Naylor, to take further steps in the brutal affair which resulted in the death of Mrs. Selig.

We are glad to see the *Chronicle* urging action on the part of Halifax in the matter of securing an Atlantic mail service of greater speed than the funeral-pace line on which we are now dependent.

The Manitoba Grand Jury found no bills in Messrs. Greenway and Martins citation of the *Free Press* and *Call* for libel. It is thought probable the prosecutors will ask for a Parliamentary commission.

We are in receipt of some lines of poetry ("Raindrops") which we have no objection to publish if we are furnished with the name and address of the writer. Our poetical, and other contributors will please note this necessity.

King's College Record has an adaptation of the old verses about the "Spider and the Fly," to an English collegiate incident. Will any of our versifying friends try their hands on the old fable apropos of the United States and Canada?

The Halifax City Council met last week, and considered the qualification of Alderman Smith, whose right to sit in the civic body had been brought in question. It would appear that other members of the Council were found to be in the same predicament, and it was thought expedient to let this too delicate subject drop.

Lunenburg has already been proclaimed as an incorporated town under the act passed last session by the Provincial Legislature, and Amherst and Springhill have taken steps to the same end. In both these cases an appeal has been made against the boundaries fixed by the Sheriff of Cumberland, and the Attorney General has proceeded to investigate the matter on behalf of the Government.

Mr. P. G. Laurie, of the *Battleford Herald*, is in Ottawa, and has had an interview with the Minister of the Interior. He says that around Battleford the crops this year were simply wonderful. The farmers had finished their fall plowing before he started east. Wheat is selling at Battleford for 85 cents a bushel, and nearly the whole of the crop in that region had been purchased by local millers.

King's College Record for October contains an interesting account by Prof. Roberts, of the courage with which, when a young graduate, he surmounted a very natural impulse of superstitious fear, and proved that what he "was almost persuaded" was the apparition of a man hanging in a barn, where he had, years before, committed suicide, was a harmless agricultural implement. The number is also adorned by a very sweet little poem, "A Light Withdrawn," by Miss Roberts.

It is feared that the repair of the break in the Cornwall Canal, has, after all, been undertaken on a wrong principle, by simply throwing in loose stones and earth. It is now the opinion of engineers and others that piles ought to have been driven as a support, as the stones and earth sink down and are forced out into the river. The del. will be a serious matter as a large number of craft are awaiting transit, and it is now doubtful if any more boats will be able to go through the canal this fall.

"Systematic Giving," a somewhat attractive looking pamphlet of some 65 pages, by Mrs. C. O. Hosterman, (Halifax, Theakston & Co., printers,) is, if not a very fresh presentation of a well-worn subject, an excellent treatise from an orthodox point of view. The subject matter is perhaps a little overrated in importance, not so much by Mrs. Hosterman, as by more pretentious ethicists, whose attempts to dictate to private judgment the manner in which it should give alms, is sometimes impertinent.

The notice we intended to give the *Maritime Medical News* was crowded out last week. We are now glad to record our conviction that the new journal will effectively fill a void which ought not to have existed so long. We have carefully scanned the contents of the initial number, and consider they are of a decided value, which is almost certain to increase. We especially notice the tendency of certain New Brunswick legislation to impose on medical practitioners an amount of police duty, which no legislature has a right to impose on a scientific profession without payment.

Halifax has shipped to Europe 36,000 barrels of apples this season against 6,000 barrels for the same period last year. Eastern Nova Scotia has yet to come to the front as a fruit producing region.

Says the *S. John Globe*, "some of the Canadian ministers, as well as Mr. Weldon, M. P., Mr. Simeon Jones, and Mr. R. O'Brien, of the *Globe*, are in New York, noting how a presidential and general election is carried on. Every four years Canadians are becoming more eager to learn the intricacies of United States elections; and doubtless to some of the gentlemen now learning, the lesson will be of practical utility before they square their earthly accounts. The world is moving very fast." Undoubtedly, but not in the direction the *Globe* wishes, and the lesson which the gentlemen named will learn will probably be one which will give them an exceeding distaste to American sentiments and American methods.

We copy the following notice from the *Halifax Herald*, and add our congratulations that our old friend, having on the score of really ill health resigned the collectorship of customs, has since recovered so much that his undoubted enterprise will not be lost to the country. "Marshall Bourinot, of Port Hawkesbury, is in the city. For some years he has been in ill-health, but has recovered, and is again taking a hand in developing coal areas. Mr. B. has had a long and extensive experience in this line, and at one time was a large owner of valuable coal mines and areas. He opened the Blockhouse mine as long ago as 1857. Subsequently he sold out to Mr. Belloni and entered into other speculations, which were upset by the imposition of American duties. Advantage was taken in 1870 to forfeit these areas."—*Antigonish Casket*.

A train to New Orleans has been plundered to the amount of \$45,000 by a gang of armed robbers.

It is reported that the fleet of 13 whalers shut in by ice on the coast of Siberia have been enabled to effect their escape. It is said that a gale springing up broke up the ice. It is to be hoped this intelligence is correct.

It was a thoughtful act of Mrs. Grover Cleveland during a Democratic parade in New York, amid all the excitement, to send word to the marshals not to let their bands play while passing the New York hotel, lest the playing might disturb Mrs. James G. Blaine, jr., who lay sick and miserable there. Even from a political standpoint the act was a clever, graceful one, and will undoubtedly enhance the popularity of the "first lady of the land."

Frank Day, a young Canadian has been stabbed and killed at Chicago, by an unknown man who is still at large. Day, with two friends, met a party of three all more or less intoxicated. As they passed the stranger shouted "Hurrah for Cleveland." Day turned round and shouted back in a spirit of fun "What's the matter with Harrison?" The strangers immediately assaulted him and several blows were struck. A moment later one of the strangers plunged a dirk knife into Day's breast.

The Police sloop *Mary Compton* discovered last week about four hundred boats dredging on the oyster bar off Swan Point, near Baltimore. She sailed down, and when within hailing distance the crews of the dredgers opened fire on the State boat. The *Compton* returned the fire and several of the schooners were dismantled but they refused to move on. Reinforced by the steamer *McLane*, the *Compton* again attacked the dredgers and they gave way. Next day they again appeared on the bar in full force, and the *Compton* once more gave battle. A hot fight lasted all day. One of the schooners was sunk by a cannon ball and a number of dredgers wounded.

The seizure of the American steamer *Haytian Republic* has become an international episode. Secretary Bayard officially announces that the department had received information of a similar purport from the United States minister at Port-au Prince and has instructed him to protest instantly against the action of the Haytian authorities and has informed him that a man-of-war will be ordered to proceed to the Haytian waters as soon as possible. Not long ago a British vessel was also seized by a Haytian man-of-war, but as she was said to be loaded with "contrabands of war," it is to be presumed her capture will not result in any inimical action by the British Government.

The great election is over and General Harrison will be President of the United States, if he lives, till 1893. The success of either candidate makes but little difference to Canada as matters stand. The greatest factor in the result has no doubt been the tariff question, though the indiscretion of Lord Sackville probably added to the Republican majority, on which account the Democrats, had they been successful, would not have felt any the better disposed towards England. Notwithstanding the rubbish of the *New York Herald* about capturing Bermuda and Halifax, and a good deal of similar stuff, we venture to predict that the screams of the great eagle will moderate, and to hope that the poor old lion may be allowed a little respite to anoint and bandage his bruised and much twisted tail.

A fortnight ago we chronicled the fact that 50,000 working men were unemployed, and likely to be so during the winter, in Chicago, and now a census of workmen unemployed in the city of Pittsburg, Pa., gives a total of 30,000. These are not men on strike, or out of work owing to temporary causes, but men unable to procure employment on any terms in consequence of there being nothing for them to do. Contrast the seventy odd citizens of Pittsburg each worth from a million dollars upwards, and this great army of 30,000 able-bodied men, with their following of wives and children who are ragged and on the verge of starvation at the beginning of winter. The experience of Pittsburg, is that of nearly all the large centres of population in the United States. Such is the country our Commercial Unionists would have our fair Dominion with its boundless resources given over to,