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THE COLONIST.

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ONE DOLLAR A YEAR.

Notes and Comments.

THERE are in Manitoba and the North-west Territories 25,176 Indians.

A NEW and very destructive wheat pest called the frit fly has been discovered in Northern Minnesota.

THE Bank of Japan has declared an ordinary dividend of 6 per cent. and a special dividend of 9 per cent.

THE Manitoba Government is reported to have purchased a team of elk for exhibition at the World's Fair.

THE people of the Okanagan district, British Columbia are considering a scheme to establish a corps of mounted infantry.

A SIXTY thousand dollar shipment of seal skins was made from Vancouver on the 25th of September, bound for England.

MR. STEEL, of Steel & Wing, photographers, Winnipeg, will start shortly on a photographic tour through the Northwest.

PUBLIC prayers are being offered up for rain in Foochow, China, that the rice crop may not be a failure, as it now threatens to be.

THE Dominion Government have sent their Icelandic immigration agent at Winnipeg to Iceland, to promote immigration to Western Canada.

AMONG our literary notices this month we have one on the Toronto *Empire's* new premium. This would direct the special attention of our readers.

LIEUT. NORDMANN of the gunboat Wolf has received a medal from the German Emperor for saving the life of a Chinese girl in the Pearl river at Canton.

KULM is the name of the new town at the terminus of the Soo extension on the Organ claim in Dickey county, N.D. The new town has already begun to boom on a small scale.

A TEACHERS' convention of Southern Manitoba is to be held at Maniton on 20th, 21st and 22nd of October. A prominent educationist from Ontario will be present to address the meetings.

IN 1890 eight persons were sentenced to death in Canada. Four of these professed the faith of the Church of England, two claimed to be Protestants, one was a Baptist and one a Roman Catholic.

MANITOBA is to have a fine exhibit at the World's Fair if all goes well. A work-room has

been secured in Winnipeg in which a number of men will be employed until next spring in arranging and classifying samples of all the various products of the province. These will be shipped next spring to Chicago.

THE harvest in the Similkameen Valley is now over. The hay crop is good and stacked in good condition. There is not much grain threshed yet, but all kinds will yield abundantly. There is a larger area than usual this year under vegetables, and they are a crop of excellent quality. The fruit crop is splendid.

THE construction of the Siberian Railway is being pushed forward with considerable activity, and the hope is entertained that the stretch between Zlatoust and Tcheliabinsk will be open for traffic in December next. The sleepers and rails are being laid down on that section of the line situated along the Ussure River, in the extreme east of Siberia.—*Reuter*

ANOTHER party of farmer's delegates from the State of Michigan is now in Western Canada prospecting under the charge of Dominion Immigration Agent Anderson. Some of the party are going first to the Kettleford district and if that suits them will settle there; the others will visit various districts, before announcing their preference.

THE Northern Pacific Railway Company are pushing the improvement on their coast lines. Trestles are being filled in, permanent bridges built, the track straightened in a number of places and heavy grades cut down. The average grade on the company's lines, when this work is all completed, will according to its engineers, not be more than one-half per cent. except in the mountain division.

MR. HOWELLS will begin in the November *Cosmopolitan*, a department under the attractive title: "A Traveller from Altruria." Those who have seen the first two papers think they will equal in interest and in their wide appeal to all classes, the "Breakfast Table Papers" of Dr. Holmes. In order to give the necessary time to this work. Mr. Howells has turned over the detail editorial work to Mr. Walker.

THE Dominion Government are reported to have entered suit against the town of Port Arthur for the recovery of \$1,596, the amount of the duty on the street railway rails. The rails were allowed to be taken from the customs pending a decision as to whether they were dutiable or not, and now that it has been decided they are the town refuses to pay the duty.

LAST year it was noted that the statistics of shipbuilding both in the Old Country and the Canadian Maritime Provinces indicated that sailing vessels were coming again into fashion. This prediction is borne out by the latest figures, which show that during 1892 the sail tonnage built has been one-third more than last year, while steam tonnage has fallen off one-sixth. The smaller and cheaper craft are able, where time is not an object, to make much better rates to shippers than the ocean greyhounds. Everything has to come down to a money basis.

The North China Daily News reports that, "Her Britannic Majesty's Counsel at Hankow, Mr. C. Gardner, proposes to take a very important step towards stopping the further issue of anti-foreign placards in Hunan. He proposes to beard the Hunan lion in his den, by visiting the Governor of the province of Changsha, whither he will be conveyed by H.M.S. *Esk*, and we may be confident that the braggart voices of the Hunanese who have vowed that their sacred soil shall never be polluted by the armed foot of the foreigner, will be hushed to a respectful murmur when they see a British man-of-war at anchor in the river that bathes their capital. It is a bold and at the same time a very politic step, and we congratulate all the powers that be that have had to be consulted before it could be taken, on having decided on sending a British Counsel, and so able a man as Mr Gardner, in a British man-of-war into the heart of Hunan."

It is remarked by the clerk of forestry for Ontario that the high water level of the Georgian bay has lowered four feet during the last eight years. The reason given for this by some persons is the denuding of the forests by lumbermen at the head waters of the streams which flow into the lake. This may be nature's warning that we have been too extravagant with our timber resources. The *Canadian Lumberman*, discussing this question, says: "Carefully calculating what remains of wooded land in a large number of counties, and remembering especially its rich abundance in certain special districts, it will be granted that a timber famine is not yet imminent in Ontario. And yet one cannot consider the history of the thirty-two counties the forestry report has singled out for mention without being face to face with the fact that similar extravagance in the management of almost any other department of business, public or personal, would have long since resulted in disastrous bankruptcy."