

NEWS OF THE WEEK.

Subscribers remitting Money, either direct to the Office, or through Agents, will find receipt in next paper.

The theatricals given by the Wandorers at the Academy of Music on Tuesday evening last were most enjoyable, all the parts in the intricate play of "Engaged," being well sustained. The farce "Locked Out" created much amusement.

The reception given to Archbishop O'Brien upon his return from Rome, shows that His Grace is deservedly popular in Halifax. After upwards of four months absence, the Archbishop has returned in excellent health.

The coffee factory established by John Tobin and Co., will be a boon to our housekeepers, who prefer pure coffee to an article adulterated with chicory.

The Queen has notified Mr. Gladstone of her desire to have him avoid a dissolution of Parliament if possible. Gladstone has informed Her Majesty that his action must depend upon the support or opposition which his Home Rule measure may meet upon its second reading. A petition against Home Rule, signed by upwards of 100,000 Scotchmen, has been presented to Gladstone. The document weighed 274 pounds, the names occupying a space one and a quarter miles in length.

Members of the Church of England Institute contemplate erecting a suitable building on Barrington Street in the near future. \$16,000 will be required for this purpose, \$4,000 of which are already in hand.

The value of the export of fish from Newfoundland in 1884, when the population was 50,000, was greater than any subsequent period, and, although the population is now four times as great, the returns from the fisheries are much less. The distress in Newfoundland on account of the failure of the seal fisheries is due entirely to the careless manner in which the seal-hunt was carried on. The indiscriminate slaughter of the young white coat and old seals having caused a serious diminution in the supply of sea-calves.

We direct attention to the advertisement in another column of Libby McNeil and Libby's celebrated canned meats, for which Messrs. Wm. Ackhurst & Co. of this city, are agents for the Provinces. These goods are undoubtedly the finest packed and at present prices no cheaper food can be produced.

The report of Commissioner Miall, embodying the reports of the Dominion analysts for the year 1884 has been issued as Supplement III. to the report of the department of inland revenue. In all 1520 samples were analysed, of which 31 per cent. were adulterated, and about 3 per cent. were returned as doubtful. Mr. M. Bowman, the Halifax analyst, reports having examined 242 samples, of which 154 were genuine, 58 adulterated and three doubtful. Of 11 samples of breadstuffs, all were genuine, one only being of low quality. In butter he found a marked increase in adulteration, both from excess of salt and water, and the substitution of foreign fats. Many samples, also, though genuine butter, were of very inferior quality. Ninety-five per cent. of the samples of coffee he examined were adulterated, either with chicory or peas, or both. Mr. B. states that there is little demand in the Halifax market for coffee without the addition of more or less chicory. Halifax milk showed a decided increase in adulteration over 1883.

The *Pall Mall Gazette* gives the people of Halifax some good advice. After describing the great natural advantages of the port and stating that the proposed new graving dock will be the largest in the world, it says that the city would probably have a great future before it if its citizens had some of the energy that characterizes the founders of the Canadian Pacific Railway and would sink their individualism and work together for the interest of their city and port as well as for the welfare and progress of the great Dominion of Canada. The *Pall Mall Gazette* has struck the nail on the head. The people of Halifax are too sleepy and too provincial. If the city is ever to have a great future it will be because the people wake up to the fact that they are not an isolated community but a part of the Dominion of Canada for all time, and that the only way to secure prosperity is to be alive to the commercial opportunities of Canada.—*Montreal Star*.

OTTAWA, May 19.—Mr. Pope gives notice that on Friday next he will move the house into committee of the whole, to consider a resolution that it is expedient to provide that the minister of railways be authorized to construct a railway from a point on the Strait of Canso to Louisburg or Sydney as a public work; that the government railway act of 1881 shall apply to such work and that the location and all other incidents of the said work shall be determined by the governor-in-council. To-day Mr. Thompson laid on the table the plans and surveys of the railway, as prepared by surveyors last summer.

LONDON, May 19th.—Beech, the Australian Sculler, has accepted a challenge from Hamlan, for a race on the Thames.

Even the *St. Louis Globe-Democrat* (United States) admits that "ever since Confederation the Dominion of Canada has had at the head of its affairs men that would have acquired distinction in the United States or in Great Britain.

All should feel grateful for the care the City Board of Works at present bestows upon streets and sidewalks that are in need of attention.

The Haydn Club earned fresh laurels in its recent concert in the Academy of Music. This club has increased its membership from 5 to 13, and is no longer known as the Quintette Club. The rendition of 'The Overture to *Fra Diavola* was most pleasing, each movement displayed that nicety of finish which intelligent direction and careful practice can alone secure. The selections from *Pastorale* and the set of Waltzes which closed the concert, were played in good style, melodies on the Euphonium by Mr. Horseman and those on the Cornets by Messrs. L. N. and H. C. Croighton, being capital. The solos by Messrs. Ross and Mitchell and Miss O'Dell were well received. The violin concerto by Mr. Haydn was performed in a manner that did credit to this young and promising violinist. The vocal quartette "Thinking of Thee," was sung most sweetly. The novel feature of the concert was the Toy Symphony which much amused the audience. The full round tones of W. H. Johnson's Knabe Grand Piano was well brought out by Miss Page, the accompanist of the evening. The Haydn Club are to be congratulated upon the success of their concert, and should they repeat it they deserve to have the hall packed to the very gods.

Our valued correspondant "Veteran" must excuse the mistakes which occurred in his communication in answer to "Justice." In 14th line from bottom for "admirable" read "admissible," and in the line below, "but when death is claimed to have been found from Typhoid fever or Meningitis, etc.," read "but when death is claimed to have resulted from either Typhoid fever or Meningitis." We endeavor to have as few typographical errors in THE CRITIC as possible, but owing to a large amount of extra work during the past few weeks mistakes have been unavoidably overlooked.

The Province of Quebec, which has a revenue of a little less than \$3,000,000, uses nearly \$1,000,000 annually to pay the interest on her Public Debt, which amounts to \$20,000,000.

Mr. Mills and Sir John A. McDonald have had a tilt over the construction of the *Dominion Senate*, Mills wants the members of the Senate to be elected; Sir John believes that its present constitution is satisfactory. For ourselves, we believe second Chambers quite unnecessary, saving as affording convenient shelving-places for worn-out Politicians.

Fifteen persons were poisoned on Saturday and Sunday last by eating sausages purchased at a pork-shop in the North-end of Halifax. The manufacturer of the puddings is an honest man, and is at a loss to understand how any deleterious substance could have been used.

Last Saturday was a gala day in Windsor. The old Avon Bridge, connecting Falmouth and Windsor, was formally thrown open to the public as a free bridge. The event was dully celebrated by appropriate speech-making, flag-flying, band-playing, to say nothing of the salutes fired from the Ferry hill Battery. The privileges of a free bridge will be appreciated by the citizens of Windsor and Falmouth, but to judge from the broken-backed appearance of the present structure, its days are numbered.

Another American fishing vessel has been seized for violation of the Fisheries Treaty. The *Ella M. Doherty* was formally taken over in the name of the Queen, at St. Ann's, C. B., despite the protests of her captain.

The Peace Association in Britain is of the opinion that the present fishery dispute between Canada and the United States affords a most opportune opening for the application of the principles of the association. Negotiation and arbitration are the weapons they propose using and settling international difficulties.

A corps of mounted rifles is now being formed for service in the N. W. T. Such a corps would be popular among our young men in the Bay Shore Counties where good horse-flesh is appreciated.

Cape Breton makes an appeal for repeal, and Nova Scotia promises to heed the cry so soon as she shall have again set up house-keeping on her own account. Cape Breton has evidently turned her deaf ear Nova Scotia-wards, for she believes in the union with Canada.

A fox-hunt may be noble sport; but to let loose a pack of savage dogs upon a half-starved, half-tamed fox, as was recently done on the Halifax Common, is mean and cowardly. Surely the fishing and shooting about Halifax is not so bad that our young men must demean themselves by indulging in such cruel sport.

Canvassers for THE CRITIC are wanted in all parts of the Maritime Provinces. Liberal terms are given to agents, lady canvassers would find an agency for THE CRITIC both congenial and profitable. Several Public school teachers intend taking local agencies during the summer vacation, others should do likewise.

Mr. Robert Motton has been appointed Stipendiary Magistrate of Halifax. Mr. Motton is well and favorably known both in the city and province, and his appointment has given general satisfaction.

The University of Dalhousie, Halifax, is most fortunate. Not long since the chair of Philosophy was made vacant by the resignation of Dr. Schurman. The loss to the college was a serious one; but the Board of Governors have succeeded in securing the services of Mr. James Seth, who to judge from his diplomas must be a man of no mean ability.

A big three masted schooner of 1300 tons register was recently launched from one of the ship-yards in Bath, Mo.