

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 15. For \$2.50 in cash we undertake to send *The Critic* to any subscriber for one year, supplying him in addition with seventy-nine of the most readable of readable books. Those who are renewing their subscriptions, as well as new subscribers, should take advantage of this offer.

Sussex, N. B., is to have a model dairy.

Spring Hill has a modern Steam Laundry.

The Halifax delegation on the Short Line question arrived in Ottawa on the 22nd inst.

Frederick Scarfe has been nominated for the office of Warden of Dartmouth.

A new post office has been opened at Nictaux west, with G. D. Morse as postmaster.

Over \$225,000 was expended in building operations at the Sault Ste. Marie last year.

The first performance by the amateur dramatic club will take place on the 7th of February.

The evening star has been "a thing of beauty and joy" for the last two weeks in the western heavens.

The people of Amherst held a meeting last week and decided to have an exhibition there next autumn.

A maple tree at Spring Hill was tapped last week, with the result that three pints of sap were taken from it.

Sanford Fleming, C. M. G., has been elected chancellor of Queen's University for the fourth successive time.

Moncton is having its houses numbered, Main Street is nearly finished, and the figures are said to be very attractive.

Curling is having a remarkable boom in Ottawa, 100 members joining the Midian skating and curling club in three weeks.

It is said that Lady MacDonald is learning type-writing, and, in consequence, this accomplishment will soon become fashionable.

Rev. W. B. King will be inducted as rector of St. Luke's on Sunday next, the Bishop will preach, and the choir will be added to for the occasion.

The coming session of parliament is to be a short one, and it is confidently anticipated that prorogation will take place before Good Friday, April 19th.

The Londonderry Arc-Light and Iron Enterprise is the latest journalistic venture, and is published at Acadia mines every Friday. We wish our new contemporary every success.

A number of farmers in Quebec are to petition the Grand Trunk Railway to construct a skeleton bridge on each side of the Victoria bridge, for the passage of vehicles.

The market looked quite business-like on Saturday morning last, considering the time of year. Eggs were selling at twenty-five cents a dozen, and there was a good supply of them.

The Orpheus Club's performance of "The Bohemian Girl" will take place in the Academy of Music on February 21st and 22nd, when lovers of good music may expect to enjoy themselves.

A span 127 feet in length of the new bridge now in course of construction over the mouth of Bear River, Digby, was carried away by the wind on the 21st inst. The loss is in the vicinity of \$5000.

When the Dominion Parliament opens at Ottawa, the address in reply to the speech from the throne will be moved by Mr. R. S. White, and seconded by Mr. Dickie, M. P. for Cumberland.

An old landmark is being torn down in Amherst, the first drug store, established there fifty years ago by Dr. Charles Tupper—is to give place to a building to be erected by G. D. Hewson, Oxford.

There were 4648 bushels of stone broken at the stone shed during the week ending on the 19th inst., giving employment to 75 men. Contributions to the funds of the Poors Association are much needed.

The annual meeting of the Nova Scotia Fruit Growers' Association was held in Wolfville on the 23rd and 24th insts. Professor Saunders, chief director of the Government experimental farms, addressed the meetings.

A boy in Charlottetown was killed instantly one day last week by a cow trampling on him. He was playing in the road way and seeing the cow coming started to run, but tripped and fell with the result stated.

Hon. William Ross, collector of customs, has been obliged to resign his position, in consequence of his allowing the American schooner *Batson* to tranship her cargo of fresh fish in Halifax Harbor about December 7th.

The annual meeting of the Maritime Grange of the Patrons of Husbandry, was held in the Y. M. C. A. Hall on Tuesday. The report of the committee on farm management, was read by General Laurie, and discussed by Messrs. George and Chipman.

A rumor prevails in Quebec that the Northern Pacific are at the back of the application to the legislature for power to build a road from a point on the Ottawa river direct to Quebec and complete communication to Gaspé, and that another is to be built from the Ottawa to Sault Ste. Marie. It is said that the sudden action of the company has been prompted by the decision of the federal government to establish a fast line of steamers between Quebec and Liverpool.

The annual meeting of the Amalgamated Trades' Union was held in Mechanics Hall on Tuesday evening. A delegation from the School of Art and Design was present, and urged the advisability of the members of the Union attending the school.

A private musical recital took place last Friday evening at the conservatory of music, Pleasant street. All the performers were members of the teaching staff, and by the way in which the programme was rendered delighted the audience of about 200 who were present.

The city cab drivers and livery stables keepers held a meeting on Tuesday afternoon, when a society was organized, and a committee appointed to wait upon the agents of the different steamship lines, with a view to securing better accommodation for hackmen while waiting the arrival of steamers.

In noticing *The Grippeack* last week, we omitted to record its enlargement to 80 pages, and the "Express Shippers Guide," a new and valuable addition embodied in it. We also notice a map of New Brunswick, which is of value just now, as showing the Short Line route in the plainest manner.

The Parrsboro people have invited the members of the summer school of science, which lately met in Halifax, to make that town their next meeting place. Parrsboro and places in its vicinity are replete with interest for all scientists and geologists, and a place could not be selected surrounded with greater natural advantages.

Lieut. Stanley, whose marriage with the daughter of the Duke of Manchester on the 5th inst. was the most fashionable event in London in recent years, will arrive in Canada with his bride about the beginning of February, and accompany the Governor-General to the Montreal Carnival, as will also the Hon. Victor Stanley, now in England.

We are, after all, it seems, to have the old Bellerophon as flag ship for another commission; her new crew are to be sent out in the Himalaya to Bermuda. Vice Admiral Watson and Staff were to leave England for Bermuda on the 5th January. The *Wrangler*, one of the old, small gun-boats, is to be relieved by the *Partridge*, 755 tons, 1200 horse power.

The work of setting up the voters' list for the whole Dominion has been completed in the Government printing office. It has taken sixty-five men ten months to do. The lists make 6,700 large folio pages, and contain over one million names. The type weighs over seventy-five tons. The matter will be kept standing so as to be always ready for revision.

Principal Grant of Queen's College, Kingston, has returned from his tour round the world, and was welcomed with enthusiasm by the students and professors of Queens. The Principal is an ardent Imperial Federationist and his experience abroad has only strengthened his convictions, that the bonds between Canada and the mother country should be strengthened.

Moncton congregations are annoyed by the way in which young men crowd around the church doors as the people are coming out, and complaints have been made of insulting remarks. One of the pastors has announced the fact that if he finds out the names of the offenders he will give them a little free advertising and also introduce them to the police magistrate.

Lord Stanley is offering two silver cups for competition to the curling clubs, one for stone-playing clubs, and the other for iron-playing ones. All the clubs in Canada compete by nominating their best rinks to play on their own ice for points, under the supervision of an umpire. The two clubs whose rinks make the highest scores will go to Ottawa to play off against each other.

A very handsome cup is on exhibition in M. S. Brown & Co.'s window, to be offered by the Halifax Curling Club for competition at the coming bonspiel. It is in the form of a full sized curling stone, of polished silver, with a belt of satin relief, and ebony handle, the tap is of rustie silver, and the spigot in the form of a thistle. The winning club will be fortunate to obtain such a handsome trophy.

We have received a notice of the publication next month of "An Introduction to the Poetry of Robt Browning," by W. J. Alexander, Ph. D., Munro Professor of English Language and Literature, of Dalhousie College. It is very satisfactory to find such a work emanating from a Dalhousie Professor, and we have no doubt it will be found to have a distinct value. (Ginn & Co., 7, 9, 13, Tremont Place, Boston)

All sorts and conditions of men and women, pushed and crowded each other to get a sight of the mortal remains of Charles McKiernan, of Montreal, better known as Joe Beef. The crowd which followed the body to the cemetery was one of the largest ever seen on such an occasion, and the streets and windows along the route of the procession were packed with those curious to see the last of this strange character.

The ice palace at Montreal has progressed under difficulties, the mild weather caused the ice to melt, and in consequence a large portion of the walls collapsed one day last week. The loss on it is not less than \$1,000. One American gentleman offered \$500 for the use of a large house for carnival week, at that rate it would pay householders to take lodgings for a week and let their houses. The carnival opens on the 4th. of February.

On Saturday last the death occurred of paymaster Daniel Wilson, of the 66th P. L. F. He was a Balaclava hero, and one of the remaining few who took part in the charge of the Light Brigade. He served all through the Crimean war and the Indian mutiny, being present at the relief of Lucknow and other actions. Deceased was an Englishman by birth and entered the army at the age of ten, and served thirty years. He was 58 years of age.

Out of more than one hundred competitors of both sexes for the \$800 cash prize scholarships at Cornell University, four women were successful.