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NEWS OF THE WEEK.

It will be seen by the following extract from the *Winnipeg Standard*, that the prospects of Manitoba are in no wise damped by the ravages of the grasshopper last year—or are emigrants deterred from going there—as quite a large number having left this neighbourhood within the last two months for that Province and British Columbia.

“Notwithstanding the plague which fell so heavily upon us last year, there were 500 home-stead entries, representing 80,000 acres, made in this Province in the ten months ending the 31st October last; during the same period pre-emption entries covering 60,000 acres were made, 15,000 acres were sold for cash, and 17,000 acres were disposed of under military bounty warrants.”

The Hon. Judge Taschereau has forwarded a bottle of flies to Dr. Lorne, of the Laval University, with a letter stating that a singular phenomenon occurred at River du Loup during a northeast tempest on Monday the 3rd. A shower of flies fell with the snow, covering a space of several acres, and millions of these insects were walking over the snow, without appearing able to fly. In shape they resemble the mosquito, but are somewhat larger.

The representatives in Senate and House of Commons of Manitoba have invited the Premier to pay their Province a visit during the coming summer which he is likely to comply with, if possible.

Mr. Cartwright has withdrawn the Insurance Bill. It will be reintroduced next session.

Mr. G. P. Drummond, of this city, has invented and completed a machine for exhibition at the American Centennial, which he claims will set and distribute from 12,000 to 15,000 type per hour. Application for patents has been made in England, France, Germany the United States and Canada.

Captain Kensington, R. A., and Captain Ridout, 90th Regiment, recently appointed to the staff of the Military College, have arrived at Kingston.

The Hamilton School Board has ordered negatives to be taken of the Central School, Collegiate Institute, Murray and Victoria streets schools, and forwarded with reports of the schools to the Philadelphia Exhibition.

Further experiments are to be made at Portsmouth with the air bag presented to the Admiralty by the Russian Government as a suggestion for raising the “Vanguard,” although there is now but faint hope of ever recovering that unfortunate ship.

The United States House Committee on Commerce voted to report adversely on the joint resolution requesting the President to appoint three commissioners to confer with other commissioners, to be authorized by Great Britain, to investigate and ascertain on what basis a treaty of reciprocal trade for the mutual benefit of the people of the United States and the Dominion of Canada can be negotiated.

The *Belfast News Letter* announces that Capt. J. B. Redoubt, 90th Light Infantry, has returned to Dublin to make arrangements for embarkation for Kingston and Ottawa, to take up the duties of Captain of Cadets of the Canadian Military College, for which he has been selected.

In the House of Lords last night April 4 the Earl of Shaftesbury offered his motion for an address to the Queen praying Her Majesty not to assume the title of Empress. He argued that that title was distasteful to the vast majority of the people, and made the point that after the recent argument of Mr. Disraeli the assumption of such a title would be an insult to the Czar. The Earl of Carnarvon opposed and Lord Selbourne supported the motion, which, after a long debate, was rejected by a vote of 137 to 91. The Royal Titles Bill then passed through the committee.

A commencement is to be at once made of the powerful broadside ship “Agamemnon,” which is to be built at Chatham. The new vessel is intended to be the most powerful armor-clad ship of her class yet constructed for the Royal Navy, a somewhat novel feature being introduced in her, as she is intended to carry her monster guns in what is described as a citadel on her upper deck.

The Duke of Cambridge has issued new regulations relative to musketry instruction. His Royal Highness points to the number of detached and employed men who have been exempted from musketry exercise, and has issued an imperative order that every soldier shall be trained annually.

Four powder magazines on Arsenal Hill Salt Lake city, exploded on the evening of 5th. Boulders fell crushing through the city, some falling a mile distant. Five persons were killed, and one woman died of fright. The damage to glass alone is \$50,000. Two boys went shooting this morning enough of the remains were found near the magazine to identify them. One of their hands was found clutching a duck. It is now supposed they had fired into the magazine, causing the explosion. It is stated that no men were at work on the magazine.

Advices from Bosnia assert that the insurrection which broke out in Bihacs District is in full headway along the Drina and North

Bosni n frontiers, and all the places between Magdine, Polje and Belrawatz have risen. Deputations of the insurgents have gone to Belgrade.

Russia has lost no time in considering how to turn her new possession, Saghalien, to a profitable account. A commission instituted at St. Petersburg recommends the construction of five steamers to ply between the southern shores of the Island of Saghalien, the Russian Pacific coast, and Shanghai. The fine seams of coal in the island will prove of inestimable value for steam purposes in the waters of the Japan Sea. Japan will probably have cause bitterly to regret that she ever exchanged these valuable deposits of coal for a few rocky islands, capable of nothing better than for breeding and dwelling places for sea otters. With respect to the steamers to be built, they will in all probability be so constructed as to be suitable for war purposes. These steamers will probably prove to be the nucleus of a Russian fleet, to be permanently employed in these waters.

The *Times'* special despatch from Alexandria says that the King of Abyssinia sent envoys to Egypt asking for peace, but afterward made impossible demands for a treaty of commerce before a treaty of peace was signed, and for the payment of the war expenses. The Egyptians are fortifying strong positions commanding the passes. They will garrison these, and withdraw the rest of their troops during the rainy season. It is suggested that a neutral territory be formed to prevent future warfare between Abyssinia and Egypt. It is reported that Prince Tigre has revolted, and is marching on Adown the capital of the State of Tigre. Many persons favor the plan of placing the late King Theodoros's son on the throne of Abyssinia under a guarantee.

The insurgent leaders have informed Baron Pedik of the conditions on which they will lay down their arms. Their terms include the withdrawal of all Turkish troops except six small garrisons, which shall be placed under the supervision of the Russian and Austrian inspectors. They also require the disarmament of the Mohammedans, and guarantees from their power.

A cable despatch says: In the House of Lords yesterday the Royal Titles Bill as received from the House of Commons passed third reading without a division after a brief debate.

The Earl of Derby, British Minister of Foreign Affairs, arrived in Paris on the 7th. The *Memorial Diplomatique* says a satisfactory solution of the question relative to Egypt will doubtless be arrived at during his sojourn in Paris.