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 ninety-seven of the most readable of readable books. Those who are renewing their subscriptions, as well as new subscribers, should take advantage of this offer.

A movement is on foot in Vancouver, B. C., to build a \$25,000 summer

A post-office was established at Buckfield, Queens County, early last month.

The ship Rhine belonging to Shubael Dimock of Windsor, was destroyed by fire at Ternune recently.

The steamer Yarmouth will begin her trips to Boston this month, leaving Yarmouth every Saturday night.

The local election in Albert Co. N. B., resulted in the re-election of Mr. Emmerson by an increased majority.

The people of Stellarton are moving in the direction of taking a vote on the towns' incorporation question.

Moncton is agitating for a Summer Carnival. Halifax must look alive and bring all its superior attractions to the fore.

The cable company employees at Canso have organized a brass band, with Mr. A. G. Winterbotham as band master.

One town, eight counties in Ontario, and one in Nova Scotia, will vote on the repeal of the Scott Act between the 1st and 4th April.

Mrs. Margaret Minard, who recently died at Yarmouth, was 100 years and 3 days old. Her two grandfathers lived over 100 years.

The Stormont cotton mills at Cornwall, Ont., have been shut down for an indefinite period. Four hundred hands are out of employment.

The Digby Courier complains "Nearly every town in the province, whether large or small, except this, has some kind of a manufactory.

Mrs. Sawyer's residence on Inglis street was totally destroyed by fire on Sunday last. The loss is about \$8,000, fully insured in the Guardian.

Sir John MacDonald has assumed the management of the Department of Railways and Canais, owing to the serious illness of Hon. J. H. Pope.

There are 157 prisoners in the Dorchester Penitentiary, only one of whom is a woman, the female prisoners in almost every case being sent to Kingston, Ont.

The Street Carnival took place in St. John this week. Excursion tickets were issued from all booking stations in N. B., on the 27th ult., good to return until the 2nd inst.

Town Clerk Rupert Cunningham of Antigonish has been inspecting the books kept by the town clerk of Dartmouth, which are said to be the best of their kind in the Province.

The Rev. Robert Laing is making an appeal on behalf of the Halifax Ladies' College, which is crowded and needs to be enlarged to meet the Increased number of pupils.

A new school building which cost \$10,000 was opened in Springhill on the 21st ult. The work of erecting it began last July, the contractors being Messrs Higgs Bros. of River Philip.

About 2000 loads of snow are daily removed from the streets of Montreal by the Road Department, which has 200 carts continually going, making on an average ten trips a day.

The S. S. Henry IV. has been engaged to take the place of the Esme, which was wrecked on Barrington Head a few weeks ago. She will load at Annapolis for London on the 10th inst.

Imperial Federation is being discussed in many Upper Province cities, and the Jesuits' bill is taking up a large share of public attention.
agitation on the subject has not yet subsided.

It will be learned with general regret that Mr. J. Taillon Lesperance, the well known poet and author, has been stricken with so severe a mental affection as to require placing under restraint.

The demands upon the accommodation of the Parliament buildings are increasing to such an extent that the Government have in contemplation the building of a new wing from the north-west corner.

In anticipation of the repeal of the Scott Act, the town of Stratford, Ont., has by vote of 197 to 164 adopted a "high license" bye-law. This bye-law places tavern licenses at \$400, shop at \$300 and saloon at \$600.

A suit for \$4000 damages has been brought against Madame Albani for breach of contract with Mr J. F. Thompson, in 1884, to sing in Toronto and Buffalo. Madame Albani has instructed her counsel to defend her.

General Laurie has received a communication from England stating that the Royal Humane Society had awarded the silver medal to Daniel Hunt of Halifax, recently seriouly injured in rescuing a man from drowning.

The Cumberland Coal and Railway Co. have failed to secure the Grand Trunk coal contract this year. An American Company who could obtain low rates of freight and in consequence could tender low, secured the contract.

Inspector Lowry, when looking through a trunk which had come in by a western train to St. John, was startled to find a collection of human bones, each one wrapped in paper. A number of medical works were contained in the same trunk, which would point to the conclusion that those mortal remains might be the property of a veritable "saw-bones."

The Grand Trunk express train went over an embankment at St. George's, Ont., on Wednesday. Ten passengers were killed and many wounded.

The second performance by the Amateur Dramatic Club takes place on Monday and Tuesday next, when "A Wonderful Woman" will be put on the boards, followed by the farce "Boots at the Swan."

A Montreal notary named Valiquette has swindled his clients and his sistors out of several thousands of dollars, and departed with the proceeds. He was a shining light in society, but for the past two years has been living a dissolute life.

The town of Dartmouth is advertising for 25,650 feet of water pipe and 10,435 feet of sewer pipe. The people of Dartmouth nearly all are in favor of having the water supply, but many of them do not recognize the necessity of having sewers.

At a meeting of the directors of the proposed Toronto School of Art, it was decided to form an Art Association, to include all the various organizations in connection with art now existing in that city, and to build a picture gallery and art school.

On Sunday, 17th ult., St. James Church at Mahone Bay was consecrated by Bishop Courtney, assisted by the Rector, Rev. W. H. Snyder, and Rev. E. A. Harris. In the evening the rite of confirmation was administered to a large number of persons.

The curling rink at Campbellton, N. B., collapsed one day last week. The players and spectators made a rush for the doors when they heard the roof cracking, and got out just in time. The weight of snow on the roof was the cause of the catastrophe.

Small-pox has made its appearance in Fingall, Ont. Many people are suffering from the disease and two deaths have resulted. The Board of Health have decided to close the churches, schools and skating rinks, and also to enforce compulsory vaccination.

The old and favorably known Hotel Alma at Yarmouth, has been completely transformed by Mr. T. B. Dane, and will now be known as the "Queen." With increased accommodation and an excellent table the "Queen" should enjoy a large share of patronage.

A bill has been introduced in the Dominion Parliament providing that any company or individual owning a building in which there is an elevator, must provide on each floor an automatic guard or gate to the shaft. In the case of negligence of the matter, penalties are to be imposed.

Very complimentary critiques upon Volume VI. of our Historical Society's Collections have appeared in first-class American periodicals, including The Nation and The Magazine of American History. The latter magazine awards the palm, in point of interest, to Mr. J. J. Stewart's paper on "Early Journalism in Nova Scotia."

The Nova Scotia curling clubs played their bonspiel games at New Glasgow on Thursday and Friday last. New Glasgow defeated Halifax, Antigonish defeated New Glasgow, Pictou defeated Truro, and Pictou defeated Antigonish, thus leaving the Pictou men to play the New Brunswick winners for the cup.

One Sunday lately when leaving the churches the people of Moncton witnessed the sight of five drunken men reeling along the street. The Scott Act is supposed to be in force there, but it would be well for the respectability of the town that it should remedy this state of things. Drunkenness is always disgraceful, but it is doubly so on the Sabbath day.

The Nova Scotia Power Company is a new corporation that will supply electric motors for running machinery of almost every description, from a sewing machine to a street car, if the latter may be called a machine. A charter is to be applied for during the present session of the local Legislature as broader powers than can be got from the Joint Stock Companies act, are desired.

The Chamber of Commerce met on last Monday afternoon, and considered a number of matters of importance to the business interests of this city and Province. An invitation had been received from the Mayor of St. John, N. B., to the President to be present at a meeting held there on the 21st ultimo, to consider resolutions in support of the "true Canadian policy of granting a subsidy for a fast Atlantic mail and freight service, terminating both winter and summer at Canadian ports." The president was unable to attend, but had sent a reply expressing the warmest sympathy with the object of the meeting. The Quebec Bridge Company asked the support of the Chamber in urging the Dominion Government to bridge the St. Lawrence near Quebec. In reply a copy of a previous resolution supporting the pro-After some discussion a resolution was carried deprecating ject was sent. the enforcement proposed by the Department of Marine and Fisheries, of certain clauses relating to "sawdust" in the Act for the protection of navigable streams, and in the "Fisheries Act." The question of addressing the City Council on the subject of taxing merchandise consigned to Halifax for sale at public auction was referred to a committee, after which a resolution was passed in favor of collecting on delivery the deficiency on underestamped letters, and the establishment of a dead letter office in this city. The chamber deprecated the confusion into which the coal trade of Nova-Scotia has been thrown by the recent increase of rates of freight, and protested against such increases under any temporary diminution in the revenue of the I. C. R., on staple productions, and desired that the mining industries of Nova Scotia be accorded low rates. It was then resolved that an increase in the duty on flour would be detrimental to the interests of the Maritime Provin-We are pleased to see the chamber doing some useful work. Has the ces. partial formation of the new Merchants' Association caused the old one to wake up?

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