

## NEWS OF THE WEEK.

Subscribers remitting Money, either direct to the office, or through Agents, will find a receipt for the amount inclosed in their next paper. All remittances should be made payable to A. M. Fraser.

Those who wish to secure pleasant and profitable reading matter for the winter even-ings should note our exceptional offer which appears on page sixteen. For \$2.00 in cash we undertake to send THE CRITIC to any subscriber for one year, supplying him in addition with forty-five of the most readable of readable books. Those who are renewing their subscriptions, as well as new subscribers, should take advantage of this offer.

Many chestnuts have been perpetrated about two trains passing on the same track, but the great snow blockade on the Intercolonial has brought about some very curious results. The train due here on Wednesday last was snowed up on the Northern Division of the road. The train due on Thursday managed in some miraculous way to pass it, and arrived in Halifax three hours ahead. Truly, the "first shall be last and the last first."

Miners, manufacturers and others interested would do well to consult the advertisement of Messrs. Macdonald & Co. on our third page. This house is so well known that the mere mention of its name is sufficient.

Mr. William Bannister, the popular jeweller, has removed two doors south on Granville Street, to No. 140, where he has a large stock of watches, clocks, jewellery and plated ware. Purchasers desiring bargains in his line should inspect Mr. Bannister's stock.

Mr. A. E. Milliken, who has the contract to erect the new Dalhousie College building, is pushing operations with his usual energy. The walls are now well up to the first story, and everything indicates that the building will be completed within the time limited by the contract. Mr. Milliken has also received the contract to build the new City Hall. We need pushing men like Mr. Milliken in this city, and trust that in the future he will make Halifax his home.

We beg to call our readers attention to the advertisement of Messrs. Anderson, Billing & Co., which appears on the last page of this issue. This firm seems to be alive to the requirements of their trade in the Maritime Provinces, and we feel satisfied in assuring our readers that their first principle is to give the very best value to their patrons.

The S.S. *Ulunda* returned from St. Pierre on Friday, having been unsuccessful in repairing the shore end of the French cable, which had been worn away by the action of the waves upon the rocks. The great winter carnival which is carried on continuously on the island between Twelfth Night and Ash Wednesday was brought to a close on Shrove Tuesday, the costumes of the carnivalists being strange and grotesque. Two hundred of the 5,000 inhabitants died from black measles during the month of February, and the town has hired special vehicles to carry the doctors about from place to place. The three doctors are on the go from morning till night, but owing to the bad drainage the disease still has the upper hand of them.

The ladies of Charlottetown have been raising money towards the beautifying of Queen's Square garden. Handsome prizes were offered to those who disposed of the largest number of tickets, which were sold at ten cents each. Miss Newberry disposed of 1,743, winning a prize a handsome gold watch. Mrs. J. J. Davies sold 1,571 tickets, winning a stem-winding gold watch. Miss Louisa Dawson sold 1,146, receiving a handsome lady's dressing case. Miss Murray disposed of 910, winning a gold and silver bracelet. In all 5,754 tickets were sold, and the handsome sum of \$575.40 raised.

Hon. Chas. Townshend, late member for Cumberland in the Dominion House of Commons, has been appointed a Judge in the Supreme Court of Nova Scotia. Mr. Townshend's college and professional career have been most creditable, and his abilities eminently qualify him for discharging his new and responsible duties as a judge.

While along the Atlantic coast of Nova Scotia the snow fall during the present winter has been unusually light, New Brunswick and regions to the north have been snowed up to an abnormal degree. In Newcastle, N. B., the snow in the streets is eight feet deep; further north ten feet is the average depth. As a consequence, the snow blockades on the Intercolonial have been almost unprecedented, and a small army of shovellers have been kept constantly at work digging out the trains and keeping the tracks clear.

Many of the citizens residing in the south-end of Halifax are desirous of seeing the wooden bridge which now connects Queen Street with Victoria Road replaced by an iron carriage bridge. Aldermen canvassing Ward One should not forget to put the bridge in their platform.

"Windsor" says: "Capt. Fred. Curry is reported to have left about \$180,000. His will proves the old captain to have been a man of sound sense."

The town of Windsor now has a funded debt of about \$52,000, the greater part of which was incurred in constructing the excellent water-works service of the town. A move is being made to celebrate the Queen's Jubilee, and it is said that Flat-Iron Park is to be handed over to the town authorities on condition that trees be set out and the place otherwise beautified.

A very nice legal question has arisen as to the distinction between members-elect and members of the Provincial Legislature. It is stated that the provincial law provides for the resignation of members who have once taken their seats but not for members-elect. If this be true, Mr. A. C. Bell, of Pictou, and Mr. Jason Mack, of Queens, are still representatives of those constituencies.

Two of the three arbitrators to settle the claims of the Province of Nova Scotia against the City of Halifax on account of the P. & C. Hospital and Poor's Asylum have made an award to the Province of \$59,805. The city's representative has not signed the award.

Mr. Wm. Stevenson, Manager of the Halifax Cotton Factory, has resigned his position, and is to be succeeded by Mr. J. Simpson, who is now on his way from Scotland. The overseers in the factory presented Mr. Stevenson with a handsome album and a complimentary address before his departure for the United States.

It is impossible at present to give any reliable account of the exact standing of the parties in the Dominion House of Commons. The following is the nearest approximate to the truth that can be made before the first division takes place: Of the 208 members-elect the Government has a majority of eight over Liberals and Nationalists combined. Of the eleven Nationalists three will unquestionably vote with the Government, which would make the Government majority fourteen; four more of the Nationalists will, it is believed, vote with the Government, but this is uncertain, if they should do so the Government will have a majority of twenty-two. Of the elections yet to be run the Government will secure at least six seats, so that its majority over Liberals and Nationalists combined cannot be less than thirteen, which, if they received the support of seven Nationalists, will be increased to twenty-seven.

Ex-Speaker Kirkpatrick, it is said, is to be appointed to the Senate, and is to enter the Cabinet as leader of the Government in the Upper House.

Alexander Chisholm, Liberal-Conservative, has been elected to represent New Westminster, B. C., in the House of Commons. His majority over his opponent was upwards of 200.

The Legislature of British Columbia has suspended the charter of the City of Vancouver, owing to recent riots in which the Chinese residing in Vancouver were set upon and driven from the city. Three of the leaders of the riot have been taken into custody.

The mayoralty and aldermanic elections come off on the 27th of April next, and we would remind our readers that if they wish to do their duty as good citizens and cast their votes for the different candidates, that their taxes should be paid at least a month before the time set. They should also hunt up their tax receipts ready to hand in with their votes. Care should be taken to elect only the best men, as thorough reforms are needed in the conduct of our civic affairs.

It is mooted that the mayors of the leading cities of the Dominion will be knighted at the coming celebration of Her Majesty's Jubilee, and while we do not think it at all likely, it would be well that the incumbents of the seats should be socially and financially able to maintain the title with due dignity.

In our advertising columns will be found the requisitions and election cards of Alderman H. F. Worrall for mayor, and Messrs. William Crowe and W. F. Pickering for aldermen of Ward 3.

All the students attending Dalhousie College, the Law School, Pine Hill Seminary, and the Halifax Business College, have been invited by the members of the Young Men's Christian Association, to a grand musical soiree, which is to take place this Friday evening. J. S. Maclean, President of the Association, is to preside.

Next Thursday is St. Patrick's Day. The anniversary of Ireland's patron saint will be celebrated in a more or less pretentious manner wherever a son of Erin is to be found, and that includes most of the habitable portions of the earth.

Those who are entitled to vote should see to it that their applications are sent in to the revisors on or before the 15th of March. Owners of real estate to the value of \$150, or personal property to the value of \$300, or of both real and personal property to a like value, are entitled to vote. The franchise can likewise be claimed by tenants, sons of qualified persons, sons of widows, partners, etc. After Tuesday next, the names of new voters will not be registered this year.

Stipendiary Magistrate Motton has no compunctions against allowing the law to take its full effect. Robert Mullaly, of Halifax, who was proved to have shamefully illused his wife while she was suffering from a severe fit, has been sent to Rockhead prison for sixty days, and there will be forced to hard labor. Mr. Motton is right. To fine a man of this stamp would be unwarrantable leniency.

Algoma has returned Mr. Dawson, Liberal-Conservative, to the House of Commons, and Queen's County, N. S., Mr. Hemeon, Liberal, to the Provincial Legislature.

The merchants of Montreal, Kingston and other places, are endeavoring to induce the government to make the canal system of the Dominion free. The abolition of the canal tolls would be of great advantage to the commercial interests of Montreal.

Sir Charles Tupper has been appointed acting High Commissioner for Canada. So soon as the session is over, Sir Charles will visit London.

Up to the time of going to press no change had taken place in the position assumed by the Pictou coal strikers, and at present there are no indications of an amicable settlement of the differences between the companies and the men; meanwhile, the price of coal is advancing by leaps and bounds, and the poor of the city, who have not laid in their winter supply, are the chief sufferers.

The news of Henry Ward Beecher's somewhat sudden death from partial paralysis, was received on Tuesday last. Mr. Beecher has long been a conspicuous figure among the more prominent American divines, and, although nearly seventy-four years of age, he retained, to within a few days of his death, all the faculties and power which have made him famous as a lecturer, an orator and a minister of the gospel. From his Brooklyn congregation Mr. Beecher received a salary of \$20,000 per annum, his income being further supplemented by the receipts of his lecture tours, and the fees which he received from his contributions to the press and magazines.