

# THE WEEK'S NEWS.

CANADIAN.

Rev. John Stonehouse, Methodist minister of Adelaide village, was arrested in Strathroy, on Saturday, on a charge of attempting to blackmail hotel-keepers.

Sarnia Observer:—"There will be a Producers' and Consumers' Combine some of these days that will shake the sugar barons and their colleagues out of their shoes."

Many emigrants are preparing to leave England for Canada during the next six weeks, in order to take advantage of the assisted passages, which cease on April 27.

Governor Blake, of Newfoundland, has been requested by the Dominion Government to arrange for sending a deputation to Ottawa to discuss the question of the admission of the colony into the Canadian Confederation.

A week or two ago Mr. Thomas Boyd, of Longford, County Simcoe, broke a tooth, rupturing a small blood vessel in the gum while doing so. The tooth was extracted, but the bleeding continued for ten days, reducing Mr. Boyd to a very weak state until the flow was stopped by the application of a spider web.

The stormy weather recently was severest in the Northern States, nipped with frost some districts in Ontario and Quebec, but passed our North-west completely by. They had mild weather with rain up there. We shall soon see the Canadian North-west going down to New York to enjoy a good old-fashioned winter.

Sir George Stephen emphatically denies the statement that the Canadian Pacific Railway Company had decided not to build any of its branches on the new short line in Nova Scotia, and states that connection with Nova Scotia and New Brunswick will be completed this summer, a year in advance of the contract stipulation.

Halifax papers tell of the narrow escape a passenger train had last Saturday night on the Cobequid Mountains. It was thrown from the track, and, as the passengers very soon discovered, within six feet of a precipice 200 feet high. The whole train, with the exception of the rear truck of the tender, had left the rails, and it was only this circumstance which prevented the cars from leaping into the chasm.

The reports are to the effect that within thirty miles of the Soo, in Canadian territory, there are vast deposits of iron, copper, lead, silver and gold. This may be true; also it may not be true; and the latter is the most probable. But whether true or false the report will have its influence in attracting people to the locality, and a great rush may be confidently expected in the course of another month or six weeks. Our advice is very simple—don't go. Stay at home with your Sue, and if you haven't one, get one at once.

The Peel Banner's description shows a very disgraceful state of affairs at lots 14 and 15, Centre road east, Toronto Township. Nearly thirty head of cattle, horses, etc., are starving to death. Already eight animals have died and the rest are likely soon to follow. The explanation is said to be that one Green, the owner, is in difficulties. A bank holds a chattel mortgage and other parties are trying to get the Sheriff into the premises, so that nobody has control of the place. There is no feed on the farm and the poor brutes are wandering about in this distressing state of starvation.

A number of farmers in the vicinity of Hamilton have been swindled by a man, who gave his name as Fred Meyers, of Philadelphia. Meyers professed to be buying horses for the Philadelphia street railway, and made a number of purchases from various farmers, always giving them a cheque on the Bank of Montreal, and succeeded in a few cases in getting small loans of \$10 or \$15. The horses were to be delivered yesterday, and in came the farmers, but failed to find Mr. Meyers. The cheques were presented at the bank, but, of course, Meyers had no account there. It is not known how many have been swindled. No horses were taken, however, as it was money the man was after.

## UNITED STATES.

Mr. Henry Bergh, of New York, founder of the Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals, died recently.

A Nebraska sheriff who went out to stop a prize fight became so interested that he bet \$10 on the result of the contest and waved his hat over the finish.

Sam Jones told a Chicago reporter the other day that he was still smoking, but had given up chewing, and that Sam Small was still chewing, but had forsworn smoking.

New York retail merchants find the dogs which are led by chains by fashionable women such a nuisance in their stores that many have put up a gilt sign reading:—"Dogs are not admitted here unless in arms."

Assistant city editor John B. Wright, of The Boston Herald, being a justice of the peace, married a Jewish couple last Sunday before the high altar of his paste-pot, old chair and paper-littered table. He kissed the pretty Jewess.

Miss Eunice Hooser, of Elkton, Ky., has just completed a calico quilt that is composed of 24,080 pieces, and the local newspaper says that she is not only a skillful needle-woman, but one of the prettiest young ladies in the country.

Millions of jack rabbits migrated from Oregon to Idaho during the recent cold spell in the far Northwest. They crossed the frozen waters of the Snake River in hordes, and presented a wonderful spectacle to the people who saw them.

Mr. E. Hendricks, of Applegate, Ore., cut down a large pine tree and within the wood found a small cavity which was encircled by forty-five rings of yearly growth. In this cavity was a foreign copper coin bearing the date 1790.

Anthony Parslow, at Coxsockie, N. Y., ate 42 corn cakes, or by actual measurement ten feet six inches of corn cakes, eight inches wide and one inch thick. After that he went home to supper, and in the evening ate another supper at a donation party.

An insane woman escaped from a Michigan asylum, and to prevent being captured she climbed a tree. All efforts to persuade her to descend failing, the tree was chopped down and eased to the ground by the attendants. Its burden was then seized and taken back to the hospital.

An Albany joker has played a trick at the expense of the President. A letter signed

"Grover Cleveland," declining a renomination, was published, apparently composed in the President's well-known style. It is now pronounced a forgery, and the intentions of the Chief Magistrate about a second term are still a mystery.

Should the next war hold off for eleven years, this country will be fully fortified—if the United States Senate knows itself. Its committee on coast defences proposes to expend \$126,378,800 in that way, provided the House will concur. \$20,500,000 are to be got rid of next year. The passage of such a bill would insure a rich harvest for a host of contractors.

A Chicago man who had erected a fine residence was surprised one day to learn that a rat had been seen in the cellar. The plumber was sent for and given orders to stop up the rat-hole without regard to expense. He did so and handed in his bill. It called for \$1,333 35. He had found it necessary to completely overhaul and change the sewerage and drainage system of the premises to keep that rat out.

A curious relic was found, alongside a hardened copper knife, in a mound at Paris, Mich. It is a black stone three inches long by two wide, rounded up accurately on both sides. Placed upon either side and spun in one direction, it runs as nicely and smoothly as an oil top, but turned the other way, it "stutters" and runs but a short time. It acts the same whichever side is down and something of a mystery.

The wealthiest Knight of Pythias lodge in the world is said to be Live Oak Lodge, of Oakland, Cal. Its membership is over 300 and the aggregate wealth runs high in the millions. Its treasury represents between \$2,500,000 and \$3,000,000. All furniture used in the lodge is covered with morocco. One of the aged members recently died, bequeathing the lodge \$300,000, and his widow, who did not long survive him, will the lodge \$100,000.

The ingenuity and enterprise of the American reporter are universally conceded, but these qualities never had a more striking illustration than was furnished by the late John J. Flanagan of the Utica Observer. He actually induced Earl, the convicted murderer, to allow himself to be hanged two hours earlier than the appointed time, in order that the newspaper man might get his report to the office in time for the next issue of his paper! After such a feat who can fix limits to the power of the press?

## FOREIGN.

France put \$212,000,000 into the Panama canal before she got discouraged.

Emperor Frederick recently conferred the Order of the Black Eagle upon Empress Victoria.

The Maharajah of Cashmere has offered £100,000 besides the services of himself and his troops for the defence of the Empire.

Prince Bismarck has been severely tried by recent events, and he has been ordered by his physicians to abstain as far as possible from business.

Tradition relates that a clock in the tower of St. Quentin's church, Mayence, Germany, which has just been repaired, has ticked on serenely without interruption for 500 years.

When a Paris shopkeeper advertises "goods at cost" a Government official inspects his prices and sees that he is carrying out what he advertises. Any fraud in this respect is vigorously punished.

District visitor (to child)—Has your father got any employment, my dear? Child—Yes, m'm; he's got reglar work now. He's paid to go out cheering whenever old Gladstone or Mr. Sullivan walks abroad.

A girl in Manchester, England, telephoned to her father's office asking if her dog was there. Curley was there, and his mistress asked the man to hold him up to the telephone. She whistled and spoke, and told him to come home. Curley pricked up his ears, and as soon as he was placed on the floor started for home.

London has 600 places of amusement, of which more than 450 are music halls. The theatres are about fifty. Direct employment is given to about 150,000 people, besides indirect employment to a host of tradesmen and their workpeople.

The cost of maintaining the Imperial family of Germany, with all its various branches, is \$20,000,000 a year. The Sultan of Turkey costs the people \$15,000,000 annually. The most economical court in Europe, considering its size and the wealth of the Empire, is the Austrian.

The movement for disestablishment in Wales has secured a noble though unwilling convert in Lord Aberdare. It is, he says, with deep regret that he has become convinced that he can no longer support the existence of the establishment in Wales. Only the sense of what is just and right—of what is absolutely due to the Welsh people—has led him to the conclusion that complete religious equality must be conceded to his fellow-countrymen.

Among the thousands of pilgrims to Rome in honor of the Papal jubilee there was at least one genuine pilgrim of the old type. She is a widow, 57 years old, very poor, and an inhabitant of Lille. She walked on foot the whole distance between Lille and Rome, and arrived at the threshold of the apostles exactly two months after the day of her starting. She found board and lodging all along by begging, and had not a few curious experiences. The Pope was so touched at her devotion and persistency that he ordered a sum of money to be given her to enable her to return home in a more easy manner.

A rich merchant of St. Petersburg is a trustee of an orphan house. He was desirous of concluding a second marriage and thought he could not find any girl better educated than a pupil of the asylum under his own care. Many a walk he made through the rooms of the girls, but there was none he took a particular fancy to. So he determined at last to entrust his future to the goddess of chance. All the girl pupils of the asylum aged 16 and upward, received invitations to an evening party, each of them had to draw a lot from an urn placed in the centre of the room, one of the papers having the merchant's name written on it. The girl that drew the prize is one of the plainest looking of all the inmates of the asylum. Nevertheless, the merchant immediately presented her to her companions as his intended wife.

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