

THE WEEK'S NEWS.

HOME.

The Quebec Legislature has been prorogued.

Large bush fires are in progress northeast of Quebec.

The fires in the pineries along the Central Ontario Railway are still burning furiously.

Hon. Mr. Thompson, Minister of Justice, will pay an official visit to British Columbia this year.

Bishop Cleary has given the city of Kingston the old Catholic burying ground for a park.

Mr. Wilkinson, of Napanee, is confined to his bed by injuries received in a runaway accident.

Two thousand tons of iron ore have been shipped from Kingston for Cleveland within the past ten days.

A boy named Gagnon, who resided at Cap Blanc, Quebec, accidentally fell into the river and was drowned.

Winnipeg City Council is seeking legislation to enable it to elect the mayor, instead of by the popular vote.

The men who took the most prominent part in the plot to assassinate the Czar on March 13 have been executed.

There are 999 miles of railway in Manitoba, according to a return brought down in the Provincial Legislature.

Sunday afternoon five empty freight cars were burned on the siding west of the Institute for the Blind at Brantford.

A woman named Mrs. Marceau was run over near Quebec and nearly cut in two recently by a Canadian Pacific Railway locomotive.

The Lieutenant-Governor, Quebec, has issued a proclamation appointing Tuesday, the 21st June, for the celebration of the Queen's jubilee.

Mr. Norquay has presented a statement to the Manitoba Legislature, estimating the cost of constructing the proposed railway to the boundary at \$950,000.

A congratulatory address, signed by fifteen hundred students at the various Canadian universities and medical schools, has been forwarded to the Queen.

An attack was made on the Salvation Army in St. Catharines the other evening, one of the female members being knocked senseless with a stone and seriously injured.

A special cablegram says a return just published shows that Canada during 1886 sent Bristol, Glasgow, Liverpool and London 67,248 cattle, 94,356 sheep and 70 swine.

It is stated that Mr. Pierce, who controls the old Cobourg, Peterboro' and Markham road, is making arrangements to work the mines at Blairton, as a result of the recent tariff changes.

A complete system of Mounted police patrols along the international boundary in the North-West has been completed, and a close lookout will be maintained to prevent Indians crossing the line.

Forest fires are doing very serious damage in the limits in the Mississippi district, Ont. They have, during the past ten days, done incalculable damage, and nothing but a spell of rain will check the spread.

A bill is before the Dominion Parliament for the incorporation of the Dominion Oil Pipe Line Co., with the object of laying pipe lines to carry oil from the points of production to points of distribution.

The Senate the other day granted a bill of divorce to Marie Louise Noel, who at the age of fifteen married in April, 1869, Robert L. Johnston, of Quebec, and after six weeks of matrimonial felicity was deserted.

In the Senate the other day Mr. Macdonald suggested that the name of the Banff National park should be changed to Empress or Imperial park, while Mr. Allan proposed that it should be called the Victoria Empress park.

At a recent meeting of the Montreal City Council a resolution was unanimously passed authorizing the corporation to appropriate \$178,000 for the construction of a temporary dyke to protect the city from inundation.

In an interview lately Mr. Norquay declared positively that the Manitoba Government intended to build a railway to the boundary, where it will connect with the Northern Pacific, and expected to have it completed by November.

Two Indians, Red Dog and Bad Man, were tried before Judge McLeod at Fort McLeod for stealing horses from the ranches in that vicinity. They were sentenced to five years each in Stony Mountain penitentiary, and are now on the way to Winnipeg in charge of mounted police.

During the coming summer the Canadian Pacific Railway Company will expend from a million and a half to two million dollars on the Rocky Mountain section of the road in constructing additional snowsheds and other improvements to prevent interruption to the traffic in the winter season.

A Winnipeg photographer has just tried a novel way of making his creditors pay up. He exhibited in his window a case full of photographs, each labelled with the name, address and amount owed him by each one whose pictures were shown. Since the exhibition "the boys" have been paying up. Some threatening libel suits.

A shocking accident is reported from St. Remi, in the county of Napierville, a short distance from Ottawa. A young girl named Lacombe, the daughter of a wealthy farmer, a couple of days ago left the farmhouse to carry dinner to her father, who was working in the fields with his men. On her return she stopped and sat down beside what she thought was a dead fire. Her dress caught and the flames spread over her body. Crazed with pain she rushed through the field to a stream a short distance away and threw herself into the water. A few hours afterwards she was found senseless at the side of the stream by her father. She was taken home and everything possible done for her, but she died in great agony.

AMERICAN.

Arthur Pratt, a bookmaker, of New York has disappeared with about \$25,000 belonging to his patrons. It is said he lost heavily on last week's races.

George E. Reed, for two years past city treasurer of Bismarck, Dak., is missing. It is believed he is in Canada. His accounts are said to be \$9000 short.

An official of the Canada Southern Railway states that negotiations between the Canada Southern and Canadian Pacific Rail-

ways are nearly completed. The Canadian Pacific will use the Canada Southern as a link from St. Thomas to Toledo, where a connection will be made with the Wabash railroad, which has already agreed to an arrangement with the Canadian Pacific. The connection will restore the southwestern business to the Canada Southern, which it relinquished when it joined the Michigan Central.

FOREIGN.

It is reported that the Duchess of Cumberland is hopelessly insane.

Five Government officials have been banished from Turkey for treason.

A Shanghai despatch says the tea trade is reported to be unprecedentedly bad. The report of the defeat of the Amerer's troops by the Shinwaris is confirmed.

Three vessels of war have been added to the English navy during the past week.

The Russian Government is about to reverse all of Russia's foreign commercial treaties.

The Portuguese Government have ordered 40,000 repeating rifles from the arms factory at Steyr, Austria.

The London *Pall Mall Gazette* announces that June 21 will be observed as a holiday throughout the United Kingdom.

The London *Standard* says it transpires that Russia claims a wider expanse of territory in Afghanistan than the part already disputed.

The British War Office has just obtained possession of the new Austrian repeating rifle, which is said to be capable of firing eighty shots a minute.

General Boulanger's plan for an experimental mobilization of the French army next October is distrusted at Berlin. If France mobilizes Germany will mobilize also.

The Royal Commission appointed to enquire into the charges against the British War Office of jobbery in making contracts has prepared a report, which exonerates the officials individually but advises numerous administrative changes.

The directors of the Manchester Ship Canal company have concluded a contract for the construction of the canal for \$25,000,000. The contract is conditional on the whole capital being subscribed. The directors now assert that the capital has been secured.

The *Moniteur*, the official organ of Hayti, says a definite settlement has been effected between the Haytian Government and the British commissioner with regard to the island of Tortuga, by which the Haytian Government is to pay \$32,000 as indemnity. In consideration of this the British Government yields all further claims in the matter of Maunders' Bros. Hayti will re-enter into full possession of the island of Tortuga.

The Governor of Astrachan, who was recently shot by a student, has died from his wounds. Owing to official severity, the governor had numerous enemies, and had been threatened with death. Recently he asked to be transferred because his life was in danger. The Czar refused the request, saying he himself was in equal danger. Several persons have been arrested on suspicion of being implicated in the crime.

Evictions in Ireland and America.

The coercive press just now are giving considerable prominence to the details of evictions by land-owners on this continent, apparently considering that if they can show that harsh and arbitrary treatment of tenants is not unknown here—as unfortunately it is not—that will somehow justify Irish landlordism. The argument will not bear a moment's investigation. Even if evictions here entailed the same consequences as in Ireland, and were ten times as numerous as they are, it would in no respect make the position of Irish or English landlordism any better.

But as everybody who knows anything about the Irish question is aware, there is no comparison whatever to be drawn between Irish evictions, and the proceeding called by the same name in Canada or the United States. The mechanic or laborer who is turned out of his house for non-payment of rent is not thereby deprived of his means of livelihood. It is merely a temporary inconvenience. He rents another house or goes to boarding, or perhaps, if scarcity of work is the cause of his inability to pay the rent, moves to another town in search of employment.

But in Ireland it is a much more serious matter, because eviction there means the loss of the means of support. The sole dependence of the great majority of the people is agriculture. When the Irish tenant loses his farm the only alternatives are starvation, the workhouse, or emigration. Mr. Gladstone justly characterized Irish eviction warrants as "sentences of death"—a phrase which by no stretch of imagination could be applied to a mere enforced change of residence.—*Toronto News*.

THE ASSESSMENT SYSTEM.

Large Insurance Claim Paid—Endorsement of the Mutual Reserve.

Office of W. D. MATTHEWS & Co., Grain and Produce Merchants, Toronto, 11th May, 1887.

J. D. Wells, Esq., General Manager Mutual Reserve Fund Life Association:

DEAR SIR—We beg to acknowledge receipt of cheque for Five Thousand Dollars in full of claim under a policy of insurance issued to us by the Mutual Reserve Fund Life Association for that amount, as creditors of the late Edwin C. Fisher.

We have much pleasure in bearing testimony to the prompt and satisfactory manner in which this claim has been adjusted, and at the same time to express our confidence in your association. Having an intimate acquaintance with your President and chief officers, we know them to be gentlemen of the highest integrity, and in whose hands we believe the interests of the members of the Mutual Reserve are perfectly safe.

Wishing your association continued success.

Yours truly,

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