THE WEEK'S NEWS

CANADA.

The Canadian Pacific roundhouse at the Sault was burned on Sunday night.

Premier Mercier, who delayed his journey to Europe on account of the elections, will sail from New York next Saturday.

The Manitoba Local Legislature reopened on Tuesday. It is stated Mr. Joseph Martin will re enter provincial politics.

There was not a single case for trial at the Brandon, Man., Spring Assizes.

Mr. James Carroll, editor and proprietor of The Quebec Daily Telegraph, died suddenly on Sunday night.

During last week there were 30 failures in Canada, against 37 for the corresponding week last year.

Ex-Ald. Laurent and Mr. Archibald Cassils, a prominent merchant, died suddenlyin Montreal last week.

Two voters in Kingston, who caught cold in going to the polls, have since died.

A cavalryman in Quebec has been sent to jail for a year for stealing 15 cents from a comrade.

Constable Herron of the Mounted Police was found on the prairie near Lethbridge, N. W. T., frozen to death.

The straits and waters off Cape Flattery, B. C., are reported alive with seals, and the sealing schooners are reaping a harvest.

It is reported that English and American capitalists have purchased the Porcupine, Badger and West End silver mines, near Port Arthur, for $10,000,000.

Mr. H. B. Spotton, of the Barrie Collegiate Institue, has been appointed headmaster of the new Harbord street Collegiate Institute in Toronto.

A bloc of old wooden buildings in the Chinese quarter of Victoria, B. C., has been burned by order of the city council to make room for new buildings. The fire method of removal was adopted to prevent d nger of sickness from filth.

Grace Vance, who was born and educated in Toronto, left home on the advent of a stepmother four years ago when she was sixteen, and went to Detroit, where she committed a theft for which she was sent to the reformatory. On her release she went to Buffalo, and was yesterday sentenced to five years' imprisonment for another theft committed there.

Gen. Benejamin F. Butler, in an interview the other day, assumed a warlike tone towards Canada. He says as this Dominion cannot be acquired as a gift nor by purchase, it has to be conquered, and that it is a rich prize worth war to obtain.

GREAT BRITAIN.

Terrible weather prevails in the North of England, the snow being in many places from six to fifteen inches deep.

A Glasgow despatch says a liquidator has been appointed to take charge of the State line of steamers.

The bishop of Down has issued a letter which practically amounts to the excommunication of any Catholics who support Parnell.

Sir Charles Dilke has been invited by the council of the Liberals of the Forest of Dean to be a candidate for Parliament there, and has accepted the invitation.

Mr. Parnell has decided to form a political fund, in addition to the fund for evicted tenants, to which Americans will have the privilege of contributing.

The first number of the *National Press*, the new daily paper devoted to the interests of the McCarthy faction of the Irish Parliamentary party, was issued in Dublin on Saturday.

There was an unusually large and brilliant attendance at the Queen's drawing room in London on Saturday, due to the presence of Empress Frederick. The Prince and Princess of Wales were present.

It is reported in London official circles that the British Government has conclusive proof that Gen. Boulanger and his supporters are responsible for the opinion manifested in Paris against ex-Empress Frederick.

Mr. Parnell, in his address at Clerkenwell on Wednesday evening, promised for himself and his colleagues to second every attempt on the part of the labouring classes to better their condition.

Viscount Wolmer, member for Petersfield, suggested in the House of Commons the other evening that the Government appoint a commission to report upon scientific methods of mitigating the fogs which prevail in London.

At the London Chamber of Commerce on Wednesday evening Lord Salisbury delivered an important speech, in which he congratulated those present on the improved aspect of commerce, and said that hostile tariffs and the excess of protection were the only clouds visible.

UNITED STATES.

Jay Gould was fined $250 in New York last week, as a delinquent juror.

Trains were delayed in Minnesota owing to the blizzard of Monday.

Leonard Jerome of New York, father-in-law of Lord Randolph Churchill, died in London last week.

The clothing manufacturers of Rochester, N. Y., ordered a lockout on Saturday, which will affect 20,000 persons.

The Philadelphia City hall, which is not yet completed, has so far cost over fourteen million dollars.

The northern part of New York state has had 92 days of continuous sleighing this winter.

The 51st Congress of the United States completed its business and its existence last week.

A Chippeway Indian, known as Old Chip, has just died at South Bend, Ind., aged 105 years.

Benjamin H. Paddock, Episcopal bishop of the diocese of Massachusetts, died last week in Boston.

Friends of the late Secretary Windom have raised a fund of $50,000 for Mrs. Windom.

Jacob Scheele, a Bridgeport, Ct., murderer, has starved 11 days and declares he will cheat the hangman.

Mrs. O. C. Hansen, of Pelican Rapids, Minn., hanged her infant on the hinge of a door, then drove a nail above the door and hanged herself to it with a stout cord. No motive is known for the crime.

The annual report of the United States Department of Agriculture shows that a comparatively small proportion of the wheat and corn crops of last season now remain in farmers' hands

The bill adopting the Canadian ballot system has passed the South Dakota Legislature and become a law with the Governor's approval.

At the Brayton Ives sale in New York the other day the famous Guttenberg Bible was sold to J. W. Ellsworth, of Chicago, for $7,400 a volume, or $14,800 for the two volumes.

The severest storm of the winter raged in several of the Northwestern States on Saturday night and Sunday.

Many serious cases of trichinosis and four deaths have resulted from the eating of bologna sausage near Ida Grove, Iowa.

The bodies of seven victims of the recent storm in Montana have been found, and it is feared that many others are yet to be discovered.

Strong opposition to the reciprocity treaty with the United States has developed in Brazil, and the ratification of the treaty is doubtful.

Sadie McMullen, the seventeen-year-old girl who has been on trial in Buffalo charged with throwing two children off a high railway bridge, one of whom died from her injuries was acquitted the other day on the ground of being insane at the time.

At Cincinnati Isidore H. Fraunthel and Ernest Sallinger, students at the Hebrew Union College, committed suicide in their boarding house the other day. There was an argreement that they should die at their own hands.

Mrs. M. P. Smith, aged 87, of Flushing Mich., has been endeavoring to starve herself to death, being tired of life. The old lady fasted for 31 days and was then prevailed upon to take nourishment, but may yet die.

The late Mr. Jonathan Scoville, ex-mayor of Buffalo, has left $3,000 to the Roman Catholic Church Society of Lakeville, Ontario. The deceased gentleman left $3,000,000 to churches, charities and educational institutions.

Mrs. Olaria, a native of California, claims that she was twelve years of age at the time of the building of the Carmel Mission in 1772, which would make her 130 years old at the present time.

An organization to be known as Knights of Reciprocity has been formed in Kansas, and shows signs of spreading to a large extent. It is meant as a counter-irritant to the Farmers' Alliance.

The Methodist Episcopal conference of Philadelphia by a vote of 120 to 98 decided against admitting women delegates to the electoral and general conferences of the church.

Congressman John L. Mitchell, of Milwaukee, is said to be the wealthiest member of the incoming House of Representatives. His fortune is estimated at $40,000,000.

The United States Treasury Department has decided that so much of the telephone cable passing through the tunnel connecting Sarnia and Port Huron as is brought within the limits of the United States will be subject to duty.

It is understood that Secretary of the Treasury Foster has determined upon the withdrawal of the United States Customs officers now stationed at various points throughout Canada for the purpose of bonding goods in transit through the United States.

The Emerald branch of the Irish Land League in Louisville, Ky., declare that they will not subscribe funds for either of the contending Irish parties, and recommend all branches of the League in the United States, Canada, and Australia to follow their example.

IN GENERAL.

A Rome despatch says the condition of the pope's health is causing much anxiety.

Ex-Empress Eugenie is reported to be in very bad condition physically and little more than a wreck mentally.

Seven Turkish students have arrived in Berlin to study agriculture at the expense of the Sultan.

A native chief has massacred 278 people in Madagascar, with atrocious cruelties.

The Belgian Labour Council has invited all foreign labour associations to attend a Workmen's Congress to be held in Brussels next August.

The German Government narrowly escaped defeat on the motion for an increased naval vote. The Reichstag is opposed to the Emperor's idea of making Germany a great naval nation.

On Wednesday the Australian Federation Convention met in Sydney, when the scheme proposing a Federal Parliament composed of a Senate and a House of Representatives, and free trade throughout the federation, was taken into consideration.

It is said the question of war with Germany is a live topic in French Ministerial circles. M. de Freycinet and M. Constans are reported in favour of fighting at the earliest possible moment, while President Carnot and M. Ribot advocate peace.

The alarming news has been received from Turkish Armenia of the attack by a Mohammedan mob upon the British Consulate. The Christian population is said to be in a condition of great alarm as a result of the frequent and unchecked Kurdish raids.

Instead of wintering at Corfu, as was her original intention, it is very likely that the Empress of Austria will go to the West Indies in a few weeks, in which case she will probably cruise on this side of the Atlantic during the greater portion of next year.

The decision of Prince Bismarck to again enter politics causes considerable agitation in Germany.

Dr. Bertin of Nantes, France, claims to have succeeded well in the use of goat's blood as a cure for consumption.

Russian and French Ministers at Cairo protest against the Anglo-Italian judicial commission to reform administration of Egyptian affairs.

The Paris *Temps* says the negotiations between France and England on the Newfoundland question have resulted in an agreement, which will be submitted to the French and English Parliament at the end of the week.

During the month of December last the sun did not shine in London, one day. During the entire year 1890, out of a possible 4455 hours, when the sun should or might have been visible, it, as a fact, was visible only 1092 hours and these were mainly in the afternoon.

LOVE LED TO DEATH.

Folly and Crime of a French Railway Magnate.

Detected in an Amour With His Wife's Cousin, He Resorts to Murder—Queer Idea of a French Jury—Partly Excusable Because It Was Not Premeditated.

The latest cause celebre in the criminal courts in Paris is that of M. Joseph Ribot, a gentleman of good social position, education and fair business standing, who, in spite of these advantages, appears to have been utterly unable to resist the fascinations of a fair but unprincipled woman. M. Ribot has been well known for years as a competent official of the Chemin de Fer du Midi whose railway to Lyons and Marseilles constitutes one of the principal through routes of travel in France. In 1875 the tried railway manager was united in the bonds of matrimony with Mlle. Guillumon, the niece of the deputy representing the Department du Rhone. The bride was an estimable lady, but was

NOT AT ALL IN LOVE

with the man who led her to the altar, neither had M. Ribot any real affection for his future wife. The match was entirely one of the kind known as "marriages de convenance," in which almost every other consideration except love enters. In the present case the fact that Mme. Ribot was possessed of a very handsome fortune may have largely decided the railway manager's choice. But even wealth could not insure happiness, and there was very little of that article in the Ribot household before the arrival of Mlle. Essilda Dillac, Mme. Ribot's lovely young cousin, aged twenty, who came up from the provinces to finish her education as a painter in the art schools of Paris, and still less afterwards. Mlle. Dillac was a very clever woman who never denied herself the slightest gratification from fear of the possible consequences, and when she discovered, as she soon did, that M. Ribot was epris with her fair face, she was not deterred from carrying on the amour by the fact that her would-be lover was

THE HUSBAND OF HER RELATIVE.

Of course, the billing and cooing of the lovers could not be carried on openly under the very eyes of the woman they were engaged in deceiving, and thus resort was had to billets doux. These tender missives, now in the hands of the police, are filled with passion of the most passionate variety, and it is difficult to decide whether the vows sworn by the erring spouse; or those repeated by the too responsive maid, were the most ardent. Certain it is that the guilty pair had entered upon a path that could have but one ending—shame and crime. Although roses bloomed at the outset, and the lovers were for a time lost in a fool's paradise of their own creation, M. Ribot at least soon awoke to the consciousness that he was

PLAYING THE PART OF A SCOUNDREL.

But this revelation, at whatever period in the tragedy it was made, came too late. He had gone too far and the same evil influence that had prompted his first departure from the path of duty kept him from following any nobler promptings. From being a person of average amiability, M. Ribot's demeanor towards his wife changed rapidly for the worse. The servants frequently heard him curse her and on several occasions they were present when Mme. Ribot charged him with ill-treatment and even with trying to poison her. Matters were going on in this unhappy manner when, four weeks ago, the servants were

NEARLY FRIGHTENED OUT OF THEIR WITS

by strange noises in their master's room in the middle of the night. These were so unusual and M. Ribot's temper had lately been so bad that they were afraid to venture to ascertain the cause without help.

Summoning some of the tenants on the other flats they finally burst into the room, where they found the furniture thrown about in great disorder, while on the bed lay M. and Mme. Ribot.

THE LATTER WAS DEAD,

her lifeless body being bathed in a pool of blood that gushed from nearly a dozen stabs, apparently inflicted by a sharp knife, while M. Ribot was half fainting, his mouth being gagged and his hands and feet tied. The police were, of course, at once summoned. M. Ribot was liberated, his wife's corpse prepared for burial and the case placed in the hands of several of M. Goron's best detectives. They naturally applied first to M. Ribot himself for information, but after hearing it did not consider that they were greatly enlightened.

THE FACTS ACCORDING TO THE MASTER

of the house were these: M. Ribot was awakened from a deep sleep by Mme. Ribot, who occupied a separate couch, calling his name. Just as he was about to rush to her assistance he was seized, bound and gagged as he was found by two ruffians, whose faces were blackened with soot. What happened to his wife he could not say, as he at once became unconscious. As this pleasing fairy tale, evidently extracted from one of M. Bolsgobey's romances, was not thought to sufficiently resemble the truth, the detectives proceeded on their own theories and soon discovered that these remarkable robbers had failed to secure a large sum of money in the room, or in fact anything else of value.

THEY ALSO UNEARTHED THE DETAILS

of the Dillac amour, the inculpating letters already referred to, and all the possible incentives that could have influenced the railway manager in putting his wife out of the way. As the result M. Ribot was arrested, tried and sentenced to twenty years' imprisonment, with hard labor, despite his plea of "Not Guilty." The leniency of the sentence was due to the extraordinary finding by the jury that the murder was done "without premeditation."

The *Irish Farming World* calls cautionary attention to the dangers of barbed wire. I has become a very common fencing material but an English County Court decision may have the effect of checking its use. An occupier in mending a gap used barbed wire. His neighbour turned out a valuable horse on the other side of the fence, with the result that she was found with a serious lacerated wound. The judge held a very strong opinion. He found that the wire caused the wound, that the fact of the wire being three feet within the defendant's boundary was no justification, and awarded the plaintiff £21 and costs.

SPRING SMILES.

If you don't want people to look always on the dark side of life give them an occasional peep at the other side.

Tommy—"Paw, what is 'fame'?" Mr. Figg—"Fame, my son, is something a man makes money out of after he is dead."

"Before we were married," said she, "his displays of affection were positively overdone." And now?" "They are very rare."

If you have found some one who knows how to scratch your back just where it itches you have come pretty near finding affinity.

If you are told that you resemble a great man say nothing. It may be that the resemblance will cease the moment you open your mouth.

An agricultural editor says that the best article he ever saw on milk was cream. Some city people think that it is not very widely copied.

A.—"I hear that you are going to marry a widow with $10,000." B.—"You have got things mixed. I am going to marry $10,000 with a widow."

Milicent—"What do you think, Maud? Mr. Bullfish has proposed to me." Maud—"Well, I always thought that he'd marry anybody who would take him."

"One thing I ought to tell you before you make up your mind to marry my daughter; she sits all day at the piano." "Oh, I don't mind that at all if she doesn't play."

"He is wedded to his art," said Hicks, apropos of Sketchy, the artist. "You're wrong. He pays too much attention to his art to be wedded to it. He is engaged to it," said Mrs. Hicks, scornfully.

There is one thing about you, d'Auber, that I can't understand," said Schumble. "What is that, old fellow!" "That with your unequaled taste in art you should have such a large collection of your own pictures."

An eye to the future. "I don't see how you can be pleased at the idea of your brother marrying her. She's so fast and harumscarum. She'll never make a good wife." "Oh, but She'll make such a delightful chaperone."

Mrs. Porkly—"I often wonder how people manage to understand each other in France." Mrs. Gotham—"How absurb." Mrs. Porkly—"I don't think it absurd at all. Both my daughters speak French and they can't understand each other."

Somebody has computed that if thirty-two million people should clasp hands they could reach round the earth. When a young man is in love he does not need to have more than one person clasp his hand to be able to reach round all the earth contains for him.

Countryman (buying new suit of clothes)—"Pears to me, mister, that these pantaloons are too short." Loweustein—"Vy, my friendt, dot vos our special style for surburban residents. You don'd haf to roll dhose clodhings up and look like von of dhose silly dudes."

Mrs. DeVisite—"Good afternoon, Miss Blank! Is your mother at home?" Miss Blank—"No. She has gone to Mrs. DeMugg's progressive conversation party. By the way, what sort of a party is that, Mrs. DeVisite?" Mrs. DeVisite—"It is one at which the conversation begins with art, science and literature and progresses very rapidly to fashion, gossip and servants.

IT WAS NAPOLEON.

His Wonderfully Intelligent Dog Recovered the Lost Coins.

It was dark, and down a retired street in Paris a man rode along on horseback. Suddenly the horse stopped as if frightened. Then a man rose from the pavement in the middle of the street and jumped to one side with a cry. The rider was angry and exclaimed: "Are you drunk, man, that you lie about in the middle of a dark street to get yourself run over?"

"You might better lend a poor fellow a hand than scold in that way," exclaimed the other. "I had 300 franks in gold in this bag, carrying it to pay a bill for my master, and the bag has broken and it is all lost over the street. If you have some matches they will do me more good than your curses."

"It's no easy task to find lost money on a night like this," said the rider, dismounting. "I have no matches, but perhaps I can help you. Have you any of the pieces left?"

"Only one," replied the unfortunate fellow with a sob.

"Give it to me," said the other.

The poor man hesitated, but the stranger repeated the words in a tone of authority, and the last coin was handed to him.

The stranger whistled and a great Spanish mastiff stood beside him. He held the coin to the dog's nose, and leaning to the rough pavement said: "Find them."

The dog sniffed the gold-piece and began the search.

One, two, three, he began bringing in the coins and dropping them into his master's hand, while the poor servant stood by in silent wonder.

Thirteen times he returned with a 20-franc piece. Then, after a long search, he came back empty, with a grunt that seemed to say: "There are no more."

"We are yet lacking one piece," said the stranger. "Are you sure there were just 300 francs?"

"Sure as sure can be, sir," the servant replied.

"Then look in the bag again. There must be one left there."

The man looked, and sure enough found the last gold piece still there.

"Oh, sir!" he exclaimed, as the stranger sprang into his saddle, "you are my deliverer. Tell me your name that my master may know who has done such a service."

"I have done nothing," said the stranger. "Tell your master that the one who helped you was a very good and intelligent dog by the name of Joie."

It was some years afterward, when France had seen troubled times and the royal family was no more, that the master was telling the incident to a party of friends, one of whom had been employed in the palace.

"Joie! Joie!" he exclaimed. "There never was but one dog of that name and there never was a more remarkable and faithful dog than he. He always accompanied his master when he went in disguise about the city."

"Who was his master?" they all asked.

The reply was brief: "The Emperor Napoleon."

THE DEADLY CENTIPEDE.

All Admit it to be the Most Repulsive of Insects.

Its Bite is Fatal Unless Proper Remedies are Applied—Its Origin and Peculiar Growth—One Use for Black Ants.

Who can look upon a centipede without shrinking with horror and exclaiming that it is one of the most repulsive of insects? Its body is divided into numerous segments of the same length and thickness, each being furnished with a pair of legs, which end in a sharp-pointed claw, backed by three smaller ones, each capable of inflicting a painful inflammatory wound. Its head is ornamented with two short antennæ, composed of seven joints, illuminated by two granulated eyes, formed by the junction of numerous smaller ones. Its mouth is everlapped by a pair of strong forceps, or hooks, which have openings beneath their points, through which when it bites a poisonous fluid is injected after the manner of the fang of the death-dealing rattlesnake. An irritable fever follows the bite, accompanied by delirium, and if the patient is of an excitable habit amputation or excision of the bitten part becomes necessary or death ensues. Frequently death is the result, despite all remedies. The centipede is

CARNIVOROUS IN ITS APPETITES,

and steals about in search of victims and food only in the night. There are two varieties of the largest kind, those nearly white inhabiting the ground, those of a light chocolate brown frequenting the decayed bark of diseased trees, or that attached to fallen timber. The inhabitants of temperate climates are practically free from these dreaded insects, and are thus compensated, in a degree at least, for the loss of the balmy airs and tropical splendors of more Southern climes. A variety of the centipede, however, exists in the North, called "Thousand legs," which fortunately remains always insignificant in size. They are to be more frequently found in regions famous for the accumulation of lumber, particularly about saw mills, and are occasionally met with in the rich loam of decaying trees. In the West Indies and in the countries bordering on the "Spanish main" the centipede is the greatest pest encountered. The utmost vigilance is necessary to keep them from entering houses and finding their way into beds and clothing. Generally in tropical countries vermin accumulates in immense numbers every two or three years. Scorpions, centipedes, mice, spiders, snakes teem up from floors, arbors and gardens.

LIFE BECOMES UNBEARABLE

But suddenly a little black ant appears—the advance guard of an invincible army. Human inmates fly from their homes and the little ants in countless numbers cover the locality. There can be witnessed the fluttering of the roaches—can be heard the squeaking of the mice and rats; the serpents come coiling in death agony from their hiding places; every creeping thing in the vicinity is undergoing martyrdom. The ants are everywhere; not a nook or crevice escapes them. In a few hours the work of extermination is completed; commencing their work at night, before morning dawns they have taken their departure leaving behind nothing but the wrecks of their victims.

ORIGIN AND GROWTH OF THE CENTIPEDE.

The centipede is hatched from an egg, and comes forth a perfect insect; and what is most remarkable, the young is the subject of great care on the part of the maternal parent, being fostered by her long after they are able to take care of themselves. When first ushered into doing they have but six legs, their additional feet, as well as the rings to which they are attached, becoming developed as they advance in age, one ring and one pair of feet marking the passage of a year. The centipede lives longer, and continues to increase in strength more than any other insect; it survives through many generations. This fact, and its peculiar organization, makes the centipede remarkable among all the varied races of insect life.

Desperate Fight with Bandits.

Details have been received of the killing of Demetrio Jauregue and a band of six robbers in the state of Jalisco, Mexico. The band had for months past terrorised the people in the district, committing murders, abductions, and robberies. It having recently been learned that Jauregui intended to make a raid upon the Elearuzo Plantation a company of infantry was sent to watch him. Hardly had the troops arrived when the bandits were discovered entering the owner's residence. The troops thereupon immediately surrounded the house, and sharp firing began, and was continued throughout the night. At daylight the soldier entered the house and a desperate encounter ensued, all the bandits being finally killed except Jauregni. The latter fled to an attic, being followed by two soldiers, one of whom he succeeded in killing; the other fired through the door, hitting Jauregui who fell at last. The soldier then smashed in the door and found Jauregui crouching behind a bed, having in each hand a revolver, nearly all the chambers of which he discharged, and was then exhausted. The soldier now made a rush to despatch Jauregui, who, however, did not expire until he had once more raised himself and shot and killed the soldier. In the fight with the bandits four soldiers, including Lieutenant Gomez, were killed, and eleven wounded, some of them mortally.

A few months ago a convention of headmasters of the great public schools of England was held in Oxford to discuss the question of making Greek an optional subject in the curriculum of universities. While on a vote it was found that a majority favored the retention of the Greek as a compulsory study, a large minority thought it better not to do so, urging that instead of ancient Greek, it would be better to take the modern Hellenic language. In a commercial sense there can be no doubt of the value of modern languages, and this is regarded as important both in England and this country; but yet to give up the ancient language would be to deprive scholars of the grandest literature extant. Still the movement in favor of optional studies of ancient languages in schools is growing. Many eminent men advocate it. The headmasters of such famous schools as Eton, Harrow and Rugby are favorable to modifications. A more thorough study of French, German, Italian and Spanish is urged as a substitute for Greek and Latin, and there seems to be little doubt that before many years these old tongues will be relegated to those who wish to become classical scholars for the literature alone.