

THE WEEK'S NEWS

CANADA.

La grippe is raging in New Brunswick. The gross earnings of the Canadian Pacific railway for the month of March were \$1,012,999, giving a net profit of \$497,040, as against \$392,770 in March, 1890.

The clergy of Montreal, both Protestant and Roman Catholic, are moving against Sunday amusements.

Mrs. Eliza Judson had just died in Brockville, aged 95.

Many settlers are removing from South Dakota into Manitoba.

Archbishop Fabre, of Montreal, has issued a pastoral letter, in which he urges a close observance of the Sabbath, and points out the various ways in which the holy day is at present desecrated in the city.

The camp for No. 1 military district will this year be held at St. Thomas.

The civic assessment of Brandon now amounts to over two and a half million dollars.

The Perth town council have sold \$4,000 worth of Tay canal debentures to Hanson Bros., of Montreal, for the sum of \$4,084.

The Canadian Customs authorities have seized near Quebec a quantity of smuggled liquors valued at \$5,000.

Notwithstanding the McKinley bill the exports of the Dominion for the past nine months show an increase of over half a million dollars.

Instructions have been sent to Halifax by the Dominion Government to issue licenses to American fishing vessels.

Thieves burglarized John Shanahan's saloon in Kingston on Friday night and stole \$250 in cash and cheques on the B. N. A. Bank for \$3,500.

One hundred thousand whitefish fry were deposited in the lake, near Hamilton, on Friday by Mr. William Parker, of the Sandwich fish hatchery.

The Dominion Government, it is said, has decided to pass legislation providing for the more rigid inspection of cattle shipped from Montreal to British ports.

UNITED STATES.

Judge Gregg, of Cincinnati, has fined baseball players \$2 each for playing a game on Sunday.

A New Orleans despatch states that the Supreme Court has decided the lottery case in favour of the Lottery company.

Ground was broken at Riverside Park, New York, Monday for the monument to be erected at the tomb of General Grant. There were many present and the ceremonies were elaborate.

The old log cabin in St. Louis county, Mo., which Gen. Grant erected with his own hands out of timber cut and hewn by himself, is to be removed to Chicago as one of the attractions of the World's Fair.

Both the United States District Attorney and the grand jury have finished their investigations into the lynching of the Italians at New Orleans on March 14th. Their reports have not yet been made public.

Mr. J. W. Graydon, formerly of the U. S. navy, claims to have discovered a new propelling gas by means of which dynamite can be projected from guns with perfect safety and trifling expense.

Two Mormon elders have been driven out of Lincoln county, W. Va., by indignant citizens.

McKinley is likely to be nominated for Governor by the Ohio Republican Convention on June 16.

The Baltimore & Ohio Railroad officials have voluntarily granted all of the track men of the system an increase of wages.

The St. Louis Presbytery has voted to recommend to the general assembly to appointment of women as deaconesses.

After 10 weeks' idleness work was resumed at the Edgar Thompson Steel Works at Pittsburgh, Tuesday, with 2,000 men at work.

It is now reported in Philadelphia that the failure of the Keystone bank was due to unfortunate speculations by the late president of the institution.

Baron Hirsch has bought a large tract of land near Ridgeway, Pa., on which he will colonize Russian Jews to cultivate sugar beets.

Shoe manufacturers Elliott & Co., of Haverhill, Mass., doing a yearly \$500,000 business, have shut down because of labour agitation and dull trade.

It is reported that American sugar is being smuggled across the line into the Eastern Townships, where it is being sold four cents a pound cheaper than Canadian sugar.

Governor Hill has signed the bill authorizing the Niagara Falls Power Company to increase its capital stock, not to exceed \$10,000,000, and amending the acts giving it power to condemn land, etc.

The Michigan & Canada Tunnel Company has been organized to construct a tunnel under the Detroit River at Detroit and Windsor.

A woman has been murdered and the body mutilated in New York. The crime is exactly similar to those committed in the Whitechapel district of London.

A Mount Pleasant, Pa., despatch says the foreigners at the Standard works are drilling every night, and trouble is feared there when the evictions take place next week.

The Farmers' Mutual Benefit Societies in the district about Summer, Ill., have been holding meetings, and have resolved to accept not less than \$1.25 per bushel for their wheat crop of 1891.

A receiver has been appointed for the Baltimore and Eastern Shore railway. The road is said to be insolvent. It has a mortgage debt of \$1,600,000 and a floating debt of \$600,000.

The Philadelphia Press claims for that city the distinction of being the largest manufacturing centre in the United States. In 1889 New York led by \$150,000,000; now Philadelphia leads by \$50,000,000.

Lorenzo Coleman, the insane son of a well-to-do farmer near Steubenville, Ohio, shot his mother and sister and the hired man, because he thought the shooting would reduce the price of coffee. The maniac is in custody.

Rev. Talmage's new tabernacle in Brooklyn was opened on Sunday with three imposing ceremonies. The edifice seats 5,500

persons and cost \$450,000. The collections during the day amounted to nearly \$50,000, and a debt of \$200,000 remains.

A cut in the freight rate from New York to St. Paul has been made by the Canadian Pacific in conjunction with the West Shore road, which is leased by the New York Central. A rate war is likely to result.

The striking switchmen at Trinidad, Col., have completely tied up the Fort Worth road. Not a freight car has been moved for 24 hours and the coal mines of Sopris, Fobes, Victor, Elmore and Engleville have been compelled to suspend, throwing 3,000 miners out of employment.

New York city had 180 deaths for the 24 hours up to Saturday noon, and 1,208 for the previous week. Of Saturdays deaths 17 were from la grippe.

Wharton Riteon, the teller of the commonwealth National Bank of Philadelphia, who defaulted to the extent of \$8,330 in February last, has been arrested at Havana.

Gen. Brooks, commander of the Department of the Platte, reports that the Indians are rapidly enlisting in the cavalry service. Troop L, 6th Cavalry, has been organized complete with Brule Sioux, including the most warlike of the ghost dancers.

The case of the schooner Sayward, involving the question of the jurisdiction of the United States over the seal fisheries in Behring Sea, which was set for hearing in the United States Supreme Court on Monday, has been postponed until October 19th.

A despatch to the N. Y. Herald from Port-au-Prince, says it is believed the Haytian government has refused to lease to the United States the coaling station at Mole St. Nicholas, negotiations for which have been in progress for some time.

GREAT BRITAIN.

The poll taken at the meeting of the Grand Trunk Company in London on Tuesday resulted in the re-election of the retiring directors by a vote of 47,230 to 20,799, without the proxies held by the directors being used.

The weavers strike at Bradford, Eng., has been settled, and the weavers all returned to work on Monday.

Mr. Gladstone has denied the statement of Mr. Parnell made at Clonmel to the effect that the former had approved of the Plan of Campaign for party purpose.

The grippe is continuing its ravages in England, and in Yorkshire and Lincolnshire the severity of the epidemic is creating alarm.

Lord Knutsford's, Newfoundland, Coercion bill passed the second reading in the House of Lords without a division. It was stated that the measure would not be called for a second reading in the Commons until the week of May 15th, which would give ample time for consideration.

Lord Randolph Churchill left London for South Africa on Friday.

The British steamer Thargis, bound for St. Nazaire, has foundered off the Lizard. Her crew were saved.

A large number of the members of the British House of Commons are victims of influenza.

At the federation meeting in Dublin Timothy Healy stated that he had written speeches and given interviews for Parnell.

A lady who died in Glasgow has bequeathed \$350,000 to Gen. Booth for the Salvation Army.

The annual prize meeting of the National Rifle Association of England at Bisley will open on July 13th.

The Leeds (Eng.) millers have again raised prices of flour, making a raise of \$2.25 per bag since February last.

In an article in The United Service Magazine Lord Wolsley says that he highly appreciates the late Gen. W. T. Sherman as a man and as a soldier, and the name of Sherman will always be honored wherever the English language is spoken.

The McCarthyite members calculate that after the next general elections the strength of the Irish parties will stand, McCarthyites 72, Parnellites 9, Unionists 22.

A cable despatch from London states that the Portuguese Government have yielded to the threat of Lord Salisbury to resort to force to compel them to respect their treaty obligations, and have consented to the free passage of the Pangwe river.

Mr. Goschen, Chancellor of the Imperial Exchequer, delivered his budget speech Thursday afternoon. He estimates the surplus at nearly two million pounds, which will be absorbed by establishing the scheme of free education to come into operation next September.

A special cable despatch states that satisfactory arrangements are being made by the English Government with the object of getting the Newfoundland delegates to consent to a compromise, or the basis of the continuance of the present *modus vivendi* for another year.

IN GENERAL.

Queen Victoria has left Grasse, homeward bound.

Jews are being driven in herds from Moscow and Kieff.

Tamasese, ex-President of Samoa, has died of Bright's disease.

The French Ambassador to Russia has tendered his resignation.

Col. Miguel Lopez, who it is said betrayed Maximilian to Juarez is dead.

The championship sculling match on the Paramattariver, Australia, between McLean and Stansbury, for £400, has been won by the latter.

A Frenchman, who refuses to give his name, has subscribed \$20,000 towards repairing the damage at the Vatican caused by the recent explosion.

It is stated that Baron Hirsch is organizing a scheme for the removal of large numbers of Jews from Russia and South-western Europe to uninhabited land in Australia or Brazil.

Latest advices from Chili indicate that the tide of battle has turned in favor of the Government forces.

A commission has been appointed by the Pope with the object of suggesting economical reforms in the interior management of the Vatican.

The heir to the entailed estate of the late Count Von Moltke is Major Wilhelm von Moltke, son of the brother of the deceased.

In reference to the proposed unlimited

note issue in Spain, the *National Imparcial* predicts that such a step will result in a forced paper currency.

The French Government has issued a decree providing that in future engineers and stokers on the French railroads must not be actively employed for more than twelve hours per day.

An imperial decree forbidding racing on Sunday has been promulgated in Germany.

The St. Petersburg *Norosti* says it is certain Lord Salisbury has concluded a treaty of alliance with Italy.

Grip is spreading in South Russia. One hundred and fifty deaths are reported.

The Spanish Minister of Finance has announced a deficit of nearly nineteen million pesetas.

The Russian government has ordered stricter precautions to protect the seal rookeries in Behring sea.

Advices from Havana say there is a great decrease in sugar production, owing to the severe and prolonged drought.

At Iquique, Chili, recently \$20 was paid for a can of preserved milk, and beef sold at \$10 a pound.

Several Vienna newspapers suggest the establishment of a European Zollverein as a logical answer to the McKinley bill of the United States.

It is stated in Rome that a Frenchman has extorted from Emperor Menelek a treaty of commerce and friendship between France and Abyssinia.

Heavy rains have caused destructive floods in Peru. Many lives have been lost.

An expedition to punish the rebels of Portuguese Guinea will start at once from Angola, and warships have left Lisbon to join the expedition.

The situation in Lisbon is very grave. There is a strong popular feeling against both royalty and England, and an immediate insurrection is feared.

The Municipal Council of the city of Paris has protested against the extreme protection policy of the Customs Committee.

Britain is engaged in another "little war," the King of Gambia having cruelly maltreated a messenger sent by the Governor of Gambia Colony to tell him to behave himself.

Telegrams received in London report that the Roumanian government has issued orders stopping the export of maize, in consequence of the depletion of the stocks of maize in Roumania.

Judgment was rendered Wednesday in the famous libel suit of John W. Mackey, the millionaire, against Galignani's Messenger. Blonden, the director, will undergo sixteen months' imprisonment.

The war vessel Blanco Eucalada, the flagship of the Chilean insurgents, was blown up by a torpedo from a Government vessel on Thursday. Two hundred of her crew were killed.

It is stated Baron Fava in his report to Marquis Rudini, expresses the belief that there is no way out of the New Orleans lynching difficulty, as the United States Federal Government has no power to give Italy the satisfaction demanded.

Some 265 tons of powder in a magazine near Rome exploded Friday killing seven persons and wounding a great many. The city was severely shaken.

The Russia Customs Commission has recommended an increase of duty on silks, woollens, dressed leather, and iron. They also propose to tax jute, sulphur, and other raw products. Fifty per cent. of the imports will be taxed under this scheme.

PEARLS OF TRUTH.

Only a woman will believe in a man who has once been detected in fraud and falsehood.

As to the works of genius they exceed the capacity of woman. She has never, therefore, by any cultivation of her mind, attained even one of those conceptions which form the highest triumphs of the mind.

To imitate the highest example, to do good in ways not usual to the same rank of life to make great exertions and sacrifices in the cause of religion and with a view to eternal happiness, to determine without delay to reduce to practice whatever we applaud in theory, are modes of conduct which the world will generally condemn as romantic.

I envy no man who knows more than myself, but pity those who know less.

The worst of mad men is a saint run mad.

I never knew a man of letters ashamed of his profession.

Not the failures of others, not their sins of omission or commission, but his own misdeeds and negligence should a wise man take note of.

We all have to learn in one way or another, that neither men nor boys get second chances in this world. We all get new chances in the same set of circumstances; and the great difference between one person and another is, how he takes hold of and uses his first chance, and he takes his fall if it is scored against him.

The longer I live and the more I see of the struggles of soul toward heights above,

The stronger this truth comes home to me, That the universe rests on the shoulders of Love.

In seeking wisdom, thou art wise in imagining that thou hast attained it, thou art a fool.

The great perpetual battle of life is the warfare waged against self.

A broken reputashun iz like a broken vase,—it may be mended but alwuss shows where the brake waz.

Conquer your foe by force, you increase his enmity; conquer by love, and you will reap no after sorrow.

The common problem—yours, mine, every one's—

Is not to fancy wh were fair in life, Provided it could be, but finding first What may be, then find how to make it fair.

A house built on sand is, in fair weather, just as good as if builded on a rock. A cobweb is as good as the mightiest chain cable when there is no strain on it. It is a trial that proves one thing weak and another strong.

NIAGARA'S FIRST BRIDGE.

A Wire Cable That Carried an Iron Basket—Many Women Passengers.

In the Historical Society's rooms in the Library building Buffalo, stands an iron basket of latticed and riveted iron strips, painted red, with room for two persons to sit vis-a-vis on a wooden bottom—altogether a rough and ancient looking contrivance. It was used in years long past to convey human freight across Niagara's gorge, and in imagination one can see the queer-looking object on grooved wheels running on the small cable above, shoot down the cable's deflection till the centre was reached, then climb the opposite incline and by other aid finally reach the Canadian bank.

The basket has an interesting history, as the following letter in the possession of the secretary of the society will show. It was written by Judge Hulett of Niagara Falls, and has never before been published:

George F. Barnum, Secretary Buffalo Historical Society.

DEAR SIR: It gives me much pleasure to be enabled to furnish you with the history of the "iron basket" which was a preliminary means in the construction of the great railroad suspension bridge that now spans the Niagara River, the admiration of the world. The data I will give you are taken from a diary kept by me during the work.

During the winter of 1846 the State of New York granted a charter to the International Bridge Company to build a suspension bridge across the river, and the same winter a similar charter was granted in Canada to the Niagara Falls Suspension Bridge Company for a like purpose. These two corporations formed a joint Board of Directors and entered into a contract with Charles Ellet, Jr., a noted engineer and bridge builder of Philadelphia, to build a wire railroad bridge across the Niagara River about two miles below the Falls.

In the latter part of January, 1847, the engineer arrived at the village of Niagara Falls. The inhabitants were all astir on learning of his arrival and flocked about the "Eagle Tavern," where Mr. Ellet was stopping, eager to hear the news. I was among the number, and while there was chosen by the engineer to take charge of the iron part of the structure, he being unable to be present all the time. He then stated that some immediate means of communication across the gorge without the trouble of going to Lewiston, seven miles below, must be established. He planned the erection of a wooden tower on either side, 25 feet in height. Over these towers he proposed to stretch a 36-strand wire cable, with a deflection of 25 feet. On the cable he would place a saddle or yoke with two grooved wheels, and suspended therefrom a car or basket large enough to carry two persons with all their necessary tools. The basket was to be propelled from the bank on either side by means of a drum geared to a crank shaft. The thing to be considered now was what kind of a basket could be constructed that would have sufficient strength and be of the least possible weight. He showed me a sketch of one constructed of wood that he thought would weigh not to exceed 150 pounds. I suggested iron instead of wood for its structure, and as an outcome each of us constructed a basket of our favorite material, when it was found that my basket weighed ten pounds less than his. This basket cable was a preliminary structure to another that was to precede the main structure of the bridge. The second preliminary was the erection of two wooden towers on either bank of the gorge, 75 feet in height and 50 feet apart. Two cables were thrown across the chasm, resting on these towers, and across them, at intervals of six feet, were placed strips of pine 3x2 inches in size. Below these strips of wood, in wire loops, were placed light needle beams, on which were laid a flooring of one-inch pine boards.

When these two independent bridges were finished they were drawn together, giving the cables a lateral course of about 15 feet on either side, and forming a platform from which the railroad bridge was built. It was while these temporary platforms were being constructed that an incident occurred that can but give this iron basket precedence as a life-saving device. The north platform had been finished and hung to the two cables—4 feet in width—without any side railings. It was being used by some venturesome persons. Four men had carried the south platform out about 200 feet from the cliff where it swung, when a sudden gale of wind struck it, and to the horrified onlookers from the shore seemed to tear the unfinished structure into shreds, throwing the platforms over and across the little basket cable that hung in the centre. This destruction was the work of but a moment. The four workmen were caught in the wreck, and hung to the slender wires with no foot rest save the shifting debris of the shattered flooring while, 150 feet below them darted the angry water. So the men hung until the violence of the gale had subsided, when the writer made inquiry for a volunteer to go out in the basket and rescue the men. A brave young man named William Ellis stepped forward, saying, "I am your man." He was told to take off but one man at a time, as the amount of weight resting on the little cable could not be estimated. But when he had reached the men he could not withstand the desire to afford the unfortunates immediate relief, and the four men were taken off safely at the first trip, though the exhibition was paralyzing to those witnessing it from shore. This occurred on Oct. 10, 1848.

It is a curious fact of the thousands of persons crossing the gorge in the little basket, three-fourths or more were ladies. It was intended to seat comfortably two persons, though four were sometimes crowded in. The first passage was made in the spring of 1848 by Engineer Ellet.

The preliminary means of hauling over the first cable were by means of a kite string. The writer offered \$10 to the boy who would get a kite string of sufficient strength to haul a clothesline across the river. This offer brought a regiment of kite-flyers into the field, and finally a boy named Homan Walsh was successful, and received the prize. From this small beginning the greatest suspension bridge on earth has resulted. There are but few of the original actors in the above described enterprise still living. Engineer Ellet was "General Ellet," who conceived and constructed the famous ram boats on the Mississippi River during the American rebellion, and who was killed by a flying splinter while his boat was passing a rebel battery.

TIT-BITS.

The Parable of the Baptist.

Dr. Lyman Abbott, who has succeeded Beecher in Plymouth Church, writes Eli Perkins, is a strong believer in the doctrine that baptism means sprinkling and not immersion, and delights in telling this story on the immersionists as such as Beecher delighted in telling his story on the close communionists:

"One of my parishioners," said the doctor, "came to me and told me that he dreamed that a Baptist friend of his died and went to heaven."

"Well, what did he see there?" I asked. "He saw St. Peter at the gate and beyond him, through a doorway surrounded with glaring lights and smelling of brimstone, was the devil."

"What do you want?" asked St. Peter. "I want to come in," replied the immersionist.

"Well, who are you?"

"I'm a Baptist minister."

"A Baptist!" repeated St. Peter, a little puzzled. "A Baptist, eh? Well, what do you Baptists do? We didn't have any Baptists in my time when I was Pope."

"Why, we baptize people."

"Baptize em, do you? What in?"

"Why, water."

"What, all over?"

"Yes, clear under."

"But suppose it's cold?"

"Why, down they go right through the ice."

The devil happened to overhear the word ice and came forward, rubbing his hands in great glee.

"What did you say about ice?" he asked, smiling.

"Why, we baptize people through the ice."

"But, suppose it's forty below zero?"

"Down they go, all covered with icicles."

"That'll do," interrupted the devil, "you just take my place; you've got something worse than fire."

Yes, He Has.

"The tramp has a party taking with him, I tell you," said a farmer who had come to the eastern market with a load of hay and dropped off four of the gentry who had been riding with him.

"How do you mean?" was asked.

"That crowd came up this morning just as I was leaving home, and the big fellow sung out:

"Say! old man, we want to ride to town with you."

"Can't do it!" says I.

"Can't you?" says he. "Then we'll sot right down on yer front porch all day. We'll also see that the old woman cooks us a square dinner, and mebbe there's some apples and cider in the cellar."

"Then what did you say?"

"Then I smiled all over and says, says I: 'Boys, I like company. Climb right up here and we'll smoke and chaw and have a good visit as we ride along.'"

Quite Another Thing.

Dentist (to juvenile patient)—Courage, my boy! Without pluck you can never hope to sit in the Presidential chair.

Boy (with a howl)—But what's that got to do with sittin' in a dental chair, anyway?

Literary Item.

Jones—What are you doing now for a living?

Smith—I live by writing.

For the press?

O, no; I write to the old man twice a month to send me some more money.

There are Many Such.

Justice Duffy—Have you ever taken an oath?

Criminal—Several times.

When was that?

When I was in love.

After the Engagement was Broken.

He. "And do you mean to tell me that you engaged yourself to me for mere caprice intending all the while to throw me over?"

She. "Not exactly; but I'm writing a novel, and I've got to have an aged lover in it. I needed a model, and so I—ah—shall I send you a copy of the book?"

A Child's Peculiar Fancy.

Flossie's grandmother was a nice old lady, but she was very difficult to get along with, and this was particularly true during her last illness, and the child came in for her share of it. One day, shortly after the old lady's death, Flossie's mother observed that she was very thoughtful.

"What are you thinking about, Flossie?"

"I was just wondering," she replied with great seriousness, "how grandma and God are getting along together."

A Good Joke on a Lion.

He must have been a bright boy, a very bright little boy, who said to his mother, "I wish a lion would eat me up."

"Why?" the mother asked.

"Because it would be such a good joke on the lion; he would think I was inside of him, and I should be up in heaven."—[Congregationalist.

Esop Adapted to the Time.

A Wolf and a Lamb were drinking out of the same Purling Stream, when the Wolf angrily blurted out:

"I say, you! You are Rolling the Mud all up."

"Let her roll," returned the Lamb nonchalantly. Whereupon the Wolf Leaped across the Stream and fell upon the Lamb. The Fierce Creature had hardly attempted to Tear the Lamb's Shoulder off, however, before his Teeth broke off Short and fell to the Ground.

"Bah!" said the Lamb; "what a Fool you are to try your Fangs on a Hardened old Tough like myself. Can't you See that I am a Spring Lamb?"

Making Him Ashamed.

"If—if you only knew what the bill was for," sobbed the young wife. "you would be ashamed to scold so about it."

"What was it for?" demanded John.

"My birthday present for you," said the sad little wife.