

A Word for Free Press Readers.
As previously announced the Free Press will be the 1st of January, 1893, adopt the "Cash in Advance" system in the matter of subscriptions and this decision is referred from time to time to the editor who has been most prepared to help us carry out the new arrangement. We solicit the aid of all our subscribers, many of whom have been regular readers of the Free Press for many years past, and we trust you will do the same. The Free Press is an old and trusted friend, and one of the institutions closely connected with Acton's progress. The new plan will be more satisfactory to us all concerned.

The Acton Free Press

THURSDAY, JULY 14, 1892.

NOTES AND COMMENTS.

The terrible destruction of St. John's Newfoundland by fire is one of the greatest calamities which ever befell a community and should call forth practical sympathy from every section of this fair land. The call for assistance is strong and ready response in many quarters, but the response should be general and prompt.

Mr. Fuller, chief architect of public works, is at present engaged on the plans for the Canadian building at the World's Fair. It is designed solely for office and reception purposes. Each of the provinces of the Dominion will be furnished with quarters, and it is expected that the interior of each will be finished in woods from the province to the purpose of which the room will be dedicated. The total cost of the building will be about \$15,000. It will be erected quite near the British Headquarters, a fine building in brick and terra cotta, which is to cost \$60,000.

An amendment has just come into effect providing that foreign newspapers and periodicals brought into Canada by mail or otherwise, may be posted in Canada by news agents to addresses in this country at the rate of one cent per pound, payable by postage stamp on each separate package, and British newspapers and periodicals brought into Canada otherwise than by mail may be posted by news agents to addresses in Canada at the same rate, payable in the same manner. Partly printed and partly written notices issued by societies for the purpose of notifying members of the date and place of meeting to be held must, in future, be prepaid at letter rate.

To the over-cautious and conservative opponents of the enfranchisement of women on the ground that the right of suffrage would pervert and corrupt woman's influence and purposes, would cause division and disquiet in the home, and would vitiate the effect of education, there is interesting food for reflection in the history of the great movement for the suffrage in Ireland. In this nation of 75,000,000, where men and women are in every respect political equals, and are governed by representatives elected by men and women together, not a single infantile child is to be found, every child being able to read, write and understand numbers at the age of seven. These voting mothers who educate their own children have produced a nation in which there are no paupers, no police, no criminals, no paupers, no enormously rich or wretchedly poor people, and where the citizens are educated, industrious, chaste, temperate and intelligent.

In speaking of the coming presidential campaign Harper's Weekly shows the position usually taken by political newspapers, and then defines the duty of newspapers as follows:—We trust that in this campaign the world will maintain the distinction which it has just won of presenting a truthful picture of the contest on both sides. The World supports Mr. Cleveland, but that is no reason that it should represent the Harrison campaign as liars and dull nor that it should deny enthusiasm to the Harrison meeting, nor caricature the Harrison speakers and speeches. Usually it is the other side which is depicted as white-headed or the other wife, there is but one side represented, and the rest was forgotten—concession from the beginning. The reader of the weekly edition of the London Times during the present exciting campaign in England will need no other paper to furnish him with a fair picture of its progress. Every morning he will find the chief speeches on both sides accurately reported, with the most truthful accounts of the size and spirit of the meetings. The Times is not friendly to Mr. Gladstone, but it will open its columns to all that he says, and neither belittle nor satirize his meetings. The feeling of crowds and their reception of the orators will be photographed, so that the reader will know that he understands the situation. This is the function of a great newspaper. This is to be a mirror of the times. Whatever the editorial sympathies of a paper may be, if it permits them to distort and misrepresent the news, it abuses its trust. Yet in the heat of a political campaign how many newspapers are guilty of that abuse?

The tobacco bill introduced by Hon. Oliver Mowat has session provides that "any person actually or apparently under eighteen years of age who has in his possession or smokes or in any way uses, in a public street or any other public place, cigarettes, cigars or tobacco in any way shall drop summary conviction therefore before a justice of peace, be subject to a penalty of not less than \$1 or more than \$5 for every offence, or in default of payment a penalty to imprisonment in the common goal for any period not exceeding seven days; and in case of a fine being awarded, if the same is not paid, the justice may commit the offender to the common goal there to be imprisoned any term not exceeding seven days unless the fine is sooner paid." Any person who directly or indirectly sells, gives, furnishes or pays for cigarettes, tobacco or cigars in any form to the said minor shall be subject to a penalty of not less than \$10 or more than \$50, with or without costs of prosecution, or imprisonment with or without hard labor for any term not exceeding 30 days, or to both fine with or without costs and imprisonment to the said amount and for said term, in the discretion of the conviving magistrate." As a note to the bill it is stated that laws somewhat similar to that have been adopted in New Jersey, Massachusetts, Nevada, Arkansas, Maine, Minnesota, Pennsylvania, Michigan, South Dakota, Alabama, Wyoming, New Hampshire and the District of Columbia. Some people say the law may do very well in cities but it won't work in smaller places and there is no need of it. To that they are badly mistaken as there is ample room for its operation in Acton as young lads not yet in their teens have learned the "manly" art of both smoking and chewing tobacco. The legislation is along the right line.

The election protest against T. B. Flint, Liberal member for Yarmouth, N. S., was dismissed on Saturday.

The only important amendment made to the criminal code by the Senate was increasing the penalty for grave robbery from one year to five.

Mr. George E. Griffin, of the House of Commons and Senate restaurants was last week fined \$50 and costs for selling liquor without a license.

Robert Oliver King of Brantford township and James Balloor, architect of Hamilton, give notice of application to Parliament next year for divorce from their wives.

Already has the inter-sectional quiet resumed its reign. Parliament hill, Parliament buildings are given up to workmen and charwoman. There are only a few late Senator and members now left in the city.

Sir William Dawson was in the city for a few hours Saturday for consultation with Dr. Ami and Mr. Lawrence Lamb, of the Geological Survey, about certain publications which the department and the Royal Society are about to issue.

FROM THE CAPITAL.

A Quiet Prorogation on Saturday With Almost Empty Houses.

NOTES HERE AND THERE.

Ottawa, 11th July.—Dominion Parliament was prorogued on Saturday afternoon when the Governor-General convened Senators and Commons upon having passed the Redistribution bill, and bid them hope that the trouble with the United States over the canal tolls will be speedily removed. Never before was there such an imposing prorogation of Parliament. The day began with drizzling showers, which became heavier in the afternoon. The benumbed flags which flapped from the flag poles over the buildings were the only sign to be seen on Parliament hill of the fact that it was the day of a State ceremony of most notable pomp and circumstance. When the Speaker took the chair in the Commons chamber an hour before noon there were two or three more than a score of members in their places.

WORK OF THE SESSION.

The session has lasted four months and a half. There were presented to the House 61 petitions for private bills. In connection with these 54 bills were passed, eight were withdrawn and in the case of five petitions there were no bills introduced. Last year there were 70 private bills introduced, the average number during a session has generally reached 100.

There were 32 Government bills introduced, and of these 27 passed both Houses and were assented to. The measures dropped were the North-west Territories Bill, the Internal Economy Bill, the Witnesses and Evidence Bill, the Fisheries Bill and the Judges' Salaries Bill. Sixteen Government bills were introduced in the Senate.

The most important Government bills which became law with the Redistribution Bill and the Criminal Code.

THE WHISKEY SQUATTERS.

Smuggling whiskey on the St. Lawrence must be a very profitable business when men will take arms against the Government rather than quit it. It was time vigorous steps were taken to suppress this system of grafting between the master, Mr. Chappell, and his handless activity.

All the reports are true, smuggling pretties seem to have permeated whole communities on the St. Lawrence. Under the old system contraband whiskey was sold by the Customs officials to the highest bidder. As a general rule the smugglers bought it at a ridiculously low figure and then were able to place it on the market with the sanctioned Government. This has taken off its gloves to deal with them their illegal traffic should be totally suppressed.

FRANCHE-CANADA REPEAL.

Sir John Caldwell Hackett has proposed Senate that an enquiry will be made to ascertain if there are no inaccuracies in the figures of the just census bulletins relating to the French Canadian population of Ontario, which is represented as having decreased during the last ten years by seventy-one individuals. The Premier agrees with Mr. Tait, that there is every appearance of some serious error in a statement that there are not as many French-Canadians in Ontario as there were in 1892.

THE DOMINION'S BALANCE SHEET.

The statement of the revenue and expenditure on account of the consolidated fund of the Dominion to the night of June 30th, last, which ends the Dominion's fiscal year, shows that the receipts were \$33,500,000, and the ordinary expenditures \$30,000,000, while the insurance is but \$3,000,000.

The centenary of Canadian Masonry will be celebrated in Toronto on October 3, 4 and 5. It is expected that 45,000 Masons will partake.

Mr. A. Macville, for 20 years connected with the People's Bank at Montreal, dropped dead on Saturday.

From June 23 to July 2, four days, there were 565 deaths from cholera reported from various localities in Turkey.

John Wilson was instantly killed in a railway accident in Camden Township, near Tamworth, on Sunday morning.

A terrible landslide occurred in Savoy, burying the village of St. Georges (les Bains), on Tuesday. Over 100 lives were lost.

Isaac Flewelling, a farmer living near Guelph, Ontario, was instantly killed by lightning while pitching hay on Monday last.

Colonel General Stanley's eldest son, a Conservative, obtained 1,160 majority over the Liberal candidate in South-East Lanarkshire.

At the town of Gleason, Idaho, four men were killed and several injured in a battle between union and non-union miners.

The total loss by fire at St. John's, Nfld., has been carefully estimated at \$20,000,000, while the insurance is but \$3,000,000.

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Mrs. A. Sherat, of Fergus, fell on the sidewalk there a few days ago and broke one leg. She is 4½ years old, and her condition is serious.

Perce Sam, sentenced to be hanged at Stone Mountain Penitentiary on July 10th, has had his sentence commuted to imprisonment for life.

Aold man named Cates of Tilsonburg was attacked by two belligerent and received such injuries to his back that his whole body is paralyzed.

A woman in Paris recently committed suicide by shooting herself all over her body, and in that way died from exhaustion of the voluntary system.

Edward Nelles, 23, of Bradford, fell overboard from a steamer of Chicago into Lake Michigan on Saturday and was drowned. The body was not recovered.

The Kingston City Council has decided to exempt manufacturers who run nine months during the year and pay \$100 in wages weekly, on buildings, machinery and plant.

Three white men and 101 chinamen were killed in a gunpowder explosion near San Francisco on Saturday. The concession was terrific, and property was damaged for miles around.

L. W. Flah, shoemaker, of Ridgewood, committed suicide Sunday by taking morphine. Discolourment on account of an expensive life insurance policy is said to have been the cause.

William Williams, 35, a farmer living near Woodstock, while returning home from the Orange celebration Tuesday night, was struck by the G.P.R.R. express and instantly killed.

The Canadian Pacific Railway Company proposes to establish an independent entrance into New York state by building a line from Woodstock to Niagara Falls and crossing the gorge on a bridge of their own to be constructed.

The vice-president chosen by the Christian Endeavor Association, held at New York last week includes Joseph Ball, Manistee; E. A. Hardy, Ontario; George R. Lighthill, Quebec, and Rev. T. E. Fletcher, of Maritime Union.

The Canadian rifle team at present in England shot two matches at Cambridge Monday, and won three both, the first against a Cambridge town team by 63 shots, and the second against a team of Third Suffolk volunteers by 52.

A terrible smash-up, caused by cattle on the track, took place on Thursday morning on the Canadian Pacific railway west of Montreal. One man was killed and two others, all of whom were steaming ride, were injured. Property to the value of about \$30,000 was destroyed.

A great astronomical event will occur on Aug. 5. That night Mars will be only 55,000,000 miles away from the earth. Only once in fifteen years do the two planets come so close together as this. In the past fifteen years the improvement in telescopes has been great at one end of the line that predicted discoveries may be looked for.

Sir William Dawson was in the city for a few hours Saturday for consultation with Dr. Ami and Mr. Lawrence Lamb, of the Geological Survey, about certain publications which the department and the Royal Society are about to issue.

—Just arrived a fine assortment of Flower pots—at T. H. Hamond's Grocery.

—You can get a good round cash discount on your Books & Shoes at Kenney Bros. Auction.

D. STIRTON, L.D.S.,

Graduate of Toronto School of Dentistry and Royal College of Dental Surgeons, Ontario—Neil Post Office, Acton.

TALK OF THE DAY.

An Epitome of the World's Doings During the Week.

John C. Wade, M. E., for Digby, N. S., is dead.

Pastor is ill in Paris with a mild form of cholera.

Cyrus W. Field died in New York Tuesday morning.

Sir John Abbott will probably visit England this fall.

President Dixie has again been elected President of Mexico.

Jacob Johnston, the older Orangeman

Hamilton died on Monday.

The 12th of July was celebrated by loyal Orangemen all over Canada Tuesday.

The XIII Battalion band of Hamilton

was the only band which paraded.

The post-office at Forest was robbed of \$10 worth of stamps on Thursday night.

The telegraph announcing the death of W. Astor on Monday was a forgery.

The Manitoban crop this year promises to be the largest yet produced in that country.

Hon. G. W. Ross has been made president of the Dominion Teachers' Association.

A force of cavalry has killed 31 armed bandits in a terrible conflict on the Chilian frontier.

The Prohibition Commission meets at Halifax during the week of July 25 to take evidence.

The body of John Holloran, drowned near Kingston last November, has only been recovered.

Bessie Turner, a young girl of 14, was drowned in the canal at Bradford, on Thursday.

Spencer, a Chicago bicyclist, established a new world's record by riding 30 miles in 21 hours.

Two girls measuring in men's clothes in Montreal have been fined \$10 or more each.

William Webb, a slightly young fellow of 18, was married in London, Saturday, to a widow aged 60.

A new union railway depot to cost \$600,000 is to replace the present inadequate building at Toronto.

Philip Low, Q. C., County Crown Attorney of Prince Edward, and ex-mayor of Picton, died Monday.

A nine-year-old boy named Albert Jones was drowned Monday while bathing at Cannington, near Belleville.

Mr. Alex. Macville, for 20 years connected with the People's Bank at Montreal, dropped dead on Saturday.

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