

BORN.
Wednesday in Ottawa, with April, the wife of J. C. Warren, of a daughter.
MARRIED.

Hannah, Latin, in St. Albin's Church, Acton, Ontario, April 23, to John H. H. H. Cook, Mr. Harry Higgins, Welland, to his second child, daughter of Samuel Latell, Esq., Acton.

DEAD.

Burns, in French, Friday, 26th April, at her home, with April, the wife of J. C. Warren, of a daughter.

McGREGOR.

Hannah, Latin, in St. Albin's Church, Acton, Ontario, April 23, to John H. H. Cook, Mr. Harry Higgins, Welland, to his second child, daughter of Samuel Latell, Esq., Acton.

The Action Free Press

THURSDAY, APRIL 26, 1894.

NOTES AND COMMENTS.

According to the Montreal Gazette, "Canada is the only country of any importance in which the government has been able to reduce her rate of taxation. In France there is a deficit of about \$2,000,000 francs; in England there is one of about \$1,500,000, and in the United States the shortage amounts to about \$70,000,000."

A Washington dispatch says: "The Secretary of State is the authority for the statement that the Administration will not take into consideration the suggestion of the Paris tribunal that it award damages to Canadian seafarers for an act of the Behring Sea bill should be concluded. The modifications of the British Behring Sea bill are said to be satisfactory."

The United States Immigration Bureau, with the approval of Secretary Carville, has issued an important circular of instructions to its commissioners of immigration, collectors of customs and immigration officers, which in effect extends all of the prohibitive and inspection features of the present regulations relating to trans-oceanic immigration to persons arriving in the United States by water from Canada, Newfound land and Mexico.

There were 62 North-west homesickness cases reported last year, compared with 4,000 cases. This is a decrease of 14 per cent., and the number of cancellations has varied largely, high-water mark being reached in 1878, when they were 76 per cent. of the total entries. The chief cause of cancellations is the failure of the applicant to fulfil the conditions of his issue. The comparison between the different years is in favor of the latest.

The latest news from Brazil is to the effect that there was not much left of the rebel fleet when the civil war ended, and that the best vessel Meliobah, the iron clad Aquidabah, has since been sunk and destroyed. If these reports are true it is a good sign for the future of Brazil. It was evident from the beginning of the war that the Brazilians had the moral stamina and manhood required to make the possession of a fleet of any consequence safe or beneficial.

The Case of Russia has been repeatedly presented to the world as a man of peaceful inclinations. The Emperor William, who was the commercial treaty was under discussion, expressed this view, saying that the Russian ruler preferred peace to war, and the treaty would be a further guarantee of its preservation. But when put to the test, which he has furnished in the preparation for a general reduction of armes, the Czar respectfully declines to be induced to do so. He believes that the blessings of peace and security rest on the side of the heroic battalions. The attitude of Russia will put any radical reduction of army measures in Europe out of the question.

The bad packing of Canadian apples is said to be militating against their popularity in England. Mr. W. G. Moore, agent at Bristol, reports that, to prevent Canadian goods from sinking into disrepute, it is necessary that they should be honestly packed. Too many people put large and good fruit in the ends of the barrel and small inferior fruit in the middle. The trades sees the whole lot, and after he has been disappointed once or twice comes to look with misgivings on all shipments from the source of his annoyance. On the continent of Europe they do better, and are profiting thereby. In packing apples, as in other things, honesty is the best of policy.

The free postal delivery service is now in force in eleven cities in Canada and employs 461 carriers and superintendents as follows: Halifax, 19; Hamilton, 45; Kingston, 9; London, 31; Montreal, 106; Ottawa, 32; Quebec, 31; St. John, 25; Toronto, 12; Victoria, 13; Winnipeg, 12. The number of letters, post cards, newspapers, etc., delivered last year was:

Halifax	1,000,000
Hamilton	2,000,000
London	1,000,000
Montreal	9,000,000
Ottawa	3,000,000
Quebec	3,000,000
St. John	1,000,000
Toronto	10,000,000
Victoria	600,000
Winnipeg	1,000,000
Total	42,000,000

HUNTSVILLE DEVASTATED.

The Business portion of the Village is in Ashes.

Huntsville, April 23.—Yesterday afternoon a heap of rubbish was being burned in the rear of H. B. May's hardware store, and the flames spread to the shop. Before the fire could be extinguished the place was communicated to some local houses near by and then Mr. May's store building.

From this it spread to the whole of the business places in the eastwardly part of the main street, and in less than two hours all were in ashes.

The burning buildings comprise one hotel, grain mill and thirty-two business places, also the Episcopal Church, telegraph, telephone and post office, and the steamer Essex, owned by G. F. March.

The fire engines from Gravenhurst and Bracebridge came, but too late to save anything.

The loss is estimated at about \$120,000. Insurance about \$40,000. Many people are homeless as a result of the fire.

ERINSVILLE FIRE-SWEPT.

An Addison County Village Almost Wiped Out.

Erinville, Ont., April 23.—A disastrous fire swept over this village at noon to day. The fire originated in the Phelan house. The following are the losses: Phelan House and sheds, \$3,000; insurance, \$1,000; J. E. Murphy's shop and dwelling, \$1,300, no insurance; P. Walsh's shop and dwelling, no insurance; John Bieswitt's house, \$600, insurance, \$300; A. Stewart's house and shop, \$500; no insurance; M. R. Murphy damage to stores and contents, loss about \$300, fully insured.

OUR OTTAWA LETTER

General Report—Report—The French Treaty Tariff Changes—Postal Post to Australia.

COMMENT IN THE LOBBIES

OTTAWA, April 23.—This vessel contains a copy of the "Daily News" of London, England, which has passed the House of Commons.

There are no new stories at Windsor last Thursday night.

At the post office was damaged by fire Saturday morning.

The New Brunswick legislature was prorogued on Saturday.

The Bank of Bengal has raised its interest on discount from 8 to 9 per cent.

Two hundred thousand Indian soldiers will help gather the harvest this year.

The royal wedding at Coburg, Germany, has been postponed again. Domingo Day.

The Bank of New South Wales will be opened on Saturday.

The British admiral has passed the House of Commons.

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TALK OF THE DAY

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

The Archbishop of Quebec is a Roman Catholic.

Comment in the Lobbies

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