

THE WEEK'S NEWS.

HOME.

The Victoria and Nanaimo railway was formally opened to the public on the 30th ult.

Rev. Sam Jones commenced his revival services in Toronto to an audience of about three thousand.

All E. Kelly has been sentenced to fifteen years in the penitentiary for the manslaughter of Andrew Sloan, of West Gwillimbury.

Garnet was found guilty at Regina, N. W. T., of the Prince Albert mail robbery, and sentenced to fifteen years in the penitentiary.

The conference of the State and Provincial Boards of Health has concluded its session in Toronto, and decided to meet next year in Washington, D. C.

The Canadian Pacific steamship Athabasca, about which rumours were current that she had been lost on Lake Superior, has arrived safely at Owen Sound.

The Dufour house, the largest hotel in Belleville, has been destroyed by fire, together with nearly all the contents, entailing a total loss of about \$50,000.

It is rumoured that the Customs authorities intend making extensive seizures of ranch cattle brought across the line into the North-West Territories without payment of duty.

Contractors for the Hudson's Bay railway have been granted the same privileges in regard to Customs duties on outfits as were allowed Canadian Pacific railway contractors.

Margaret Halligan, employed in Toronto as a cook, is reported to have fallen heir to the largest cotton plantation in Tunica County, Mississippi, through the death of her brother Edward.

Leading bank managers of Winnipeg speak most hopefully of the financial outlook in Manitoba. Money is plentiful, and payments are more promptly met than at any time since the boom.

Mr. Goldwin Smith and family have returned to Toronto after a four months' absence. There is talk of his being banqueted by the Loyalists, whom he represented during the late British campaign.

Two American schooners have been seized at Port Hawkesbury, N. S., for landing dutiable goods without entry or reporting at the Custom office. The seizures have no connection with the fisheries questions.

Engineer Fetterly, of the Canadian Pacific express train that was wrecked near Kat Portage, died in the Winnipeg hospital. The other injured persons are doing well. Nearly all the mail matter on the ill-fated train was burned.

The success of the Toronto Industrial Exhibition has aroused emulation among the citizens of Kingston, who propose to form a joint stock company to purchase the new fair grounds in that city and establish an annual fair for the Midland district.

The Rev. Dr. Neeles, of Victoria College, reports that matters are progressing satisfactorily and that no factious opposition is offered from any party. The early removal of Victoria to Toronto is inevitable and it will probably take place in time for next session.

AMERICAN.

Pneumo-pneumonia has broken out in Newark county, New Jersey. Minnesota, Dakota and Kentucky have established a quarantine against cattle from Illinois.

Judgment was given at Chicago refusing a new trial to the Anarchists and confirming the verdict of the jury. Seven of them will therefore be hanged and the eighth imprisoned for fifteen years.

A prominent citizen of Galveston, Texas, who has just returned from a trip through the drought-stricken region of that State, reports that the published accounts of the damage and suffering are misleading and considerably exaggerated.

Later returns of the catastrophe to the Mississippi river steambot La Mascotte, give a total of 70 passengers and crew on board at the time of the explosion, of whom 37 were rescued not seriously injured, 21 were drowned or missing and 12 were rescued badly burned, one of whom has since died and two more are not expected to live. There is no hope of finding the missing alive.

FOREIGN.

Excessively warm weather prevails in London all over the continent of Europe.

At dawn the other day friendly natives assaulted and carried Tamai, Osman Digma's stronghold.

All the Madrid revolutionists who were sentenced to death have had the sentences commuted.

One thousand operatives in the cotton mills at Nelson, Lancashire, have struck for higher wages.

Bulgaria has agreed to accept Russia's terms, provided the independence of Bulgaria is guaranteed.

Gen. Villacampa and thirteen others who took part in the recent rising in Madrid, have been sentenced to death.

The large force of police employed in watching public buildings in London are in future to be assigned the duty of watching suspects.

Sir John Simmonds, who has had great experience in Asia Minor affairs, considers it impossible for the present Bulgarian crisis to pass away without war.

A special cablegram says it is generally believed that the De Freycinet Cabinet will shortly bring down a measure for disestablishing the Roman Catholic Church in France.

At Torquay lately a magistrate sentenced three officers of the Salvation Army to one month's imprisonment at hard labour for conducting a band in procession through the streets.

Sir Charles Dilke believes the Conservatives will have no difficulty in remaining in power for five years, and if nothing extraordinary happens their control will probably last ten years.

Great amusement was created the other day in London club circles by several of the Lords of the Admiralty returning from the annual cruise of inspection, on account of sea-sickness.

A Constantinople despatch says the proposed Franco-Russian alliance at the court of the Sultan for the discomfiture of England has been checked seriously by the recent plain spoken language of the British Cabinet.

The Royal Inniskillen Fusiliers, stationed at Aldershot, went on a riot the other night, in resistance to a draft that was being made for service in Africa, and were only subdued after a number of soldiers and police were wounded.

At the festival at Elaroh the local magistrates, seeing that a conflict between Hindus and Mohammedans was inevitable, brought a company of British troops on the scene. The natives, infuriated at their approach, threw themselves on the soldiers' bayonets, and a scene of intense excitement ensued.

YOUNG FOLKS.

A FABLE OF FUN.

Billy had been doing a great deal of mischief. Finding the garden gate accidentally left open he immediately passed through and ate off the tallest and brightest flowers, then spying the rocking-horse on the front porch, he boldly ascended the steps and began chewing the mane, which was made of horse-hair. He had nearly finished it when he was discovered from the window, and was driven out of the garden with a great outcry and flourishing of sticks.

So, by means of a box, a barrel, and a board, he had climbed to his favorite place, the woodshed roof, and seemed to be dolefully meditating on his sins.

In a few minutes two servants came out of the house, bearing between them a large clothes-basket. They went several rods back of the woodshed and emptied the basket, then returned to the house. Billy looked curiously at the heap, which was very indistinct at a distance, and while wondering whether or not he should investigate the matter, the servants again came and emptied the basket. Billy's curiosity was increasing rapidly, but he did not mean to be decoyed away from his favorite position by a trifle. So he waited undecided. For the third time the basket was brought out and emptied, and this proved too much for Billy. His inquisitiveness carried the day, and the moment the servants disappeared he descended from his height and approached the mysterious heap. He then discovered that the stuff so carefully carried out was nothing but old rags. He was looking at them in great disgust when the children came running from the house crying in their loudest voices:

"Go away, Billy! Go away, Billy!"

Billy ran with all his might, but he did not climb upon the woodshed again, for he meant to return to the heap of rags at the earliest possible moment. As soon as the coast was clear back went the naughty fellow, only to be driven away.

"Yes," he said to himself, "it is very plain they don't want this old stuff touched, so I'll have some fun with it."

When he came to the heap the third time he at once set to work greedily chewing the rags, looking curiously around now and then to see if some one was coming. As he was not disturbed again, he stood thus munching and chewing until it was nearly dark and time for him to run into the barn for the night. When his supper was given him he found his stomach was so filled with rags that he could only eat a few mouthfuls.

"But it was great fun," he said to himself as he stretched himself out on his bed of clean straw.

In the morning he awoke quite hungry, and soon made a hearty meal. But he had not forgotten the rubbish heap. He started out to take a look at it.

"It was such fun," he kept telling himself.

As soon as he came near it, as before, there was a rush from the house and the cries, "Go away, Billy."

Although he had not yet digested his breakfast, he told himself he could not miss so much "fun," and he ran back and again began to eat the rags. So it went on for nearly a week, until the rags were all gone, all eaten up by Billy. To be sure he had not eaten much else in that time, and although he felt that diet of rags would soon reduce him to a skeleton, yet he consoled himself with the thought that at least he had proved himself a match for the tyrants in the house. The sun was nearly down, and he stood on the woodshed thinking these things over to himself, and wondering if he could manage to eat any supper, when the "family cat," with whom he was on very good terms, came running near him.

"Good evening, Tabbie," said he.

"Where have you been the last two or three days? I have been really lonesome without you."

"Well, sir, there has been so much fun going on in the house that I have stayed there as much as they would let me."

"Indeed! and what was all the fun about?"

"About you, sir."

"About me, indeed!" exclaimed Billy, wagging his long beard, and looking very indignant.

"Yes, sir; they had no end of fun watching you eat up the old rags that they threw away. They only drove you off to make you think you were in mischief. My mistress said she wished she had a few bushel more to throw out, for while you were eating rags you were not doing real mischief. And the coachman said it was cheap fodder for you. How's your stomach, anyway, respected sir?" and the cat purred with great glee as she walked softly away.

"To think," said Billy, "of all the good meals I have done without just to spite them when I was only spitting myself, and, as to the fun, it seems they are the ones who have had it, not me." And he came sulkily down from his height and walked slowly off to the barn.

I nearly forgot to tell you that Billy was a pet goat, not a boy. But, although boys don't eat rags, I think he acted very much like some boys that I have seen and heard of.

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A. P. 302.

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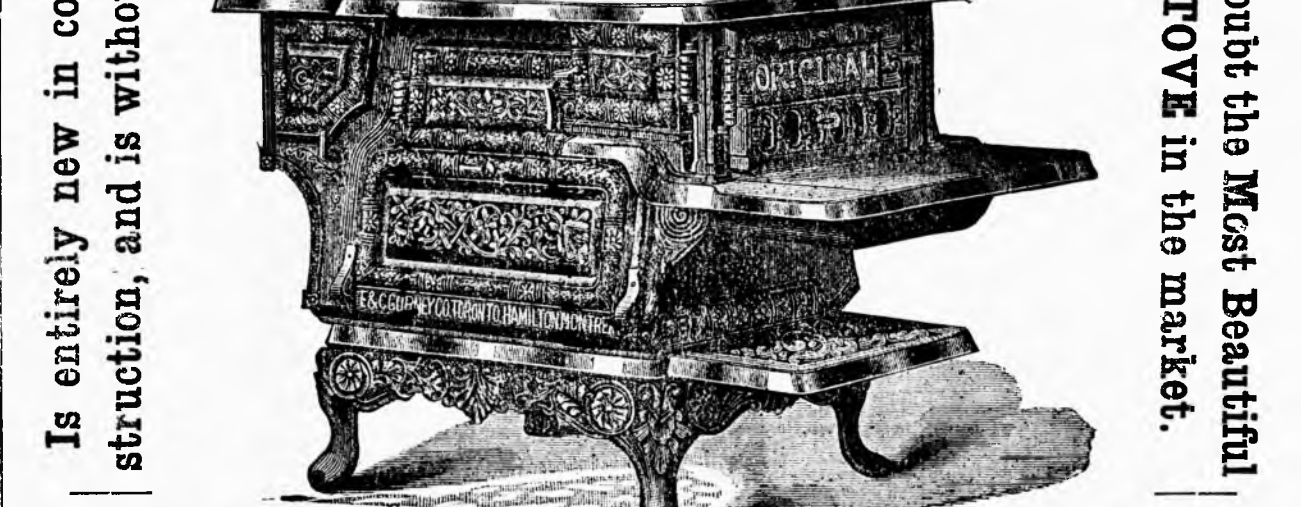


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