

THE WEEK'S NEWS.

HOME.

The winter at Fort McLeod has been very favorable for ranchmen, no losses of cattle having occurred.

Five packages of immoral newspaper literature imported from New York have been seized at Ottawa.

A charter for building a railway line from Winnipeg to Emerson has been granted to a Winnipeg Company.

The Hull city financial statement for the past year shows a surplus in ordinary revenue and expenditure.

The name of the confiscated American schooner Highland Light, purchased by the Dominion Government for cruiser service, has been changed to the Vigilant.

It is stated that the opposition of the Roman Catholic Church to the Knights of Labour has resulted in a large secession of members from the order in Montreal.

The Department of Agriculture at Ottawa continues to receive advices to the effect that there will be an enormous influx of immigrants to the North-West next year.

The new chief of Police of Toronto has forbidden the running of hacks or cabs on Sunday, hence visitors to the Queen city have to walk from the trains on that day.

The Dominion Government has decided to appeal against the Exchequer Court judgment declaring invalid the grant of lands by British Columbia for railway construction.

The steam pumps in Montreal were started the other day on account of the rise of the St. Lawrence, and succeeded in preventing the cellars along the water front from being flooded.

The Dominion Government will at the new year make a considerable number of postal extensions throughout Southern Manitoba, giving a bi-weekly mail at all available points.

Three hundred and sixteen Indians on the Caughnawaga reserve near Montreal are registered and will be entitled to vote in Laprairie county, Quebec, at the next Dominion election.

During November the deposits in the Post-office Savings banks were \$710,163, \$151,692 in excess of the withdrawals. The total amount to the credit of depositors is now \$17,810,790.

The contractors for the St. Clair tunnel at Sarnia have been granted the privileges recently applied for, with regard to exemption of Customs duty on plant necessary to carry on their work.

The ranks of the Salvation army have been considerably augmented at Winnipeg within the last few days. Sunday they paraded the streets five hundred strong with band and banners.

Rev. Dr. Partridge has been selected to go to England to raise funds for the new cathedral to be erected at Halifax in commemoration of the organization of the first colonial episcopate.

Reports of the railway accident in the Rocky Mountains were exaggerated. One life only was lost, a section man named Neville. The disaster occurred through disobedience of the company's instructions.

The total values of the exports and imports of the Dominion for the month of November were respectively \$11,377,392 and \$7,302,419. The total amount of Customs duty collected for the same month was \$1,447,162.

Mr. McLeod Stewart having resigned the presidency of the Canada Atlantic railway, in view of his candidacy for the mayoralty of Ottawa, Mr. D. C. Linsley, late general manager, has been elected president in his stead.

At Merrittton, John Brick, a section man, while shoveling snow on the track in the Grand Trunk railway yards, was run over by an engine and cut completely in two. Brick was 55 years of age and leaves a grown up family.

It is reported that on the 1st of April next the adjutant-generals and brigadier-majors of the districts in which permanent military schools are established will be retired, and their appointments given to the commandants and second in command of the district.

A motion was adopted at a recent meeting of the Road Committee of the Montreal city council instructing the city surveyor to communicate with the mayor of New York with a view to the adoption of a scheme in Montreal for placing all telegraph wires under ground.

Henry Fox, proprietor of large planing mills on King street west, Toronto, was found dead in his arm chair the other morning, where he had been left sitting when the family retired for the night. His death is attributed to a stroke of paralysis. He was 61 years of age.

Charles Harrison was arrested at Ottawa for passing Confederate bills. He is known to have disposed of a quantity, and several were found in his trunk. He is said to have been supplied by an American dealer in these goods, who has sent quite a stock to Canada.

Le Manitoba, of Winnipeg, says that through Mr. Royal, Ambrose Lepine, who was concerned in the first Riel rebellion, has obtained a reinstatement of all his civil rights, which he lost in accepting the commutation of his death sentence. Lepine acted in a most loyal manner during the rebellion of 1885.

The sentence of Derose, the British Columbia murderer, who was to have been hanged some weeks ago but secured a respite, will be commuted to imprisonment for life. Derose, it appears, is insane and was for some years confined in Beauport asylum.

The Paris Temps says the owner of a French fishing smack at St. Brieux is suing the British Government for indemnity for losses which he claims he suffered by the action of the Newfoundland people, who prevented him from fishing off the north coast of that colony.

The Rocky Mountain Telegraph Company's wire is completed from Medicine Hat on the Canadian Pacific to Fort Assiniboine, which is connected with Helena, Mont. The electric circuit is now completed in the North-West, east and west from the United States via the Canadian Pacific.

At Mitchell, the other afternoon, John Daw, an old settler, living in the outskirts of the town, was gored to death by a vicious bull. His wife running out to the barn yard and seeing the bleeding form of her husband

on the ground, fell dead. They leave a large grown up family.

AMERICAN.

President Cleveland is better, and able to drive out with Mrs. Cleveland.

Sutler, Hemmingsway & Co., general merchants at Wheadey, Ark., suspended with \$420,000 liabilities.

Hogs are dying in large numbers in the southern part of Iowa with what seems to be a disease of the lungs.

The Philadelphia and Reading Company has advanced the price of pea coal 15 cents per ton and buckwheat 25 cents per ton.

The boiler at the Armstrong mine at Angus, Ia., exploded the other afternoon, killing three men and wounding two others.

Nearly twenty-eight thousand persons in the drought stricken district of the State of New York are reported to be in actual need of food and clothing.

A Norwegian barque which arrived at Pensacola, Fla., from Para had seven cases of yellow fever on board during the passage, two of which resulted fatally.

The four year old child of John Kane, of Brooklyn, N. Y., got hold of a whiskey bottle on Christmas Day, swallowed the contents and died in a few hours.

Three thousand five hundred cars have already been side tracked on the Reading, Pa., and Philadelphia and cannot be sent to their destination until the blockade is raised.

At Clinton, Ind., while Albert Dean, who was visiting his mother, Mrs. Joshua Dean, was examining a pistol belonging to John Westley it accidentally went off, killing Mrs. Dean.

The other morning the Anchor line steamer City of Natchez and the Mississippi Valley steamer, K. S. Hayes, with four heavily loaded barges, were burned to the water's edge at Cairo, Ill., causing a total loss of one million dollars.

Bills will be introduced in both Houses of Congress awarding to Mrs. Logan the pension she would have received had her husband died of wounds in service instead of disease, the foundation of which, it is claimed, was laid by exposure of his army life.

The Chicago City Council have passed a resolution asking the family of General Logan to allow his remains to be interred in Chicago, and the South Park Commissioners have tendered a site for the grave. A subscription fund has been started in Washington for the benefit of Mrs. Logan, for which ten thousand dollars was collected in five hours.

FOREIGN.

Isabella Begg, niece of Robert Burns, is dead.

Rumors of impending war still overhang France.

The Bulgarian delegates have arrived in London.

An attempt was recently made to destroy by explosives one of the churches in Lyons.

Mr. Henry Stanley has started for Zanzibar on his expedition to rescue Emin Pasha.

The report that Germany and Russia had reached an agreement concerning Bulgaria is denied.

Prince Nicholas of Montenegro has called out 35,000 troops, who will be armed with repeating rifles.

A number of Buddhist priests have offered General Roberts their assistance in the pacification of Burmah.

The Paris Temps and the Liberte deny that either France or Germany has any intention to go to war.

Mr. Gladstone has declined all overtures to receive deputations on the occasion of his coming birthday.

One of the severest snowstorms that ever visited the country passed over England on Sunday of last week.

It is officially announced that the meeting of the Imperial Parliament has been postponed till February.

Madame Bert denies that her husband, Paul Bert, was converted to the Catholic faith prior to his death.

The French press have been warned against publishing military news which would be of use abroad.

The Swiss Bundesrath has passed a resolution ordering the frontier guards not to permit the exportation of Swiss horses.

It is stated that the Russian reserves have been called out. Marked movements of troops have been noticed in Bessarabia.

After fighting a duel Mr. Faval, son of a well known French author, shot himself in the abdomen with a revolver. He is dying.

Right Hon. William H. Smith, Secretary of War, is to succeed Lord Randolph Churchill as leader in the House of Commons.

Gen. Willoughby, the Malagassy agent in Europe, has been instructed to stop negotiations in Paris for a loan for the Nova Scotia Government.

The Paris correspondent of the London Times has information from an undoubted source that Russia and Germany signed a direct alliance a fortnight ago.

Railway lines on the continent of Europe are still blocked with snow. France suffered severely from storms. An enormous amount of property was destroyed.

At a grand reception given to the officers of the French army by the Minister of War (Gen. Boulanger) emphatically disclaimed the warlike intentions ascribed to him in Germany.

The British ironclad "Sultan," anchored at Tagus, dragged anchor and ran into the French steamer "Villedo Victoria," which had 250 persons on board, nearly all of whom were drowned.

Lord Colin Campbell's solicitors have applied for a new trial of his counter suit for divorce against his wife on the ground that the verdict of the jury was against the weight of the evidence.

The breakdown in the English Telegraph system by reason of the recent storm is the greatest that has occurred for a quarter of a century. The lines are all down in every direction for a hundred miles around London.

The Russian Government has discovered the existence of an extensive Nihilist organization, the members of which are principally workmen in large factories in St. Petersburg, in Moscow and in Vladimir. Many members of the organization have been arrested.

General Boulanger's action in reappointing the generals in command of the French

fortresses, and bestowing upon the commander of the Paris garrison the title of Superior Commander of the National Defense, are considered indications that war is not remote.

During the last ten years the loss in Australia caused by the rabbit pest through the decrease on the carrying capabilities of land, destruction to crops, loss of rent, etc., would amount to at least \$15,000,000. The rabbit which has caused all this damage is the common gray variety of wild rabbit, introduced in Victoria in 1880, for the purpose of sport, it has been so prolific in the propagation of its kind as to literally overrun a great portion of Victoria.

Gigantic Giants.

The existence of whole nations of gigantic persons may well be questioned; but there can be no reasonable doubt of the reality of certain individuals, whose height has greatly exceeded that of men in general. The giant as a curiosity has been seen by nearly every Canadian boy in the museum and in the circus. The stories of great giants of the past ages are more than interesting. The exact height of Og, the King of Bashan, has been frequently given; some supposing him to have been more than twelve feet in height while others think his stature did not exceed eleven feet. In like manner the giant Goliath, of the Bible, is generally computed to have been nine feet nine inches high; but commentators suppose that he might have been fully eleven feet.

The Emperor Maximilian was nine feet in height, and several other Romans of equal stature are said to have lived during the reign of Augustus. Accounts are contained in the philosophical transactions of the Royal Society, of human skeletons dug up in England, measuring eight and nine feet in length. These were probably the remains of Romans. Many fabulous and contradictory stories have been told at one time of the Patagonians who, according to travelers have been a race of giants. An English official once declared that he had measured the bones of men, in sepulchres in South America, between eleven and twelve feet high. Turner, the naturalist, declares that he once saw upon the coast of Brazil, a race of gigantic savages, one of whom was twelve feet in height. The declaration of Turner is all the more credible, by the statement of M. Thevet, of France, who in his description of America, published in Paris in 1575, asserts that he saw and measured the skeleton of a South American which was eleven feet five inches in length. To these remarkable instances may be added a well-proportioned living man, whom Diemerbroek saw at Utrecht, measuring eight feet six inches. Dr. Becanus, an ancient scholar reports having seen a youth of nine feet, a man of ten feet and a woman nine feet in height.

Walter Parsons, who acted as porter to King James I. of England, was seven feet six inches in stature. But the Chinese claim to have men among them in the last century who were fifteen feet high. However, this report may have no more foundation than the chronological fables of the sons of China.

With the Queen.

Sir Henry leads the way to Her Majesty's private drawing-room, and the visitor finds himself in the presence of Royalty, it may be for the first time. He is soon reassured, and unless he is a stammering churl, who would be ill at ease in any lady's company, he soon feels at home. He is sure to be a celebrity, and the Queen's kindly questions as to the "forte" which has made him famous, send him away quite happy after the ten minutes' interview to while away the time till dinner. This he can do in his own apartments or in the salon of the ladies and gentlemen in waiting, as he pleases.

The dinner itself is rather more trying. To begin with, it is not served until nine o'clock, so that the visitor, if it be his first visit, will be blessed with an alderman's appetite by the time he finds himself in the reception room, or rather corridor, adjoining the private dining-room in the Victoria Tower. Mr. Gladstone and several other old stagers always provide themselves with sandwiches, which they eat in their rooms.

The Queen enters at five minutes to the hour, says a word or two to each guest, and then pilots the way to the dinner-table. Here the nervous visitor's happiness depends greatly on his luck. If by any chance Princess Christian happens to be dining at the Castle and he sits next her, he is sure to have a good time. Princess Louise, the Duchess of Connaught, the Duchess of Albany, are all the best of company. On the other hand, the Princess of Wales, though her manner is charming, is, from her deafness, rather a trying neighbor to a nervous visitor, while Princess Beatrice is so quiet as to give a frightened stranger a quite erroneous impression of hauteur.

The Queen addresses, in the course of the meal, one sentence to each guest, which he is expected to answer briefly and well, all other conversation ceasing during the dialogue. There is no sitting over wine by the gentlemen, and in one hour they are all in the reception room again. The guests do not sit, but advance in turn and say a few words to Her Majesty, who then bows to the company and retires to her private apartments. Next morning the guests breakfast in their own rooms, and are expected to leave by half-past ten. They do not, except in the case of Ministers, see the Queen in the morning.

A Clever Business Woman.

Riding with me through a thriving Maine town, recently, a friend indicated a large tannery and remarked: "That establishment has an entertaining story. Its founder built up a large business and willed it to his daughter, instructing his executors to permit her to manage the business herself. The neighbors predicted a collapse of the concern; but the girl proved to be even a better business man than her father, and cleared \$7,000 the first year. She ran it several years and then a minister settled in town, who took to her. The taking was mutual. He married her, left the ministry, is now running the tannery with his wife's help and drives the fanciest team in town."

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Sufferers are not generally aware that these diseases are contagious, or that they are due to the presence of living parasites in the lining membrane of the nose and eustachian tubes. Microscopic research, however, has proved this to be a fact, and the result is that a simple remedy has been formulated whereby catarrh, catarrhal deafness and hay fever are cured in from one to three simple applications made at home. A pamphlet explaining this new treatment is sent free on receipt of stamp by **A. H. Dixon & Son**, 308 King Street West, Toronto, Canada.

A. P. 314.

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