

# NEWS OF THE DAY.

CANADIAN.

The Ouderdonk arbitration, after its adjournment in Ottawa, will resume its session in Toronto, January 22.

Bishop Cleary on Sunday administered the rite of confirmation to twenty-one convicts in Kingston penitentiary.

A much better demand for wheat is noted, and Manitoba grades especially are wanted. The result is higher prices.

The gas well near Thorold is now down about 2,500 feet, and by a rough estimate it is yielding 30,000 cubic feet per day.

The managers of the cotton mills in Kingston say there are sufficient orders on hand to keep the mill working full time up to July next.

Mr. Herbert, the Canadian sculptor, has forwarded from Paris a bronze bust of Sir George Cartier, which is on exhibition in Montreal.

The declaration of the Great North-Western Telegraph Company against the Montreal Telegraph Company, in connection with the proposed reduction of the dividend, has been filed in the Montreal Court.

Mr. Scarth, who has returned to Winnipeg, says that his visit to Ottawa was to induce the Government to make changes in the land laws by which more foreign capital could be invested in the North-West.

The funeral of Simpson Thompson, the oldest Mason on the continent, took place in London yesterday afternoon. He was within three months of being a hundred years of age, and was a Mason for 78 years.

Hamilton has a tramp test, which the Mayor declares to be very effective. All able-bodied applicants for relief are sent to the quarries, where they can earn \$1 a day. If they refuse to work, they are not given any relief.

Mr. J. H. Metcalfe, M.P.P., takes a most optimistic view of the prospects of the North-West. He says that since March last 17,000 immigrants have located in that region, and he thinks that next year there will be a great influx of European settlers.

The trouble between the Great North-Western and the Montreal Telegraph Companies still continues. Mr. Wiman, who was in Montreal yesterday, said that as far as the Montreal shareholders were concerned he could do no more than offer them six per cent, and if they could not see their way to accept it he could not help them. His offer was again declined.

The Montreal Judges on Saturday ordered the liberation of Adeline Trempe from the Good Shepherd convent, to which she had been committed in 1885 for five years on a charge of vagrancy trumped up by her uncle, who wished to remove the girl from her mother, who was a Protestant. The court was very severe on the Recorder for his action in illegally depriving the girl of her liberty.

AMERICAN.

The watermelon growers of South Carolina have organized a trust to limit the acreage and fix prices.

The dynamite cruiser Vesuvius, from which the United States authorities expected so much is reported to be a failure.

Mrs. Frank Cheesebrough, of Bay City, Mich., was aroused from sleep on Saturday morning by a burglar attempting to chloroform her.

The wool-growers of Texas want the United States Government to enact more stringent regulations against the importation of foreign wools.

Another desperate fight occurred last week between the police boat of Baltimore and a fleet of oyster pirates. After 600 shots had been fired, five of the rebel craft were captured.

The Methodist Preachers' Association of Columbus, Ohio, have adopted a resolution calling upon President-elect Harrison to dispense with the extravagance of the inauguration ball.

It is understood that United States Secretary Bayard has complained to England of language used by Secretary of State Chaplain, in his L'Esperance speech, regarding the United States Senate.

Owing to the clamour of a portion of the female inhabitants of Norwich, Conn., against a magnificent collection of nude statuary for the Slater Memorial Museum, they had to be submitted to local stonecutters for alteration before being put in position.

Some organized attempt is at last being made to obtain a uniform observance of Sunday as a day of rest in the United States. The convention of the American Sabbath Union, which met last week in Washington, has demanded a national law against Sabbath desecration, and a bill embodying the aims of the union has already been introduced into Congress.

Early on Christmas morning, a couple who had unsuccessfully endeavoured to obtain work and had knelt in vain at the hand of charity for assistance, crept into a doorway for shelter, and while the bells of New York city pealed out a merry Christmas, their child, only a month old, died in its mother's arms. The police are now looking after the mother, whose education is superior to her unfortunate position.

FOREIGN.

The Prussian Government have ordered 80,000 new sabres.

The Pope is sending a rich gift to each of the Irish cathedrals.

Austrian and Italian peasants are flocking to Brazil in large numbers.

An earthquake shock was felt yesterday morning in Hampshire, England.

It is reported that Osman Digna intends to give battle again to the Egyptian and British forces.

The British Consul at Zanzibar has been instructed to protest against the Sultan's cruelties.

A shell burst in a powder magazine at Messina, Sicily, yesterday, and killed sixteen soldiers.

Gen. Legitime was inaugurated President of Hayti with great pomp and ceremony on the 19th inst.

Most of the Berlin papers have leading articles expressive of gratification at the safety of Stanley.

The British Admiralty has decided to construct four iron-clads, ten cruisers, and a number of torpedo boats.

Gen. Grenfell made another reconnaissance from Suakim on Saturday and failed to find any of the enemy.

An English company has obtained a concession to construct a railway from Athens to Larissa, in European Turkey.

Lord and Lady Dufferin took luncheon with Mr. Gladstone in Naples on Saturday, the anniversary of his 79th birthday.

Owing to the protest of the British representative at Zanzibar, the Sultan has cancelled his order for a wholesale execution of prisoners.

Mr. Gladstone arrived in Naples on Saturday night and was given a very enthusiastic welcome by the students of the University and the citizens.

There is great dissatisfaction in the Samoan Islands at the part played by the Germans in supporting Tamasese, who is generally regarded as a rebel.

The statement that the English East Africa Company has entered into an agreement with the Arabs to tolerate slavery is emphatically denied.

The Czar has summarily dismissed Secretary of State Palovtsoff for prolonging his visit to Paris instead of attending the opening of the Imperial Council.

Sir Robert Morier emphatically denies that he furnished any information regarding the movement of German troops during the Franco-Prussian campaign.

At a meeting in Paris consisting of 4,000 bondholders of the Panama canal a resolution was unanimously adopted expressing confidence in M. de Lesseps.

Owing to Emperor Francis Joseph's remonstrance, the proposed Hungarian demonstration in favour of the Pope's restoration to temporal power has been abandoned.

The appointment of the Crofters' Canadian Commission is announced. The members are the Marquis of Lothair, Sir Charles Tupper, and Messrs. King and Thomas Skinner.

The Vienna *Tagblatt* has a despatch saying the Russian Consul at Malta has been arrested on suspicion of having placed an explosive shell in the theatre there while the Duchess of Edinburgh was present.

M. Goblet, French Minister of Foreign Affairs, having learned that British lobster canning factories have been erected on French territory in Newfoundland, to the prejudice of French fishers, will apply at once to England to have them removed.

On Saturday morning the horribly mutilated body of a boy was found in Bradford, and the town was immediately horrified with the fear that Jack the Ripper was in their midst. A milkman named Barrett was subsequently arrested and committed for trial.

The Dublin "Freeman's Journal" states that the "Times" sent an agent to the States and offered Sheridan £10,000 to testify before the Parnell Commission. If there is anything more improbable than the story itself, it is the statement that Sheridan refused.

Emperor William visited the shipbuilding works at Bredon on Saturday and was greeted by 3,000 workmen, who presented him with a laurel crown, in receiving which his Majesty said that he thanked them for the first laurels which had been presented to him, and he was happy to think that they were the laurels of peace.

## The Far North-West.

William Ogilvie, D. L. S., who has been engaged since 1887 in exploring in extreme northwestern Canada, arrived at Calgary recently. The route pursued by the party was from the Pacific coast up Clocat Inlet by steamer, over the Coast Pass to Lake Lyndeman, on Lewis River, a large branch of the Yukon, and down the Lewis River by canoes to the international boundary line. It had always been supposed that the Lewis was the main stream of the Yukon, but the Hootierque, which joins the Lewis from the east, is the main stream proper. The party went into winter camp on the Yukon, near the international boundary, in the latter part of September. The greatest cold was in February.

57° BELOW ZERO.

Camp was struck on March 4th, when the party descended the Yukon 35 miles, to where a small creek runs in. They ascended this to the head through a pass in the Nehanian range of mountains to the headwaters of Porcupine River, another of the principal branches of the Yukon. This pass is 3,200 feet above sea-level. The Porcupine was descended twenty miles, when on April 10th camp was made until the ice broke in the spring, which was on May 18th. The average depth of snow during the winter was about three feet. The Porcupine was descended to its confluence with Bell's River, coming in from the east. This was ascended to a pass in the Rockies about eight and a half miles long, with nothing to prevent a first-class railway being built through it. From the east end of the pass a small mountain stream was followed to its junction with the Peel River, flowing into the Mackenzie. On this stream

GOAL OF GOOD QUALITY.

and an abundant outcrop of asbestos were seen. The distance from the foot of the Rockies to where they entered the Peel was seventeen miles in a straight line. The total distance travelled from the Yukon at the boundary to the Peel River was 318 miles, crossing two mountain ranges, one in winter and one in summer. McConnell's geological survey party was met at the Peel. The ascent of the Mackenzie was begun on January 27th, and the survey continued until it combined at Chippewayan with the survey of the Peace and Athabasca Rivers, made by Mr. Ogilvie in 1886. A distance of 1,417 miles was covered. The only real obstacle to navigations in this distance was the rapids at Fort Smith. Wheat and barley are grown every summer at Fort Providence, in north latitude 61. A sample of wheat grown there was brought out and makes good flour. Mining is carried on and the Yukon and tributaries and pays during three months of the year. Forty-mile Creek, the scene of the gold excitement of 1887, unites with the Yukon about forty-one miles from the boundary. Twenty-three miles of this creek is in Canada. Mr. Ogilvie and his party left Edmonton for Calgary by team on Christmas Day.

One of the most remarkable records of service noted recently was that of Paul Misonne, who lately died in Belgium, after having been in the employ of the coal mining corporation of Amerscoeur for 77 years. He was 90 years of age at the time of his death.

## OUR NEW YORK LETTER.

That picture forging is carried on in New York on a grand scale is a shameful truth. There are at least half a dozen artists in the city, unknown to the public as such, who constantly engage in making spurious paintings and signing such work with the names of famous artists. The men who make these bogus pictures are all young, talented, as artists go, and without exception have received the best training offered by the foreign schools. I think it within their means to make for themselves enviable reputations, but their love for ready money, a little thing so necessary among us, is greater than their ambition. They have long and carefully studied the work of these noted painters whose pictures they imitate, and for which there is constant and increasing demand. I am told they can produce a finished painting on an average of one a month, certainly, the works of such painters as Rousseau, Dupre, Saubigny, Tillet and Corot, putting on their canvases every idiosyncrasy of these masters' handling, copying the mannerisms and using the same combinations of colors, all of which they reduce to a fine state of perfection. They seem to study the favorite subjects of the great painters and make only such pictures as are popular and get big prices. The forging of an artist's signature is an art in itself. This market is flooded with these spurious paintings by artistic counterfeiters who often receive large sums for their clever imitations, that are sold to unscrupulous dealers, who in turn sell them to wealthy but inexperienced amateurs who come to New York to purchase, believing they are getting the original work, and their home journals so announce it, and the public are grateful. If by any chance, however, the amateur finds that he has been swindled he will tell no one, as such revelation would reflect discreditably upon his knowledge and good judgment as a collector. Of course, we all know that picture forging is rampant in Europe, and tons of bogus "old masters" and not a few forgeries of modern ones, are annually turned out and quickly bought up by *parvenus* collectors. Such despicable business is comparatively new in this country. I know of one picture forger, who lives not far from Madison Square who devotes himself exclusively to painting landscapes in the manner of Corot, and so dexterously imitating the unique brush work of the great Frenchman that none but an expert or special student of Corot's work can detect the difference. This clever counterfeiter lives in the greatest style, surrounded by every luxury that money can procure. He has a host of friends who suppose him to be a retired broker, and entertains them right royally. He receives enormous sums for his work, but is an extremely unhappy man, living as he does in constant fear of exposure and arrest.

"FLOATING POPULATION OF THE METROPOLIS."

New York has a larger floating population than any other city in the Union. People come here as to Mecca, from all parts of the country, when times are dull in their countries, or they are unable to secure work, or when they desire to improve their condition. Sometimes they leave for New York for their community's good, when no questions should be asked. Moreover, a large percentage of the vast army of emigrants from European countries who land at Castle Garden, first made famous by Jenny Lind's concerts in 1850, stop in New York. To them the great Metropolis is a paradise, as long as their money lasts. They do not move on. They find it good enough for them. They remain and help swell the vast floating population of the unfortunate and discontented, who are always ready at a moment's notice, like the Arabs of the desert, to fold their tents and move away to some other point. Of the two million people on Manhattan Island, it is safe to say five hundred thousand of them are Bohemians. In consequence of the prevalent opinion that New York is the first field in the country for the ambitious to rise, the discontented to mount the car that rushes to prosperity and peace of mind, and the necessities to have all his wants supplied every avenue of industry here is constantly over-charged with anxious applicants. In the professions, and in the skilled and unskilled labour employments there are always two or more applicants for every vacancy or expected vacancy. A man declared in court the other day, that brass and steel engravers could command \$3,000 a year. An editorial followed this statement in a leading daily paper, advising lads to take to it as a profession. I know men who are artists in this line and cannot make \$30 a week while others receive \$8 and \$10. A large city is like a lighthouse which draws and holds to the death thousands sea fowls seeking a haven of security, and many find want, and dire suffering, and crushing disappointment, where they had expected to find abundance, comfort, and fruition for their hopes, here, where every man treads upon the heels of another. But matter and argument have been supplied abundantly and even to surfeit, against the overcrowding of our tenements, by these unfortunates.

OUR BLOOMING CITY

I doubt if there is another city in the world with as many blooming theatres as we have in New York. There is no end to the shows of this town. We have picture shows all the time, and dramatic and operatic shows. We have oratorical shows, in which the best living performers appear on the stage. We have the animal shows in Central Park. The noble shows of our libraries and museums. We have the show of Liberty in the harbor, and of the grand and graceful bridge on the East River, and of the shipping at the docks. Every day one can enjoy a new show. Wall street, where millionaires stride and lambs are shorn. And the ever changing show on Broadway with its magnificent business places and hosts of pedestrians. The busy show of Printing House Square, the newspaper centre. Fifth avenue on a sunny afternoon when lovely women walk abroad in all the colors of the rainbow. The flamboyant show of the Bowery, and the cosmopolitan shows of the East side. Indeed we have a city in which life is worth living, if the liver is all right. We have reason to be proud of our places of amusement, which are a constant source of enjoyment to multitudes.

ALPUENTES CHICKERING HALL CONCERTS.

Mr. J. H. Alpuentes Chickering Hall Concerts draw more feminine loveliness together on a pleasant afternoon, than anything else. That is your correspondent's verdict after spending many afternoons at the various matinees and places of amuse-

ment, trying to discover the centre of attraction. It is interesting to note the numbers of fascinating girls that may be seen at these afternoon concerts and recitals. Indeed they are charming; and though they may not dazzle, as the magnificent array of women who appear in their boxes on grand opera nights, yet they give infinite comfort and joy by their bright eyes, which no jewels can equal in sparkle, by their rosy cheeks, their vivacity and their unconventional manner. They always seem to be having lots of fun, and their exhilaration and delightful spirits do not fail to make responsive joys in the hearts of men, young and old, who see them. Van der Stucken's music may at times be technical and heavy, yet no one cares for that. No doubt it is the dream of every one of these damsels to shine in the light of her own diamonds, in her own box at the opera with a handsome gallant husband at her side and homage paying men not far away. Mr. Alpuente deserves a great deal of credit for bringing so much pleasure to the hearts of the citizens of this great wicked city.

IN STANCE OF EXTRAVAGANCE.

The extent to which money is wasted at a fashionable woman's whim was illustrated to me the other day. I was in the shop of a well-known florist on Broadway when a lady came in from a private coach. She purchased three roses, for which she paid \$5, and carried them daintily away by her long stems. An hour later, going by Delmonico's, I saw my lady of the rose lurching at one of the windows with a companion of her own sex. An hour afterward, while returning by the same way, I noted that the table where they sat was vacant. Three bare rose stems lay amid the dishes, which were buried in rose leaves. The lady of the roses had plucked \$5 worth of flowers to pieces in a few minutes' idle conversation after her lunching! Speaking of flowers this same florist informed me that at a dinner given in this city Christmas day the supply of roses for the table alone cost the host a round \$500. Quite a neat sum to put out on the partial and immaterial decoration of a feast in a town where there are one hundred thousand people out of employment, and where there have to be one-cent coffee stands to keep the people willing to work for a living from dying of starvation.

ANNA DUNHAM.

## A ROYAL MYSTERY.

Romance which Menaces the Ex-Reigning Family of France.

The death of Lord Newborough three weeks ago at the advanced age of 86 will, it is said, lead to a revival by the present peer of the claims of the family to the whole of the property of the princely house of Orleans. The wife of the first Lord Newborough and the grandmother of the present holder of the title was a certain Maria Stella, the adopted daughter of one Chiappini, the gaoler of the city prison of Modena. Proofs, however, are said to exist not only in the Newborough family, but also in the imperial and royal archives at St. Petersburg and at Amsterdam, which conclusively prove that Maria Stella was the daughter of Philippe Egalite, Duke of Orleans, and of his wife, the Duchess. It will be remembered that King Louis Philippe was born at Modena on exactly the same date as Lady Newborough, and the proofs abovementioned show without a doubt that the infant son of the gaoler Chiappini was substituted for the newborn daughter of Philippe Egalite and his wife; the illustrious pair were then Duc and Duchess de Chartres, and, having no male issues, the motives for the substitution were both obvious and of a powerful nature.

The little girl who was victim of this fraud grew up into a beautiful woman and made the conquest of the first Lord Newborough. Not only did the gaoler Chiappini make a confession on his death-bed concerning the whole matter, but at his own request it was taken down in writing by the procurator and by the head of the ecclesiastical tribunal of Modena. Chiappini's wife confirmed the dying statement of her husband, and related how the substitution had been effected at the time when the duchess was confined in her house. The story was further corroborated by the registry of the parish in which Maria Stella was christened, and in which she figures as the legitimate daughter of their royal Highnesses the Duc and Duchess de Chartres. On the demand of the first Lord Newborough the Supreme Court of Modena issued a judgment fully confirming the claims of his wife to public recognition as the legitimate daughter of Philippe Egalite and his wife. Copies of the judgment exist to this day in many of the public libraries of France, and notably in that of Rouen.

Fearing that the French monarchical Government might possibly attempt to rob her of the documents relating to her claims, Lady Newborough took the precaution of addressing duly legalized copies thereof to the Emperor of Russia and to the King of Holland, with both of whom she was acquainted, and the fact remains that not only the Dutch monarch, but the Czar Nicholas professed a firm belief in their authenticity, absolutely declining to recognize King Louis Philippe in any possible way. During the whole of the Citizen King's reign both Holland and Russia were without diplomatic representation at Paris.

The whole story was well known 40 and 50 years ago and the political caricaturists of the day delighted to represent King Louis Philippe in the garb of a gaoler, with the subscription of "Bon chien chasse de race" underneath. Even Thiers is reported to have expressed an opinion entirely favourable to the Newborough claims; it is true he was no longer Louis Philippe's minister at the time. As the Citizen King inherited the whole of Egalite's vast property, which constitutes the basis of the immense Orleans fortune, the recognition by the French and English tribunals of the decision of the Supreme Court of Modena, relative to Lady Newborough's parentage, would be of extreme importance. Indeed, it would invalidate the pretensions of the Comte de Paris, the Duc d'Anjou, and of all the other members of Louis Philippe's family to the throne of France, to royal blood, and even to the very name and fortune which they now possess.—[London Truth.

Some of the lumber thieves in Dakota who have been stealing Canadian lumber are stupid enough to feel indignant because the North-West police are trying to put a stop to their depredations. They talk of reprisals, which probably means that they will use violence to justify their robberies.

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The fur trade in the Canadian North-West is somewhat depressed. In the Hudson Bay Company's yearly report it is stated that whereas in 1874 the average price of marten skin was 27s. 6d., it is now only 7s. 1d. Mink has fallen from 11s. 4d. to 2s. 3d. The drop is due largely to the change of fashion, those furs being no longer worn by those whose whims are law.