

THE WEEK'S NEWS

CANADIAN.

About a thousand laborers left Toronto for the North west on Monday night to gather in the harvest.

E. S. Schwabe, a wealthy manufacturer from Manchester, Eng., shot himself at the Windsor Hotel, Montreal.

The lieut.-Governors of Prince Edward Island and the North-West Territories have accepted the positions of honorary vice-presidents of the Macdonald National Memorial fund.

London bakers have reduced the price of bread from six to five cents per loaf.

The Norquay memorial monument was unveiled at Winnipeg last week.

Last week 2,657 cattle and 3,335 sheep were exported from Montreal.

Charles Quinn, a former resident of Hamilton, has been killed in a brawl at Toledo.

Calgary hotels are full of tourists from eastern Canada and the States.

Rev. Father Girouard was consecrated bishop of Athabaska-Mackenzie at Winnipeg on Saturday.

Hailstones as large as hens eggs fell at the Northwest Cattle Company's ranch in the Foothills the other day.

It is reported that a joint stock company has been organized in London, Eng., to be styled the Canadian Superphosphate Manufacturing Company, Limited. The English directors of the company are not yet appointed, but the Canadian advisory board will be W. H. Nicols, of Capleton; Hon. M. H. Cochrane, Hon. C. Colby, Hon. P. McLaren and Mr. Shirley, of Bedford, Mass.

The first load of new wheat was sold on Monday on the London, Ont., market, and realized 93 cents per bushel of 63 pounds. The crop of fall wheat in the County of Middlesex is reported to be exceptionally fine, and the yield will average from 35 to 45 bushels to the acre.

At the meeting of the Grand Orange Lodge of British North America last week Mr. N. C. Wallace, M. P. was re-elected Grand Master, and Mayor Clarke, of Toronto, Deputy Grand Master. It was decided to organize ladies' lodges, to establish a Provincial Grand Lodge in the North-west Territories and British Columbia, and to hold the next meeting at Montreal.

In his recently published book, "The French-Canadians of New England," Father Hamon, of the Society of Jesus, expresses the firm conviction that not later than the next generation the French-Canadians of the Eastern States and those of Quebec will form but one people.

GREAT BRITAIN.

An order has been issued from Salvation Army headquarters absolutely forbidding the use of jewellery by members of the army.

A scandal of a very serious character is impending over the Irish party, and the arrest of one of the anti-Parnellite M.P.'s for bigamy is within the possibilities.

Messrs. Dillon and O'Brien appeared in the House of Commons on Tuesday and were warmly received by both sections of the Irish party.

Sir John Gorst, Political Secretary for the Indian Office, intends making a tour in Ireland for the purpose of enquiring into the condition of the labouring class.

The Dublin Freeman's Journal has thrown over Mr. Parnell.

Mr. Gladstone's health is now almost completely restored.

Mr. Spurgeon shows repugnance to food and his friends are again anxious.

Parnell has made claim for £3,600 against Capt. O'Shea, lent during the period of the divorce proceedings. Curious disclosures are expected.

The freedom of the city of Edinburgh is to be conferred upon Sir Daniel Wilson, president of the University of Toronto and a fellow of many learned societies.

The British Court of Appeals has reversed the verdict of the lower court giving \$1,500 damages to Miss Wiedmann in her suit against Capt. the Hon. Horace Walpole for breach of promise.

In the Imperial House of Commons Sir Michael Hicks-Beach said no special measure was at present necessary to restrain pauper immigration. The total immigration for June of this year is 200 less than in June, 1890.

The St. James' Gazette quotes to condemn the utterances of the Sydney N. S. W., Bulletin, which says:—"We hope the Royal family will multiply to the proportions of the rabbit pestilence until the people of England offer sevenpence halfpenny for each of their scalps."

President Emmett, of the American National Federation, in reply to an address presented to him at Queenstown, said the Irish in American will always give material support to the party approved by the Irish people, but not a cent to a faction.

Correspondence is raging in the London newspapers upon the question as to whether domestic servants are bound to wear caps. This has arisen from a recent legal decision, to the effect that a servant's refusal to wear a cap was not an act of disobedience justifying her discharge.

UNITED STATES.

In a row in Orange, Texas, fourteen men were killed and two are missing. The trouble was between robbers and cattlemen.

The Farmers' Alliance of Kansas have thrown over both the old parties and will nominate a full ticket of their own.

The San Francisco Journal of Commerce says the wheat crop of California this year will be double that of last year.

All the publishers and editors of the morning newspapers in New York have been indicted for publishing more details than the law allows of the recent electrocutions at Sing Sing.

A split occurred in the United States sugar trust owing to a reduction by one of the refiners. It is expected the refiners will sell granulated sugar at four cents per pound in Philadelphia before long.

On Friday night Henry Bartel, a New York bar-tender, while trying to take down a box of cigars from a high shelf grasped hold of an electric wire, received an electrical shock and fell dead.

Chicago had a \$1,000,000 fire on Monday.

Heavy rains in Mississippi have flooded thousands of acres of corn and cotton.

The Chicago barbed wire trust went into effect on Saturday, and an immediate increase in the prices may be expected.

Kansas farmers are said to be holding their wheat in response to the Washington circular.

It is stated that an important reciprocity treaty has been concluded between San Domingo and the United States.

A movement of considerable magnitude is now on foot to arrange for the deportation of negroes from the United States to Liberia.

The Dakota harvest is over and it is said the yield in all sections has been very abundant.

Dennis Quigley, of Paterson, N. J., is said to have fasted 60 days as a cure for indigestion, and with success.

Abraham Backer, dealer in commercial paper in New York, has assigned, with liabilities calculated at \$4,000,000.

IN GENERAL.

Fifty-five hundred Italians sailed from Genoa for America last week.

A despatch from Hobart Town, Tasmania, announces the failure of the Bank of Van Dieman's Land.

Fourteen employes of the water works at Essen, Germany, were crossing the River Ruhr in a boat, when the boat capsized and all were drowned.

Alexander, the youthful king of Serbia, has arrived in St. Petersburg on a visit.

The Bank of Rome is said to have been saved from suspension by a large loan from the Pope.

Gambling in the casinos at the watering places in the north of Spain has been prohibited by the Government.

The New South Wales Legislature has rejected Sir Henry Parkes' motion in favor of granting the franchise to women.

The rioting in China is on the increase, and the native feeling against the Christian missions is unusually bitter.

The alliance between France and Russia is said to amount to a possible co-operation between their respective fleets.

French capitalists, including Eiffel, the engineer, are talking of building a great tower on the summit of Mont Blanc.

Floods have succeeded the drought in India, and hundreds of people have been drowned, as well as great numbers of live stock.

The final budget of the German empire for the year 1890-91 shows a surplus of 15,148,201 marks over the estimate.

A boom in grain freights by lake and water has occurred, owing to contracts being let for shipment of the great wheat crop of the West to European markets.

The Berlin public have been forbidden to visit the mausoleum of the late Emperor Frederick save on the dates of his birth and death.

A man named Guereler, recently arrived in Berlin from New York with the avowed intention of challenging the Emperor to fight a duel, has been placed in a lunatic asylum.

The inquiry in Constantinople regarding the young English girl rescued from compulsory marriage to a Kurd, has brought to light the fact that a considerable number of young women from western Europe are detained in the harems of Asia Minor.

The World's Wheat Produce.

The New York Sun, as a result of careful inquiry into the subject of the year's food supply, lately estimated that the total requirements of importing countries will be 405,000,000 bushels, and the surplus of exporting countries 355,000,000 bushels—which means a deficit in the world's supply of 50,000,000 bushels. Bradstreet's forecast, however, is more favourable. Its estimate, both as to the probable production and requirements of food products, is as follows:—

Country	Probable Production	Requirements
France	248,000,000	80,000,000
Italy	104,000,000	24,000,000
Germany	76,000,000	24,000,000
Spain	68,000,000	8,000,000
United Kingdom	64,000,000	160,000,000
Austria	40,000,000	32,000,000
Belgium	16,000,000	32,000,000
Portugal	8,000,000	4,000,000
Greece	8,000,000	2,400,000
Denmark	4,800,000	1,600,000
Holland	4,900,000	16,000,000
Scandinavia	4,000,000	3,200,000
Switzerland	2,600,000	13,600,000
West Indies, etc.		20,000,000
Totals	646,800,000	420,800,000

Country	Probable Production	Exportable Surplus
United States	520,000,000	152,000,000
India	264,000,000	44,000,000
Russia	192,000,000	64,000,000
Hungary	120,000,000	40,000,000
S. E. Europe	112,000,000	40,000,000
Turkey-in-Asia	56,000,000	12,000,000
Australasia	44,000,000	6,000,000
Canada	40,000,000	8,000,000
Argentina	44,000,000	4,800,000
Algeria, Tunis, and Tripoli	24,000,000	12,000,000
Persia	16,000,000	2,400,000
Chili	14,000,000	1,200,000
Egypt	8,000,000	2,400,000
Total	1,454,000,000	388,800,000

According to this estimate, as will be seen, the probable requirements are shown as exceeding the exportable surplus by 32,000,000 bushels. For the Canadian and American farmer therefore the outlook would appear to be an encouraging one. A good harvest is likely to be accompanied by a good market. While it is probable, however, that there will be a marked demand for all of the New World's surplus product, it is not expected that the price of wheat will become exorbitant, since the deficiency in the European supply is not so great but that other food products could be made, if need were, to serve in place of it.

A Highlandman, placed at the bar, complained bitterly that he should be placed in such an awkward position so far from friends and home. The judge felt kindly toward him, and said—"Be calm, young man; you may rest assured that, although among strangers, full justice will be done you."

CANNIBALISM AMONG SAVAGES.

Prevalence of This Horrible Custom in Many Parts of the World.

Most civilized people have little idea how widely the custom of cannibalism yet prevails. The practice is still found in nearly every part of the savage world. It is only within the past eight or nine years that we had any idea that millions of people were still addicted to the custom. Instances of cannibalism have from time to time been reported even among civilized people. It is well known that during the crusades well founded charges of cannibalism were brought against a large number of the defenders of the Cross. In 1852 an Englishman killed an old woman, boiled her flesh in an Irish stew and ate her. About the same time a married man in Great Britain killed a man whom he met in the forest, cut his victim up, hid the pieces amid the under-wood, and took them home one by one, where he and his wife ate them. A year later he repeated the experiment upon the body of a child. In 1872 a young Italian was brought to trial for cutting two women to pieces and eating parts of their bodies. Italian highwaymen have been known to feast on the flesh of those they have captured. Thus the famous assassin, Misdrea, boasted of having eaten parts of the bodies of his companions. Of course, these are abnormal cases, and are the results either of great natural depravity and cruelty or of insanity, says the *Geographical Magazine*.

Another class of cannibals are those whose hunger has compelled them to devour their fellow creatures. Who has not heard or read of some of the innumerable cases where shipwrecked sailors have, by common consent, slaughtered one after another of their companions, to eat their flesh and drink their blood?

Cannibalism is prevalent in some parts of the world where very little has been heard of the practice. In the Shan States, between Burmah and China, a race who are known as the Shan Chinese live among the mountains, use poisoned arrows and the blow-pipe, dispense almost wholly with clothing and indulge in cannibalism, especially in the more remote hills toward the Chinese frontier. It is said they eat their parents to save them from the misery of old age. Until within the last few years little has been known of cannibalism in the Niger region. In 1888, however, an event occurred there which attracted wide attention. The people of Okrika had a quarrel with a section of the Ogoni tribe, on the Bonny River, and planned a diabolical scheme of revenge for the injuries they thought they had suffered. They invited the Ogonis to a friendly palaver. Their unsuspecting victims to the number of 150, were lured into a trap, captured and eaten. The victims included women and children, and to such a height had the taste for blood arisen that the Okrikans compelled the children to drink the blood of their victims out of calabashes. Mangled remains and remnants of human beings were strewn in all directions, and parts of human bodies were observed floating down the Bonny River. Consul Hewitt, who was on the neighboring Opopo River, heard of the massacre and induced some leading chiefs to proceed to the scene and endeavor to prevent further atrocities. In the end ten of the prisoners who had not yet been killed were rescued in a deplorable state.

The cannibal tribes near the Niger delta, in Angola, and in the Congo Basin are probably the only natives of Africa who habitually eat human flesh. Some tribes in East Africa indulge in cannibal practices during religious exercises, and they also sometimes eat the bodies of enemies slain in battle, believing that they are thus imbued with the virtues of the victim. The home of the greatest number of man-eaters is undoubtedly found in the Congo Basin. We had no knowledge of their existence until several years after Stanley travelled down the great river. They undoubtedly number some millions of people.

The Arumwimi, one of the northern tributaries of the Congo, is a hotbed of cannibalism. Lieut. Wester tells of one king in that country who ate nine of his own wives. A few hundred miles further down the river are the Bangala, whose great villages were estimated by Grenfell to contain 110,000 people. Cannibalism among them, according to Lieut. Wester, is a part of their funeral festivities. Upon the death of any one of considerable importance it has been the custom to decapitate about twenty slaves, who accompanied the deceased person in the other world. Half of each body is buried by the side of the dead, and the other half is cut up into small pieces and boiled for the funeral feast. When half of the water in the great kettles where the food is preparing has evaporated, the feast is regarded as ready and the community partakes of the banquet, consisting solely of human flesh and vast quantities of native beer. Grenfell and Von Francois five or six years ago found thousands of cannibals along the Chuapa affluent of the Congo, which they ascended for more than three hundred miles. The natives did not pretend to deny their weakness for human flesh. They share with the Manyema the peculiarity of preferring to eat men, and they do not kill women for food. They repeatedly offered to give the explorers women slaves in exchange for men, who, they admitted, would be utilized for food.

Most of the Pacific Ocean head hunters are cannibals, though procuring food is only a secondary purpose of their forays. A great deal is heard by travellers among the Pacific islands of the practice of cannibalism, but the natives generally know the detestation with which white men regard the custom, and are very careful that they shall not see any evidences of it. Very few white men, even though they live for months among anthropophagi, ever see a cannibal feast. It was Mr. Romilly's fortune a few years ago to witness this custom in all its horrors in the island of New Ireland, and he is perhaps the only modern traveller who from his own observations, has been able fully to describe it. He was paying a visit one day to a tribe that lived on the seashore when, without a particle of warning, a large number of war canoes came into sight around a little cape, and before the tribe on shore had hardly time to seize their war clubs, the attacking party had reached the beach, jumped on shore, and were yelling their defiance. They had come there for no other purpose than to procure heads and incidentally to lay in a supply of food. After some mutual recrimination and very bad talk, such as most savages indulge in before their blood is wrought up to the fighting pitch, they sprang at one another with their clubs and spears and a short and bloody battle was waged. Mr.

Romilly witnessed the whole of the exciting scene. It was not long before the assailants, overpowered by the men they had come to annihilate, rushed for their canoes and put out to sea as fast as they could paddle. They left behind them a number of the slain and Romilly described in his book, "The Western Pacific," with considerable detail the process of cooking and serving human flesh, as practiced among the savages of New Ireland. In brief, the bodies were cut up and the pieces were roasted between hot stones for many hours, and were finally served to the crowd in burning hot chunks, wrapped in banana leaves.

Their Faces to the Foe.

During the assault on Delhi, in the Indian Mutiny (September, 1857), it was necessary that the third column of attack should gain an entrance through the Cashmere Gate, and to this end a party of engineers were told off to blow in the gate with powder-bags. The officers told off for this hazardous duty were Lieutenants Home and Salkeld. The non-commissioned officers were Sergeants Carmichael, Burgess, and Smith. They started in broad daylight, accompanied by native sappers and men carrying the powder-bags. At the double they made for the Cashmere Gate, at first unperceived by the enemy, and followed at a distance by the column of attack. Lieutenant Home with his bugler was first down into the ditch. Then the Sepoys caught sight of them, and as the exploding party crossed the drawbridge they received a smart fire of musketry from the walls, but reached the gate in safety. Now occurred one of the most brilliant episodes of the siege of Delhi. Home had planted his bag, but on Sergeant Carmichael advancing with his powder on his shoulder, he was shot through and through. Smith then went forward, and placed his dying comrade's bag in position, having also placed his own, and prepared the fuses. Lieutenant Salkeld stood ready with a slow match in his hand, but, as he was lighting it, he was shot through the arm and legs. In falling, he held out the match, and called on Smith to take it. Burgess, who was nearest, took the match, but was unable to ignite it. As Smith was handing him some lucifer matches, Burgess was shot through the heart. Sergeant Smith was now alone, or rather thought he was, as he had lost sight of Lieutenant Home for some time. The moment was a critical one; and as he was applying the light, a port fire went off in his face. There was a confused fog of smoke and dust as he scrambled into the ditch and presently a deafening crash. The gate had been shattered by the explosion; the bugle sounded the advance, and with a loud cheer the 52nd charged through the broken arch. Smith, who had escaped the fallen masonry, was crawling in the ditch, dazed and almost blinded, and came across Lieutenant Home, who was also safe. They endeavored to minister to Salkeld, but were driven away by an incessant fire from the garrison. Home then followed the stormers, and Smith and the buglers managed to rescue the dying officer, and, despite his orders, removed him to a place of safety. For these achievements, Home, Salkeld, Smith, and Bugler Hawthorn were promptly rewarded with the Victoria Cross. Lieutenant Salkeld died, and Lieutenant Home was killed at Malagurh. It would be interesting to know if the other two heroes are alive at the present day.

The Origin of Fairs.

The fair season is approaching. Many people think that fairs are of modern origin. Such is not the case. They are very ancient both in idea and design. They were of Saxon origin and were established in France by Charlemagne about the year 800 and in England by Alfred the Great 86 years later. William the Conqueror was, however, the first monarch to give extended encouragement to fairs in the British Isles. The idea of national and international exhibitions is modern. National expositions began in France in 1798. The first was due to stagnation in three important industries, carpets, tapestries and china. The exposition was instituted by the French government and was so successful that similar ones, growing wider annually in scope, were frequently held. There were eleven between 1798 and 1849. In the first there were only 110 exhibitors; in the third 540 and in the eleventh nearly 5,000. England had also perceived the value of national expositions and had offered prizes through the society of arts for the best exhibits in carpets, porcelains and tapestries in 1756. The first attempt at international exhibitions was made by England in 1851. The first international exposition in France fulfilling all the conditions that the term implies was held in 1855, the second in 1867. London held a second in 1862, Vienna one in 1873, New York unsuccessfully attempted one, Philadelphia succeeded in the attempt of 1876, Paris held another in 1878 and her last in 1889. Special international exhibitions have been the direct outgrowth of these, like the international agricultural exhibitions of Denmark and Austria, the international fisheries exhibition in London, the cheese exhibition in Paris and the naval exhibition now in London. There was a health exhibition in London in 1886 and an inventions exhibition, which proved a great stimulus. The colonial exhibitions in London, the Indian and the various exhibitions of industrial and decorative arts throughout the kingdom have all been powerful in awakening new efforts and spreading knowledge of new processes in all industries. And so should, and will be our modern fairs or exhibitions, if too much attention is not paid to their amusing and lighter features. What is curious and extraordinary in manufacture, invention and production should engage the major part of our attention. The main trouble with modern fairs is that they are too crowded. Exhibitors are not given sufficient space to expose their articles of special value and instruction, and visitors are drawn together in such immense crowds by special attractions on certain days that the exhibits are passed over in the most cursory fashion, if indeed, they are inspected at all. We are not wise enough to say how this order of things can be improved upon, but we can and do regret that it exists. Like all other ventures exhibitions must be made to pay, or they will not be held, and the majority of people's minds are not sufficiently sedate and staid to make them desirous of devoting their attention entirely to the material and practical side of life when abroad on an outing. Nowadays everything has to be made attractive in order "to take." Even our pills are sugar-coated.

NAVAL AND MILITARY PROGRESS.

Interesting Development in Tactics and Invention in Armament.

Probably the most interesting features of the coming naval manoeuvres in England will be those between the Red and Blue Squadron. The former squadron will rendezvous at Milford Haven, where will be sought by the latter, and the means adopted for defense will probably prove of great practical experience for the future. The Blue Squadron is under command of Rear-Admiral James E. Erskine, and consists of five large vessels and twenty torpedo boats of the seagoing type. The amount of ingenuity to be displayed against these wily foes, having dashing young officers and a speed of from twenty to twenty-three knots, will tax the faculties of the defending forces to the utmost. Of the torpedo flotilla, nine were built by Thornycroft and eleven by the Yarrow firm, four being of the same pattern as those recently furnished the Argentine Government, and they are regarded as the finest seagoing boats yet built. The bold stroke made by the torpedo flotilla last year when they came like a whirlwind from Alderney and descended upon Vice-Admiral Tryon's fleet will probably be repeated. At any rate the records made from such an organization cannot fail to be of the greatest value in the study of naval warfare. One great aid in the manoeuvres is to thoroughly test the extensive hospital arrangements for receiving the wounded.

England has recently launched the cruiser Edgar, which is the largest vessel ever built at the Davenport dockyard. Her displacement is 7,350 tons and she has 12,000 horsepower. Her steam trials, which are to take place next month, will be watched with great interest.

The Melampus, the first-class protected cruiser recently built for England, has had a trial of her engines, but owing to the fullness of her bottom she was not run for speed with forced draught. The vibration caused by her three-bladed screws was very severe, and these will be changed to screws having four blades. In her foul condition she developed a speed over the measured mile of about eighteen knots, which will reach at least twenty knots when her bottom is cleaned and the propellers are changed.

The Dutch cruiser Sumatra has recently been added to the Netherlands fleet, and is now on an experimental trip. She carries a heavy battery, and with her speed of seventeen knots she is a powerful vessel to encounter.

One of the most powerful vessels ever constructed is the new British battle ship Sanspareil. Her battery is exceptionally heavy, consisting of two 110-ton guns, one 10-inch and twelve 6-inch. She also has twenty-one machine guns and four tubes for firing torpedoes. It is with such vessels that England intends to retain her supremacy upon the high seas and protect her vast interests afloat.

One of the recent inventions which promises to have a useful future is that of Commander D'Arcy-Young, R. N., in the combination of a line-throwing gun and a buoy. An exhibition of its usefulness was recently given in Chelsea during the progress of a naval exhibition. The buoy is a goldbeater's skin, attached to a small cylinder of compressed gas. The cylinder is placed in an ordinary smooth-bore gun, No. 12 gauge, and fired from the shoulder. The trigger is tripped in firing, thus liberating the compressed gas into the skin upon striking the water, and this constitutes the float. The small strong line attached is adequate to the task of hauling a person ashore.

Among the most important recent inventions in the military line abroad is the system of "optic" firing devised by Captain de Freyssen. This system of firing enables a gunner to point and fire his gun with mathematical precision without exposing himself and without having even seen the object to be fired at.

The invention has been tried upon four of the vessels of the French navy, and it is now being fitted to another vessel which has been placed at the disposition of the inventor. The aim is made by superposing the image of the object to be fired at upon a central point of a screen placed behind the gun. By this means much better aim is obtained, and also greater rapidity of fire.

A Good Point.

Appropos of the protection of seals in the Behring sea and the seizure of ships found violating the provisions of the agreement for a close season agreed on by Great Britain and the United States, the Montreal *Witness* makes an excellent point when it says:—"We do not see by what right American cruisers can interfere with Canadian sealers. If the sea is not a mare clausum under the dominion of the United States, neither is it a mare clausum under the United States and Great Britain united, and the two countries put together have no more dominion therein than either of them separately. The compact between the two countries cannot therefore establish laws for that sea." It cannot be gainsaid that the United States and Great Britain have more interest in the waters than any other nation or country, but interest does not make a right, and the high sea is open to every inhabitant of the world alike. England as the greatest maritime power has the larger interest in the good regulation of traffic on the ocean, but she cannot make laws by which other people will be governed, not even if she acts in conjunction with the United States as in this case. If either government seeks to prosecute trespassers or violators of the close-season decree, the probabilities are that a nonsuit will be entered on the ground of the invalidity of the decree.

The French in the States.

The following table shows the population of the New England States, according to the census of last year, and also their French-Canadian population, as given in the book recently published by Rev. Father Hamon, S. J.:

	Total Pop.	French-Can. Pop.
Massachusetts	2,223,407	132,000
Rhode Island	345,343	31,000
Connecticut	745,861	24,234
Maine	669,261	40,919
New Hampshire	375,827	40,302
Vermont	332,205	33,204
Total	4,692,904	301,659

The total number of Roman Catholics in these States is 1,201,000. The French-Canadians have twelve newspapers and 210 St. Jean Baptiste societies. "Group all these forces," says Father Hamon, "around the common citadel, the Catholic Canadian parish, and you will see that the French-Canadians of the United States can legitimately flatter themselves with having good chances of a stable future."