

# THE WEEK'S NEWS

CANADIAN.

The Manitoba Government has arranged with one of the steamship companies to bring over a large number of Icelanders next season.

M. Camille Flammarion, the celebrated French astronomer, is expected to visit Montreal during the coming summer.

Mr. William Wagner was killed by a fall from the roof of a stable at Saltcoats, Man., on Monday.

Mr. O'Malley, an Opposition member of the Manitoba Legislature, is of opinion that the office of Lieut.-Governor of the province should be abolished. He believes the Chief Justice could do the necessary work.

Mr. John Kavanagh, a grocer of Kingston, Ont., died suddenly the other morning while engaged in shoveling snow. He appeared in his usual health immediately before his death.

A despatch from Winnipeg states that Mrs. Rafferty, wife of the C. P. R. yardmaster at Fort William, has fallen heir to forty-five thousand pounds through the death of an uncle in the Old Country.

At the instance of the Dominion Government the English Colonial Secretary is giving strong support to Canada's case now before the British Board of Agriculture touching the scheduling of Canadian cattle.

The increase in the emigration rates to Canada from England continues to excite much talk in London emigration circles, where the opinion is expressed that the selfish action of the steamship companies must injure the emigration prospects for the entire season.

As a result of hostile feeling between the doctors in Ottawa city who are on the staff of the Protestant General hospital and those who are not, the latter, while retaining membership in the Medico-Chirurgical Society, have formed another association which they have named the Ottawa Clinical Society.

Dr. A. C. Smith, the inspecting physician at the Leprosy lazaretto at Tracadie, says there are fourteen males and eight females in the hospital, the same number as last year. Dr. Smith does not speak as hopefully as on a previous occasion of stamping out the disease.

A petition signed by 65 residents in Moose Jaw, N.W.T., has been presented to the Dominion House, praying that the North-West Assembly be given control of education in the Territories and that the clause in the North-West Territories Act relating to dual language be repealed.

In the annual report of the Department of Agriculture, Mr. Angers says that a serious outbreak of cholera next season is extremely probable; and in view of this fact every possible precaution is being taken to save Canada from an invasion of the dread disease.

Mr. W. J. Smith, representing the Standard Coal and Coke Company, of Williamsport, Pa., has had an interview with the Minister of Finance in Ottawa. He desires to offer coke in competition with anthracite coal for domestic purposes as well as for manufacturing and smelting, and requested the removal of the present duty of 50 cents a ton.

It is officially announced in Ottawa that Mr. Newcombe, Q. C., of Halifax, has been appointed Deputy Minister of Justice, in succession to Mr. Justice Sedgewick, of the Supreme Court.

The Grand Trunk Railway Company has been notified of the purpose of Mrs. Johnston, widow of Mr. Jeremiah Johnston, who was killed at a railway crossing in Hamilton, Ont., a few days ago, to sue for \$10,000 damages for the loss of her husband.

Premier Haultain, of the North-West Territories, is in Ottawa. He states that his mission has reference to the old question of better terms. He wanted the Government to make the financial powers of the Legislative Assembly coterminous with its legislative powers.

At the concluding meeting of the International Convention of Mining Engineers, in Montreal, a resolution was passed that with a view to bringing nickel into more general use, the attention of the Dominion and Provincial Governments should be called to the advisability of granting a liberal bonus to the inventor or patentee of a process for refining it that would materially lessen the cost of production.

## BRITISH.

Hon. Arthur Stanley is slowly recovering, although the nervous symptoms are still present and show no signs of abating.

In the course of a debate in the English House of Commons on the existing silver difficulty Mr. Gladstone declared unequivocally in favor of monometallism.

The British representatives before the Behring Sea Arbitration Committee have returned to London from Paris, and are now completing the line of argument to be followed.

Earl Spencer, First Lord of the Imperial Admiralty, intends following the programme of the Salisbury Government, and promote the arming of new warships with lighter guns.

Mrs. Gladstone, wife of the British Premier, was confined to her bed last week suffering from a cold. She is now much better.

Prayers against the Home Rule bill are offered in all the Protestant churches of the diocese of Down, in Ulster.

Mr. Robert William Duff, Liberal M. P. for Banffshire, has been appointed Governor of New South Wales as successor to the Earl of Jersey, resigned.

In speaking with a friend about the Home Rule debate in the House of Commons Mr. Gladstone referred to the high plane of most of the speeches and the exceptional absence of personalities and bitterness.

Mr. Robert Louis Stevenson, who has arrived in Auckland after a long sojourn in Samoa, says that the sole remedy for the present unhappy state of affairs is the annexation of the islands by one of the Great Powers.

Mr. Asquith, the English Home Secretary, has introduced into the House of Commons a bill suspending the creation of new interests in churches in Wales. The measure is the first practical step in the direction of the disestablishment and disendowment of the Church in Wales.

## UNITED STATES.

The anthracite coal agents in New York have decided to allow the price of coal to remain as it is.

At Allegan, Mich., on Monday, Albert Reynolds shot and killed Albert Moore, the paramour of the former's wife. He gave himself up to the police authorities.

The House Judiciary Committee at Washington, which investigated the Whiskey Trust, recommended that the duty on imported liquors be reduced from \$2.50 to \$1 per gallon, and that the tariff on all goods be reduced whenever it is found that they are influenced by a trust or combination.

A wall was blown down in Chicago Tuesday morning and three families were buried in the ruins, with the result that seven persons were killed and many others seriously injured.

A disease to which the doctors have not yet been able to apply a name has been creating havoc among the people of Lorette and St. Anne's, Man. The majority of the victims are children.

In the Kansas Legislature dispute Chief Justice Horton has decided that the Republican House was legally constituted.

Mr. John W. MacKay, the famous capitalist, was shot in the back at San Francisco by an old man named Ratcliffe, to avenge some injury, real or imaginary, of the old mining days. Ratcliffe then shot himself dead. Mr. MacKay's injury is not necessarily fatal.

The hope that the collapse of the Reading railway would lead to a reduction in the price of coal is not likely to be realized, as the New York dealers say that the severity of the weather, the decreased output at the mines, and the difficulties of transportation will keep up the prices.

As very few of the Chinese in the United States have been registered and photographed as required by the Geary law, a general expulsion of the Celestials is expected next May. News from China indicates that this act on the part of the United States may be followed by a general massacre of foreigners in China.

Mr. Alexander Russell Webb, an American, who some time ago professed the Mohammedan faith, has arrived in New York full of zeal and plentifully supplied with money to enter upon the missionary field and lay before the people the superior claims of the religion of Islam.

It appears that some time since a charge of theft was brought against Abbe de la Croix de Castries, who was visiting Seattle, Washington, and that his trunks were broken open by United States officials and the Abbe assaulted and threatened, and that as a result the French Government have put in a claim for \$100,000.

The National league of America has issued an address in which it begs Irishmen not to be deceived by the Gladstone Home Rule measure, declaring it to be utterly unworthy of the traditions and the genius of the people, and that nothing but an Irish Parliament with complete control over her own affairs should be acceptable to the Irish people.

Prof. Goldwin Smith, in the course of an address to the St. George's Society in Washington on Saturday evening, made reference to the motion before the Toronto society to expel him on account of his political views. He claimed that St. George's Societies are charitable and not political in their end and object, and passed some scathing criticism on his political opponents in Toronto.

## GENERAL.

The Portuguese Cortes has approved the Government proposal to grant amnesty to all political prisoners.

The Radical and Conservative organs in Paris express displeasure with the selection of M. Jules Ferry as President of the Senate.

The Italian Government is pushing as vigorously as possible its warfare against the Sicilian bandits. Yesterday eleven of them were sentenced to penal servitude for life.

In the Austrian Reichstag on Saturday Dr. Gregor, leader of the Young Czechs, made a vehement appeal to the House in favor of Bohemian Home Rule.

M. Andrieux, who has figured prominently in the Panama revelation, promises that he will divulge on the eve of the next elections the names of high personages involved in the Panama canal scandals, and will give conclusive proof of their guilt.

The Danube recently overflowed, causing great destruction along its banks. The village of Gergly, near the town of Paks, in Hungary, was swept out of existence by the floods and many lives were lost.

A special cable despatch states that the Duke of Schleswig-Holstein will sail for New York in about two weeks, and after passing a few days in that city and at Niagara Falls will proceed to Chicago for the Exhibition. Emperor William, it is said, has not yet decided whether he will visit the World's Fair.

## A HORRIBLE SUICIDE.

**A Man Lies Down On a Carriage In a Saw-mill and Deliberately Saws His Head Off.**

A Newcastle, Pa., despatch says:—A horrible suicide was committed by a man named Lee Taylor, five miles southwest of this place, late Saturday evening. Taylor had become financially embarrassed, and had been brooding over his troubles. For the past week he had been working at a saw-mill. Saturday evening, while the fireman and engineer were engaged at the boiler, Taylor deliberately lay down on the log carriage, grasped the frame work with one hand and the shaft with the other and pulled himself up to the rapidly-revolving saw.

His head was instantly severed from the body and rolled down into the dust pile. The engineer, noticing a jar in the machinery, went back to the saw and was horrified to find the bleeding trunk still lying on the carriage.

The deceased was recently married, and leaves a wife, but no children.

## Study of Young Humanity

Certain ladies charged with the duty of obtaining data for a study of young humanity now send to new mothers little blank books provided with questions as to when the baby first exhibited the sense of hearing, when he first took note of light, what were his earliest signs of distress, and many more such. The questions are designed to furnish hints for an investigation extending over the first four years of the child's life. In time all the books will be collected and sent to Germany as aids to the persons who are one day to announce the result of an elaborate study of mental development during infancy and childhood.

## CONGO ARABS DEFEATED.

**A Hard Battle with the Slavers of Central Africa.**

A Brussels despatch says:—The Congo State has received despatches to the effect that Commander Dhanis has defeated a horde of Arab slave traders under Tippu Tib's son, and has captured 500 prisoners and 600 rifles.

The fight took place near Sefu, on the Lomami River. During recent skirmishes between the Europeans and the Arabs M. Lippens, formerly a resident of Kasongo, and Lieut. de Bruyn were killed. Lieut. Chaltin routed the Arabs at Yadumba and freed eighty slaves who were dying of starvation.

Capt. Jacques reports that the Arabs are constantly importing the most improved firearms, despite the restrictions in force against such trade, and apparently have resolved to make desperate resistance to the operations of the anti-slavery people. Unless cannon be sent at once, he adds, the Europeans cannot hope to hold their own.

The Congo Free State commissioned Lieut. Dhanis to punish the Arabs of Nyangwe, who in May last massacred the Hodister expedition. Arthur Hodister, in the service of the Katanga Commercial Syndicate, was establishing stations on the Lomami River and the Congo above Stanley Falls, for the purpose of buying ivory and trading with the natives.

The jealous Arab merchants at Nyangwe suddenly fell upon several of the stations that Hodister had founded, killed the white men in charge, and seized the trade goods. As Hodister and one white companion were approaching Riba Riba, on the Congo, after an overland journey from the Lomami, all unconscious of the terrible events that had occurred, they were killed and beheaded by the Arabs.

This was the first blow struck by the Arab slave and ivory merchants after the Free State had announced that slave raiding must stop. It showed that the Arabs were determined to fight in defence of their alleged right to raid for slaves, and to monopolize the trade of the upper Congo.

The Free State decided that it must severely punish the Arabs if it is expected to be supreme in the eastern part of its dominion. As fast as possible, therefore, a large force was got together and a large supply of munitions was sent to the Congo. A considerable force of Abyssinian soldiers were secured to supplement the native force.

Tippu Tib's son, who was in command at Stanley Falls during the absence of his father at Zanzibar, and his nephew, Rachid who was chief of the Arabs at the mouth of the Lomami River, agreed to help the Free State finish the insurgents of Nyangwe and Kasongo.

They promised to supply a large auxiliary force. At last accounts, however, both of these Arab leaders showed signs of defection, and it was feared that they would join the insurgents.

This despatch shows that the fears of the Congo Free State came true. We cannot tell from the despatch whether the fight was with the entire insurgent force or whether, having vanquished the Arabs of Stanley Falls, the State has now to deal with those of Nyangwe and Kasongo.

The news, however, is very gratifying, though it has involved the death of some Europeans well known for their work on the Congo. A few such decisive battles will solve the Arab question in the Congo Basin.

## PERILS OF THE SEA.

**Troubles of the Saint Monian—Eighty Days Rounding the Horn.**

The terrors of the sea have had another true story added to the long list by the arrival of the British ship Saint Monian at Port Townsend. The Saint Monian left Santos, Brazil, August 14, just six months ago, having made the longest voyage on record between Brazil and Puget Sound. The story told by the captain is one of thrilling combats with the terrors of the deep and of hunger and disease at sea. The first trouble experienced was coming around the Horn, which took eighty days to accomplish, and during which time one of the crew was drowned. The fearful experiences here may be understood when it is known that from five to seven days is the average time for vessels coming around the Horn. In crossing the Equator the crew was attacked with scurvy, four men being helplessly stricken down and one dying. At this juncture, the provisions gave out and starvation stared the men in the face. The captain made up his mind to make with all speed for the Golden Gate. He headed in this direction and fortunately met the ship McPherson bound for Europe. The McPherson let her have the necessary provisions and she continued on her journey to Puget Sound. But her trouble was not ended. Off Cape Flattery she encountered the fearful storms of the past two weeks, and for fourteen days was held outside the Cape. Here she lost her lifeboat, and all her topsails were blown away. When the vessel arrived to-day, she and her crew were in a badly dilapidated condition. The Saint Monian had been chartered by Balfour, Guthrie & Co., but lost her charter by expiration on December 31.

It is rumored that E. J. Lee, who figured so prominently in the strike on the New York Central railroad two years and a half ago, is now a member of the Pinkerton detective force, and that charges have been preferred against him by the members of the Knights of Labor, and that he will appear before the general executive board of the order this week in Philadelphia to answer them.

A bushel of corn will make four gallons of whisky. Government tax on four gallons of whisky, \$3.60. The whisky made ripe and old by the new Jay-Eye-See rapid process, sells rapidly for \$4 per gallon, making \$16 for four gallons. Of this \$16 the farmer gets twenty-five cents; the Government gets \$3.60; the railroad gets \$2; the manufacturer gets \$4; the vender gets \$6.25; the user gets the devil; while the producer and taxpayer foots the bill.

The London Chamber of Arbitration appears to be well established and working successfully along the lines laid down by the founders. Its proceedings in a case heard before it two weeks ago are described thus: "The arbitrator was one of the ablest men in the city of London, the hearing occupied two hours; the whole of the fees amounted to four guineas, and the case would certainly have occupied four days in hearing in a court of law."

## PICKED UP HERE AND THERE.

The Capitol at Washington has cost \$30,000,000.

A North Carolina mill makes 4,000,000 cigarettes daily.

A jelly fish of 10 pounds when dried weighs about 10 grains.

Pierce City, Idaho, now deserted, had 20,000 inhabitants in gold days.

There are 44 separate pieces of leather and other materials in a pair of fine shoes.

An electrical clock has been invented which is "set" to extinguish electric lights at a certain hour.

A company has been formed in Tacoma, Wash., to extract gold by a secret process from the sands of the Pacific ocean.

To prevent pollution of the Seine the French Government is contemplating the building of a canal sewer the entire distance from Paris to the sea.

The greatest domes in the world are those of St. Peter's, St. Paul's, the Invalides in Paris, St. Isaac's in St. Petersburg, and the Capitol at Washington.

The electrical bicycle is cropping up in England. The weight of the batteries when filled with liquid is to be 44 pounds, and the whole weight of the machine is to be 155 pounds.

Cold lengthens wood and heat shortens it. The building of the ends of joists and girders into newly-laid-up brick or stone walls, where they are subject to absorb the freshly burned lime in liquid state from the mortar, greatly hastens their decay at these vital points.

A movement has been started in Augusta, Me., to secure from the legislature on the state grounds a burial place for Mr. Blaine, and perhaps erect a memorial stone. A resolution was adopted in the House expressing a wish that the body should rest in the State of Maine, and the Governor was requested to communicate with the family.

The most famous of ancient houses was the Golden House, erected by Nero. Its whole interior is said to have been covered with gold and gems; it was adorned with the finest paintings and statues that the world could furnish; and had triple porticoes a mile in length and a circular banquet hall which perpetually revolved in imitation of the motion of the sun.

In the Jewel House of the Tower of London, the place where the British crown and other royal insignia are kept, there is a book bound throughout in gold, even to the wires of the hinges. Its clasp is two rubies set at opposite ends of four golden links. On one side there is a cross of diamonds; on the other the English coat of arms set in diamonds, pearls and rubies.

There is a wonderful grapevine at Gailiac, a town in southern France. Although the plant is only 10 years from the cutting it has yielded as many as 1,287 bunches of fine fruit in a single year. There is but one other vine in cultivation that is known to excel this prolific shrub, and that is the historical vine at Hampton Court, Eng., which was planted in 1768. In one year this noted vine has borne 2,500 bunches.

Modern Cutlers despair of reproducing the ancient sword blades of feudal Japan, as modern artificers in iron despair of imitating the artistic sword guards of that country. According to traditions the test of the ancient Japanese sword was even more rigid than that of Saladin's blades. It was enough if the latter would cut in twain at a single blow a down pillow thrown in the air, but the Japanese blade, suspended horizontally beneath a tree, must sever any leaf that, falling, should accidentally light upon the edge of the weapon.

## A Poet's Suicide.

Mr. Pierce Stevens Hamilton, poet and journalist, one of the most elegant and forceful of Canadian literateurs, committed suicide at the general hospital in Halifax, N. S., on Wednesday under somewhat remarkable circumstances. In early life he practised law, but soon tired of that and devoted himself to journalism. While register of deeds for Halifax county, he wrote a series of brilliant articles attacking the Liberal government of the day, and for that reason was removed from office. Subsequently, under a Conservative government, he became the first commissioner of mines and minerals of the province. In 1874 the Liberals made him chief fishery officer for Nova Scotia. While holding his official positions he continued to wield trenchant pen. There was no better read man in the province. In late years he has spent his time between the Atlantic and Pacific provinces. It was his boast that he saw the first scd of the Intercolonial Railway turned up on the Atlantic, and also witnessed the arrival of the first Canadian Pacific through train at Port Moody on the Pacific. He went to Halifax a few weeks ago, and has been very despondent. Tuesday he announced his determination to die and swallowed three ounces of laudanum. He was seventy years of age.

## Good Sleepers.

Cavalry soldiers often sleep in the saddle after a fatiguing march, but it would seem almost impossible to march on foot and sleep at the same time. There are authentic instances of this kind, however, and a member of the Grand Army says: "When I was a private of infantry I marched miles as sound asleep as if I was in my bed, and did not fall out of the ranks." Artillerymen have been known to sleep from exhaustion under their own guns which were constantly firing in battle. Benjamin Franklin slept for an hour floating on his back in the water, at least one of his biographers says so.

Of railways British Columbia will have its due share if all the projected schemes are carried out. In 1886 the first through train from the east reached the province over the C. P. R. There are now four branch lines tapping the trade of the important sections of the mainland, and a railway on the Island of Vancouver. The Kootenay district, where mining operations are being actively pushed forward, is attracting special attention from the transportation companies. The C. P. R. has a Kootenay branch, six charters have been granted to independent companies to build to the mines, and two more are applied for. Altogether the Legislature has granted eighteen railway charters between various points, and is asked at the present session for ten more. Eastern provinces are gridironed with paper railways, and British Columbia is rapidly getting into the same condition. It should make an effort to prevent speculation in charters.

## INTRODUCING REINDEER INTO ALASKA.

**Attempt to Supply Better Food for the Natives of that Territory.**

The landing at Port Clarence, Alaska, of a herd of 180 domesticated reindeer purchased in Siberia, together with four native Siberian herders, marks the establishment of the first herd of the kind on the western continent.

This is an event of more than ordinary importance, says the Californian. If it is successful it will create throughout northern and central Alaska a new food supply in place of the walrus, whale, fish, and fur-bearing land animals, that are yearly becoming scarcer and more difficult to obtain.

Furnished a better and surer food supply the native Eskimo population, now decreasing in numbers, may reasonably be expected to increase, and changing them from mere hunters to herdsmen may be the first upward step toward their civilization.

With the increase and civilization of the natives and the general introduction of the domesticated reindeer herds throughout Alaska the vast unknown interior of the northern province can be thoroughly explored. Lines of communication between distant settlements can be kept open during the long winter months, and the frigid, bleak, and now comparatively useless plains of that little-known region will become a source of wealth and prosperity to the land.

In the arctic and subarctic regions of Lapland and Siberia the domesticated reindeer is food, clothing, house furniture, and transportation to the people.

Its milk and flesh furnish food, its marrow and tongue are considered choice delicacies, and its blood mixed with the contents of the stomach is made into a favorite dish called in Siberia manyalla.

Its intestines are cleaned, filled with tallow, and eaten as a sausage. Its skin is made into clothes, bedding, tent covers, harness, ropes, cords, and fish lines, and the hard skin of the forelegs makes an excellent covering for snowshoes.

Its sinews are dried and pounded into strong and lasting thread. Its bones are soaked in seal oil and used as fuel and its horns are made into various kinds of household implements and weapons and used in the manufacture of sleds.

In central and northern Alaska are vast rolling plains of moss and grass-covered land that are especially adapted by nature for the grazing of reindeer, and are practically useless for any other purpose.

In the corresponding regions of Lapland, Arctic Norway, Sweden, and Russia are 27,000 people (about the same in number as the Alaskan Eskimo), supporting themselves and procuring their food and clothing largely from their 400,000 domesticated reindeer, besides paying to their respective governments the annual sum of \$400,000, or \$1 per head, as a tax on their herds.

Also in the corresponding region of Siberia, with similar climate and soil, and only forty miles distant at the straits, there are thousands of Tchukches, Koraks, and other tribes of deermen fed, and clothed, and housed by their herds of tens of thousands of domesticated reindeer.

## Canadian Cattle in Great Britain.

Speaking of the scheduling of Canadian cattle by the British authorities a cablegram from London dated Feb. 22nd says:—The documents from Ottawa setting forth the reasons in the case why the schedule against Canadian cattle should be removed have reached the Imperial authorities. These, no doubt, will do much good; but what is likely to have more effect, however, is the cable stating that the Government of Canada has decided to enforce a 90 days' quarantine against the United States through the Northwest and elsewhere. The Board of Agriculture authorities now admit that so long as the quarantine was not enforced Canadian cattle could not be regarded by them as above suspicion. It was thought when the news of the quarantine regulations was received that the Opposition to Canadian cattle being landed in Great Britain alive would cease to a great extent. Such, however, is not the case. The critics are now asking how the Government of the Dominion proposes to enforce the quarantine regulations enacted throughout such an immense territory, where not even a fence divides Canada from the United States. Notwithstanding these remarks and unfriendly suggestions the action of the Canadian Government has greatly strengthened Canada's position toward having the schedule rescinded.

Referring to the subject spoken of in the preceding paragraph it should be stated that as the results of a conference held by Mr. John Lowe, Deputy Minister of Agriculture; Mr. A. M. Burgess, Deputy Minister of the Interior; and Mr. Frederick White, Comptroller of the North-West Mounted Police, with a view to arriving at some practical scheme for the enforcement of the cattle quarantine regulations along the frontier of the North-West Territories it has been decided that the work shall be placed in the hands of the North-West Mounted Police, whose knowledge of the trails and of the whole country will enable them to prevent the smuggling of cattle from the United States. It is understood that the Government has decided, with reference to the quarantine of cattle of settlers moving in across the border, to make such arrangements for the care of the cattle that the necessary detention of ninety days will give as little cause of complaint as possible to the settlers.

## Lubeck.

The city of Lubeck, Germany, which will shortly celebrate its seven hundred and fifty-third anniversary, has rather an interesting history. The city was founded in 1140, was ceded to the dukes of Saxony eighteen years later, and in 1202 was taken up by the Danes. It was made a free imperial city in 1226, when the Danish garrison was expelled and in 1241 it became the head of the Hanseatic league. Blucher took refuge in Lubeck to avoid the French army, when it was carried by assault and suffered a three days' pillage, in November, 1806. Nov. 12, 1810, the city was annexed to the French empire and regained its freedom in 1813, after the battle of Leipsic.

## Cold Season in Europe.

All Europe, from the Arctic to the Mediterranean, is experiencing a wintry severity this season such as it has not known in many years. It is necessary to go back forty or fifty years in most regions, even in the far north, to find a precedent, while in some parts the weather is unprecedented.