

THE WEEK'S NEWS

CANADIAN.

The British Columbia sealer Ainoka has been lost in northern waters.

There was some stir in Montreal judicial circles when it was announced that the Quebec Government had decided to abolish the Magistrates' Court as a matter of economy.

Elias Mailloux, a Canadian charged with forgery, and formerly accountant for the Public Works Department of the Quebec Government, has been arrested in Salem, Mass. He expresses his willingness to return to Canada for trial.

A farmer named Johnston, residing near Jarlsburg, Parry Sound district, was found dead in his stable the other morning. He had evidently committed suicide, having fastened a strap to a peg used for harness, placed his head through the noose formed, and then, bending his legs, allowed his weight to accomplish his purpose.

The sixteen families of Russian Jews who were recently induced to settle in Alberta are giving a great deal of dissatisfaction, and they are not regarded as desirable immigrants.

Mr. John Lovell, head of the Montreal publishing house of John Lovell & Sons, died on Sunday at an advanced age.

Dr. Lentz, the present Vice-Consul-General at Yokohama, has been appointed to fill the position of general German Consul for Canada, with head office in Montreal.

A little girl named Lillie Reech, caught between two trolley cars at Hamilton, Ont., had one arm so severely crushed that it had to be amputated.

President McArthur, of the suspended Commercial Bank of Manitoba, stated that the notes of the bank in circulation amounted to \$300,000. It is now asserted that the amount is fully \$400,000.

Mr. A. Bently, Mayor of Lethbridge, Alberta, bears high testimony to the value of the Mormons, who are honest and industrious, as settlers. He says that while polygamy is still held as a religious tenet, it is no longer practised.

A cablegram from Paris apprises the Quebec Government that Mr. Hall, the Provincial Treasurer, has succeeded in renewing for two years more with the Credit Lyonnais, at four per cent., the four million dollar loan of 1891.

Two boys, Edward Davis and J. Stone were sailing a canoe on the St. Lawrence river, near Gananoque, the other afternoon, when the craft was upset. Stone, who could swim, kept to the surface until rescued. Davis, who could not swim, sank at once and was drowned.

The Montreal cattlemen are very indignant at the action of the English Government in declaring that pleuro-pneumonia has been discovered among Canadian cattle; some of the leading exporters intend to agitate for the removal of the quarantine and the tariff embargo between Canada and the United States.

Mr. John Lowe, Deputy Minister of Agriculture, in an interview in Ottawa, said that notwithstanding the opinion of English experts, he is firmly convinced that there is no pleuro-pneumonia in Canada, and that no Canadian cattle suffering from the disease have been landed in England.

At a meeting of the Board of Directors of the Commercial Bank of Manitoba, held at Winnipeg on Saturday morning, it was decided not to reopen the doors of the institution. Mr. Duncan McArthur, the president, says the depositors will receive every dollar of their money, and that the note-holders are protected by the Dominion Government.

Mr. William Smith, Deputy Minister of Marine and Fisheries, says the cattle exporters of Montreal have no grounds for complaint relative to the cattle inspection fees. They were imposed at their own earnest request, and when two cents an animal were found insufficient to cover expenses the fees were raised to three cents an animal. Mr. Smith thinks the cattlemen are ruining their trade by importing so many inferior beasts.

Carefully compiled reports from all parts of Ontario give a promising outlook for this season's crops. Hay is very heavy and abundant, and spring wheat promises well. There is a less acreage than usual under barley, and corn is light. Potatoes are not up to the average. Small fruits are in a good condition, but apples are a failure.

BRITISH.

Nightingales have been especially numerous in England this year.

The Bishop of Chester's bill for the introduction of the Gothenburg system of dealing with the sale of intoxicating liquors into England has been rejected by the House of Lords.

Capt. Bourke, the senior officer among the survivors of the warship Victoria, will be tried by a special naval board, sitting at Malta, for having lost the vessel.

Vice-Admiral Sir Michael Culme Seymour has been appointed commander-in-chief of the Mediterranean station, to succeed Vice-Admiral Sir George Tryon, who lost his life on the Victoria.

The survivors of the wreck of the warship Victoria agree in testifying to the admirable discipline and the self-abnegating bravery of the sailors of the doomed vessel.

The Czarewitch, who arrived in London on Friday, visited the Queen at Windsor Castle on the following day.

Some members of London's smart set are attempting, by force of example, to revive the wearing of knee breeches as a fashion of evening dress.

The Indian Government is discussing the claims of the various banks, which have fifteen million pounds worth of silver now on passage to India, to compensation for the depreciation of the value of silver.

At the regular weekly meeting of the directors of the Bank of England it was decided to make no change in the discount rate of the bank, which will therefore remain at three and a half per cent.

Mr. Herbert Gardner announced in the House of Commons on Monday night that experts having found traces of pleuro-pneumonia in Canadian cattle recently slaughtered, it would for the present be impossible to raise the embargo.

Mr. Gladstone announces that it is the intention of the Government to appoint a joint commission to enquire into the finan-

cial relations between Great Britain and Ireland; but that the commission would not begin its sittings until the excitement in connection with the passage of the Home Rule bill had subsided.

Sir Charles Dilke, one of England's most eminent lay authorities in military and naval matters, referring to the rumour that Admiral Tryon was suffering from temporary mental derangement when he conducted the manoeuvres off Tripoli, said that Admiral Tryon never gave him the idea of any mental weakness.

UNITED STATES.

It is stated that a secret meeting of Presbyterians was recently held in New York, at which strong dissatisfaction was expressed with the action of the General Assembly in the Briggs case.

The question is raised as to whether Governor Altgeld, who recently pardoned three of the Chicago dynamiters, was ever naturalized, and consequently whether he is legally the Governor of the State of Illinois.

The Homestead indictments for riot, conspiracy, treason, and murder against the ex-strikers will follow the course of the indictments against the Carnegie officials, and will not be pressed.

The coroner's jury at Detroit which enquired into the circumstances attending the death of Mr. R. D. Dolson, of Chatham, Ont., decided that he died from some cause unknown to them. Dolson believed that he had been drugged, and the attending physicians were of the opinion that he was the victim of narcotic poisoning; but the doctor who made the post-mortem examination declared he found no trace of poison in the stomach.

GENERAL.

A despatch from Hong Kong reports another fanatical outbreak against missionaries in China.

It is stated that the Panama canal works will be resumed at the end of 1893, and that already 50,000,000 fr. have been raised for the purpose.

An elevated electric railway is to be built in Berlin.

M. Zola told the Students' Association of Paris that he intends to devote the remainder of his life "to the defence of the social ideas which he cherishes."

It is reported that the catch of the poachers who are doing pelagic sealing off the Alaskan coast is very plentiful, and is expected to reach seventy thousand skins by the close of the season.

In an interview with Herr von Koscielski, a leader of the Polish party, the Emperor promised to concede the Polish demand regarding national schools for their support of the Army bill.

A special cablegram from Berlin says there is a feeling of alarm created by the spread of anti-Semitism, which in the opinion of some is more dangerous than open Socialism.

Six hundred and fifty deaths from cholera were reported in Mecca on Wednesday.

Princess Bismarck is so dangerously ill at her home in Friedrichsruhe that Prince Rismarck has refused an invitation to visit Leipzig.

The St. Petersburg Viedomosti publishes a sharp protest concerning the depredations of British and American poachers in the sealing waters of Russia.

On Saturday there was some serious fighting between the police and the students in the Latin quarter of Paris, which caused great excitement. A special cable despatch to the Mail says yesterday a thousand students marched down to the legislative buildings to lay their complaint before the Government. Only ten, however, were admitted, and these Prime Minister Dupuy assured that a stringent enquiry was proceeding into all the facts of the case.

A Terrible Gun.

The Paris Autorte publishes an interview with M. Turpin, the inventor of melinite, on the subject of the new gun designed by him. Of all warlike apparatus it is said to be more destructive than anything yet known. "It is said," remarked the interviewer, "that with your weapon four discharges could be effected in a quarter of an hour, sending 25,000 projectiles a distance of one league in several directions, covering an area of 22,000 square metres at each discharge. All this may have been somewhat exaggerated," M. Turpin smiled and replied very quietly, "Those figures represent a minimum. I hope soon to be able to clear in an instant a whole plain covered with several army corps. A few volleys would suffice. The apparatus is light. Only two horses are required to draw it, and four men to work it. The projectiles are diminutive shells. With this the strongest fort could be done away with in a few hours. For obvious reasons I cannot just now divulge my secret, but I may say this much, that it rests on a new electrical principle. It is the simplest thing in the world, and every one will wonder when it becomes known how it was not discovered long since."

A Queer Pigmy Chinaman.

There has arrived in Sochow a mere microscopic prodigy 29 inches in height, aged 51 years, and sporting a flowing gray beard almost as long as himself. The small man has a "cocky" sort of way about him, which is all his own, and is dressed in English fashion—coat, hat, boots and all. He tells the gaping crowd of bumpkins, who unceremoniously jostle the city swells in their eagerness to hear him speak, that he hails from the dwarf kingdom of the western ocean, and he emphasizes his information by a flourish of a bamboo tobacco pipe which is much taller than himself. But when desired to give a specimen of the language of the country of his nativity he regales his audience with a choice collection of English phrases, squeaked out in an uncertain tone of voice.

The Insect World.

It is believed, according to Mr. P. L. Simmonds, F.L.S., that there are five times as many insects as there are species of all other living things put together. The oak alone supports 450 species of insects, and 200 kinds make their home in the pine. Forty years ago Humboldt estimated that the number of species preserved in collections was between 150,000 and 170,000, but scientific men now say that there must be more than three-quarters of a million, without taking into account the parasite creatures. Of the 35,000 species in Europe, however, not more than 3,500 are noxious or destructive. There are more than 10,000 kinds of beetles.

A STUDY OF THE INSANE.

What the Census Shows About Canada's Defective People.

Social Relations and Their Influence on Mental Health—Insanity Not Increasing Among the Canadian-Born.

The Department of Agriculture has issued Bulletin No. 16 of the census series. It deals with the defective classes of Canada, and in this term is included for census purposes the insane, the deaf and dumb and the blind. Mr. George Johnson, the statistician, has evidently taken great pains to secure accuracy. A special agent of the Census branch was sent to the asylums for the insane in Ontario and Quebec to procure the lists of inmates with their post office addresses. With these lists in hand, the census compilers carefully examined the returns of the several thousand enumerators, picking out all the insane returned. These were then compared with the names obtained from the several insane asylums' books with a view to prevent duplication. The result justified the additional expense and trouble. In all the provinces the assistance of the medical superintendents of the asylums was sought and cheerfully given.

The number of insane in Canada in 1891 as thus obtained was 13,355; of deaf-mutes, 4,819; and of blind 3,368, making a total of defectives (not including idiots) of 21,542.

THE INSANE.

Dealing with the insane, the statistician points out that Canada has fewer insane women in proportion to insane men than in most other countries, the proportion of insane women to insane men in Canada being 88 females to 100 males, while in England and Wales it is 118 females to 100 males, and in France 100 females to 100 males.

He points out that the statistics of insane by civil condition indicate that marriage has a beneficial effect upon both sexes, though it has a more beneficial influence upon men than women, the proportion of married insane men being 15.5 in every 10,000 of the married male population, and of married insane women nearly 20 in every 10,000 of the married female population. With respect to the widowed, the returns show 35 widowers insane in every 10,000 widowers, and 40 widows insane in every 10,000 widows in the land, indicating that the disruption of the marriage tie by death has a more profound influence upon women than upon men.

In 1871 the insane under 15 years old were 6.2 for the males and 5.03 for 10,000 of each sex of the same ages. In 1891 the corresponding figures were 5.05 for males and 8.8 for females—showing that insanity is not on the increase among the children of the country.

INSANITY AN IMPORTED EVIL.

Analysis of the returns shows that the native born Canadians do not contribute their proportionate share of insanity; that, in point of fact, insanity is largely an imported evil. The insane who are born outside of Canada and those who are born in Canada, both of whose parents were foreign born, number 90 in every 10,000 persons foreign born, and the insane born in Canada of parents one or both of whom were born in Canada number 18 in every 10,000 of the native born.

Mr. Johnson puts this important fact thus to the public:—"The native born Canadians are nearly nineteen times more numerous than the English born, but have only twelve times the number of insane. They are twenty-eight times more numerous than the Irish born and have less than seven times the number insane. They are thirty-seven times more numerous than the Scotch born and have less than eighteen times the number of insane."

In this connection it is somewhat suggestive to find that the same conditions exist with respect to the deaf and dumb and to the blind. The foreign population, which is less than one-seventh of the whole population, have contributed one-fourth of the deaf and dumb and one-third of the blind.

In answering the question "Has insanity increased in Canada?" the statistician aside the census of 1881 as not in this particular accurately taken; and taking the figures of the census of 1871 shows that the four provinces of Ontario, Quebec, Nova Scotia and New Brunswick, the number of insane has increased 34.4 per cent., while the population has increased 25.5 per cent. By an analysis of the figures he shows that the increase of insanity has been chiefly in Ontario, to which province immigration has been largely directed during the past score of years.

Notwithstanding that Canada seems to have been made the dumping ground for defectives by other countries, the comparison given by Mr. Johnson shows that Canada has four fewer insane per 10,000 inhabitants than England and Scotland, nine fewer than Ireland, and five fewer than the United States and the Australian colony of Victoria.

THE DEAF AND DUMB.

The deaf and dumb in Canada consist of 2,590 males and 2,229 females. There are 1,929 single males and 1,751 single females; 552 males and 330 females are married; 108 widowers and 148 widows complete the list. Taking the four original provinces of the Confederation for comparison, the figures indicate that the deaf-mutes have not increased faster than population during twenty years.

About 40 per cent. of the deaf and dumb have acquired the power to convey their thoughts and to receive impressions through reading and writing. The deaf and dumb are employed in various avocations, the proportion being 3,264 distributed among non-productive classes and 1,555 among producers. Of the latter 963 are engaged in agriculture, fisheries and mining; 29 in professional pursuits; 245 in domestic and personal service; 39 in trade and transport, and 279 in manufacturing and mechanical industries.

Compared with other countries, Canada has fewer deaf and dumb than Sweden, Austria and Switzerland, but more than Great Britain, France and Germany.

THE BLIND.

The blind in Canada number 1,839 males and 1,529 females. Females who are blind are 86.5 to 100 blind males. In France to every 100 blind males there are 76 females blind, in Prussia 88, Belgium 89, Norway 108, England 85, Scotland 95, Ireland 106. Canada, Prussia, England and Belgium are close to each other in this respect.

Nearly 60 per cent. of the blind are either

married or have been married. Of the females 60 per cent. are or have been married. Fifty-five per cent. of the males have tried the estate of matrimony.

There is a somewhat smaller number of girls under 15 who are blind in proportion to all the girls of the land under that age than there was in 1871. Boys have slightly increased, the comparison being 2.02 boys blind in every 10,000 boys in 1891, against 1.95 boys in 1871.

There are 752 blind who can read and write, 2,464 who can neither read nor write, and 152 who can read but cannot write.

With respect to occupations 74 per cent. of the blind belong to the non-productive class, against 70.9 per cent. of the insane and 67.5 per cent. of the deaf and dumb.

The bulletin contains many other points of interest in connection with the defective classes of the Canadian community.

Wheat for Europe.

There has been an unusually heavy export of wheat from America, upwards of 14,000,000 bushels of grain and flour having been shipped during the past month and 10,000,000 bushels more being under charter for early movement. These unusual shipments have been credited to the low price, it being said that European buyers have come into the market before harvest instead of waiting as usual until the new wheat was well gathered before buying. There may be something in this view, but the heavy European buying in all possible directions indicates that present necessities have quite as much to do with the heavy purchases as the low prices. While Europe has imported 14,000,000 bushels and engaged 10,000,000 more from the United States, South America, Australia and Eastern Europe have been laid under tribute for upwards of 18,000,000 bushels additional. In other words the wheat consuming European countries appear to be buying right and left in advance of the harvest season everywhere. Wheat is cheap and plentiful especially in Canada and the United States and Australia, and is undoubtedly a good purchase at present prices anywhere; but the heavy buying at this season can mean but one thing and that is that the present European supply is short and the crop outlook gloomy. The chief advantage of the heavy foreign demand for American wheat is that it gives this continent aid in the present financial stringency and furnishes abundant hope for an early improvement in the general situation. Fortunately the wheat reserves both in Canada and the United States are the heaviest ever known at this season. We have the wheat for shipment at once without waiting for harvesting and threshing and are thus in a position to reap almost immediately benefit from the increased demand.

Made Right in the End.

That the inequalities observable in this life constitute an argument for a future state of existence cannot be disputed. This disparity and difference of conditions is the great stumbling block in the way of the poor and unfortunate who are not firmly grounded on the rock of faith. Although all Christians are agreed that there can be no favoritism in the dispensations of Providence, when they set up the bad man and cast down the good, and that the gifts of God are entirely in the management of divine discretion, still it is natural that people should desire to see something like equality in the method of distribution. But that is what we do not see in the ordinary affairs of life and the way in which they pan out. In the struggle of life it is not the best, at least in a moral sense, but the strongest, the wildest and the most unprincipled that succeed. The survival of the fittest, is the survival of the craftiest, the most deceitful the most selfish. Now in a universe over which an infinitely just God is believed to rule, this cannot be an ideal state of things in His sight. But since it is the actual state of things, God's just purpose and the ideals of the believing ones must have their absolute fulfilment in a future state of existence. This is not so much sermonizing as trying to reason with quite a large number of people calling themselves believers who seem disposed to question the fidelity of the Master because things are not cut out to suit themselves. There is a deep purpose in this apparent irregularity, and all will be made right in the end.

13,000 Miles Ocean Race.

According to a San Francisco correspondent, one of the longest races on record is now in process between five British ships, the winner of which is to receive \$1000. The competing vessels are Bowdon, Pinmore, Lord Templemore, Lochee, and the City of Athens. All the vessels are from San Francisco, and with the exception of the Lord Templemore, they are bound to Queenstown for orders. The race is round the Horn, to Queenstown, though in the case of the Lord Templemore, some provisions must be made, or an allowance given. The Bowdon, Lochee, and Lord Templemore left San Francisco on the 22d March, the City of Athens on the 23d, and the Pinmore on the 24th. The correspondent states that the captain of each vessel has staked \$250, the winner taking \$1000, and the second to save his stake. The distance is about 13,400 miles, and a 90 days' run is considered very fair speed. It is therefore probable that some of the vessels may reach the winning post towards the end of the present month. When last seen the Lord Templemore was leading. All the vessels are grain laden.

The Home Rule Bill.

Mr. Gladstone having by a majority of 32 carried his extra-closure resolution the home rule bill is to be reported from committee on July 31st. This means that the remaining 600 out of 1000 amendments originally given notice of by the Unionists will have to be disposed of in short order. The bill will pass its third reading before the middle of August, that is if some unexpected snag is not struck in the meantime and the government, defeated on a vital point, and will then be sent up to the House of Lords who will ignominiously reject it, it is thought, within ten days. Parliament will then adjourn and next February the bill will be again introduced and presumably again passed in the Commons. The Lords for a second time will reject it and Mr. Gladstone will straightway appeal to the country. If the electorate give him a decent majority on its third introduction the Peers will bow to the will of the people and home rule will become the law of the land.

MISCELLANEOUS ITEMS.

Some European soldiers still wear armour. The helmet of Richard I. weighed 25 pounds.

The railroads of America employ over 2,000,000 men.

Twelve average tea plants produce one pound of tea.

The revolving pistol was the invention of Colt in 1836.

Many small animals eat their own weight in food in a day.

During long sea voyages all dogs lose their "game nose."

Russians are more afflicted with blindness than any other nationality.

As a rule, the length of the face is the same as the length of the hand.

Santo Domingo is the oldest existing settlement in the New World.

Perfectly white cats, if they have blue eyes, are nearly always deaf.

It is calculated that in the entire world 67 people die every minute.

The Czar's throne is said to be worth four times as much as Queen Victoria's.

The King of Greece speaks twelve languages.

In Holland many women are practising chemistry.

Greek ladies had 137 different styles of dressing hair.

Flints for gunlocks were used in the French army, 1630.

France has 69,359 public schools and 14,500 private ones.

Chinese control almost the entire shoe-making business in California.

The standing army of Hawaii consists of sixty-four men, three of whom are generals.

Water pipes of lead were first made in 1839.

An Italian firm has designed an electric tricycle.

Bombshells were first made in Holland in 1495.

The youngest English bride on record was two years old.

The churches built in America in 1892 numbered nearly 10,000.

Chrysanthemums were first brought to Europe from China in 1790.

Diamonds are found in every colour and shade, from the purest white to jet black.

The material of which merchaum pipes are made is used in Spain as a building stone.

The kangaroo readily leaps from 60 to 70 feet. The longest recorded leap of a horse is 37 feet.

All traces of mud spots can be removed from black goods by rubbing with a raw potato cut in half.

It is estimated that one out of every 180 inhabitants of the United Kingdom owns or rides a bicycle.

All the pawn shops in Moscow owned by Hebrews have been, it is said, closed by order of Government.

Kangaroos are such a plague in Australia that the government pays a bounty of 8d. for each of these animals that is killed.

The linen manufactured yearly in England could be wrapped round the earth seven times.

One thousand eight hundred and fifty cities and towns in this country are equipped with electric lights.

From the American aloe-tree is made thread, ropes, paper, clothing, soap, sugar, and brandy.

The fitting of glass in oven doors is a new contrivance. It enables cooks to watch the food without opening the door.

It is a curious anomaly in the law that, if you pay for your photograph being taken, no copy can be sold without your consent, while, if you do not, the photographer may sell it to any extent.

There are far more evictions in New York City than in the whole of Ireland. In 1890 the evictions in New York numbered 23,895; in Ireland, during the same period, they were a little over 5,000.

In 1813 there were thirty-eight papers in London—eight morning and seven evening, seven every other evening, sixteen every Sunday.

The City of London Guildhall Library appears to be much appreciated. In the past twelve-months there were over 350,000 signatures in the visitors' book.

Only twenty years ago Emile Zola was a clerk in the shop of Messrs. Hachette, on the Boulevard St. Germain; at now he is a millionaire.

The largest steam derrick in the world is at the Hamburg shipping docks. Those who have seen it at work say that it picks up an 80-ton gun or a ten-wheel locomotive as easily as a large man would lift a 10lb. weight.

In a hospital for cats, in Philadelphia, over 18,000 tabbies were painlessly put to death last year.

One thousand francs was recently paid for the broken wooden horse with which Napoleon played as a child.

Saxon women never appeared in public without the hood, which covered the hair and a large part of the face.

Hitherto shipwrights have been eligible to enter the naval service between the ages of 18 and 35, but in future the age of entry is to be between 20 and 28.

At the better class of Parisian cafes writing paper, pens, ink, &c., are furnished to the guests free. In hotels of the same city the guests have to pay for them.

The law of Denmark now gives to every Danish subject, man or woman, the right to a pension at sixty years of age, except in cases of convicted criminals, paupers, or those who have come to distress by extravagance.

A fresh terror seems to be in store for the unfortunate inmates of the Russian prisons. It is proposed that the cells should be fitted with concealed microphones, so that any conversation can be automatically conveyed by wire to a distant telephone.

Italy stands at the head of the wine-producing countries of Europe. She manufactures half as much again as France. Next on the list is Spain; then follow Austro-Hungary, Germany, and Switzerland, in the order mentioned. It is not generally known that the country outside of Europe which produces most wine is Algeria.