

THE WEEK'S NEWS

CANADIAN.

The water in Kingston harbour is now lower than it has been for years.

The U. E. Loyalist Historical Society of the Bay of Quinte district has been organized.

Miss Maggie Hogg, of McKillop township, was fatally injured by being thrown from her carriage.

Light frost on Sunday night was reported from South Dakota, North-West Iowa, and Northern Nebraska.

The establishment of the Empire tobacco factory, Montreal, has been wholly destroyed by fire. The loss was fully covered by insurance.

Capt. Joseph Ash, an old pensioner at Sarnia, has been sent to gaol for attempting to commit suicide by cutting his throat with a jackknife.

A despatch from Ottawa says that the rearrangement of the military staff by Major-General Herbert will result in a saving of \$10,000 a year.

John Dunn, who was seriously injured in Hamilton on Monday last by the bursting of an emery wheel died in the City hospital on Saturday morning.

A young man named Jas. Lyle was bathing at the Beach, opposite Hamilton, Ont., Tuesday, when he went down before assistance could reach him, and was drowned.

A Montreal man named Samuel Christie Carter has been arrested on the charge of having caused the death of his mother-in-law, Elizabeth Peacock, by throwing her violently down on a bed while she was in a state of intoxication.

Quite a sensation has been caused in Montreal by the announcement that Mr. L. J. Amedie Papineau, son of the famous orator and instigator of the rebellion of '37, had publicly broken away from the Roman Catholic Church and was about embracing the Presbyterian creed.

A large number of representative farmers from England, Ireland, and Scotland responded to the invitation of Sir Charles Tupper to visit the North-West at the expense of the Federal Government, with a view to reporting upon its desirability as a country for settlement. Fourteen were selected, and some of these are now in this country.

BRITISH.

The Bank of England's rate of discount has been raised from four to five per cent.

Lady Aberdeen's little book entitled "Through Canada with a Kodak" is evoking much interest in London. She speaks very warmly of Canadian kindness and the resources of the country.

The death is announced at Southampton of Miss Mary Augusta Gordon, sister of the late General Gordon, who was well-known throughout Hampshire for her great benevolence.

The grave of Mrs. Siddons, the great English actress, in St. Mary's burying-ground, St. Pancras, is to be taken in hand and thoroughly restored by the local authorities.

A special cablegram says there is reason to hope for an amicable settlement of the troubles in the South Wales and Monmouthshire coal-fields. Fifty thousand miners are expected to resume work to-day.

Mr. Astor, the new landlord of Cliveden, has made himself very unpopular among the frequenters of the Thames by cutting off the privilege which the Duke of Westminster always allowed river excursionists of taking tea on the terrace opposite Cookham lock.

The succession of the Duke of Edinburgh to the rulership of the Duchies of Saxe-Coburg and Gotha dominates public interest in Germany, and widely divergent rumours in regard to the matter are everywhere circulated. The succession of an English duke has surprised and disatisfied the nation, though the fact is quietly accepted by the Duchies concerned.

The London Daily Chronicle, in referring to the refusal of the British Government to accept the Dominion Government's invitation for two British experts to visit Canada to enquire into the alleged existence of pleuro-pneumonia among the cattle, says that if the Canadian veterinary experts failed to discover a single case of the disease, Great Britain ought to admit their live cattle again.

UNITED STATES.

The Canadian exhibitors in the live stock classes at the World's Fair are proving very successful as prize winners.

By the starting up the mills and furnaces in Pittsburgh, Pa., nearly seven thousand men were put to work during the past week.

Wages will be reduced on the Union Pacific railway to the extent of at least ten per cent. It is not thought that the men will strike.

The Pittsfield express, on the Harlem road, ran into another train on Saturday near Dykman's station. Five people were killed and several injured.

Over forty persons are known to have lost their lives in the recent hurricane off the New York and New Jersey coasts. Fifty-eight persons are still missing.

A fire in South Chicago the other day burned 250 houses, and did damage to the amount of \$1,000,000. About seven thousand people have been rendered homeless.

Two acres of buildings in the business centre of Delavan, Wis., were destroyed by fire on Monday night, and on Tuesday morning the town was without a hotel, a livery stable, or a post-office. The loss is estimated at forty thousand dollars, with insurance for half that amount.

GENERAL.

An epidemic of dysentery is raging in the southern provinces of Japan.

A National Russian Exhibition will be held in Nijni Novgorod in 1896.

France threatens to send gun-boats to the Meinam river, before Bangkok, if her new demands are not granted immediately.

The census of foreigners resident in France shows that the total number is 1,180,211. The Belgians are most numerous.

It is rumoured that in consequence of the riots at San Sebastian, the infant King of Spain and the Queen Regent have taken

refuge on board a cruiser.

A despatch from Buenos Ayres states that the town of Corrientes has been captured by the rebels, who have also defeated the forces under Col. Acunas.

The striking cab drivers of Naples and their friends have had several encounters with the military. On Friday over one thousand persons were arrested.

The negotiations between M. de Villiers, the French special envoy at Bangkok, and the Siamese Government for the settlement of the Franco-Siamese dispute, are at a complete standstill.

A cyclone passed over Eastern Silesia on Thursday last. One hundred houses at Neustadt, Kosel, and Obergloppau were unroofed, crops were destroyed, and several persons were killed.

Twelve Anarchists were arrested in Rome on Wednesday night, and the French Embassy was protected by a cordon of troops. These measures prevented the recurrence of any serious disturbance.

Reports gain credence at Berlin that Prince Luitpold will resign the regency of Bavaria in favour of his son. Owing to the Klug affair, there is a feeling that he is losing control of the Government and is being hoodwinked.

A special cable despatch from Rome says that after the conclusion of the manoeuvres of the Italian fleet on Wednesday, Prince Henry of Prussia, at a dinner given by King Humbert, referred to the war vessels of Italy as superb.

The English yacht Insect, lying at Kiel, has been seized by the German authorities. Her seizure is due to the fact that two Frenchmen, who were living on board, incurred suspicion by their actions, and were taken into custody as spies.

Prince Duong Char, of Cambodia, having refused the request of the French Government to leave Paris, was arrested, escorted to Marseilles, and deported to Algiers. The reason has not been assigned for the anxiety of the Government to get rid of the royal visitor.

Population of the Earth.

The human family living on earth to-day consists of about 1,450,000,000 souls—not fewer, probably more. These are distributed literally all over the earth's surface there being no considerable spot on the globe where man has not found a foothold. In Asia, the so-called "cradle of the human race," there are now about 800,000,000 people densely crowded, on an average of about 120 to every square mile. In Europe there are 320,000,000, averaging 100 to the square mile, not so crowded as Asia, but everywhere dense, and in many places overpopulated. In Africa there are approximately 210,000,000, and in the Americas—North, South and Central—110,000,000 these latter, of course, relatively thinly scattered over broad areas. On the islands, large and small, there are probably 10,000,000 more. The extremes of the blacks and the whites are as five to three, the remaining 700,000,000 intermediate, brown, yellow, and tawny in color. Of the entire race 500,000,000 are well clothed—that is they wear garments of some kind that will cover nakedness—250,000,000 habitually go naked, and 700,000,000 only cover the middle part of the body; 500,000,000 live in houses, 700,000,000 in huts and caves, the remaining 250,000,000 virtually having no place to lay their heads.

Don't Be Vulgar.

Vulgar women like to attract attention; they are loud in their dress and talk; they can be seen and heard at a distance; they are numerous, generally annoying and often offensive.

Vulgar women walk like grenadiers; they come down on their heels with force enough to shake anything from an "L" road station to a summer hotel piazza.

Vulgar women discuss private affairs in public; their conversation is audible to passers-by; they invite the observation of strangers, and they are flattered by the familiar comments of finkies, flirts, fakirs and Broadway loafers.

Vulgar women appear in public wearing brilliant colors, brilliant cheeks, audible perfumes, jewelry and sensational styles.

Vulgar women may win admiration, but they never win respect; before an individual is respected by others she must respect herself.

Women who bear tales, who betray confidence and make mischief with their tongues are vulgarians of the most despicable type.

Vulgar women are dangerous; they are not only corrupt good manners, but they are a bad example for the ignorant and innocent, and a disturbing element among refined people.—[New York World.]

Value of the Drained Zuyder Zee.

In the year 1886 a society was organized in Holland to make plans for the draining of the Zuyder Zee. It now officially reports that three-fourths of the soil covered by these 990,000 acres of water is as fertile as surrounding districts, and proposes a scheme of drainage which will leave 300,000 acres in the center as a lake, while the rest will be redeemed at a rate that will annually render from 12,000 to 15,000 acres habitable. The cost of the entire work is estimated at \$76,000,000. The largest enterprise of the same sort hitherto carried out has been the draining of the Haarlem Lake, which, after thirty-nine months of labor, added 46,000 acres to the solid soil of Holland. When the Zuyder Zee was formed by an inundation, in the thirteenth century, some 30,000 lives are believed to have been lost, and this fact gives an idea of the profit which will result from its redemption.—[Garden and Forest.]

More British farm delegates have arrived to spy out the land. They are en route direct to Manitoba, the North West and British Columbia. These comprise the districts that most need settlers, but it strikes us that much good might result from taking the delegates through Ontario and the older sections of the country. There is much land that remains to be opened up in what was formerly Upper Canada and in the Maritime provinces and much more that might be improved by the adoption of English methods and by a more patient system of husbandry than many of our own people are willing to follow.

Probably the biggest King in the world, in point of size at any rate, is the Sovereign of Butaritari, who recently entered a protest against the British protectorate over the Gilbert Isles. He weighs 21st. 10lb.

A MAN'S HOUSEKEEPING.

BY KATE THORN.

If ever a woman complains about the troubles and trials of housekeeping, her husband is always ready to say that housekeeping is just fun, and he generally adds that he can do it as well as any woman who ever lived!

And he believes it. He is thoroughly sincere about it. And that is what always amuses us.

It is strange why he should believe it, and yet he does.

He knows that in order to learn the carpenter's trade a man must spend months with a master workman. He knows that no man can run a steam engine until he has learned how. He would laugh at the woman who asserted that she could navigate a vessel around Cape Horn without learning how. Yet he could keep a house the first time he tried.

And we have seen him try. Lots of him, and lots of times. And we may add that we always enjoy seeing him.

His wife cooks up some "victuals," and leaves him to go on a visit to Sister Hannah, or Aunt Mary.

Our male housekeeper bristles with knowledge. "He is not going to be all the forenoon putting things in order. Women are slower than death, as a rule! He'll just fly around, and get the work done up and read that new book before dinner."

If it is warm weather, he airs the house. Fresh air is conducive to health. He sets all the windows wide open, and the doors ditto, and never minds if the screens are closed or not. He wonders what makes so many flies and wasps, and tries to drive them out with a newspaper as he has seen his wife do, but the flies know him, and are not afraid of him, he says—but he never once thinks that he hasn't got the knack of driving them! Humph! as if a man could not drive flies as well as a woman!

The wind rushes through the house like a Western "blizzard," and blows down the papers and magazines, and whisks the dried grasses out of the vases, and upsets the bouquet holders, and scatters the sheet music all over the room, and he wonders, "What in thunder does make the wind blow so all at once?"

Then he begins to sweep. Did you ever see a man sweep! If so, you know how it is done. The motions are about half-way between sawing wood and pushing a baby carriage, and if there is much dirt, then Heaven preserve the unlucky individual who happens to get to the leeward of the sweeper!

He leaves the broom on the doorstep, so as to have it handy in future, for a man housekeeper has a great idea of having things "handy," and proceeds to wash the dishes. He wipes his hands on his pants by way of making himself tidy, tucks up his shirt-sleeves, puts on his wife's apron wrong side out, pours some water into the first receptacle handy, and begins.

How the soap-suds fly! and how the dishes rattle!

Crack goes the handle of a cup; but he doesn't mind that! Handles are a nuisance on cups, any way!

Knives, plates, tin dishes, and iron stew-pans, are all washed in promiscuous haste; his motto is the miller's, "First come, first served."

As long as they are washed, what matters it whether the frying-pan or the china cream pitcher comes first? Women like to fool away their time washing dishes, but he has something else to do!

He spatters the wall paper, scalds his hand with the steam, breaks the tea-kettle cover, lets the water boil dry in the kettle, and does not know, to save his life, where that dreadful smell of melting solder comes from, till the whole thing is ruined! A woman always investigates all unusual smells; but a man waits for the knowledge, he seeks and expects it to come to him without seeking!

He finishes at last, and leaves half the dishes in soak for next time; wipes his hands and makes the beds. Now, it is a fact well known to science that no man can put the sheets on a bed right. They will either be wrong side up, or the part which ought to be at the foot will be at the head, or they will be put on crosswise of the bed, or the upper one will be used for the lower one. And just so with the quilts. And the bed will generally look like a two-humped camel, blanketed, by the time he is through with it.

All the old boots and stockings he will pitch into the closet together, and his wife's corsets and skirts, which she did not wear away, will be piled on top, and his old pants and hat complete the pyramid. A man does not hang things up, as a rule.

He throws them down "anywhere," to have them handy.

Then he "sees" about dinner. He puts the joints in the oven to roast, and puts the potatoes to boil at the same time. And he makes the coffee and puts it on the stove, and retires to the sitting-room lounge with that new book. No need of staying there broiling in the kitchen all the forenoon! Things will cook just as well without anybody's hanging right over them!

So he leaves them to cook!

His book is interesting, and he reads on, and at the end of a couple of hours, he concludes he will "see" about dinner some more. By that time there is little to see, beyond a smoke, and cinders, and a "busted potato kettle."

That two-dollar joint is charcoal—very bad smelling, too; the potatoes are burnt fast to the remnants of the kettle, and the coffee and cooking stove have absorbed each other, and—But we say no more. The wicked words which our man housekeeper gives vent to are sufficient.

But, strange to say, he is not convinced that his wife can keep house any better—he is just as confident of his ability as ever.

A Lone Kick.

Two men engaged in peddling linen bought an old mule to aid in carrying the burdens. One would ride awhile, then the other, carrying the bales of linen on the mule.

One day the man who was on foot got close to his mule-ship, when he received a kick on one of his shins. To be revenged he hurled a stone at the mule, but by accident he struck his companion on the back of the head. Seeing what he had done, he stopped and began to groan and rub his shin. The one on the mule turned and asked what was the matter.

"The cratur's kicked me," was the reply. "Be jabers," said the other, "he did the same to me on the back of the head."

WHEAT ADVANCES.

The Present Situation Received and the Future Prognosticated.

There is, probably, no time in the history of the grain trade when people have been more tempted to invest in wheat, and have at the same time felt so little confidence in the investment as at the present moment. So many factors enter into the question to influence values this year, that the study of the situation is more interesting, and commands more general attention than it has done for years past.

Looking at the influences which have brought wheat to its present low level and kept it there for so many months, the first and most striking one is the vast accumulation of stock in all quarters which dragged down wheat many points by sheer dead weight on the market. Chicago speculators made a strenuous effort to sustain values and did for several months keep the price there above all the other markets, and almost on a level with New York, with the result that wheat was attracted there in such quantities, by the premium paid for it, that the speculators were swamped. They had to let go, and prices went lower than they would probably have gone had business been allowed to run in its legitimate channel. The most reliable estimates make the aggregate stocks of wheat, and flour in Europe, afloat, and in America on August 1, 1,178,000,000 bushels, against 122,968,000 bushels on August 1, 1892, or about 44 per cent. more than a year ago, and that at a time when the new crops are being harvested in all parts of Europe and America.

With the large supplies to carry on this continent, the financial stringency has been a potent factor in holding prices down, making it extremely difficult to obtain loans and that only at high interest, as the spread of 8c between September and December deliveries, or equal to 34 per cent. per annum for carrying charges, will testify. The state of the exchange market, also, has interfered greatly with free shipment from the West. Not only is foreign exchange low and most difficult to realize on, but domestic exchange, particularly on New York and Philadelphia, can only be sold at a ruinous discount of \$10 to \$15 per \$1,000, thus adding to the cost of shipping nearly one cent per bushel. The receivers have also to face the serious problem of looking after and paying in the near future for at least half of the 380,000,000 bushels of the new crop, and the dearth of currency is such that a proposition has already been discussed suggesting that the banks in the West should create a local currency by issuing clearing house certificates in amounts of \$5 \$10 \$20 and \$50, which could be used in payment for wheat to farmers and of freight to railways, and thus bring the wheat to market, when the proceeds would be returned to the banks, thereby putting them in funds with which to redeem the temporary certificates. The banks are favorable to the scheme, but it is questionable if the farmers and railways will agree to the proposition. As it is currency that the farmer wants and must have to pay his labor at harvest time, it is not easy to see how he is to be benefited by the scheme. In former years a Government crop report such as was issued on the 10th of this month, would have been followed by an advance of 5c to 10c a bushel. The total crop in the United States is this year estimated at 383,000,000 bushels, against 513,000,000 last year, a decrease of 133,000,000 bushels, and yet wheat is scarcely higher to-day than on the day the report was issued. This paper has pointed out before the general want of faith held in the Government crop report, and the apathy with which the estimate of such a large deficit was received bears out the statement. It is worthy of note that the state report of Michigan, issued on the same day, makes the crop of that State 4,000,000 bushels in excess of the report of the National Department.

In spite of the adverse influences the course of wheat should be towards higher prices, though no material advance may come for some months. Even should the Government have under-estimated the quantity, it is acknowledged on all sides that the yield will fall far short of last year. It is now generally conceded that the English crop will not exceed 56,000,000 bushels, and besides the serious deficit in the general yield, the quality is almost everywhere disappointing, a good portion of it being unfit for milling. Deducting the stock left over from 1892, there must still be imported at least 152,000,000 bushels, a large proportion of which will be drawn from America, as notwithstanding that the prospects for the Russian crop are as brilliant as in 1887 and 1888, it would absorb all the surplus of Russia, India and South Eastern Europe to fill the British requirements. America will also get full advantage of the Russo-German tariff war, as there is little doubt but that Germany will be a liberal purchaser of breadstuffs from this side owing to the tariff complications with Russia. Taking the Government estimate of the crop to be correct, and the requirements of the United States for seed and consumption to be 365,000,000 bushels, leaves less (adding present surplus of 58,000,000) than 76,000,000 bushels for export during the next twelve months, against 191,916,635 bushels exported during the year ending June 30th 1893, and 226,665,811 bushels for the corresponding time in 1891-92. The situation on this side has much improved during the past ten days. The grain trade is on a sound basis, and were there any encouragement in the financial situation a more active and healthy market would result. The demand for export is good at present low prices and stocks at Eastern points are moving out fast. Were it not for the inability of the banks in the West to afford facilities to shippers, a larger movement would be noted there. Farmers' deliveries of wheat on this crop have been exceedingly light, averaging scarcely one-third of the same time a year ago. For third week in August receipts from interior points were 2,670,000 bushels against 7,542,000 for the corresponding time in 1892. Farmers who are not compelled to part with their wheat to raise ready money will not sell at these prices. The visible supply last week decreased over 570,000 bushels as compared with an increase of 3,175,000 bushels last year, and should receipts continue as light as they have heretofore been with liberal exports, it will not take many weeks to bring stocks on this side of the Atlantic to a more reasonable and less unwieldy compass.

The pianoforte upon which Wagner received his earliest teaching in counterpoint and composition from Theodore Weinlig, of Leipzig, has been added to the objects in the Wagner Museum at Vienna.

Our Western Sea-Gate.

The progress of work upon the fortifications of Esquimalt, under the co-operation of the Imperial and Canadian Governments, is a gratifying evidence of the successful exertions of Sir Charles Tupper and General Herbert, and a fresh indication of the recognition now so generally accorded to the mutual interests of Canada and the Empire. Three officers and 72 men of the Marine Artillery arrived from London to commence active operations and it is understood that, following Australian and South African precedents, the two Governments share in the expenses of fortification, while Canada bears the cost of the garrison and Great Britain the far greater expense of naval protection and the provision of a powerful fleet in North Pacific waters.

It is not so very many years since the principal towns of Canada were garrisoned by Imperial troops, the guns of Quebec manned by English artillerymen, and the first Riel rebellion suppressed with the aid of British red coats. As many as 25,000 troops were in this way maintained in British America at one time. Now, our citizen soldiery, under the command of an Imperial officer, are able to take care of local defenses, and by law constitute an Imperial force under the orders of the Queen's commander-in-chief should danger of war necessitate mobilization. The only military station now manned by purely English troops is Halifax, with its garrison of 1,500 men. But various events have occurred to make fortifications at Esquimalt—as the best defensive point on the coast—necessary. So long as Vancouver and Victoria were small places, isolated from the rest of the Dominion, their defence against the Russian guns at not very distant Vladivostok could be left to the British fleet. Now, however, the creation of the Canadian Pacific Railway has made these towns important commercial centres. Over the great railway rushes a rapidly growing commerce, while from the sea-gates of British Columbia issue Canadian steamers to China, Japan, Australia and the eastern world. In the coal beds of Nanaimo lies the best material upon the entire Pacific Coast for the fuel of British warships and Canadian steamers. The beautiful climate and growing colony of British Columbia is little more than two week's journey from London, while the great fisheries of the coast demand protection and the assurance of substantial aid when required.

No better place for the fortifications could have been found than Esquimalt. The harbor is one of the most beautiful situations upon a lovely coast and holds in command the south-western extremity of Vancouver Island, thus possessing the key to the magnificent harbor and inland sea upon which the City of Vancouver is built.

STREETS IN GREECE.

But Few Women are Ever Seen There Under Any Circumstances.

An Englishman visiting Greece for the first time is struck, sooner or later, by a certain dullness in the street life of its towns, which it may take him some little time to define and trace to its real cause. At length, and suddenly, the fact comes to him that there are few, if any, women visible among the foot passengers. No wonder, he reflects, that the streets should appear dull to him, shorn, as they are, of all the variety that woman's presence and dress ever lends to the thoroughfares of countries further west.

In Greece it is only toward evening, and then for but a brief period, that the fair sex take an outing, unless the pressure of some urgent business should compel them to flit rapidly through the throng of men who at other times monopolize the streets. Nor will a foreigner meet with them serving in the shops, the restaurants, or the cafes; they will still be conspicuous by their absence. In fact, unless he visits them in the privacy of their homes he will scarcely do more than catch an occasional glimpse of them at the upper windows of some private dwelling-house or shop, where, when the weather is reasonable, they will sit reading and sewing and craning their necks out to watch the passer-by below.

The effects of this sedentary life, so antagonistic to our English faith in open air and exercise, are very marked on the fair forms of the Grecian woman. An embonpoint, not to designate it by the more vulgar term of corpulence, is the most apparent result of this indoor existence, but this tendency to gross flesh is an attraction to the modern Greek, who, like the Turk, finds in superfluous fat an additional beauty. To every country its standard of female loveliness. For Greece the typical woman may be roughly sketched thus:—She is short, broad and stout; of a pale, creamy complexion, with dark hair, beautiful eyes and features fairly regular, but not classical. The prevailing impression that she leaves upon Englishmen is that she has (whisper the words) a squat figure.

But to quit the towns, where it will be seen that women play but a small part in public life, and to turn to the rural districts of Greece. Here woman takes a more active part in every-day life. She it is who draws the water, brings in the wood that the men have felled in the forest, or who pluckily earns her wages as a day laborer in the maize or corn field. In the burning summer, in the icy winter, she is ever to the fore, working, working, with her veil hanging loosely over head, ready to be folded across her mouth should a strange man approach. It is a matter of thought how widespread even now among the country districts is the old custom of veiling the lower part of the face at the approach of an unknown member of the opposite sex. It is one sign among many that it is not so very long ago since the Turks were masters of this "purple land, where law secures not life."

Americans are said to have the poorest teeth of any people in the world. It is said the more brain-work a person has, the worse his teeth become. The same result is attained by lack of proper nourishment, and it is said by a well-known dentist that 50 years hence, among the very poor classes, everyone will be toothless at the age of 20.

The Maharajah of Patalia, who recently married an English wife, rules over the tenth largest of the native States of India under English protection, his dominions extending over 5,887 miles, with a population of a million and a half, and a revenue of a little over half a million sterling. It is the most important of the Sikh States, and is much better governed than the majority of native States.