

# THE WEEK'S NEWS

CANADIAN.

Mr. S. R. Armstrong, editor of the Peterborough, Ont., Review, has been appointed town clerk of Peterborough.

Charles Shipman was found guilty of manslaughter at Brockville, and sentenced to seven years in the penitentiary.

Mrs. Warwick, an old resident of Woodstock, Ont., who is now living in Toronto, has donated a site for a hospital in Woodstock. The gift is valued at \$1,500.

Richard Savage, aged twenty-seven, shot his wife Maggie, aged twenty-six, and his child Richard, aged four, yesterday morning, in Halifax, N.S. He then committed suicide.

Sir John Thompson, in an interview in Montreal, said that the Government intended calling Parliament as early as possible, at all events as early as last year.

Father Hamon, of the Jesuit order, in an address in Montreal on Sunday, urged Catholics not to countenance theatres, which he denounced as immoral and contaminating.

"Doc" Andrews and his wife, charged with having caused the death of Lucy Denning, were brought from Buffalo to Toronto Monday afternoon.

The Canada Revue, referring to the immense wealth of the Seminary of St. Sulpices, says that its actual possessions at the present time are worth more than sixteen million dollars.

Sir John Abbott's will was admitted to probate on Saturday. The estate, which is valued at \$500,000, after paying an annuity to the widow, is to be divided equally among the deceased's eight children.

Mr. McLeod Stewart, ex-Mayor of Ottawa, advocated at some length before the Board of Trade the construction of the Ottawa ship canal, which Engineer Walter Shanly estimated would cost twenty-four million dollars.

As far as known, the general elections in Newfoundland have resulted less favourably for the Opposition than was expected. It is believed that the final results will show that the Government has twenty seats and the Opposition sixteen.

Mayor Desjardins, of Montreal, is opposed to the winter carnival as the pictures sent out to all parts of the world of ice palaces and men and women clad in the warmest furs induce the belief that the commercial capital of Canada is in the Polar regions.

The mortal remains of Sir John Abbott, ex-Premier, were buried at Mount Royal cemetery, Montreal, with solemn services. Amongst those present were representatives of the Governor-General, the members of the Dominion Government, and the Mayor.

Mr. Hodgson, Master of the Rolls in Charlottetown, P. E. I., held on Friday that neither the Mortmain Act nor the Statute of Edward the Sixth against superstitious trusts being in force in Prince Edward Island, the bequest of one Gillis, who devised one-third of his estate to the parish priest for masses, is valid.

General Herbert insists that proceedings be taken against the non-commissioned officers and men of the 14th Batt., Kingston, Ont., who refused, when ordered, to board the train at Montreal on the night of the third of July. The offenders will be taken to Montreal and dealt with by the Police Magistrate.

## BRITISH.

A snowstorm prevailed Monday in the Midland Counties of England.

Sir Andrew Clark, the famous English physician, died in London Monday afternoon.

During the salmon season now closing, the Duchess of Fife captured with her own rod forty salmon on Mar lodge water.

Lord Roberts, since his return to England from India, has greatly improved in health, and he will be urged to return to employment.

It is announced that the great Manchester ship canal will be completed to-day, when water will be admitted to its entire length.

Mr. William Field, member of the House of Commons for St. Patrick's division of Dublin, and Mr. Luke Hayden, member for South Roscommon, have been summoned on the charge of illegal assembly.

In the British House of Commons, in reply to Mr. Redmond, who questioned the Government in regard to the course it intended to pursue in the matter of evicted tenants, Mr. Gladstone said that no new legislation would be introduced this session beyond what had been already announced.

## UNITED STATES.

The vintage of the present season in California will be about eighteen million gallons, or about three million gallons in excess of last year's yield.

With the personal endorsement of President Cleveland and the approval practically of every important medical society in the United States, a Bureau of Public Health has been formed.

A boat conveying a number of workmen from the quarantine at Hoffman and Swinburne Islands to Staten Island capsized on Saturday, and ten of the men were drowned.

A hook and ladder truck and an electric street car collided in Detroit. The ladder man was thrown from his seat, struck his head on the asphalt pavement, and was instantly killed.

There was a fight in the Chicago Council chamber on Saturday over the unexpired term of the vacant mayoralty—Democrats and Republicans fought like wild beasts and had to be driven apart by a strong posse of police.

James C. Shannessy, of Kingston, Ont., who deserted his wife a year ago, has been arrested in Evansville, Ia., for bigamy, having married again since he left Kingston.

The trial of Piendergast, the murderer of Mayor Harrison, has been postponed to the 27th inst. His counsel has announced that the defence will be insanity.

Mr. Crisp, Speaker of the United States House of Representatives, believes that the Tariff bill will be ready for the consideration of Congress when it meets in December for its regular session. He understands that the Ways and Means Committee will recommend a reduction of the tariff to a revenue basis.

## GENERAL.

The Russian State Council has proposed the establishment of a State monopoly of tobacco.

The Milan police surprised a meeting of Anarchists in that city on Sunday, and made several important arrests.

Gen. Gourko, the Governor of Moscow, is not expected to recover from the effects of the poison recently given to him in his food.

The latest details concerning the disaster at Santander on Friday show that the number of dead, missing, and wounded is fully one thousand.

Twenty-six more arrests have been made in Warsaw in connection with the Socialist agitation. Most of those arrested are educated women.

President Peixoto has received word that the Governments of England and France will maintain positions of strict neutrality with regard to Brazilian affairs.

The Italian Government has proposed that the naval squadrons of Germany, Austria, and Italy hold a combined demonstration in the Mediterranean.

Supplies of money, provisions, ammunition, arms, and coal, sent to the Brazilian insurgents from their sympathisers in Europe, will reach Rio Janeiro in a few days.

At a congress of revolutionary Socialists held in Brussels on Wednesday night, it was resolved to carry on an active propaganda to bring about a strike among the soldiers of Belgium and elsewhere.

## The War in South Africa.

The power of King Lobengula and the Matabeles in South Africa is a thing of the past. The ease with which the Chartered Company's forces smashed the king and his army, and the fact that they encountered him in force only in front of his own capital is significant. The London illustrated papers, a few weeks ago, when public opinion was being worked up in England in order to bring pressure to bear upon the Government to sanction the war, published large cuts showing the white people in the forts throughout Mashonaland standing on their arms against a beleaguering enemy. Despatches were all to the effect that the Matabeles were raiding right up to the edge of the mining camps. As soon as the war was sanctioned, it was discovered that the Chartered Company's officials had been shooting down messengers and representative sent to the company's stations, and that the Chartered Company's force were compelled to march into the Matabele country in order to bring on a conflict. In the one combat necessary to end the campaign three thousand Matabeles were, it is said in the probably exaggerated reports, killed and wounded, while the losses of the British were slight. All this makes the danger to the British from Matabele raids appear very slight and unreal. As King Lobengula received every month a payment in gold from the Chartered Company, it is not improbable that the gold pocket presumed to be in Bulwayo, his capital, together with the consideration that the company would, in case of his defeat, need to make these payments no longer, had much to do with the bringing about of the conflict. It is probable that Lobengula and his predatory tribes, who lived largely by making war upon the surrounding tribes who were weaker and therefore more peaceable, are deserving of little sympathy. Lobengula had whole regiments composed of men of other tribes who were virtually slaves, and the Mashonas were almost annually raided by his men. Since the advance of the South Africa Company placed the Mashonas beyond the unrestrained power of Lobengula, the Matabeles attempted to raid west and north of the Zambesi. The tribes there, however, successfully resisted the invaders and drove them back. Lobengula and his tribe will probably settle down for a time again to the north-west or Bulwayo in an uninhabited country embraced by the great bend of the Zambesi. It is not improbable that though he has been defeated in South Africa, Lobengula's case will be appealed to England and be tried out before Parliament, when a searching investigation into the financial as well as the government methods of the South Africa Company will be made. Those who have watched the organization of the company from the outside are of the opinion that the company is now a hollow, rotten shell, and that the big promoters have the money invested by the victimized shareholding public. It is believed that the British Government will take over the government of Zambesia, as the country south of the Zambesi under British protection is called.

## Managing Furnaces.

The first thing to do is to get the house thoroughly warmed. When it is heated to the desired temperature, it will require less coal to keep it warm than if constantly cooling and heating.

There is more economy in filling the firepot full of coal than in putting in only a small amount, because that burns away more readily.

Do not use a poker on the top of the fire. It is bad management in the use of hard coal. The grate in the furnace will remove the ashes and clinkers, thus allowing free passage for air through the fire.

In filling the furnace with coal, the smoke-pipe damper should be opened, and the ash-pit door and slide closed, otherwise the smoke and gas will be forced out of the feed door.

When the rooms are heated, and there is a good fire in the furnace, shut it up as close as possible.

In the morning open all drafts, put in a small quantity of coal, let it burn thoroughly, then add fuel until full. Let it burn for a short time for the gas to be consumed before closing the dampers.

If the furnace heats quick and strong from a good draft, so that in warm weather there is too much heat, don't shake the grate, but allow it to clog with ashes—not under, but on top of the grate. Ashes then lessen combustion.

Never shut off all registers at once. If it is desired to shut the registers close those on the upper floor, as when the lower rooms and halls are heated the air finds its way to upper rooms.

The editor's wife—"I'd just like to know what you wanted to buy me that measly old calico dress for?" The editor (humbly)—"Because, my dear, I-er thought you'd look well in print."

In the Established Church of Scotland the average income of the benefited clergy is about £300 a year, with a manse.

## THE SANTANDER HORROR.

One Thousand Lives Lost—The Citizens in a State of Apathy.

A Madrid special says—The latest details concerning the disaster at Santander on Friday last show that the number of dead, missing and wounded is fully 1,000. The people have not recovered from the effects of the catastrophe, and are entirely apathetic, paying no attention to business but standing about streets discussing the awful calamity that has befallen the city. The men and women living near the waterfront, who providentially escaped from the wrecking of their homes, can be seen in numbers standing near the huge masses of debris that fill the streets waiting to recover the bodies of those known to be under the ruins. The scenes everywhere in the vicinity of where the destruction was wrought are sad in the extreme, and whenever a body, crushed and mangled beyond recognition, is removed from the ruins, a heart-rending wail goes up from the women, who fear that the shapeless mass of flesh may be all that remains of one of their loved ones. There is no doubt many of the dead will never be identified.

Senor Gamazo, Minister of Finance, at once proceeded from Madrid to Santander when the extent of the calamity became known. He summoned the town officials and expressed to them the sympathy of the Government. He also assured them of the sympathy of the Queen regent, who, he said, had wept upon hearing of the calamity that had befallen the city. When Senor Gamazo saw how helpless the authorities were in the crisis confronting them he in a great measure took the administration of affairs into his own hands. He telegraphed to Valladolid, ordering that medical stores, nurses and other helpers be at once sent to Santander. A subscription for the relief of the sufferers was started, Gamazo heading it with a gift of \$5,000 on behalf of the Government.

## BURYING THE DEAD.

Many of the dead were buried yesterday. Among the bodies interred was the headless and mutilated remains of the Marquis de Pomba. The services were attended by large crowds of people, and many distressing scenes were witnessed. Many fragments of bodies found in the vicinity of the quay were buried in a common grave. The divers who were employed to recover the bodies in the bay have been so appalled at the number of the dead and gruesome appearances of the corpses that they have refused to continue their work, have prayed the officials not to insist upon their carrying out their engagements. The authorities granted their petition, and now men in boats with grappling irons are employed in searching for the dead who were blown into the bay. Some of the bodies, upon a cursory examination, show that death was caused by drowning, and not by the shock of the explosion.

## To Keep Britain Out.

England, a cablegram says, is to be kept out of Morocco at any cost. The French explorer Soller states that a secret treaty has been arranged between France, Russia, and Spain, by the terms of which the latter's ultimate occupation of Tangier is provided for. It is added that even should this last-mentioned portion of the treaty fail to take effect, the powers have determined that the British occupation of Tangier must be prevented at any cost. The press of France has gone daft on the subject of English aggression and join in declaring that Europe cannot afford to allow England to occupy and hold the key to the Mediterranean. The government at Paris is urged to immediately dispatch a powerful French squadron to Tangier in order to support Spain against any interference upon the part of Great Britain in the disturbances about Melilla, and to enable the French to be in a position to checkmate any attempt upon the part of England to land troops in Morocco. It is represented to be the plain duty of France to take the initial step should any interference be necessary upon the part of any other power than Spain in the affairs of Morocco, and it is also urged that the presence of a French squadron at Tangier might be used to force the Sultan to take steps to support the Spanish troops against the troops now surrounding Melilla. In any case it is considered the duty of Spain to insist that the Sultan of Morocco take immediate action against the Moors, and when the latter have finally been driven away from the heights surrounding Melilla the Spanish government must insist upon a heavy indemnity for the loss of life sustained in the engagements in Morocco. The Sultan is to be compelled to pay the cost of all the war preparation and other expenses to which the Spanish government has been put through the revolt of the Moors.

## Trade in the States.

No great improvement in trade has occurred in the United States subsequent upon the repeal of the silver purchasing bill. The price of wheat has declined from 2 to 2½ cents per bushel, as a result of heavy stocks and an indifferent foreign demand. Although receipts are still running thirty per cent. below those of last season, the movement to commercial centres exceeds the output; and there will be little encouragement for bullish speculation so long as there shall be large weekly additions to the already excessive stocks. Exports, although liberal, continue to fall below the shipments for the corresponding period last year; and the new demand is comparatively light. Late cable advices report liberal tenders of Russian wheat in the English markets on terms more favorable than those offered by American exporters. The increasing competition of Argentine wheat is also a factor in the export situation which is unfavorable to the establishment of higher prices in America. Values of corn have advanced ½ to ¾ of a cent per bushel, owing to a bullish sentiment in the markets, which has been strengthened by a falling off in the interior movement and fairly liberal exports. Values of provisions have been generally well maintained, owing to moderate stocks and comparatively light packing operations in the West. For the season which ended November 1 there was a decrease in hog packing at Western centres aggregating fully 1,000,000 head.

"I am really at a loss," said the young minister, "to know why you did not like my last sermon. Didn't you consider my arguments sound?" "Yes," she replied; "exclusively."

## LATEST IN ENGLISH SLANG.

"Awfully Ghastly" and "Awfully Charming" Among the New Expressions.

There are fashions in speech as well as fashions in clothes, says the Pall Mall Budget. Everything in society just now is either "awfully ghastly" or "awfully charming, don't you know." If your new bonnet isn't awfully ghastly it must be awfully charming, and if Miss Fourstars' singing at the local concert the other evening wasn't awfully charming, then it must certainly have been awfully ghastly. Pretty is no longer pretty, but pooty. Y—, the famous man milliner, has caught the trick from his duchess customers. You hear him talk glibly of pooty gowns and pooty galls. Gorgeous or deadly are the correct adjectives to use when speaking of the weather. Nowadays it is quite customary for educated people to talk of the dook. In quite aristocratic circles the final g is dropped in many words. They talk of ridin', shootin', talkin', singin'. I suppose the next thing we shall hear will be that they have ceased to aspirate their hs for the excellent reason that it has become so common for ordinary folks to do so. But, after all, these examples of affectation, ridiculous though they sound, are not quite so bad as the mincing style of affectation fashionable in days gone by. Mincing is now chiefly confined to old maids or young girls under 20. Other folks don't seem to get time for it. In these days of push "side" seems to go further than mincing manners.

## Is Drainage Beneficial?

The extensive drainage that has been carried on through different parts of Ontario and of the Northern and Western States has disposed a good many farmers to believe that the effects of such drainage are apparent in the recent severe droughts that have largely reduced the products of the crops. It is believed that the rapid passage of the water, of the rainfall into the drains and from them into the streams, not only dries the land excessively, but reduces the average supply of rain because of the lessened evaporation from the land. Thus there is not water enough for the growth of the crops, especially at such times as in the early spring, when the sowing of seed calls for the full supply and thorough saturation of the soil for several weeks. But as the water sinks through the soil, and passes into the drains, and is lost to the land, when the whole of the land is so deprived of water the crops fail to grow and the harvests are unprofitable. In considering this important question it may be said at the outset that the weather is not a local question at all. The world is wide and the influences of temperature are boundless, as compared with the narrow limits of a country even, and it is due to the variations of temperature with those correlated differences of the moisture in the atmosphere that changes in local weather occur. The ocean, which covers three-fourths of the earth's surface, is the grand source of the rainfall, as compared with which the whole of the land is but the merest patch of ground. And this vast body of water, an area of 110,000,000 of square miles, is mostly under the influence of the torrid heats of the equator, under which five-sixths of the circumference of the globe is water. The incomprehensibly vast mass of watery vapor that arises from the ocean, and is carried by the mysterious air currents here and there over the continents for thousands of miles, dropping the rain in this or that place, as the temperature may affect it, is the true source of our weather, and the configuration of the earth's surface has most to do with the discharge of all this water. The moist air from the heated ocean is carried along, dropping its load on the thousands of miles of land as it becomes cooled or condensed by coming in contact with mountains or other cooler strata of air.

No doubt there are local causes at work, as the small mountain ranges that intercept the air currents passing across necks of land between two water areas, such as the Atlantic and the Mexican Gulf, and again in the region of our great lakes here in Ontario—great as lakes, but small as compared with the enormous size of the ocean. It is difficult thus to find any local reasons for any change in the weather to any extent worth notice. The mere fact of the removal of the water from the soil may have a small effect, but it cannot affect the weather. It can only change the condition of the land for the better in times of excessive rains, and for the worse in times of excessive drought. But there is reason to believe that the latter effect is hardly worthy of any regard, and otherwise it is really beneficial as tending to a greater porosity of the soil and its greater ability to hold water in a dry time. It may be the fact, and this very easily, that the air in a dry time is really more filled with vapor than it is in rainy weather. It is the heat of the atmosphere that influences its ability to hold water in solution or suspension, and while the air at a temperature of 104° will hold 2,215 grains of water in 1,000 cubic feet, at 77° this is reduced to less than 1,000 grains. Then the 1,217 grains of water—equal to nearly one inch of water in depth over the whole surface—is held invisible vapor in the air for 15,000 feet in height only, not taking into account the dense clouds that float above that height. Then a reduction of 27 per cent. in temperature would discharge all this water upon the land in a single shower, leaving an unaccountable mass of water still in the air.

## Result—No Change!

Topnoddy made up his mind that he was not going to be trampled any longer by his wife, so when he went home at noon he called out, imperiously:

"Mrs. Topnoddy! Mrs. Topnoddy!"

Mrs. Topnoddy came out of the kitchen with a drop of perspiration on her nose, her sleeves turned up, a dish-rag in one hand and a rolling-pin in the other.

"Well, sir," she said, "what'll ye'ave?"

Topnoddy staggered, but braced up.

"Mrs. Topnoddy, I want you to understand, madam," and he tapped his breast dramatically, "I am the engineer of this establishment!"

"Oh, you are, are yer? Well, Mr. Topnoddy, I want you to understand that I"—and she looked dangerous, "I am the biler that'll blow up and fling the engineer over into the next garden. Do yer 'ear the steam escaping, Topnoddy?"

"Yes," said Topnoddy, meekly. And then he inquired if there was any assistance he could render in the housework.

## THE INDIAN DATURA SEED.

A Poison Often Used by Robbers to Overcome Their Victims.

It has been remarked that one of the greatest objections to the suppression of hemp cultivation for smoking purposes in India is that it would drive the natives to the use of more dangerous sedatives. One of the drugs which the coolie is the most prone to substitute for his beloved hemp, when the latter is not available, is the datura seed. For many years it has been known to the police and those engaged in medico-legal examinations that one of the favorite methods adopted by Indian thieves to rob their victims has been the administering of datura. The stupefying effects of this drug enables them to carry on their depredations, and at the same time to avoid in most cases the fatal results which attend the use of other poisons.

The symptoms present in the individuals affected were loss of consciousness, dilation of the pupils, picking at the bed clothes, attempts to grasp imaginary objects, and from the movement of their hands they all appeared to be drawing out threads from the tips of their fingers. When taken upon an empty stomach the effects of the poison are usually discernible within ten minutes, in the case of a well-nourished person half an hour or more elapses before its effects are perceptible. The rareness of fatal cases in connection with the use of this poison is one of the chief factors in its selection by the native criminal.

The datura seeds may be gathered almost anywhere in India, and also easily purchased in the bazars; so it is hardly to be wondered at that such a convenient instrument for the furthering of nefarious designs should be so popular among the Indian criminal classes. If it is desirable to render any particular person helpless for a given time the administration of the datura is the main difficulty, and this, unless servants are absolutely trustworthy, is not insuperable. The period before consciousness is restored after taking a dose of the poison varies in different individuals, and is dependent very much on the state of the health of the victim at the time it is administered. Thus, in some cases, a complete recovery takes place in two or three days or less, while in others unconsciousness has been known to last as long as a week.

The symptoms exhibited in many cases resemble those of alcoholic poisoning or delirium tremens. In some instances the poisoned persons act under the belief that they are following their ordinary occupations. For example, in one case a stone-mason's laborer was under the impression that it was his duty to haul up everything in this vicinity, not excepting his master; in another case a groom was seized with a desire to perform grooming operations on those with whom he came in contact, and a third, a goldsmith, seated himself on the floor intent on following his usual vocation.

## Mode of Escape From Burning Houses.

The following from the Baltimore Underwriter is an extract from the writings of C. J. Heximer on the Causes of Fire, as being especially worthy the attention of those occupying crowded tenement dwellings, and whence the means of escape in case of fire should always be a subject of discussion and arrangement during the hours of safety. To allow fear to overcome reason is half way to destruction:

When a fire breaks out at night, do not stop to dress, but slip on shoes, wrap yourself in a blanket (not a cotton-filled quilt), and take the nearest and most accessible way to escape, bearing in mind that the shortest distance between two points is a straight line. In all cases be careful to close the doors after you. It is of the utmost importance to shut all doors and windows, which might add to the draught. If the rooms be already filled with smoke, it is best for persons to crawl on their hands and knees on the floor, as the heated gases and smoke ascend, and are more dense as they accumulate near the ceiling than they are at the floor. If the smoke is very suffocating a piece of flannel (and if possible, wet one), or any rug, woolen shirt or dress, held over the mouth and nose, will greatly protect the lungs from injury. Avoid as much as possible inhaling the hot air and smoke.

If the means of escape through the doors on the first floor, or the trap door on the roof, are cut off, and no fire escape is at hand, hurry to the room least affected by smoke and hot air, and make a rope of shreds of bedding, attaching one end of such rope, and by this means try to descend to the ground. Never jump from windows unless you are satisfied that all other means of escape are impossible. If this is your only alternative, get persons on the outside to hold a carpet or a blanket, or even a large overcoat, and jump on it, or throw out bedding, mattresses, etc., and jump on them.

If a person's clothing has caught fire, wrap a blanket (not a cotton-filled quilt) around him quickly, as this will exclude the air, and therefore the oxygen, and cause the fire to be extinguished. Woolen goods are to be preferred under such circumstances, as they are less combustible, ammonium carbonate being given off during ignition, which tends to retard and even extinguish flames; but in a case of this kind, we should never run out in open air for aid, as the amount of oxygen fed to the flames will be greater and cause the ignited garment to burn more furiously.

## Very Unfortunate.

A fresh case of disease was discovered among the Canadian cattle on the steamship Huronia, which were slaughtered at the English port of disembarkation last week. The lungs were at once forwarded to the Board of Agriculture for examination. The board's experts declare the disease is precisely similar to that detected in previous cases considered by them to be contagious pleuro-pneumonia. The Canadian authorities, on the other hand, deny that the present case, any more than the previous ones, is contagious pleuro-pneumonia. The discovery, coming towards the close of the season, however, is especially unfortunate, as it is certain to diminish any chances before existing of regaining free entry for Canadian live stock. In order to assure themselves of the nature of the disease the authorities at Ottawa have had a portion of the lung of the affected animal shipped to them. Meantime the necessity for a close watch upon our frontier for diseased animals has been emphasized by the fact that hogs returning to Canada from the World's Fair at Chicago have been found to be affected with Cholera.