NEWS OF THE WEEK.

CANADIAN.

The Influenza is particularly severe in Quebec, a number of cases having resulted fatally.

Charles T. Dunbar and G. E. Rogers of St. Paul, Minn., have purchased property in Vancouver to the extent of $200,000.

The river at Brockville is at length frozen across.

There were 31 failures in Canada last week and 305 in the United States.

It is expected that the Winnipeg City Council will submit shortly to the ratepayers a Local Option by-law.

Many specimens of the Evening Grosbeak, a bird rarely found in Western Ontario, have been shot recently in the vicinity of Kingston.

A woman living in Barrie township is credited with being 107 years of age, and she has a daughter aged 71 residing in Kingston.

While snow blockades have caused great delay to trains on United States lines east West the C. P. R. trains have generally arrived and departed from Vancouver on time.

It is estimated that there are 1,700,000 bushels of wheat in the elevators at Fort William and the country west; that the quantity of wheat in farmers' hands is considerably in excess of that generally supposed, and that about a million bushels remain to be delivered.

Lady Stanley is seriously ill with influenza.

This season's number business on Lake Winnipeg is much better than was expected.

Result of New Brunswick elections on Monday, 22 Government, 16 Opposition, 3 Independent.

There were more deaths in Kingston last week than during any week for the past ten years.

James Stinson, a native of Tyrone, Ireland, died at Sanbury on Wednesday at the age of 101.

The Manitoba Government is going to establish Farmers' Institutes, and engage professors to encourage agriculture.

Three schools have been closed at Quebec on account of the Influenza. There are five hundred cases in St. Charles de Bellechasse, Que.

A sum will be put into the Dominion Estimates for the extension of the British Columbia Drydocks by 100 feet.

The County Councils throughout Ontario are very unanimously calling for the appointment of a railway commission.

Thomas Kane has been sentenced to be hanged at Toronto, on February 12, for the murder of his sister in law, Mary Kane.

Louis Deas, the mulatto who shot and killed Birds in Toronto some time ago, has been sentenced to the penetentiary for ten years.

The Influenza is among the Indians near West Selkirk, Manitoba, and although there are only 800 of them, the funerals are taking place at the rate of four or five a week.

It is announced that the Vatican has decided to divide the Diocese of Montreal into two, and to constitute a new diocese to be known as Joliette.

It is stated that the health of Premier Mercier is far from satisfactory, and that his physician insists upon his resting from official labor for some months.

Mr. Taylor has given notice in the Ottawa Parliament that he will introduce a bill to prevent the importation and immigration of foreigners and aliens under contract or agreement to perform labor in Canada. The object is to strike at the United States for enforcing their act to keep Canadians from working across the border.

A scheme has been laid before the Kingston City Council for opening and extending over thirty streets at a costs of $50,000.

Word has reached Lethbridge from London, Eng., that all the funds needed to build the extension of the Galt railway to the United States have been secured.

Mr. Dalton McCarthy gave notice of motion on Monday of a bill to amend the North West Territories Act by knocking out clause 110, which establishes the French language for official purposes.

A new bank is to be established in Toronto, to be known as the York County Bank, and is to have no branches outside the county of York. It will have a capital of $500,000 and Mr. Geo. W. Yarker will probably be its manager.

Mr. C. A. Smith, a Galt Artist, now in France, has sold a painting, "The Patriots of 1837," to Aid. Prefontaine, M. P., and Mr. Drolet, of Montreal, for $800.

At the annual meeting of the Ontario Marine Association held in Toronto, it was decided to ask the Government to lower the canal tolls, to push the work of deepening the canals between Kingston and Montreal, and also to take steps to encourage shipbuilding in Canada.

Capt. Joseph Parsons, of Kingston, has made the latest round trip to Oswego on record. He cleared over to Oswego on Thursday last in the ship Ella Murton, barley-laden, cleared on Friday, and arrived back at Kingston on Saturday.

The twelfth annual convention of the Western Ontario Dairymen's Association was held at Stratford last week. The attendance was not large, but the proceedings were nevertheless of great interest to those concerned.

Twenty-four hogs died at Port Stanley of a mysterious cause on Monday.

Mr. Wood, member for Brockville, has been appointed Deputy Speaker of the Commons.

Judge Johnson, of Montreal, has been sworn in as Chief Justice of the Superior Court of the Province of Quebec.

The Knights of Labour of Kingston have decided to memorialize Parliament praying for the more equitable taxation of ground rentals in cities and towns.

During the past year in Montreal there were 1,632 new buildings erected, valued at $3 608 300, as compared with 933 and $3,447,895 for the previous year.

Brockville Town Council appointed a committee on Monday night to urge on the County Council the importance of providing an industrial farm and poor-house.

A despatch from Alexandria Bay said a tug had passed up the Canadian channel on Tuesday. This is the latest for many years that the river has been open for navigation.

The Peterborough Council has granted $2,000 to the officers of the 57th Battalion towards the erection of a new armoury, on condition that the County Council grants $1,000.

Mayor Sol White, M. P. P., of Windsor, Ont., at the inaugural banquet of the new council on Monday evening, said he was not afraid to stand by the platform the chief plank of which was political union. Commercial Union, he said, was impracticable.

UNITED STATES.

Solicitor General Orlow W. Chapman died on Sunday at his residence, in Washington, of pneumonia.

It is reported that six of the leading breweries of Cleveland have been purchased by an English syndicate for $9,000,000.

Miss Bisland, who has been making the circuit of the world for the "Cosmopolitan" magazine, left Queenstown for New York on Sunday.

Kames, one of the Cronin suspects, has been released on bail bonds furnished by a dime museum manager, and in return is to go on exhibition.

Chicago had 633 deaths during the week ending Saturday at noon—136 more than the previous week. There were six deaths on Saturday from influenza.

The fifth and last of the children of Wm. and Mary Boyle, of Fall River, Mass., died on Friday from pneumonia superinduced by la grippe. Four of the Boyle children were buried on Thursday.

The mortal remains of Walter Blaine, son of U. S. Secretary of State J. G. Blaine of Maine, and solicitor for the state department at Washington, were placed in their final resting place in Oakhill cemetery, at Washington, on Saturday. He died of influenza.

A mass meeting was held in New York on Thursday night in favour of ballot reform.

Archbishop Corrigan, who left for Rome last week, was tendered a reception by leading Catholics in New York before sailing.

Peter Henderson, head of a well-known seed house in New York, died last week of pneumonia resulting from la grippe.

Jay Westinghouse, president of the Westinghouse agricultural works and a brother of Westinghouse, the inventor, died at Schenectady, N. Y., last week, aged 53 years.

A. S. Soule, famous as the originator of hop bitters, died at Rochester on the 17th inst, at the age of 65. The fatal disease was pneumonia, which had developed from influenza.

Rev. Dr. Lyman Abbott was installed and assistant pastor Bliss was ordained and installed on the 17th inst in Plymouth church, Brooklyn.

The grand jury has returned "not a true bill" in the case of General Mahone, charged with shooting Herbert Harrison on November 5th, at Petersburg, Va.

Influenza is a severe form prevails among the officers and crews of the American squadron of evolutions, now in the Mediterranean. There are 180 cases of the disease on board the Chicago.

In the House of Representatives at Washington on the 17th inst., Mr. Mills introduced a bill to extend the trade and commerce of the United States and to provide for full reciprocity between the United States and Mexico.

New York city is about trying an experiment with Chinese as street laborers.

Owing to the dull times a number of collieries worked by the Philadelphia and Reading Railway Company have shut down, throwing 20,000 hands out of employment

Owing to the severe weather Wyoming cattle men are shipping their stock into Kansas. It is estimated that 50,000 head of cattle will be transferred.

A wild boar entered the house of a family of Osage half breeds on Wild Horse creek, Chickasaw nation, a few days ago, and devoured a 6 year-old girl, who was alone in the place.

Sheriff Barton, of Denver, who was sworn in Tuesday, has created a sensation by ordering that hereafter all saloons must close on Sunday. Heretofore the law on this was practically a dead letter.

Mrs. William Miller, living near Hamburg, Iowa, has just given birth to two girls and a boy, their combined weight being 21 pounds. Less than two years ago Mrs. Miller produced twins. All are doing well.

Eight women raided the "blind pigs," otherwise Illicit drinking places, of Mayesville, South Dakota, on Tuesday and smashed the furniture and fixtures, because the husband of one of them had sold a mortgage to pay a whisky bill.

Marshall Field has donated a $100,000 site in Chicago for the proposed new Baptist university. This gift more than completes the $1,000,000 which Mr. Rockefeller made a condition when he donated $600,000 to found the university.

Baron Joachim C. Von Schilling, the son of a member of the German Reichstag, is in gaol in New York because he cannot pay a $200 hotel bill.

The Primitive Baptists are creating an excitement bordering on frenzy among the ignorant classes of North Carolina by preaching that the end of the world will come this year.

The Washington senate yesterday discussed the Russian extradition treaty, but the clause providing that the murder of the czar or any member of the imperial family shall not be considered a political offence evoked such vigorous opposition that the measure was sent back.

GREAT BRITAIN.

Prince Albert Victor has been received with great honor at Lucknow.

John Ruskin, the celebrated artist and author, is said to have become insane.

Lord Salisbury, who has been suffering from influenza, will go to the south of France to recuperate.

A gale prevailed in the English channel on Saturday. A number of vessels were wrecked.

Mr. Gladstone has written an article paying an eloquent tribute to the late Dr. Dollinger.

Mr. Gladstone will spend the month of February at Oxford, where he will remain in strict seclusion, devoting his time to writing articles for English and American reviews.

Some comment has been caused in England by a series of articles published by the Duke of Marlboro on absentee landlordism as it affects Ireland. His grace shows the landlords for spending their rents abroad.

Chief Secretary Balfour ridicules the idea of a dissolution of the British Parliament.

There is a strike of grain porters on the Liverpool docks, which is interfering greatly with traffic.

Mr. Talbot, Liberal member of the Imperial House of Commons for the middle division of Glamorganshire is dead. Mr. Talbot was the oldest member of the House, having sat for the county uninterruptedly for 60 years.

The ill ness of the Marquis of Hartington, necessitating a trip to the Continent, which will extend beyond the time of the reassembling of Parliament, is awkward for the Unionists, who will needall their leaders to combat the contemplated assaults of the Opposition.

Rev. Dr. Talmage has cancelled all his engagements in London and English provincial towns in consequence of the influenza.

Editor Parks has been found guilty of libelling the Earl of Euston, and has been sentenced to twelve months imprisonment.

The Princess of Wales has the influenza.

Edward Walsh, mayor of Wexford and proprietor of the newspaper the "People" has been sentenced to two months' imprisonment for publishing a boycott notice.

English merchants doing business at Lisbon and Oporto have protested against the British ultimatum to Portugal.

Portugal, finding that no power is willing to arbitrate, has decided to submit to England's demands under protest.

Princess Maud of Wales has the influenza. Her condition is not serious.

Mr. Herbert Gladstone has recovered £1,000 damages for libel from the Allahabad (India) "Post." The paper impeached his morality.

Mr. Alex. Craig Sellar, Liberal Unionist member for the Patrick division of Lanarkshire, died last week.

The Queen is to visit Aix les Bains in April.

Rev. Mr. Spurgeon is crippled with sciatica, and is unable to leave Mentone.

Nathan Marcus Adler, D.D., Chief Rabbi of the United Hebrew congregations of the British Empire, died on Thursday in London aged 86.

The funeral of Field Marshal Lord Napier of Magdala took place in London on Tuesday. The body was buried withgreat military pomp in St. Paul's.

IN GENERAL.

The Duke of Aosta, ex-king of Spain, died at Turin on Saturday of pneumonia.

The German Reichstag has agreed to subsidize the East African Steamship Co.

It is reported that a large quantity of gold is going from St. Petersburg to London.

The Paris Nineteenth Siecle states that the Emperor of Austria will soon abdicate his throne.

The Journal de St. Petersbourg says that England is bound to submisher dispute with Portugal to arbitration.

The Cortes appointed two temporary commissions to adopt measures for rearming the troops. Gen. Van Kevenky, minister of war, will preside over one of the commissions.

During the second week in January the death rate declined in Berlin, Konigsberg, Danzig and Frankfort, while it increased in Munich, Cologne, Kiel and Stuttgart. It is now declining in most of the cities of Germany.

A new Russian loan of one hundred million dollars has been announced at Paris.

The German Czech conference in Vienna has succeeded in reconciling all differences between the two nationalities in Bohemia.

The queen of Portugal has visited the poor houses at Lisbon and liberally distributed alms. Immense crowds assembled on her route and cheered her with great enthusiasm.

A tanner at Havana has discovered an electrical process by which he is able to tan hides of the largest size in sixty hours.

Dom Pedro has arrived at Cannes. He appears terribly aged and enfeebled, both in body and mind. He intends to spend the whole winter at Cannes.

M. Sagasta has succeeded in forming a free trade ministry in Spain.

A member of the Peters expedition is convinced that Emin Pasha is dead.

It is rumoured that the Czar has become insane owing to the chronic state of fear and worry in which he lives.

Dispatches published in a white book at Berlin say Emin Pasha left large stores of ivory in care of reliable chiefs.

The influenza is raging at Athens. The entire royal family is afflicted with it.

The Russian Government has decided to abolish the autonomy of Finland.

Emin Pasha is suffering from an abscess on the exterior of the skull, which has caused partial paralysis of the tongue.

Owing to the intense feeling in Lisbon, the British Legation has been placed under a strong guard.

The Duke of Palmella, captain of the King of Portugal's Guard, has sent to the British Legation the Crimean medal received by him whileserving in the British army.

The influenza is increasing in Southern Germany. Many deaths have occurred from the disease, and the schools have been closed in several places.

M. Ephrussi, a rich baker of Paris, has gained the $125,000 prize in the Panama canal lottery.

The question of French rights in Newfoundland came up in the Chamber of Deputies at Paris on Monday and led to quite a breezy discussion. The government said that French rights were confirmed by England.

M. Joffrin, who was given Gen. Boulanger's seat in the French Chamber of Deputies, attempted to speak on Monday. M. Deroulede, Boulanger's lieutenant, protested and was forcibly removed. Other Boulangists shared his fate, and finally the remainder left the chamber in a body.

Those who say that woman has no sense of humor have evidently failed to notice how a moustache tickles her.

THE SOLAR ECLIPSE AT TRINIDAD.

Great Fright of the Superstitious Negroes—Ceremonies on the Arrival of the Governor.

The morning of December 22 broke dark and cloudy. The rain fell gently on the elated heads of the lookers, while that "grim, ungainly, ghastly, gaunt and ominous bird," the corbeau or black vulture, perched in groups on the tallest peaks and ridges, viewing with judicial gravity the unwonted state of the weather. At thirty-three minutes past six a. m. the sun's disk was slightly visible. At five minutes after seven there were signs of the beginning of the eclipse, and at ten minutes after seven total darkness prevailed. The eclipse was of three minutes duration. Stars were visible, and the poultry, which had hesitatingly ventured off their roosts half an hour or so before, speedily returned thereto, apparently under the impression that they were the victims of some deception.

THE SCARED NEGROES.

Lamps were lighted and many of the negroes made a bee line for the nearest place of worship, believing that the end of the world had come. I happened to be passing the Roman Catholic Cathedral at the time, and I do not remember having before, in the course of a pretty varied and lengthy experience, seen a more ludicrous sight than was presented to my view by the superstitious blacks who, on bended knees, were frantically crossing themselves and praying to their patron saints. The eclipse was successfully observed by the astronomers who came from England for the purpose.

Mr. Gladstone at Home.

Mr. Gladstone lives very regular life at his home. He breakfasts lightly about 7 o'clock, and shortly before 8 walks to the church for prayers. To the intelligent observer the sight of the great statesman walking to church at this early hour in the morn is one not fail to be interesting. Clad in a long coat, tightly buttoned, with a long shawl wrapped closely around his neck, and wearing a soft felt hat, his appearence is decidedly picturesque. Upon his return to the castle from morning prayers, he retires to his study, where he reads and answers, with the aid of his secretary, his enormous mass of daily correspondence.

There is no regular hour for lunchon at the castle and it is partaken of by those at home at various times. In the afternoon Mr. Gladstone takes a walk in the grounds, and if the weather is propitious usually engages in his favorite exercise of tree-chopping. He dines at 8 o'clock, afterwards reads or writes, and at 10 retires for the night. Though abstemious in his habits, he usually drinks bitter beer with his lunch and a glass or two of claret or port at dinner. Mr. Gladstone is not in any sense ascetic, is a generous liver and is a great believer in the virtues of a glass of good port wine. When engaged in speaking his fully he a compound of sherry and egg, which is prepared by Mrs. Gladstone with as much anxiety and care as if it were the elixir of life. Mr. Gladstone never smoked. Regarding his habits as a period when tobacco smoking was generally regarded as somewhat vulgar among the better classes.

In Mr. Gladstone's study, besides his books, which are seen everywhere, there are three writing desks in the room, one chiefly reserved for political correspondence and another used by Mrs. Gladstone. The library at Hawarden Castle contains more than 20,000 volumes, which are freely loaned to almost any person in the neighborhood who wishes to read them. At one time this liberty was unlimited, but the privilege was so much abused by some persons that a few years ago a rule was laid down limiting the time for which a book might be kept to one month. With this exception, however, Mr. Gladstone's library is still the free-loan library of the whole country side.

Cats that Catch Fish.

Nicholas Long, the operator at the signal station at the crossing of the West Jersey and Atlantic City tracks, on the meadows, has a mother cat and three kittens which have been taught to catch their own fish. The old cat made her appearance at the tower some time ago, and "Nick" having no desire to drive her away was obliged to devise some plan to feed her. This was soon done. It occurred to him that cats were particularly fond of fish and he arranged a small net, which enabled him to procure large numbers of minnows from the neighboring salt ponds. Placing them in a bucket near the tower to keep them alive, he proceeded to feed them at his leisure. This he continued to do for some time, the old cat occasionally helping herself, when, to his surprise, one morning he discovered the entire family catching their fish from one of the ponds. This they have been doing ever since, and they seem to care as little for the water as a water spaniel. The cats are all very intelligent, but we do not wonder at this, as a fish diet is said to be best for the brains, and a well-fed, active brain conduces to intelligence.

The Free Methodist.

The Nashville "Christian Advocate" (Meth.) says: "What is a Methodist? He is a penitent, believing pardoned, regenerated, holy follower of the Lord Jesus Christ. He is, at least, one pledged to content himself with no lower ideal of Christian experience than this. He is a man who lives according to rule—method. He is fully convinced that religion is the chief concern of mortals here below. He seeks *first* the Kingdom of God and His righteousness. It is his meat and drink to do his Heavenly Father's will. He is meek, harmless, undefiled, separate from sinners. His constant aspiration is to reproduce the Christ-life among men; his daily prayer to have the mind which was in Christ Jesus, and to be filled with all the fulness of God. He accepts as final the declaration of the Scriptures that the friendship of the world is enmity with God. He does not have perpetually on his lips the inquiry, What harm is there in this, that, the other? but, contrarywise, he asks, How can I glorify God in my body and my spirit, which are His?"

An Austrian professor claims to have found the microbe of la grippe.

It is said that Portugal has addressed formal appeal to the great powers.

Four thousand merchants of Lisbon paraded the streets of Lisbon on Monday night shouting "War to England."

Fame, Wealth, Life, Death.

What is fame?

'Tis the sunshine on the mountain
Spreading brightly ere it flies,
'Tis the bubble on the fountain,
Rising lightly ere it dies;
Or, if here and there a hero
Be remembered through the years,
Yet to him the gain is zero;
Death hath stilled his hopes and fears.
Yet what dangers men will dare
If but such fame in the air
May be heard some eager mention of their name;
Though they hear it not themselves, 'tis much same.

What is wealth?

'Tis a rainbow, still receding
As the panting fool pursues;
Or a toy that youth, unheeding,
Seeks the readiest way to lose;
But the wise man keeps due measure,
Neither out of breath or base;
He but holds in trust his treasure
For the welfare of the race.
Yet what crimes some men will dare
Bat to gain their slender share
In some profit, though with loss of name or health,
In some plunder, spent on vices or by stealth.

What is life?

'Tis the earthly hour of trial
For a life that's yet begun;
When the prize of self denial
May be quickly lost or won;
'Tis the hour when love may burgeon
To an everlasting flower;
Or when lusts their victims urge on
To defy immortal power.
Yet how lightly men ignore
All the future holds in store,
Spending brief but golden moments all in strife;
Or in suicidal madness grasp the knife.

What is death?

Past its dark, mysterious portal
Human eye may never roam;
Yet the hope still springs immortal
That it leads the wanderer home.
Oh, the bliss that lies before us
When the secret shall be known,
And the vast angelic chorus
Sounds the hymn before the throne!
What is fame, or wealth, or life?
Fast are praises, fortune, strife;
All but love, that lives forever, cast beneath,
When the good and faithful servant takes the wreath.

The Knight.

"Which one of these two roadways, pretty maid, is mine?"

"Where do you go, sir knight? For that you do not say."

"Thy face, brown leg is round, with turn of ankle fine;
The basket on thy head brings lovely arms in play;
Dark are thy lashes, drooping over eyes that shine,
I know not where I go, for I will go thy way."

"Then 'tis to first Teo, the southerd, that you go,
To whom my leg is round shall very quickly take
My eyelashes, my eyes shall kisses to bestow,
All that I have of love, of beauty, for his sake.
And all too little is to quench the fevered glow
That in his charmed heart my presence can awake."

"If unto love alone thy favor thru wouldst yield,
I love thee; but if, more than this, to pleasure thee
One needs must guide a flock each day to graze a field,
Accursed then be fate that from mine infancy
Set me apart for war and carnage, bade me wield
The sword, and gave no shepherd's pipe of reeds to me!"

"A warrior is a king amid all human kind!
The shepherds, trembling, greet the hero with acclaim,
And haughty is, of right, the mistress of his mind;
His house is held in fear, its wealth is his name.
How I would love Teo to captain's rank assigned,
With doughty sword in hand that should maintain my fame!"

"Spring to the saddle then behind me. Safe with me
Thou shall be brave and them who envy thee deride.
My part in all the spoil of captured towns shall be
Jewels and chains of gold to deck thy beauty's pride,
And when we pass the folk shall cry aloud to see:
'Behold the glorious bridegroom and the radiant bride!'"

"What! Bad man, for your sake you wish me to betray
The flock I vowed my goatherd in the meadowland!
If a random him thus he will pin away
And die—at least, he gave me so to understand.
And how can I, sir knight, mount to your saddle, pray,
Unless you lend to me your stirrup and your hand?"

—(From the French of Emile Augier

Fellow-Feeling Among Elephants.

"Memo" writes in the Times of India:—In a previous article I referred to a statement to the effect of bees carrying off a wounded companion. A similar trait of character is recorded in regard to elephants. A sportsman in Southern India, writing over thirty years ago, tells how he fired at a female elephant and knocked her down. Then, he says, the most curious scene was enacted that had ever fallen to his lot to behold. He thought the animal was dead, but the rest of the herd, it appeared, knew better, for seven or eight of them ran up, assisted her to rise, and supported her on all sides with their heads, fairly carried her off, leaving a great broad track through the jungle. This admitted of the hunter following for some distance, but he could not get a shot, as they were all jammed together with their heads against the female's body. Eventually his attention was attracted by a stray elephant attempting to jump into herd. He got a shot at this animal, and safely bagged it. But meanwhile, the others had got off with their grievously wounded companion.

Plucky Women and Mouse.

There are nervous women and women of nerve. It was one of the latter to whom this item refers. She attended a prayer-meeting recently, and in the midst of the services a mouse made its way across the room and crawled up her clothing. Did she swoon, or scream, or go into hysterics, or do any other ridiculous thing? Not she. Adroitly passing her hand down over her dress, she located the little "varmint," and held him fast till the prayer then being offered had reached its final amen, when she quietly and deliberately retired to the adjoining room and with the assistance of the janitor dispatched the sly intruder. But as we said at the beginning—there are nervous women and women of nerve—and here is where the funniest part of this item comes in. When she had returned to the prayer-room, and the meeting had closed, in relating her adventure, of which all had been blissfully ignorant, several ladies came near fainting at the mere thought of a like experience.—Lewiston, Me., Journal.