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News of the Week.

CANADA.

Messrs. Tweedie and Pugsley have gone to make inquiries in Massachusetts into the way lunatic asylums are conducted, with a view to changes in the New Brunswick institution.

W. J. Scott's sawmill at Springhill, five miles from Fredericton, was destroyed by fire Wednesday night. The loss is estimated at \$12,000. Insurance \$5,000.

It is stated that the New Brunswick government will pay \$165 per pupil for those attending the Deaf and Dumb school now being established in St. John.

The Liberal Conservatives of Guysboro, N. S., have nominated S. R. Diffin, merchant, as their candidate for parliament.

Saturday morning the dwelling of Mr. Joseph Read, Baie Verte, was destroyed by fire.

Contracts have already been made for the shipment to Great Britain of over two million bushels of Canadian apples.

At Truro, Wednesday, Mrs. Robert Williams heard an unusual noise upstairs, and on going up found a burglar hiding in a clothes-press. She forced the burglar into a corner and made him give up many stolen articles.

In Woodstock, Tuesday, Frank Watson, twelve years of age, working in the woollen mills, had one of his arms caught in the machinery and badly smashed.

Pierre Raymond Martineau, member of parliament for Montmagny, Quebec, died at Ottawa, aged forty-six.

At Sydney, N. S., Tuesday, Lauchy McDonald was killed by the overturn-two others were seriously injured.

Hants Co., N. S., Conservatives have nominated Alfred Putnam their candidate for parliament.

The N. B. Normal school opened last Tuesday, and the attendance is the largest for many years—upwards of 250 students.

The Nova Scotia exhibition opens at Halifax on Wednesday of this week.

Canada sends to England forty times as much cheese as is sent by New Zealand, and twice as much as all other countries. In 1903 the quantity has 883 tons.

A man named Lynch, of Wolfville, had a narrow escape from death at the

exhibition grounds, Halifax, Thursday night. He was giving a drink to a stallion, when the animal seized him by the right wrist. His arm was horribly mangled.

THE EMPIRE.

The development of the cotton trade in British West Africa is so great that the railway officials have been obliged to run extra trains in order to bring down the large supplies to the coast. There is every prospect of a further increase in the cultivation of cotton.

Four great coal-stations are about to be exploited in South Africa. The most southerly field lies between Ladysmith and the southern boundary of Natal. These regions will in the near future supply a large part of the world's demand for coal. Natal exported 204,000 tons in 1901.

Colonial Secretary Chamberlain has authorized an advance of £50,000 to the Jamaica planters whose plantations were practically destroyed by the recent storms. Trade is almost at a standstill, owing to the destruction of the plantations and the scarcity of money.

During the month of August over 900 passengers landed from North Sydney from Newfoundland. The influx from the ancient colony this year is exceedingly large.

Advices from the west coast of Newfoundland predict rather gloomy prospects for the coming winter. While bait has been struck on the coast quite plentifully, the fisheries cannot now be but a total failure owing to the extreme lateness at which bait was obtained.

FOREIGN.

An explosion on an Austrian steamship on Wednesday caused the death of twenty-nine persons.

A motion has been submitted in the chamber of deputies to prohibit the immigration into Peru of the members of those religious orders which were expelled from France.

According to the latest Turkish estimate about 1,500 Bulgarians were killed in the recent fighting at Smilero, Nevesha and Kalissura. The Turkish losses are not stated.

The third trial of Caleb Powers for complicity in the murder of William Goebel, late governor of Kentucky, in January, 1900, resulted in his conviction, with the extreme penalty of hanging. He had been in the penitentiary for three years on life sentence.

PARLIAMENT.

The debate on the G. T. P. scheme continued till Tuesday night, when a vote was taken, and the measure was passed by a vote of 117 to 71, a straight party vote, except that Messrs. Blair and Tarte voted with the nays.

THE MAGAZINES.

The re-nomination of President Diaz for a seventh term as president of Mexico directs attention again to the great constructive statesman at the head of our neighboring republic. Dr. L. S. Rowe, of the University of Pennsylvania, tells us in an article in the September *Review of Reviews* that his re-nomination is due in large measure to the unbounded confidence that all classes of Mexicans, from the poorest persons to the wealthiest land-owners, have in the ability of their president to direct the policy of their nation, a confidence that seems fully justified by the achievements of President Diaz during the 25 years he has been in office. He has made Mexico a peaceful, prosperous and united country.

Wide acquaintance with men and affairs, shrewd powers of observation, a genius for gossip, and a candor that must often be appalling to its objects—all combine to make the "Personalities" contributed to *Blackwood's* by the writer who signs himself "Sigma" uncommonly readable. The second of the series, which has "Lawyers" for its theme, is particularly rich in piquant anecdote and epigram. It is reproduced in *The Living Age* for August 29.

In the *Methodist Magazine* for September there is an illustrated article on "Norway," and one on "Spain." Canadian interests are emphasized in the "Romance of the Red River Settlement," and "The Underground Railway," and "Canada's Destiny." The story of a great Puritan, Richard Baxter, is more fascinating than fiction. The missionary article is on "Africa and its Out-

Consumption

The only kind of consumption to fear is "neglected consumption."

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The *Canadian Magazine* for September contains interesting reading. The chief article is "Preferential Trade in Its Relation to Canada and the Empire," by Hon. G. W. Ross. There are several short stories.

"The Horse in America" is the widest reaching topic in the September *Century*. There is a collection of pictures of famous horses. Articles relating to recent events are "A Wonderful Change in Pelee," and "Heroes in Black Skins," a narrative of some admirable deeds by negroes. Ambassador Andrew D. White prints more "Chapters from My Diplomatic Life." "When the Emperor Prays for Rain," deals with China; "Bap Sloan's Pishah" is a story of powerful life in the south.

The following poems are offered in the September number of *Lippincott's*: "Fire Weed," by Henrietta R. Eliot; "Summer in the South," by Paul Laurence Dunbar; "The Sea at Noon," by Maurice Francis Egan; "Rebirth," by Charles Hanson Towne; and "Friendship," by Marion Pelton Guild.

The September *St. Nicholas* is rich in illustrations. "The Story of King Arthur and His Knights," is continued. "Brewster's Bebut," is a breezy story of football honors. "Kitty White," "Was He a Coward," "A Novel Fishing Feat," "A School Savings Bank," "With the Birds in Autumn," "The Search for Jean Batiste," widely different, are all good vacation reading. The department dealt with timely topics of interest to the girls and boys.

CROPS EATEN BY INSECTS.

Professor Skinner, of the National Academy of Sciences, makes the following estimates of the damage done to crops by insects: One-tenth of the total agricultural produce, or \$300,000,000 worth, is eaten up or lost every year through insects. One-half of this is loss to the staple crops. Credit is given to various insects about as follows: Hessian fly's damage to wheat, rye and barley, one-tenth, or \$40,000,000; chinch bug, \$7,000,000; corn root worm, 10 to 20 per cent in many States, certainly averaging five per cent, or \$37,000,000 of the corn crop; total to growing cereals, \$84,000,000. In seven Gulf States damage to corn has been estimated at 20 per cent, and at 5 per cent for the whole country, making the total \$40,000,000. All other stored grain is estimated at 3 per cent, or \$20,000,000, making a total approximate damage to stored grain amounting to \$60,000,000. Grass and hay, \$20,000,000. Cotton, by the cotton worm, boll worm, and boll weevil, \$30,000,000 in 1880. Since then this loss has decreased, but Texas in 1894 lost \$8,000,000 by the boll weevil, and \$15,000,000 is considered a low annual estimate of its work on cotton. Tobacco gave up 8 per cent, or \$2,000,000, to a horde of insects; potatoes, 6 per cent, or \$10,000,000, to the Colorado potato beetle. No figures are given for fruits, truck, domestic animals, and timber.

IT NEEDN'T HINDER.—A Salvation Army officer, having asked a gentleman if he was saved, received the reply, "Why, I am a professor of theology in a Theological Seminary." "Well," answered the Salvationist, "don't let that hinder you from becoming a Christian." While being in a position of this kind is not presumptive proof that a man is unsaved, there is a suggestion of solemn truth in the Salvationist's remark; it is this: No position in the church or the outward service of Christ puts any beyond the need and duty of the most searching self-examination.