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News of the Week.

NEW BRUNSWICK.

In Fredericton a Mrs. T. W. Clynick was nearly choked to death by a piece of meat on Thursday.

F. A. Peters, organ builder, is now at work building a large organ for the Methodist Church at Chatham.

During the month ending 31st December, 1885, the Savings Bank deposits were \$113,166; payments \$88,070.74.

The N. B. Railway Bridge on the North Branch of the Oromocto was carried away Wednesday just after the forenoon train from St. John for Fredericton had passed over it.

The iron and railway track were taken off the Rushagorish bridge Wednesday afternoon, the belief then being general that the structure would soon be carried away.

During the month of December 2823 cars were handled at the St. John freight house. Of the number 129 were laden with flour, 49 with sugar, and 53 with English goods.

Mr. Ira Cornwall, jr., has been appointed to represent New Brunswick at the Colonial Exhibition in London. The exhibition opens in May and will continue open throughout the spring and summer.

The school house in East Windsor, Carleton County, was burned to the ground Tuesday morning. The building was a very good one, and had lately been repaired. Some parties are to be arrested on suspicion.

Herring have struck into St. Andrews Bay, and are being taken in large numbers by the fishermen, of which about sixty sail have been in our harbor since Monday, including five Gloucester men buying. —*Bay Pilot*.

It is stated that Mr. Costigan when up river held a public meeting at Three Brooks, Victoria County, (on the Tobique river) and gave the people strong encouragement that they would get the branch railway to the Plaster Rocks.

Says the *Sackville Post*: Dr. P. R. Moore was the victim of a very painful accident on Monday. He was carrying an uncorked bottle of carbolic acid from one room to another when he had the misfortune to slip and fall. A quantity of the acid was dashed into his face and on his neck, burning him severely.

About 90 buildings have been erected in Moncton during the past year at a cost of \$200,000. The exports in 1885 were the largest in the history of the port. The imports amounted to three-quarters of a million, and the customs revenue to about a quarter of a million.

Early Friday morning a fire was discovered in an oyster saloon on Charlotte street, kept by W. H. Blatchford. Blatchford and a young woman, who reside on the premises, were nearly suffocated with the smoke before they were rescued. The damage was not great.

The two bridges on the New Brunswick railway, carried away by the freshet, have been replaced. Last night the Pullman express from St. John crossed the North Branch bridge safely. The river is again frozen over, and the permanent structure will be in position before another thaw comes.

In the short distance of five miles near Turtle Creek, Albert Co., there reside seven aged people, Mr. and Mrs. Wm. Geldart, aged 76; Asa Fillmore, aged 85; Ephraim Wilson, aged 80; Peter Jonah, aged 81; Mrs. Matthew Berry, aged 79; Mrs. Frederick Lutes, aged 80.

In Fredericton a man named Bradley, under the influence of liquor, had a narrow escape from drowning Thursday night. He thought he was going to one of the Regent street hotels, but walked into the river near Sherman's wharf. His cries brought help. His cold bath had a quieting effect on his muddled senses.

The exceptional weather since the opening of the New Year produced quite a flood in some parts of the province. The heavy fall of snow, on December 26th, almost entirely disappeared through the combined action of rain and the high temperature, the thermometer having remained almost constantly above the freezing point for over a week. So much melted snow and rain have swollen the brooks and streams in all directions until they overflowed their banks. Traveling by the ice was stopped.

A gentleman from Richibucto informs us of the strange fact that since the severe storm of Saturday week there has been no noticeable rise or fall in the tides of Richibucto harbor, and the same is said to be true of other harbors of Kent. The like was never known before, and as the rise and fall are usually about four feet, the fact affords an interesting subject for the students of natural phenomena. The cause is thought by some to be that the mouth of the harbor was blocked up with ice so high and close as to shut out the tides, a theory that seems to be supported by the fact that the water is freshening. —*Moncton Times*.

Mr. Crockett, chief superintendent of education, has issued a circular soliciting the co-operation of teachers and boards of school trustees in the department's exhibit at the Colonial and Indian Exhibition, to be held in London early this year. The circular states:

The exhibit will consist, (1) of specimens of "manual work," and of examination questions set to pupils in advance of standard viii; (2) of photographs of school buildings, both exterior and interior; (3) of school desks and seats adapted to the respective grades of pupils, maps, text-books, apparatus, specimens of provincial woods and minerals as used for illustrative purposes; copies of the prescribed course of instruction and of the school system, with tabular synopsis of the same; (4) school reports with a sketch of the educational progress of the province.

All exhibits should be forwarded to the education office, Fredericton, not later than February 15th. It is in contemplation to hold an exhibition in St. John on the last Friday of February of the specimens, &c., before their shipment to London. —*Tel.*

NOVA SCOTIA.

Anna Swan, the Nova Scotia giantess, is rapidly nearing death through consumption.

The number of inmates in the Halifax poor asylum, at Christmas, was 304—eleven less than last year.

The Customs collections at Halifax, for 1885, amounted to \$1,347,865. The inland revenue collections were \$190,265.

A. R. Boutilier, a Nova Scotian, was arrested at Moncton on Tuesday for an alleged larceny committed in Moncton. Boutilier was en route for Halifax at the time of his arrest.

Referring to the change in the management of the Eastern Extension Railway, the *New Glasgow Chronicle* says that ever since it was taken over by the Dominion Government, it has been operated as a separate line, but it has now been made part of the Intercolonial and placed under the direct management of J. J. Wallace.

George E. Bouteaux has received a telegram announcing that the ship "Bouteaux" has been totally destroyed by fire at Browne Island, near Australia. The crew were saved and landed at the Cape of Good Hope. The "Bouteaux" was built at Kingsport, N. S., in 1873. The vessel and freight were insured for \$31,000.

The number of vessels remaining on the registry at Windsor, N. S., December 31st, 1885, was 186, with a tonnage of 117,354—a decrease of six vessels, but an increase of 1,045 tons. At Mattland, Hants Co., there are 48 vessels, aggregating 40,436 tons, still on the list—an increase of six vessels and 4,013 tons over 1884.

The Annapolis *Spectator* publishes the list of shipping registered at that port December 31st, 1885. It consists of 63 schooners, 3,838 tons; 1 brig, 113; 5 brigantines, 1,443; 14 barques, 12,290; 1 barquentine, 450; 2 steamers, 42. Total, 96 vessels, 18,182 tons. The brig "Martha Burns," 313 tons, is marked as having been transferred to Yarmouth. This vessel was wrecked at Delaware in 1867, and should be erased.

Some three years ago Frazar C. Allen, a tinsmith, moved to Dartmouth, N. S., with his wife and child. There Mrs. Allen died. H. J. Gray, a farmer, lived near the Allens. Mrs. Gray and Mr. Allen became intimate and eloped in December, 1883, taking Mrs. Gray's children and Gray's household effects. They came to Portland and Allan worked for F. & C. B. Nash. A friend of Gray's, who knew Allen, wrote to him that the runaways were in Portland. Gray came on, to find them gone. It is understood they have gone to Waterville, whither Gray pursues them. —*Portland, Me., Press*.

The list of shipping of Shelburne County, revised and corrected up to the 31st December, 1885, shows for Shelburne an increase of 119 tons, but a decrease of 3 in the number of vessels. The summary gives: 1 ship, 164 tons; 1 barque, 273 tons; 16 brigantines, 2,910 tons; 1 steamer, 18 tons; 114 schooners, 7,053 tons; total 133 vessels, 11,418 tons.

The Barlington portion shows a decrease of 1 vessel and 70 tons. There were on the list: 3 brigantines, 464 tons; 42 schooners, 2,249 tons; total, 45 vessels, 2,713 tons. There were added during 1885: schooners "Mabel Howard," 142 tons; "Pleides," 38 tons; total, 2 vessels, 180 tons.

The total tonnage of the County is 179 vessels, aggregating 14,131 tons, or a decrease of 4 vessels and an increase of 49 tons, as compared with the previous year.

The Yarmouth *Herald*, in its last issue, publishes the list of shipping owned in the County of Yarmouth on Jan. 1, 1886. The following is a comparative statement of tonnage for the years 1885 and 1886:

1885.	1886.	Tons.	Tons.
Vessels.	Vessels.	956	1,425
7 Steamers.	51 Steamers.	68,353	67,445
43 Barques.	44 Barques.	39,102	40,461
11 Brig.	11 Brig.	2,186	1,829
109 Schooners.	113 Schooners.	6,579	6,624
222	229	117,176	118,629

It will be observed that there is a small increase of 7 vessels and of 1,453 tons. There are at present in course of construction but 3 vessels of over 200 tons each. For the first time in the history of Yarmouth shipping the losses include but two large vessels—the ships "Cyprus" and "Herbert Beech," aggregating 2,453 tons. The loss of life in connexion with the Yarmouth fleet was much below the average.

A very pleasant gathering took place in Chequoggin, Yr. Co., on New Year's day. The children, grand-children and great-grand-children of Mr. Nelson Corning, to the number of 67, met at his house to celebrate his 80th birthday. Tea was served in the hall, which was beautifully decorated with mottoes, dates, and festoons.

After tea the meeting was called to order and Mr. Egbert Trask appointed chairman for the evening. Nelson Corning, jr., then being called upon, in a few well chosen and appreciative words presented to his father on behalf of the family a handsome and comfortable easy chair. Remarks were then made by other speakers, and games, music and refreshments filled up the remainder of the evening. Mr. Corning is to be congratulated upon being able to gather around him an almost unbroken family. Two only of the sons were unavoidably absent, and the family ranks have hardly been touched by death. We trust Mr. Corning may long be spared to enjoy the society of his children, and to be a blessing to the community in which he has spent so many years. —*Yar. Times*.

OTHER PROVINCES.

An unusual scene in Charlottetown was the sporting of a number seals in the harbor, the other day, just below the city.

The traffic receipts of the Canadian Pacific Railway for the week ending Dec. 31st were \$231,000, an increase of \$75,000 compared with the corresponding week in 1884.

Fears of an Indian rising in the Northwest are entertained. The government will no doubt be on the alert. If it is a question of "feed" or "fight," then by all means let us feed; feed and teach the savages.

Small-pox is disappearing rapidly from suburban villages around Montreal. The houses where the disease still lurks in the municipality, are now all officially sealed and guarded by officers. The number of inmates in the hospital is lessening every day.

A Calgary, N. W. T., despatch states that Judge Travis has declared Mayor Murdoch and Council unelected and disqualified for two years, in addition to which Mr. Murdoch is fined \$100 and condemned to pay the opposing council \$100 with costs, and the other councillors to pay \$100 with costs.

Customs and excise returns for December show a marked improvement in receipts from these two sources. The customs were \$256,770 more than in December, 1884; the excise receipts are \$750,000 more. The ten days' receipts, beginning 21st December and covering Christmas were the best for some years.

The Toronto mayoralty election resulted in the choice of Mr. Howland, by a majority of 1680 over the former mayor, Mr. Manning. It was a square fight on the rum question and the temperance people won a good victory. Over 1000 women voted for the first time.

At Beamsville, Ont., Tuesday afternoon, John Stone walked into the dwelling of his sister, Mrs. Hodge, and going up to his niece, Maud Hodge, after a word or two drew a revolver and fired two shots at her, both taking effect in her body. He then fired at himself. He is not supposed to be fatally injured. Miss Hodge will not recover.

Montreal customs officials have seized a quantity of valuable goods imported from Japan for being removed from the examining warehouse without notice and entered under the proper value at the custom house. The importer repudiates the charge of undervaluation and says the goods were removed through mistake of the express driver. Enquiry will be instituted.

Work on the new dry dock at Esquimaut, B. C., is rapidly going on, and it is expected that it will be completed on or before the first January next. The Government is pushing work, because an agreement with the British Admiralty exists whereby a contribution of \$250,000 from the Imperial Government is dependent on the dock being completed by that time. The dock will be four hundred and thirty feet in length and will be available for vessels of the size at present engaged on the Pacific coast. Several attempts have been made by the United States authorities to build a dry dock available for vessels on the Pacific coast, but so far without success. There is no place on the coast like Esquimaut and with a large dock there Canada will control the trade in that line on the coast.

BRITISH AND FOREIGN.

A despatch from Athens says: "The war fever in Greece is virulent. Large quantities of war materials have been ordered in western Europe; 20,000,000 cartridges have been bought in Pressburg; king, government and people are all eager for war."

M. DeGiers, Russian Foreign Minister, has made a proposition that the Powers unite in request to Bulgaria and Serbia to reduce her armies to a peace footing.

Members-elect of Parliament will take their oath of office on the 12th inst.

Lord Salisbury and Sir Michael Hicks-Beach have sent copies of a circular to their supporters notifying them to be in attendance at the opening of Parliament on the 21st inst., when the Queen's speech will be read and business of importance will be transacted.

The *Times* correspondent at Mandalay telegraphs that 10,000 rebels are scouting the country within a radius of twenty miles of the capital and that they threaten to attack the town. Fears of an emeute are felt. Prince Alompra is at the head of the rebels. He has ministers, issues decrees, collects taxes and claims to be king of Burmah.

The *Standard* says that if the Queen's coming speech does not indicate that the ministry will introduce a measure for stronger county government in Ireland, Mr. Parnell will move an amendment to the address and the home rule members will open a discussion at the same time on the action of the Irish executive in the Maamtrasna and Barbaville trials.

Earl Grey, writing to the *Times*, deprecates the concession of local government to Ireland, as he believes that such power would be made the means of oppressing all who dissent from the doctrines of the National League. The improvement of the condition of Ireland must emanate from the Irish themselves. It must be brought about by a provident hand and greater industry. It is the imperative duty of the government to suppress outrages and violations of the law in Ireland, and until that is accomplished all concessions to the Irish people will merely serve like sweets to children to stop their crying.

Gen. deCourcy, commander of the French forces in Tonquin, telegraphs to the war office as follows: "During the latter part of December the rebels destroyed Catholic mission houses at Ugean, Annam, and killed a French missionary and 500 native Christians. A column of French troops was sent in pursuit of the rebels. It overtook and routed them and captured their arms and ammunition."

The new French cabinet is as follows:—
M. DeFreycinet, president of the council and minister for foreign affairs;
M. Sarrien, minister of interior;
M. Sadi Carnot, minister of finance;
M. Goblet, minister of public instruction;
M. Demele, minister of justice;
M. Develle, minister of agriculture;
Gen. Benlangier, minister of war;
M. Aube, minister of marine and the colonies;
M. Brabant, minister of public works;
M. Granet, minister of posts and telegraphs;
M. Lockroy, minister of commerce.

Heretofore ships have been permitted to pass through the Suez Canal only in daylight; but now war ships and steamers provided with electric lights of sufficient power to illuminate the canal 1,200 yards ahead may go at night.

UNITED STATES.

On Friday a fire in Mobile destroyed an entire block of stores. The losses aggregate \$193,000.

Harvard College is greatly excited over a case of small-pox discovered. The patient, who is a student, living in Halworthy Hall, was removed to the college hospital in time, it is thought, to prevent any danger of the disease spreading.

Lieutenant Greely has returned to Washington greatly improved in health and loud in his praises of the generous reception tendered him everywhere by Scotchmen and Englishmen with whom he has been sojourning for the past few weeks.

On Thursday a cavein occurred at Boston Run, near Mahoney City, Pa., and a block of houses went down out of sight. The families living in the houses had a narrow escape. The surface is still caving and five more blocks are expected to go down.

A Friday despatch says: The blizzard raging at present throughout Illinois, Iowa, Kansas, Nebraska, Dakota and Minnesota is declared of wider extent and more fierce in character than known before in years. All western trains are behind time, many have been snowed in and abandoned, and very little can be learned concerning them or the effects of the storm owing to the stoppage of telegraphic communication. The temperature throughout Dakota is stated from 20 to 40 degrees below zero, with a wild blizzard blowing.