

## General News.

The situation remains unchanged in reference to the great strike of the telegraph operators. The companies are getting along at present by means of very hard work, but the operators expect that with the approaching increase of business, their terms will have to be accepted.

## CANADIAN.

A disturbance has taken place at Rat Portage in the disputed territory, where officials of both the Manitoba and Ontario Governments are endeavoring to exercise jurisdiction. Manitoba officials arrested some men for violation of the license laws. The gaol was broken and the prisoners liberated. Manitoba police have arrested these men on a charge of complicity in the gaol-breaking, and carried them off to Winnipeg for trial.

Captain Webb's body was recovered near Lewiston in the Niagara River.

Prince George of Wales has arrived at Halifax.

A farmer named Randall McDonald was murdered on Thursday at Tracadie, N. S., by a boy with whose father he had a quarrel.

A severe storm on Friday did much damage. In Toronto Bay a boat was upset, and a young lady drowned.

August 1st, Emancipation Day, was celebrated merrily by the colored people in different parts of Canada.

The Toronto, Grey & Bruce Railway has been leased to the Ontario & Quebec Railway Company.

A new line of Ocean Steamers is projected to run between Quebec and Rouen.

## UNITED STATES.

At a circus in Portsmouth, Va., on Tuesday night, a panic occurred on account of the tent taking fire. A number of people were trampled upon and seriously injured.

At a church festival in Joliet, Ill., last week, a hundred persons were poisoned by some deleterious ingredient in the ice cream. Many are seriously ill.

Edward Hanlan won, as usual, at the regatta at Fulton, N. Y.

On Saturday, a passenger train collided with a freight train near Rochester, N. Y. A large number of passengers were killed.

The mining strikers have not yet resumed work.

Francisco Barco, Spanish Envoy to the United States, committed suicide at New York, on Sunday.

## BRITISH.

Dennis M. O'Connor, Home Rule Member of Parliament for Sligo county, is dead.

Irish landlords want State relief, on account of their losses through recent legislation.

Rev. Dr. Spurgeon is dangerously ill.

## FOREIGN.

On Saturday night the town of Casamicciola and some smaller villages on the island of Ischia, in the Mediterranean, were almost destroyed by an earthquake. Over five thousand people are believed to have perished, and there is great distress among the survivors. Ischia is a volcanic island much subject to earthquakes, but on account of its famous mineral springs has been much frequented as a watering place.

Thirty-five miners have been killed by a mine explosion at Catlarisetta, in Sicily.

Cholera still rages with fearful virulence in Egypt. The utmost precautions are being taken to prevent its spread to other countries.

Russia is alarmed over the discovery of new Nihilistic plots.

Insurgents have defeated and killed Cetewayo and his brother.

A sortie of the French from Hanoi, on the 19th instant, resulted in their gaining a victory, capturing several cannons and killing about a thousand native soldiers.

James Carey, the Irish informer, was shot dead by a man named O'Donnell, on his way to Cape Town, in South Africa.

Mount Vesuvius is in a state of eruption, and people in the neighborhood are fleeing for safety.

Pedro Carbo has been proclaimed Chief of the Government of Guayaquil.

Cholera and small-pox are prevalent in Brazil.

## Ladies' Department.

## WOMEN'S CHRISTIAN TEMPERANCE UNIONS.

The work of Christian women in behalf of temperance has already become very important in the United States, and promises to become so in Canada.

A Provincial Union was organized in Ontario, October, 1877, which now includes 37 local Unions, with 650 members. The Union has sought to do a general educational work in favor of total abstinence and prohibition, by means of literature, correspondence and petitions. It sent to the Dominion Parliament a petition bearing 17,000 signatures, asking for some of the chief provisions that have been adopted in the recent License Law. It has also petitioned local educational authorities for the introduction of instruction upon Temperance in Public and High Schools. The President is Mrs. Addie Chisholm, Hamilton, Ont.

A Provincial Union was organized in New Brunswick, October, 1879, which now includes 8 local Unions, in the principal towns of the Province. The Union is agitating the question of communion wine, and is otherwise seeking to further the cause of temperance. A drinking-fountain in the city of St. John will stand as a monument of its public spirit. The Secretary is Miss Ella Thome, Fredericton, N. B.

In the Province of Quebec, 18 local Unions have been formed all since January 1, 1883, except those in Stanstead and Huntingdon, which have had a vigorous existence for several years. It is hoped that a Provincial Union will be organized in the coming autumn.

In Prince Edward Island there is one local Union, at Charlottetown. There are Unions in Nova Scotia, but from these, and from any that may exist in Manitoba, no reports have been received for the Year Book. It will be seen that besides these which are unreported, 64 local Unions now exist in Canada, with probably not less than 1,000 members.—*Alliance Year Book*.

## "WE GIRLS."

BY LYDIA STRAWN.

[Extracts from a paper read at Young Ladies' Meeting, Lake Bluff, Aug. 30.]

The American girl as a rule believes in temperance with her whole heart. Pledged or unpledged, she is not nearly so prone as her brother to "look upon the wine when it is red, when it moveth itself aright." The reason is apparent. Education, home, society, throw around her restraints which they do not throw around him.

A woman dares not become a drunkard, for well she knows that, if God can forgive her, society will not. Over the terrible abyss of her fall, man will throw no bridge of pardon.

Now, average American girls, not those born in purple, nor yet those surrounded by terrible temptations and dragged down by the irresistible force of circumstances over which they have no control, but the many who constitute our great middle-class; girls who think over the great questions of the day, who read intelligently and to purpose, who write and use good English, who fashion their own dainty apparel, and if necessity calls for it, can prepare a good dinner—these girls who do not touch, taste, or handle the wine cup think that because they believe in temperance for themselves and for their fathers, brothers, and possibly somebody else, their duty is done. They look out from their safe, happy, sheltered homes, and then look back to find in them and in the rich fullness of the opening future their work. They want their mothers and older friends to aid in the work, and they will help them in a silent, passive way. They love their land, but it is not a love "far brought from out the storied past."

They want the right to triumph, but they shrink from the sharp antagonism which the conflict of opinion always calls forth. So it is the exception and not the rule, when they organize into societies; and it is equally the exception and not the rule when such societies, if organized, live. I am aware that we have a number of lively working girls' unions in this State, and I am glad to say one in my own city. Yet I believe that the officers of this association will tell you that it is difficult to start a society composed of girls, and equally difficult to make it live.