

Weekly Messenger

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The Weekly Messenger.

ABOUT OURSELVES.

The *Weekly Messenger* is supplied at the rate of half-a-dollar per year. It contains the news of the whole world every week, written in the most readable style, without any unnecessary spinning-out, and without any of that obnoxious matter which makes it impossible for decent people to allow some newspapers into their families. It is printed in such large and clear type that very old and very young people can read it without trouble, and the smaller the type the more injury it causes even to the strongest men and women.

The large and increasing circulation of our journal shows that these facts are thoroughly understood wherever the *Weekly Messenger* has once made its appearance. We depend upon all our readers, as they appreciate our work themselves, always to recommend us to their friends. The more new subscribers we get, the better will both be pleased.

AMERICA NOT FULL YET.

The excitement about "pauper emigration" has spread to Canada, and the fact that many emigrants cannot find work in our cities has frightened some people into calling out for a stoppage of all assistance to intending emigrants. The outcry however will not be allowed to have much effect, as a little thought shows that the country, both in Canada and in the Western United States, can accommodate emigrants from the old world as fast as they arrive,—if they are the right kind. That is the great point. There are agents in Great Britain, Germany and other places, who are paid by steamship companies a certain amount for each person they persuade to cross the Atlantic by the various companies' steamers. These agents sometimes, for their own benefit, get people to emigrate who would do just as well at home. Then there are other men who emigrate without any persuasion at all, and who refuse to take decent work at good wages even when it is offered them. While people emigrate at all, there will always be some emigrants whom this continent does not want and cannot satisfy: but the continent is still like a sponge, now only just damp, and ready to absorb all the human stream likely to be poured into it for many a year. The people of the Old Country are quickly learning to take an interest in our affairs, and to treat our feelings with sympathy, and Lord Carnarvon, who is urging his countrymen in England to emigrate, is urging every precaution to avoid sending men to America who are not of the sort that America wants.

THE GREATEST LEATHER merchants in Vienna, Gewitsch & Sons, have failed, with liabilities of about a million dollars, bringing down seven other Austrian leather firms in the crash. These houses have connections in New York.

THE HERO OF THE CENTURY.

General Gordon is still in Khartoum, and though attempts are being made to send messages to him no success has yet been heard of. The most different and contradictory stories come from the Soudan, and it is hard to know what to believe. It is thought that a stream of deserters still flows from the Egyptian army to join the rebel chief, the Mahdi, and every now and then it is reported that he is receiving help from some other tribe. One telegram, however, says that the Mahdi's soldiers are already beginning to desert him, owing to a rumor that British troops were coming against them. There is the greatest excitement in England, caused by the fear that General Gordon is in danger, and an attempt is being made to force the government to send an army to his relief. Mr. Gladstone has declared over and over again that the government holds itself entirely responsible for Gordon's safety, but refuses to attempt to conquer the Soudan. As Mr. Gladstone says, the rebellion is really a fight for freedom, the country having been tyrannically treated by its Egyptian rulers. And General Gordon would be the last man to wish the country given over once more to the tyrants on the pretext of saving himself and the ten Egyptian garrisons still remaining in various parts of the Soudan. Three steamers, manned by British blue-jackets, have started up the Nile to get definite news of Gordon.

AMERICAN CONGRESS.

A proposal is before the Foreign Affairs Committee of the United States Congress to request the President to negotiate with the British Government for a new treaty, or rather a resurrection of the treaty abolished in 1866, by which the produce of British North America was admitted into the United States, and that of the States into British America, free of duty. It is not likely that anything will be done this year.

Mr. Robinson, of New York, has put his foot in it. In his insane hatred of "monarchy," he asked Congress to refuse permission to an officer of the navy to accept a decoration from the Emperor of Austria; it would, he said, "prostrate the American people in dirt and degradation." He also ridiculed the officer as a "dude." His colleagues then snubbed him by showing the record of this "dude," who has saved eleven lives at the risk of his own, and is now on his way to rescue his countrymen in the Arctic regions.

It is thought likely that a proposal will be made this session to abolish the customs duty on coal and lumber.

A proposed amendment to the Constitution, now before the Senate, would make the President and Vice-President elected for six years, and would not allow any man to be President twice.

The United States Senate Committee on Post-offices has reported in favor of a government system of telegraph lines. The public would thus be guarded against the high rates charged by private monopoly companies—rates that must be high in order to pay interest on the enormous sums bor-

rowed by those companies to buy up their rivals.

The *New York Herald* says that Sir Charles Tupper's recent visit to Washington was to see if the fishery clause of the Washington treaty could not be extended, and if negotiations could not be opened for a general reciprocity treaty between Canada and the United States. Sir Charles will probably consult the Imperial Government in London on the subject.

THE NEW YORK PANIC.

The financial troubles in New York are by no means finished yet. The Westside Bank stopped paying on Saturday afternoon. The cashier had lost \$10,000 by speculating, had then taken \$75,000 and fled. The President says the loss will not be more than \$96,000 and the bank will soon resume business. The Pennsylvania Bank stopped again on Monday, because the president, Mr. Riddle, was too ill to be present at the adjustment of the Bank's affairs. He had taken an overdose of chloroform or morphia, and will perhaps not recover. Mr. Riddle is himself the largest loser by the failure. The bank examiner says that the whole capital of the Atlantic Bank of Brooklyn—\$200,000,—has disappeared, and still there is a deficiency of \$40,000.

Ferdinand Ward, the partner of General Grant's son, has been arrested, and is imprisoned in the cell once occupied by "Boss" Tweed. He declares that his partners, the Grants, knew that the alleged profits of the business could not have been honestly made, and they should keep him company in gaol. James D. Fish, late President of the Marine Bank, was also arrested at midnight on Saturday, at Mystic Flats. An examination of the books shows that Fish misappropriated \$1,141,000 of the bank's funds between March 1 and May 6 of this year, advancing the money in various sums to Grant and Ward. Fish says that he is absolutely penniless: that he may have been a stupendous fool, but was not a robber. John C. Eno is likely to be arrested soon. The liabilities of Frederick D. Grant are \$2,215,000, with assets nominally valued at \$1,990,000; he owes \$220,000 to the Fourth National Bank.

Reid and Smith, cotton merchants, have assigned. Their capital was \$250,000. Smith was a director of the Marine Bank. George H. Levis, a missing broker, who owes nearly \$200,000, is believed to be in Philadelphia.

DYNAMITE IN ENGLAND.

All the steamers arriving on the English coast from France are now closely watched. On Monday, the detectives at Dover were looking out for two men who had gone on board with suspicious black bags at Calais. The men were not seen until the train for London was just starting, when they rushed into the station and tried to get on board. The detectives sprang at them and had a desperate struggle, all being dragged for some distance by the train; but at last the suspected men were secured and taken to the police station, where a quantity of dynamite was found in their baggage. When

they were brought up in a London police court, they said that they were French chemists, and were bringing over the explosives for an experiment in blasting near Glasgow. This was proved to be true, and some gentlemen at the French Embassy identified them as Eugene Turpin, a chemist of Victoria street, in Paris, and his assistant, Eugene Louir. Accordingly, the assistant was discharged, but the master was released on bail, as he had broken the law against carrying dynamite without permission.

THE BRITISH REFORM BILL.

The great work for which the present British Parliament was elected, and for which Mr. Gladstone's government was placed in power, progresses slowly but very surely. A proposal not to allow Ireland to share in its benefits was voted down by an immense majority in the House of Commons. The opposition also tried to defeat the Reform Bill, which gives votes to two million inhabitants of unincorporated districts, by a resolution that the House would not consider it till the Redistribution Bill was also produced. This was defeated by 276 to 182. The Redistribution Bill, which is sure to be introduced by the Government, will take away representatives from small and unimportant places and give them to great centres of population.

THE FIVE HUNDRETH anniversary of Wycliffe's death is now being celebrated in England. At a great meeting in Exeter Hall, London, Lord Shaftesbury presided. Canon Taylor lifted a warning voice against those who were trying to undo the work of the great English Church reformer and translator of the Bible, and to lead England back into the superstitions and idolatries of the middle ages. Another speaker said that Spurgeon, Moody, and "General" Booth, with the doctrines of Wycliffe, now had more power than all the priests in the Churches of England put together. An appeal is being made for \$50,000, to publish and circulate the great reformer's writings, and to erect a statue of him in London.

MANY PEOPLE in many cities have many times complained of having to listen to their neighbors strumming on pianos hour after hour and day after day. But where, except in Germany, would the people dream of getting the authorities to put down piano practising? The residents of Berlin—those of them who do not practise on pianos themselves—want piano playing to be prohibited except between 11 a.m. and noon, and between eight and eleven at night.

THERE IS A STRONG movement in France in favor of annexing the New Hebrides, so that the worst criminals could be transported and let loose there. The Australians, to avoid the presence of such a hot-bed of wickedness in their neighborhood, want to annex the New Hebrides themselves; and sixty-eight native chiefs of one of the islands have sent a petition to the Queen asking protection from France and annexation to the British colonies.