

Weekly Messenger

AND TEMPERANCE WORKER.

VOL. II.

MONTREAL, SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 17, 1883.

No. 46.

PUBLISHERS' NOTES.

The Autumn Competition, although somewhat disappointing in its total result, is yet much more satisfactory than the August Competition was. Seventy-four annual subscriptions, and three hundred and ninety-six for two months have been gained by the latest competition, and the following is a list of the prize-winners, with the amount sent by each:—

- 1st, \$10, Wm. Gates, Back Bay, St. George, N. B., \$19.75.
- 2nd, \$5, Bertha Forbes, Wentworth Grant, Fictou Co., N. S., \$7.50.
- 3rd, \$3, Mary McGee, Back Bay, St. George, N. B., \$4.05.
- 4th, \$2, Willie Brotzman, Jasper, Steuben Co., New York, \$4.00.
- 5th, \$1, Jennie McMillan, Box 10, Spencerville, Ohio, \$3.35.

It requires some faith to go on with such slight evidence of return but the plan must have a fair trial. It is evident that the workers have not yet been stirred up and we hope they will yet do something very respectable in the way of working up the circulation of the paper. We therefore renew the offer for the month of December in the hope of an abundant harvest for all this seed sowing.

Our offer, therefore, to our workers for December is a commission of 50 cents on every five subscriptions, and to the one sending the largest amount of money up to the end of the month a prize of ten dollars; to the second, five dollars; to the third, three dollars; to the fourth, two dollars, and to the fifth, one dollar.

Trial subscriptions for three months may be taken at thirteen cents singly, and for six months at 25 cents, with commissions on every five subscriptions in proportion.

Remit only by registered letter or P. O. order, and address all letters JOHN DOUGALL & SON, Montreal, Canada.

EDITORIAL NOTES.

SINCE WRITING the paragraph in last week's issue regarding the alarming prevalence of drinking in India, we have come across another and more encouraging side of the picture. The blue-ribbon movement was recently inaugurated in Calcutta, and Hindoos as well as Europeans are joining it. Many of the missionaries at the Calcutta Conference, it is related with pleasure by one of them, wore the badge of blue. So far as that person knew, all the American missions in India make total abstinence from intoxicating drinks and drugs a condition of church membership. "Missionaries working among aboriginal tribes and lower classes of Hindoos and Mohammedans," he says, "are obliged to do this because intemperance is the prevailing vice and a mighty barrier to the progress of the gospel." In his own field at Madras, this gentleman, the Rev. James L. Phillips, M. D.—says they could receive Santals into the church by thousands, were they allowed to take liquor with them, but total abstinence had to be made a square, clear issue at the start. Christian missionaries, Dr. Phillips says further, are deter-

mined to do all in their power for those poor people who are the slaves of drink. A petition numerously signed by men and women at the decennial conference, imploring the Bengal Government to reduce the number of distilleries, was effective to the extent of having no less than fifteen hundred of those establishments and drink shops closed.

THE REV. G. M. MILLIGAN, of Toronto, has attracted unenviable attention by preaching in Detroit, Michigan, against women organizing themselves into Christian temperance associations and other societies of benevolent purpose. Opposition to organized well-doing by women is somewhat out of place in this age and in this country.

LUTHER.

The four hundredth anniversary of the birth of Martin Luther, the great reformer, occurring on the tenth of November, has been celebrated in various ways in most Protestant communities throughout the world. In London, England, the united choirs of the German churches gave a sacred concert on Friday evening, and Sir Charles Tupper, the Canadian Commissioner, lectured on the life and works of the renowned man. Probably the most remarkable commemoration of the event was that at Eisleben, Germany, Luther's birthplace, where Protestants, Catholics and Jews united to give effect to the celebration. Among the chief attractions there was the great bronze statue of Luther burning the Papal bull, the colossal picture representing him finishing his ever memorable address in the Diet of Worms, and the pulpit in the Church of St. Andrew from which the great reformer preached. An interesting sketch of Luther, with portraits of himself and his worthy mother, appears in this paper. Dr. Dollinger, President of the Royal Academy in Berlin, and leader of the Old Catholics, wrote that the Old Catholics might take part in the festivities in honor of Martin Luther, apart from religious grounds, because he did so much for the language, letters and education of the country as to deserve the everlasting thanks of all Germans.

FRANCE AND CHINA.

No very important developments have occurred in the Franco-Chinese trouble during the week. In the Tonquin credit bill passed by the French Legislature it is stated that the total French force in Tonquin at the beginning of November was 8,650 men, and the French naval forces in Tonquin and Chinese waters comprised thirty-two vessels with crews numbering 4,500 men. Since that date reinforcements have arrived in the country, disembarking at Haiphong. The Marquis Tseng, Chinese Ambassador, said to a reporter in London that until a reply was received to China's last note to France the negotiations would be at a standstill. If the French attack Bac Ninh, he said, they will meet the Chinese troops and then there would be war, in which case it would be impossible to guarantee the safety of foreign trade or the property and lives of foreigners. The French

Admiral Courbet, in command in Tonquin, has announced his intention of first attacking Sontay and then Honghoa. By these pieces of intelligence it is clear that the statement last week, that Sontay and Bac Ninh had been occupied by the French, was premature.

THE RECENT ELECTION in Virginia was marked by an atrocious massacre of Negroes shortly before election day, at Danville. Colored people were in numerous attendance at market, buying supplies for Sunday. A personal quarrel arose between white and colored men, and the former began firing volleys indiscriminately at the latter, who were mostly unarmed and helpless. The slaying of seven and the wounding of twenty are admitted by the assailants, but these numbers are said on the other side to be not more than half the truth. Taking alarm at this massacre, the Negroes all over the State began arming themselves, and terrible times were feared but were happily averted by due precautions and doubtless in some cases by Negroes not attempting to assert their rights at the polls. The upholders of equal rights to all races were defeated in the election, so that colored people are not in a pleasant position in Virginia.

THE PEOPLE OF JAMAICA are carrying on a strong agitation against their present government from London as a Crown Colony. At the largest public meeting ever held in the country, convened in Kingston City Hall, resolutions were passed expressing a determination to pay no taxes while representative government is denied the people, but to offer passive resistance and compel the Government to collect taxes at the point of the bayonet. It will be rather stupid of the British Government if it throws away the voluntary allegiance of that colony by denying its reasonable petition for self-government.

GENERAL ALFRED AYLWARD, an American adventurer who figured largely as a Boer leader in the recent troubles in South Africa, is now in Chicago, a bankrupt drunkard. Four months ago he eloped with Miss Carrie Van Housen, a handsome young lady of Brooklyn, but drinking hard ever since went through not only his own means but also all he could raise in the pawn shop with his wife's valuables worth \$4,000, which was dissipated in a week. His wife has gone back broken-hearted to her mother, and the fallen hero is almost nightly picked up in the gutter.

TWO HUNDRED ITALIAN LABORERS in Wilkesbarre, Pennsylvania, are going back to Italy, having decided that America is not the country it was represented to them to be.

THE WOMAN'S FOREIGN MISSION SOCIETY of the Methodist Church in the United States is going to raise \$125,000 for the establishment of the first woman's periodical in India.

A TERRIBLE EXPLOSION of fire damp occurred in a colliery at Accrington, near Manchester, last week, which caused the loss of about a hundred lives.

IT IS SAID that if Great Britain abandons Egypt, France and Italy will take steps to secure protection to their respective subjects in that country. A change is said, however, to have come over the policy of the British Government in this matter, it being now proposed to keep four or five thousand troops in Egypt for an indefinite period. Among the causes assigned for this change of policy is that the most eminent financiers warned the Government that the Egyptian loan could not easily be effected if the British troops were entirely withdrawn, added to which General Wood, commander of the Egyptian contingent, has advised against complete evacuation as originally proposed.

IT IS EXPECTED the British Government will at the ensuing session of Parliament introduce a household suffrage bill to apply to both town and country in all parts of Great Britain and Ireland alike, also a bill for the redistribution of seats in the House of Commons.

GEORGE AND NATHANIEL HEMPSTED, engineers and proprietors of the Phoenix Iron Works, England, have failed with liabilities of a million dollars, against which they have large assets.

SEVENTY-FIVE CASES of typhoid fever were reported in Port Jervis, New York, the other day, and physicians attribute the spread of the disease to the use of milk from a certain farm. Milk is one of the most sensitive liquids to surrounding conditions and readily conveys from diseased cows or impure air in which it may be kept the seeds of fatal sickness.

CAPTAIN DELAMERE was seriously injured during a militia review in Toronto a few days ago, by a brutal car-driver wilfully running his horse against him and knocking him and his horse down. His nose was broken so badly as to necessitate the bone being taken out, and he was seriously injured in the legs and arms. Q. M. Sergeant Lettice was also seriously injured, internally, by Captain Delamere's horse rolling over on him.

A GOVERNMENT COMMISSION will enquire into the causes of the Derry, Ireland, riots. The National League at its late session in Dublin passed a resolution declaring that no confidence should be placed in this investigation. Mr. Healy declared that Dublin Castle—the viceregal residence of Ireland—glorified the Orange Association. Against these declarations as to the partiality of the authorities we have the statement that they have discovered a plot to tar and feather the Lord Mayor of Dublin. It is said to be in contemplation to form a new constitutional organization in Ulster to conciliate Catholics and Protestants. Lord Rossmore is said to have been formally charged before the Lords Commissioners of the Great Seal with having, as Grand Master of the Orangemen, summoned the Fermanagh brethren to resist the encroachments of the Parnellite agitators in Roslea. Orange and Nationalist meetings announced to be held at Garristown on Thursday were proclaimed. The County Fermanagh has been proclaimed under the Crimes Act.