

Weekly Messenger

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THE WEEKLY MESSENGER.

It is with regret that we have to announce the cutting off of two thousand subscribers this week who have neglected to pay in advance. Yet we regard the five thousand remaining as a good beginning of the second year of this paper's existence, and hope many if not most of our first-year friends may return to the list. The prospects of the paper are largely dependent upon the good offices of its readers in making known its merits and its cheapness to others, and we respectfully solicit such aid as our present friends can give in that respect. We know of no paper receiving so much attention or containing so much matter issued at less than double its price. Price, fifty cents for one copy, and forty cents each for five ordered at once. Address JOHN DOUGALL & SON, Montreal, Q.

FRANCE.

[A mistake of the printer in making up a page last week mixed up the article under the above head so as to make it unintelligible. All the matter between the twenty-fourth and the thirty-seventh lines should be read between the forty-ninth and fiftieth lines. A pencil mark drawn after the twenty-fourth, the thirty-sixth and the forty-ninth lines will show two blocks of print that are in each other's places, and the first must be read after the second.]

The manifesto of Prince Jerome Bonaparte, following the death of Gambetta, the ablest statesman of the Republic, has led to a very grave state of affairs in France. The motion made in the Chamber of Deputies by M. Floquet, mentioned last week, which was for the expulsion from the country of all members of former French dynasties, proves to be favored by a majority of the members of that house and has therefore seriously embarrassed the Government, that was in favor of more lenient measures. The Government introduced a bill dealing with pretenders to the throne, into the Chamber of Deputies. It authorizes the President of the Republic, by decree, to expel all members of former reigning families whose presence in France threatens the safety of the state, and to have those returning imprisoned for five years, and it allows princes now in the army to be placed on the retired list. The latter provision caused an uproar in the Chamber, a majority of which evidently were in favor of having the princes summarily turned adrift without any provision for their future. The Cabinet itself, however, was divided upon the proper course to pursue in the crisis, some being for the extreme measures to quench monarchical usurpation, but the greater number looking upon such a policy as characterized by cowardice and tyranny. The difficulty of the Government was increased by an unmistakable preference shown for Mr. Floquet's proposal over its bill in the striking of committees in the Chamber. The result was that the Minister of War and the Minister of Marine resigned, after the resignations of the whole Cabinet had been withdrawn by urgent request of the President, M. Grevy. It is said to be certain that M. Floquet's motion will be carried, that is, of course, if the Government meets the legislature at all. The whole country is disturbed, and public

securities are being thrown upon the market through fears of revolution. It is said that the aristocracy of the country, called the *bourgeois* class, are tired of "the reign of doctors and journalists" and would welcome a war that might restore what they would regard as the "good old times" of the monarchy under which they were nurtured. An organization is alleged to exist in the west and centre of France, which is aided by Catholic workmen's clubs and has for its object civil war to restore the Empire and its protectorate of the Roman Church. The conspiracy is called "The Catholic Alliance" and is said to have at command thirty-three legions of a thousand each, and several officers in the army are alleged to be implicated. The Bonapartist family is holding numerous councils, and in the midst of the crisis the Empress Eugenie returns to Paris, and defiantly affects to treat the Government of the Republic with contempt. She says her visit is not a political but a family one, that she comes to sympathize with Napoleon in prison and comfort the Princess Mathilde, and would make no political manifestation in the presence of a Government of which she knows nothing. The situation is very grave, and truly, as often it could be said before, no one knows what a day may bring forth in France.

BUSINESS NEWS.

The striking workmen of the Caledonia Railway in Scotland have been assured that the company would receive no aid from English workmen. The strike has extended in different directions, but it is reported that the strikers are becoming disunited. The latest news is that two thousand men have gone back to work. The men employed at the Hope iron works, Somerset, Massachusetts, did not go to work on the day a reduction of fifteen percent went into effect. The workmen at the iron works in Fall River, same State, accepted a similar reduction. A strike of shoemakers is feared at Burlington, New Jersey, where three thousand men, women and children are employed in the trade, because the employers have ordered out the members of a union lately formed. James Smyth & Co., makers of cottons and gingham in Philadelphia, who lately failed, have liabilities of over half a million dollars, more than covered by assets, and a settlement for full payment in five years will likely be made. The Jersey City Bank, New Jersey, that has been ruined by the dishonesty of its officers, owes its depositors a hundred and sixty-eight thousand dollars instead of sixty thousand as at first stated. The officers are known to have taken ninety thousand dollars, the bank's assets are about sixty thousand and it is believed the stockholders can be made to pay twenty thousand. E. T. Smith, tanner, East Randolph, New York, has assigned with liabilities of a hundred thousand dollars. Messrs. Cooper, Hall & Co., merchants and bankers, of London, England, have failed with liabilities of two millions, the cause given being capital locked up and heavy railway obligations in Brazil and Canada. Potter & Co., stove manufacturers, Troy, New York, who failed recently for over six hundred thousand dollars, have been granted an extension by their credi-

tors. Alfred Kino, a tailor of London, England, has failed for three hundred and twenty thousand dollars. All the collieries in the Wilkesbarre, Pennsylvania, district will suspend work three days in the week until March. The towns of Emerson and West Lynne, Manitoba, will build the railway bridge, subsidized fifty thousand dollars by the Dominion, over the Red River separating the two, and then present the Canadian Pacific Railway Company with the structure and right of way through the towns. The first railway enterprise ever started by colored men alone is one to run a line from Wilmington, North Carolina, into the eastern counties of that State. A large number of colored gentlemen attended the preliminary meeting and subscribed several thousand dollars, and the road is like to be built. The National Board of Trade of the United States has voted in favor of terminating the commercial treaty with the Hawaiian Kingdom, which has been found to open the door to too much competition for the sugar refiners and growers of the Eastern States. The People's Twenty-Five Cent Savings Bank at Bath, Maine, had forty-two thousand dollars in the broken Pacific National Bank, of Boston, which gave rise to so much apprehension on the part of its own depositors as to cause a run upon it. The managers of the savings bank had to suspend payment until the excitement abated, but it is officially stated the bank is sound with a surplus of fifteen thousand dollars. General trade is reported fairly active for the week in the West but dull in the South and the East of the United States. Coal has fallen in price and the production has therefore been lessened. Three hundred and seventeen failures in the United States during the week are twenty-five less than the previous week and one hundred and seven more than in corresponding week of last year, and one hundred and forty-seven more than in the like week of 1881.

IRISH AFFAIRS.

The authorities seem to be rapidly getting at the fountain head of most of the outrage and murder that have disgraced the "Emerald Isle" for years. It is known to a certainty that two secret societies exist in Dublin, one having for its object open war with the Government, and the other treacherous murder. An investigation, that is likely to take weeks, is going on in that city, the Government having a large number of informers to examine, and it is believed that within a few weeks every man implicated in recent murders of jurymen and policemen, and plots against high officials, will be in custody. Evidence is also positively stated to be in the Government's possession which will secure the conviction of all those who had any part in the murder of Lord Cavendish and Mr. Burke in Phoenix Park last spring who are yet alive and in the country. A man who lately died in a lunatic asylum while in delirium tremens was heard to rave about that crime and is believed to have been one of the murderers. Earl Spencer, Lord Lieutenant, received an address from the people of Port Arlington, in which they praised his wise and meritorious administration of the law, and in his

reply he said that after the events of recent years crime could not be put down at once but would require constant, anxious watching for some time to come, and the Government relied greatly upon the support of such loyal inhabitants as themselves to maintain order. The Marquis of Hartington, brother of the murdered Lord Cavendish, in a recent speech, spoke of the grave position of affairs in Ireland from the operations of secret societies, and said the evil must be grappled with, and the law strengthened, and everybody shown that murder would meet its just reward. The Marquis said home rule would never be permitted in Ireland, and he expressed himself as opposed to paying out the hard-earned funds in the English Treasury to purchase the land for the Irish people, unless they could be shown to be capable and willing to work. The Board of Guardians in Galway have received five hundred applications for assisted emigration. Lady Florence Dixie, who raised a quarter of a million dollars for the famine-stricken people in the West, has refused to accept a testimonial for her services. She has thus given a needed rebuke to the disposition of the Irish people to be carried away by hero-worship.

ARTHUR PAYNE and Thomas Foster, colored men, have been indicted in Washington for corruptly endeavoring to influence a juror in one of the Star Route trials. A fair idea of the magnitude of the Star Route frauds may be obtained from a comparison between the cost of carrying the mails on some of the so-called Star Routes before the game was exposed and since. Thirty-one routes that cost over seven hundred thousand dollars then, now cost a good deal less than three hundred thousand. With one or two exceptions the trips are the same, and the distance has not been reduced a hundred miles. The name given these routes is due to the offices on them being marked in postal reports with a star (*) signifying that they were not within reach of railways.

COFFEE HOUSES, where victuals are served at all hours but no intoxicating drink can be had, and where young men are free to assemble for rest and social intercourse, are becoming an established institution in Canada. Montreal, Toronto and St. John each have one in successful operation, and they are being much appreciated by those who have to take their midday meal from home as well as by young men in the evenings. A public meeting has been held in Ottawa, the capital, to promote the establishment of a coffee house there. It is to be hoped it will be near enough to the Parliament houses to have a good effect upon the law-makers of the country.

THE LEGISLATURE OF QUEBEC is in session. Some change in the liquor law of the Province is foreshadowed in the Governor's speech. Mr. Joly, for many years leader of the Liberals, has resigned that position and Mr. Mercier has been appointed by the party to take his place. The retirement of Mr. Joly is generally regretted by good citizens, as he was one of the most upright statesmen ever known.