

General News.

CANADIAN.

Sir John Macdonald left Ottawa on Monday morning en route for England. The cause of his abrupt departure is unknown.

Mr. J. T. Lambert, of Ottawa, has received a cablegram asking that eight river-boat captains be sent to Liverpool at once for service in connection with the Gordon relief expedition. Competent men have been engaged, four from Ottawa and four from Winnipeg. They will act as captains and engineers of the stern-wheel boats used on the Nile, and are to receive \$150 per month.

About a mile west of the Hamilton station, at the junction of the Toronto branch, a child about two and a half years old, son of night watchman Ross, of the Grand Trunk yards, was accidentally run over last week by the Atlantic fast express going east, completely severing the body of the child in twain.

His Lordship Mgr. Bosse, Apostolic Prefect of Labrador, has arrived in Ottawa for the purpose of interviewing the Dominion Government to solicit food and pecuniary assistance for the starving fishermen of his mission. The catch of fish this season has proved a failure, and much misery and destitution prevails.

The balcony on the eastern side of the main building, on the North Lanark Agricultural Society's grounds at Almonte, fell with a dreadful crash shortly before 3 o'clock on the 3rd inst., and great consternation was caused. A great many people were severely injured.

On the 6th inst., Sergeant Condreau, of Windsor police, arrested Benjamin Garrison, of Sandwich, master of the scow Bedford, for the alleged murder of Joseph Flynn, 19 years old, son of Dennis Flynn, foreman of Grand Trunk workshops at Windsor. Joseph engaged on board the Bedford, and his body was found floating in the river on Wednesday, bearing several marks of violence. In the Bedford's cabin were found two coats belonging to Flynn, and a monkey wrench on which are stains supposed to be blood. Garrison is greatly depressed.

Wm. Foster, formerly a barber in N.W.T., was murdered at End of Track on the 21st ult. It appears that Foster was in the habit of moving forward with the C.P.R. men. On Friday last his outfit was being carried to the front on a train which was in charge of Finn. In unloading the effects a barber's chair was broken, which aroused Foster to almost an uncontrollable degree of excitement. After the matter had subsided Foster called Finn into his tent and commenced to abuse him shamefully. Finn retaliated, and Foster then rushed at the former with a razor. Finn receded until cornered, when he drew his revolver and fired four shots, three of which took effect. Foster died the next day. Finn has been arrested.

FIRE.—About half past one this morning fire broke out in Hockins' cooper shop, near the corner of William and Bathurst streets. The shop was almost entirely destroyed, together with contents—barrels, staves, tools, etc. The origin of the fire and the extent of the loss could not be ascertained. A fire broke out on the morning of the 2nd inst. in a handsome frame residence belonging to Mr. Wallace Halle, near the corner of Henry and Bruce streets, London, Ont. It was unoccupied at the time. The house was thoroughly improved a short time since, and its value was estimated at from \$4,000 to \$4,500. It was insured in the Guardian Insurance Company for \$2,000 and in the Aetna for \$1,000.

UNITED STATES.

The Mackay-Bennett cable has been broken, it is supposed by icebergs.

The lockout of Oliver Bros.' rolling mills, at Pittsburg, Pa., began on Oct. 2nd, 3,000 men going out.

At Minneville, Ohio, early Tuesday morning, Kate Richards, daughter of the postmaster, heard burglars in the postoffice. She attempted to frighten them off, but was stabbed and killed. The burglars escaped with \$800.

Gen. Wm. A. Throop, one of the best known citizens of Detroit, attempted to end his life about two o'clock Wednesday morning, Oct. 1st, by shooting himself in the head. His wound is not necessarily fatal, although it is pronounced by the attending physicians as a very dangerous one.

At New York, Daniel Ort, a Hollander, who has been living with Emma Storch, a concert saloon girl, as her husband for two years, shot at the girl in a concert garden on the evening of the 4th instant. The girl fell in a faint, when Ort, thinking he had killed her, shot and killed himself.

At Chicago, on the 1st instant, Michael Shay, living in a hovel on Clark street, went home drunk, and with the body of a dead infant, to which Mrs. Shay had given birth during the night, beat her to death. He was arrested.

Wm. Harrison was blown into pieces and ten other miners injured, some fatally, by the explosion of a keg of powder in a saloon at Excelsior mine, Des Moines, Iowa, on the 3rd instant. Harrison supposed the keg contained fruit or jelly, and while examining it dropped a spark from his pipe.

A man named Wilbur fell on a buzz saw at Watkin's mill, near Alma Centre, Mich., on the afternoon of the 3rd instant, and had his left arm severed below the elbow. He bled to death before medical assistance could arrive. He leaves a widow and five children in poor circumstances.

A construction train, with 22 men aboard, ran into a washout near Bayfield, Wis., on the 3rd inst. Two men were killed and 14 injured. Several were horribly scalded by the escaping steam, and will die.

A despatch from New Bedford, Mass., states that the whaling schooner Roswell King, of New London, has been crushed in the ice at Hudson's Bay. Some of her crew started down the coast with boats to cross Hudson's strait, and come down to the coast of Labrador. The captain and part of the crew, at last accounts, were at North Bluff. The schooner Era is endeavoring to rescue them.

FIRE.—The loss by the burning of the Glen House, at Mt. Washington, N. H., is over \$225,000. The hotel will be rebuilt. The shops of the Albany & Great Southern Railway, at Meriden, Miss., were burned on the 2nd inst. Loss \$250,000. The stock, machinery, etc., of the flouring mill of Welsh, De Roo & Co., of Holland, Mich., was damaged by fire on the 2nd inst., to the amount of \$20,000. The building was saved. The loss is fully covered by insurance. At Philadelphia, Heacock's storage warehouse was burned on the 5th, and nine adjacent dwelling houses were destroyed by the falling walls. The total loss will reach \$500,000, on which there is insurance of \$150,000.

BRITISH AND FOREIGN.

The authorities at Woolwich are displaying much activity in forwarding war materials to Hong Kong.

In addition to a poll tax of one shilling imposed on all passengers landing at Calais and Boulogne, a like tax will be imposed on all persons embarking.

Experiments in the hospitals at Paris show that sulphide of carbon is the best agent to restore the normal action of the bowels in cases of cholera.

There were 234 fresh cases of cholera and 174 deaths in Italy during the 24 hours of Oct. 3rd. There were 80 cases and 50 deaths in Naples, 24 cases and 25 deaths in Genoa.

Forty men have been sentenced to imprisonment at Pressburg for committing outrages on the Jews.

A steamer took fire and broke loose from the dock at Kostroma, near St. Petersburg on the 1st inst. She floated down the stream and fired several oil vessels. The river became a mass of flames. A dozen persons are said to have perished. The damage will amount to several millions.

Lord Derby has ordered the Governor of the Cape of Good Hope to report immediately what resources are necessary to suppress the inroads of the Boers. It is reported that the Cabinet has reversed the policy heretofore pursued in South Africa, and will send Lord Wolseley to crush the Boers after he has settled affairs at Khartoum.

Sir Evelyn Baring telegraphs that Gordon, after bombarding Berber for some time, effected an entry and captured the place. The rebels and hostile inhabitants fled.

The fall of Berber will enable Col. Kitchener to reach Gen. Gordon from Dongola, and ascertain his wishes regarding the Nile expedition. The conference may result in the abandonment of the expedition.

The War Office is uncertain as to the fate of Col. Stewart, who with a party of men, was en route to Dongola. It is supposed that they were all massacred by treacherous Arabs.

Earl Northbrook proposes the abolition of the Egyptian army and the substitution of 9,000 police. The Egyptian Ministry oppose the plan. The camel corps arrived at Alexandria to-day.

General DeLisle, hearing that the Chinese troops between Bacle and Langson were advancing, took measures to drive them back into their gunboats, and a brilliant engagement ensued, 4,000 Chinese troops being pitted against him. Commander Chalie, of the Massue, was killed. The Chinese were being steadily driven back and had lost heavily.

There was a terrible and disastrous hurricane in Iceland on the 11th of September. Nineteen trading vessels and sixty fishing boats were lost and thirty-two vessels disabled. The exact number of those who perished is not ascertained, but it is known to be very great.

The Marquis De Senpera and Admiral Pinto are about to start at the head of a Portuguese expedition to explore the country between Mozambique and Lake Nyassa in South-East Africa.

A most disastrous collision is reported to have occurred on the Eastern Bengal Railway, by which sixty persons were killed or injured.