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MONTREAL, WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 31, 1879.

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Legislative Assembly 2664880

AFGHANISTAN.

GEN. ROBERTS ATTACKED.

THE ENEMY DEFEATED.

GENERAL BAKER'S BARBARITY.

LONDON, December 27.—A despatch from Candahar says that during the Mohammedan festival in that city, a number of mounted Ghilzais ran amuck and attacked and wounded General Tyler and several other prominent British troops.

A despatch from Bombay says the Ghilzais still attack isolated posts; otherwise the tribes are quieting down.

LONDON, December 26.—A despatch from Bombay says telegraphic signaling with Cabul has been suspended, and the Jellalabad outposts have been attacked.

LONDON, December 28.—General Roberts telegraphs on the 23rd instant that desultory attacks were kept up all day yesterday. Information was received that a general attack will be made at daybreak to-day.

A large number of the enemy were seen occupying distant villages, approaching nearer at dark. This morning a fire was lighted on the Asmi Heights. We were apprised this would be the enemy's signal for attack.

Three of the five heroes who were decorated in the presence of the Court at Windsor on Tuesday, are Irishmen. Sergeant Alan is a Derry man; Private Power is from Waterford; Trooper Brown belongs to Dublin. The ceremony of decoration was impressive and interesting.

HOME RULE IN ENGLAND.—There is another way in which the enemies of the Empire hope to influence English politics. The Irish residents in all our large towns are instructed to vote only for members who promise to support an enquiry into Home Rule.

SCOTCH NEWS.

LONDON, December 28.—A portion of the bridge across the Frith of Forth was blown down while a train from Edinburgh to Dundee was crossing last night.

LONDON, December 27.—The Afghans who attacked General Roberts at Shirpur on the 23rd numbered 6,000. The ground around Shirpur is thick with the corpses of the slain.

IRISH NEWS.

The Cork Examiner gives the following account of the agrarian outrage in Kerry:—A shocking murder took place yesterday at Dereen Clairig, Kerry. Myles Brennan, a bailiff, while executing a decree on a farmer named Shea, was pursued and attacked by the latter's wife, who had an infant child in her arms.

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Several English journals are coming to the conviction, and openly express their opinion, that local self-government under the general supervision of the State has much to recommend it.

LONDON, December 28.—The Bishop of Achonry, Sligo and Mayo states that he fed three hundred starving people on Christmas Eve out of his own funds.

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picture of approaching misery, and censures the callous conduct of the Government, who, while they cannot spare money to avert the Irish famine, can waste millions in wars of equivocal morality.

Ireland comparatively quiet since Farnell's departure. It is understood the remaining leaders await the result of Parnell's action.

ST. PATRICK'S CHURCH.

On Sunday afternoon, the pupils of the Catechism classes of St. Patrick's Church availed themselves of the Christmas holidays, and the privileges they carry, of presenting addresses to their Rev. Director.

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A Parrot Scattering Railroad Passengers.

At the McHenry House, Mendville, there is a parrot which is a source of great annoyance to train men. When it sees a freight train coming it will yell at the top of its voice, "Switch off! Switch off!"

Responsibility for the Acts of a Dog.

From the Rocky Mountain Herald. A butcher enters the office of a lawyer. "Sir, I want your advice. Is the owner of a dog responsible for any damage that the animal may do?"

Lives Forty-seven Days, Without Food.

From the Baltimore American. A remarkable story is told by the Captain of the bark Kate Howe, which arrived yesterday morning from Liverpool.

A Train Ditched—Loss of Life.

St. Louis, December 26.—Reports have been received here that the passenger train on the Chicago and Alton Railroad which left here last night for Kansas City ran off the track some time last night.

How Trout Hear Notes in the Water.

Prof. E. D. Cope, a well known naturalist, controverts Seth Green's allegation that trout cannot hear. The Professor says that there is a nerve at the base of every scale on a trout, at the point where the scale is united with the skin.

Animal Instinct.

A first-rate cat story has come to our notice from an entirely authentic source. The scene is laid in the village of Yarmouth. An aged gentleman and his housekeeper constitute the family, and their good old cat finds the lines are fallen to her in pleasant places.

UNITED STATES.

O'ray and the Indian Commission.

Denver, December 27.—A Los Pinos special says O'ray came yesterday afternoon and the Commission went promptly into session. Upon the question being asked O'ray where the prisoners were, he affected great surprise and said he had not understood that the Commission wanted Indians as prisoners of war.

Wit and Humor.

A barber generally dyes by overwork. CLOAK CONFEST.—One woman trying to outdress another. How many passengers will a train of circumstances carry?

Wit and Humor.

A little girl described an elephant as "the thing that kicked up with its nose." It is a rule of the penitentiary to cut the locks off before turning the locks on a prisoner.

Wit and Humor.

A lame farmer was asked if he had a corn on his toe. "No," he said, "but I've got lots on the ear."

Wit and Humor.

Cervantes has said, "Every one is son of his own works." This makes the great Krupp a son of a gun.

Wit and Humor.

It is not only hard work to pop the question, but it is equally hard to question the pop about it afterwards.

Wit and Humor.

A ghost went to address you, in what tone of voice would it speak?—Way, in a "bawling" tone, of course.

Wit and Humor.

I am glad that painted belts are in style, said a trisky fellow, as he instinctively decorated the one he received over the eye the previous day.

Wit and Humor.

Job has been marked down in history as the patient man. The fact is that at one time he was just boiling over with impatience to die.

Wit and Humor.

If the surrounding circumstances are congenial, it is fair to conclude that the position preferred by lovers is juxtaposition which admits them.

Wit and Humor.

An Irishman should patronize the concrete pavement, because every time they look upon it they will see their country's emblem—slam-rack.

Wit and Humor.

Don't judge a man by his clothes. Can you tell what the circus is going to be like by looking at the Italian sunset pictures on the fences?

Wit and Humor.

REPUBLICS.—A Cork almanack maker once informed the public that the principal republics in Europe were Venice, Holland, and America.

Wit and Humor.

A defective weighing 1,700 pounds, shot from a cannon charged with 425 pounds of powder, is the latest. Why not use the earth for a cannon ball?

Wit and Humor.

A correspondent wants to know what is an ability. An ability, my dear sir, is something that exists between a small boy and his neighbor's grape vine.

Wit and Humor.

Kansas school-teacher: "Where does our grape grow?" "Into the hopper." "What hopper?" "Grasshopper," triumphantly shouted a scholar.

Wit and Humor.

A man's clothes are not always indicative of his character; for a fellow may wear the loudest kind of garments and yet be as mild and quiet as an autumn sunset.