

## The Weekly Messenger.

SATURDAY, AUGUST 25.

## THE WEEK.

DR. MOSHER, a former Surgeon-General of New York State, was lately found dead in his bed in Albany.

PROFESSORS DYER AND MARTIN, of Cincinnati, are believed to have been lost in the Ischia earthquake.

CIVIL WAR is threatened in the United States of Colombia, Central America, some army officers having become disobedient to the authorities of the republic.

CALIFORNIA has been presented by Mr D. O. Mills, of Sacramento, with a grand piece of statutory representing Columbus at the court of Queen Isabella, which cost thirty-five thousand dollars.

STEAM PUMPING MACHINERY is to be used for the reclamation of sixty thousand acres of marsh west of Chatham, Ontario. From sixty to seventy million gallons of water will, it is calculated, be discharged every twenty-four hours.

THE BRIDGE OVER BOW RIVER on the Canadian Pacific Railway has been completed and the track has been laid to Calgary, eight hundred and forty miles west of Winnipeg. Freight is now being shipped through, and passenger trains will soon be running.

A MONUMENTAL BUILDING, twenty feet square and thirty feet high, is to be erected to the memory of George Washington, at the site of his birth-place, Wakefield, Virginia, by the United States Government, Congress having appropriated thirty-three thousand dollars for this memorial of the "Father of his Country."

CAPTAIN RHODES, of Buffalo, New York, having visited Niagara Falls to take observations with a view to swimming the rapids, the police magistrate at the Falls wrote to him that he would not be permitted to take the water on the Canadian side, saying that the result of Captain Webb's fatal swim having "proved the existence of this new kind of insanity, the Ontario police at this point will see to it that fresh victims of the malady are cared for."

POOR STUDENTS sometimes live out as waiters at summer resorts, thereby securing at once money to help them through college and the benefits of a change of air. Upon leaving the Glen House, in the mountains of New Hampshire, a few days ago, Mr. W. H. Vanderbilt gave three thousand dollars to be divided among this class of summer residents there. This was a handsome token of appreciation of the noble spirit of the young men who have not shrunk from even manual labor in order to obtain the means of an education.

ABOUT TWENTY-FIVE DROWNING ACCIDENTS have occurred in the neighborhood of Toronto since the first of April. This class of casualty seems to have been unusually rife everywhere this season, but whether from increasing venturesomeness and carelessness or the lack of ability to swim among people who go on or in the water, it is hard to say. Some people who swim venture too far from shore, as to get beyond one's strength is as dangerous to a swimmer as to get beyond one's depth is to a non-swimmer, and besides over-exertion is a cause of cramps in the water.

THE HON. JUDGE ALLEYN, of Rimouski, Quebec, died very suddenly a few days ago.

A ROPE GIVING WAY in a Cornwall mine caused the death of twelve men and serious injury to others.

FRANCES HOLDROM died a hundred years old at the Methodist Church Home, New York. She was a native of St. John, New Brunswick.

A BOY OF FOURTEEN at Sing Sing, New York, died from the effects of swimming too often in the heat of the day, against his father's warning.

MRS. ASHRUS BOWLE who was a Philadelphia belle, while summering at Narragansett Pier, Rhode Island, ran a splinter in her foot during a game of nine pins and died of lockjaw.

GOVERNOR HAMILTON, of Maryland, charges the Legislature of that State with improper expenditure of the State funds to the amount of half a million dollars.

THROUGH THE VIGILANCE of revenue officers in San Francisco the duties collected on opium the last fiscal year amounted to more than a million in excess of the previous year's collections.

JOHN REYNOLDS, a brakeman on the Grand Trunk Railway, was killed by falling off his train, in Ontario. His mother is a widow who lost two husbands by accident, one of them on the railway.

LORD CHIEF JUSTICE COLERIDGE, of England, has been accorded the rare privilege of having his baggage and that of his friends passed through the Customs in New York without inspection.

A DISGRACEFUL FIGHT occurred in Washington, recently, between General H. V. Boynton, correspondent of the Cincinnati *Commercial Gazette*, and N. W. Fitzgerald, a pension agent, beginning with an assault by the latter upon the former.

A CIRCUS TRAIN was partially wrecked at Chenango Forks, New York, recently, when the large elephant, "Bolivar," broke out of his car and carried in his trunk to a place of safety his inseparable companion, a small English coach dog.

AN OXFORD GRADUATE, while delirious in the poor house at Newburyport, Massachusetts, gave what is called "a very eloquent and critical lecture on English poetry, making very judicious selections and showing a wonderful knowledge."

DR. FRANK RAE, a Chicago medical professor, lately died from malignant carbuncle, of which he had warning from a pimple appearing on his upper lip about ten days in advance, every effort of friends to rally his hopes proving vain, as he shut up his office and went home to make preparation for his latter end.

A DESPATCH from Titusville, Pennsylvania, reports the striking of oil wells in the Ballston district—one yielding a thousand barrels a day and another seventy barrels an hour. Before speculating in oils upon such fine reports, however, people should visit the wells and judge of their productiveness for themselves. Perhaps the author of the despatch in this case wants to buy as much of the oil in store as he can lay his hands upon. A well yielding forty barrels a day is reported to have been discovered at Canon City, Colorado, and this comparatively moderate return seems to have been prospecting for three years in that district.

JUDGE JEREMIAH BLACK, of York, Pennsylvania, is dead.

JAMES ELLIOT, an aged cripple, lost his life in Philadelphia while saving two boys from being run over by a train.

LARGE IMPORTATIONS of valuable cattle for the American and Canadian grazing grounds are coming by way of the St. Lawrence this season.

OVER ONE HUNDRED AND TWENTY-ONE THOUSAND IMMIGRANTS arrived in Canada the first seven months of this year, of whom over seventy-two thousand remained in the country.

THE BOUNDARY DISPUTE between Ontario and Manitoba has apparently been reduced for the moment to a conflict between two constables, who are arresting each other by turns upon any convenient charge.

LETTER POSTAGE in the United States is to be two cents after October the first, and that sum will carry a letter to Canada, but letters from Canada to the United States must be stamped three cents.

JEAN BAPTISTE DUBOIS was lately given twenty lashes on the bare back with the cat-o'-nine tails, in Montreal gaol, this chastisement being added to a sentence of one year's imprisonment, for indecent assault upon a child.

DR. BOYD'S insane asylum, London, England, was burned lately, and six of the patients, besides the proprietor and his son, perished in the flames—the two latter losing their lives while attempting to save those of their charges.

MEDICAL OPINION has been given that cremation would stamp out yellow fever. Probably a liberal use of fire in other ways would save the necessity of burning human corpses. To burn the refuse material at the home of the disease would kill much of the poisons that feed it, and what could not be readily burned should be dumped into the deep sea. Yellow fever is reported to have reached the Navy Yard at Pensacola, Florida.

A MYSTERY is made of an occurrence on the New Jersey coast. An unknown schooner, so the story goes, sunk off Beach Haven while making for shore under all sail pursued by a steamer. The steamer remained on the spot where the schooner went down for half an hour and then steamed eastward. To give the strange story a more vivid touch it is added that the schooner flew a black flag, the symbol of piracy. Those who have some knowledge of the devices of summer hotel keepers to fill their rooms regard the improbable story as an advertisement of the attractions of Beach Haven for summer visitors, which is possibly the correct opinion of the case.

THE ONTARIO BOARD OF HEALTH has made strong representations to the Toronto Board respecting the unhealthful state of the latter city, through stagnant pools, impure water, dirty lanes, etc., to which is attributed much fatal disease prevalent during the past year. Public opinion in Toronto is in favor of a rigid inspection of the city by sanitary officers at any cost. It is one of the most deplorable reflections of the times, that health and life are being sacrificed in every city, town, and village, by the negligence that permits the sources of disease to remain under the eyes of the people and their rulers from day to day, and from month to month. Even country homes are in many cases as unwholesome, if not more so, than town ones, on account of inattention to the causes of disease which might be easily kept away if once a little trouble were taken to remove them.

THE GRAND TRUNK RAILWAY is to construct fifty miles of siding and necessary buildings for a new freight yard at York, a suburb of Toronto, which will relieve the great crowding and danger at the railway works within the city limits.

INSTEAD OF STRIKING AGAIN upon finding non-union men at work with their members, the Building Trades-Unions of New York sent a walking delegation round and secured the outsiders as members—a very prudent as well as clever course.

JOHN WADDELL, B.A. of Dalhousie College, Nova Scotia, has won the Hope chemistry prize, valued at five hundred dollars, at the examinations of the University of Edinburgh. This is the highest honor in chemistry conferred by that institution, and the competitors require to be men of high chemical training.

CHIEF PIE-A-POT AND BAND became stubborn when commanded to go on their reservation in the North-West, and began to commit depredations at the town of Qu'Appelle. The sight of a colonel and twenty-one mounted police approaching to arrest him, however, caused a sudden change in the chief's disposition, and he at once led his band off to the reservation under police escort.

MR. MACKEY, the Pacific coast millionaire, is reported as having a heavy interest in the Postal Telegraph Company, and efforts are being made to bring about a union between that concern and the Rapid Telegraph Company. If the combination be not swallowed up, as similar ones before it, by the all-capacious Western Union Telegraph Company, its entrance as a competitor for the telegraph business of this continent will or should be a boon to the public.

A MAN HAS BEEN FINED five hundred dollars in Toronto and further sentenced to the loss of his stock in the article in question, for counterfeiting Ayer's pills, with their labels and wrappers. The confiscated stock, representing a value of about twelve hundred dollars, was destroyed. It is had enough for people to dose themselves habitually with patent medicines, but it must be worse when they do not know whether they are getting the article they meant to buy or a base imitation.

A TERRIBLE CRUSH occurred in San Francisco on Sunday last at religious services held under the auspices of the Knights Templar. Twice two many tickets had been issued, and eight thousand people were wedged into the pavilion while four thousand pressed forward from the outside, trying to force their way in. Within the heat was so oppressive that before the exercises were half over the people began streaming out, thankful to escape from being crushed to death. It is doubtful whether humanity shows more anxiety to get into a crowd than it does to get out of one, though in either case it shows some of its worst qualities when in crowds.

SCHOONER "ERA," of New London, Connecticut, was lately at St. John's, Newfoundland on the return trip from the whale fishery, having on board three hundred barrels of oil and thirty-eight quintals of bone. She had been locked in pack ice for seventeen months and only escaped a few weeks ago from winter quarters. Her captain thinks the past winter the most severe within living memory and believes the Greeley relief expedition that lately sailed will have great difficulty in reaching a higher latitude than Cape York. In this opinion Captain Clisby agrees with Captain Jackman, of the "Eagle," recently returned from Iceland.