

Weekly Messenger

AND TEMPERANCE WORKER.

Vol. III.

MONTREAL AND NEW YORK, SATURDAY, MAY 17, 1884.

No. 20.

The Weekly Messenger.

THE WEEKLY MESSENGER

This paper is given for fifty cents a year, and five copies for two dollars. Its circulation, now in the third year, is about eight thousand. Address orders to JOHN DOUGALL & SON, Montreal, Canada.

THE SOUDAN.

On Monday last Sir Michael Hicks-Beach repeated his former motion in the House of Commons, that the House regrets that the course of the Government has not tended to promote the success of General Gordon's mission, and that steps to secure his personal safety have been delayed. Mr. Gladstone, replying to a strong speech by the mover, denied that the Government had deserted General Gordon, and quoted official despatches to prove that officer's security. He said the Government declined to be driven on without considering the blood, the honor and the treasure of England, and also declined to enter upon a vast scheme of conquest to please a captious Opposition. It was expected that the Parnellites would have supported the Government on the motion of censure, in order not to endanger the success of the franchise bill, the democratic favors of which extend to Ireland. This expectation was, however, disappointed, for the House divided on Tuesday and the Parnellite members voted against the Government. The Government was, notwithstanding, sustained by a vote of 303 to 275. There is manifestly a strong feeling against the Government throughout city and country, which finds emphatic expression in the press of different parties. Mr. Forster, Liberal and late Irish Secretary in the Cabinet, and Mr. Cowen, advanced Radical, made furious attacks upon the Government in the debate. Probably only the fact that there is no united party, still less a policy upon which the opponents of the Government could unite, forthcoming in the event of its defeat saves the Government from that fate. And all this formidable opposition the Government stands up against with extraordinary fortitude because it will not consent to pour out the blood and treasure of the Empire like water to gain for the Imperial crown the possession of Egypt and the Soudan. Mr. Gladstone promises that General Gordon will be rescued, but the enemies of the Government refuse to accept any such assurance uncoupled with a scheme of conquest. It is not so very strange that the Irish members voted against the Government. For some time past the fire-eating Irish have not concealed their pretence that they would be ready to strike for Ireland's freedom whenever England became involved in a great war abroad. Therefore it is not surprising if the revolutionary Irish members of Parliament have viewed the prospect of a Tory Government swept in on a foreign war cry as their opportunity. Not that there will be any formidable rising in Ireland in such an event, but it would be easy to produce a commotion that would

bring in lucrative contributions to the designing and rascally leaders. The base desertion by the Parnellites of a Government that was strenuously fighting for Ireland's rights at that very time shows them to be no better than a parcel of skulking rebels who misrepresent the honest population of Ireland.

COUNTER-ATTRACTIONS.

A want that cannot be ignored in the discussion of measures for the restriction of the drink evil is that of temperance places of resort for the classes in every town who have no homes there of their own. A writer advocating a coffee public-house in an Ontario town, refers to the re-arrangement of a temperance lecturer on the number of young men who stood on the street propping up the hotel walls in that town, and says, "Is it not far better for them to stand on the street than to sit inside, in the fumes of tobacco and liquor? Young men must have some place to warm on a cold day, and there are few so mean but they will leave something for the trouble they give. When they don't drink they will take a cigar. So, for the want of a temperance house, they must either smoke or drink alcohol." While it is a discredit to many towns that they do not have decent and comfortable places of resort for young men and boys, yet we do think that spirited young fellows could in most towns and villages do better either by day or night than loaf about taverns. In many places where the want indicated above is very striking the young people themselves are quite able, by organizing, to provide themselves with comfortable rooms for intercourse with each other, and with great minds through books and periodical literature. Indeed, there are cases in sight where pleasant quarters provided for young men and boys, either free or at nominal expense, were so neglected by most and abused by many of those for whose benefit they were designed as to make the experiment a failure. Young people will find out, if they give opportunity for the lesson, that the public will help those who help themselves.

THE AMERICAN CONGRESS.

Mr. Cox has introduced a bill into the House of Representatives to place General Grant on the retired list.

Mr. Hewitt has introduced a bill to modify the existing law relating to import duties and internal taxes. It makes coal free of duty, except Canadian coal until Canada shall admit coal from the United States on equal terms. Other bills affecting the tariff have been introduced.

AN AUSTRALIAN BARRISTER named Hugh Shortland some time ago eloped with the daughter of a wealthy Devonshire gentleman and soon afterward Mrs. Shortland's body was found in a pond. Consequently Shortland has just been arrested for wife murder.

SIXTEEN THOUSAND TONS of phosphates will be shipped from the Buckingham mines, Ottawa, this season.

TWO GREAT WORKERS.

RECEPTION IN MONTREAL TO MESSRS. HOYLE AND BARKER, OF ENGLAND.

On Thursday evening of last week a reception was given by the Quebec Branch of the Dominion Alliance to Mr. Hoyle, the famous temperance statistician, of Manchester, and Mr. Barker, Secretary of the United Kingdom Alliance. A large company of the temperance workers of Montreal, ladies and gentlemen, attended the reception, in the parlors of the Windsor Hotel, and had the pleasure of being presented to the worthies from over the sea. The guests were introduced to the party collectively by Mr. J. R. Dougall, of the *Daily Witness*, who said it was unfortunate that there had only been one day in which to arrange a reception to these gentlemen, whose names were household words. Mr. Hoyle's figures presented the loss of wealth by liquor to the world in startling and unanswerable form, and the accuracy of statistics "according to Hoyle" was proverbial. The speaker gave the figures of the consumption of strong drink, respectively, in the United States and Canada, remarking that the honorable showing made by Canada in the comparison was largely due to the prohibition throughout this country of the sale of liquor on Sunday. Mr. Barker he introduced as the Secretary of the United Kingdom Alliance for thirty-one years, who had kept that noble organization, one of the greatest political machines ever organized, in good working order for that period. In closing he called upon the audience to join with him in sending a cordial and earnest invitation by the visitors

to the English parliamentary champion of prohibition, Sir Wilfrid Lawson, to visit Canada. The Rev. Messrs. McCaul and Lindsay having added brief addresses of welcome, Mr. Barker responded, frankly admitting that Canada led the Mother Country in temperance progress. He spoke of the greatness of the United Kingdom Alliance, especially as manifested in what it had done and was doing in moulding public opinion. For his part he should do all he could to induce Sir Wilfrid Lawson to come over and help us, and he urged Canadians to persevere in the good work, remembering that they were laboring not only for themselves but for the entire Anglo-Saxon race. Referring to the Scottish element present, he said of the sixty Scotch members forty five were for and fifteen against Sir Wilfrid Lawson's resolution in favor of prohibition, and had they local opinion now it would go into force in Scotland, Wales and the North of England at once. Mr. Barker was warmly applauded as he sat down. Mr. Hoyle followed with a very interesting speech, in which he described the change that had occurred from the time when the liquor makers and sellers were courted and the temperance people slighted by members of Parliament until now, when the temperance people are courted and caressed, and the liquor people avoided as dangerous company for aspirants to popular favor. He and his companion had travelled over a large part of America to restore natural powers exhausted by overwork in the cause, and they

had been astonished at the advanced position of temperance in the places visited from the Atlantic to the Rocky Mountains. Speaking of the high estimation in which Canadian liquor legislation was held in England, he said he hoped they would soon be able to point to the prohibitory law of Canada as a model for one in the United Kingdom. Mr. Hoyle closed with an eloquent representation of the evil of open dram-shops to a nation, and of the universality of the claims of the cause upon humanity. The Rev. Mr. Norton, the newly arrived rector of the Anglican Cathedral, made the closing speech, his first public utterance in Montreal, in which he gave no uncertain sound as to his attitude with respect to intemperance and other great vices of the day. Afterward the company was treated to refreshments, and the happy occasion closed with pleasant and informal intercourse.

Dr. Lowry, of Acton, Halton county, has written to the *Witness* explaining that the principal part of his prescriptions of whiskey was for outward applications and that he and most of those patients are supporters of the Scott Act, and would not touch liquor except medicinally. This places the matter in a more favorable light, and shows the temperance sentiment in Halton to be even stronger than it appeared before. It will be remembered that Dr. Lowry and other physicians were severely criticised for the amount of liquor the official records showed they had prescribed, upon the presumption that they thus helped to thwart the Scott Act.

THE RUSSIAN GOVERNMENT wishes to build a railway from the Russian city of Baku on the Caspian Sea to Resht, in Persia, and has sent two representatives to Teheran to ask for a concession. The Persian Government has given no definite reply as yet.

A MORMON APOSTLE has been sentenced to a month's imprisonment for preaching the doctrines of his church in Vienna, Austria.

OUR ANTIPODES, the Australians, protest against a bill to be brought before the French Chambers providing that habitual criminals should be exported to New Caledonia. A society has been formed in Australia to send back to France all escaped French convicts found in the former country.

THE STOPPAGE of the Tankerville lead mines, the largest in Great Britain, has occasioned great distress in South Shropshire.

BY THE EXPLOSION of a cartridge in a dynamite factory in Ayrshire, Scotland ten women were blown into atoms and two seriously wounded.

ONE HUNDRED AND FIFTY out of one hundred and eighty Spanish Senators elected at the last elections supported the Government. This is not very encouraging to Zorilla, the rebel, and his crew.