

General News.

CANADIAN.

The Trades Congress recently held at Toronto was largely attended and interesting. One resolution, unanimously adopted, called on the Dominion Government to prohibit the importation of Chinese into Canada. All the speakers dwelt strongly upon the effect of Chinese labor, idolatry and immorality in this country.

The annual meeting of the Commercial Travellers' Association of Canada was held at Toronto last week. The Association is in a flourishing condition. Contrasted with the preceding year the books show an improvement of \$1,693.20 in the balance to capital account, that of 1882 being \$12,711.18, while the result of the business of 1883 enables the Association to carry forward \$14,503.78. The Permanent Reserve Fund now amounts to \$72,862.43, while the other assets of the Association bring up the surplus to \$75,976.38. The membership roll shows an increase over last year, the figures being 2,042 for 1882, against 2,114 for 1883, being increase of 72. Mr. W. F. McMaster was re-elected President.

A deputation of the Canada Land Law Amendment Association waited on the Hon. D. L. Macpherson to urge upon him the necessity of introducing the Owens land transfer system to the Northwest. Hon. Mr. Macpherson expressed pleasure that they had interested themselves in getting the Ontario Government to adopt the system in Ontario, which he thought would aid the movement considerably in the Northwest. He promised to lay the matter before his colleagues.

The failures of 1883 in the Dominion of Canada, as reported by Dun, Wiman & Co., are in number 1,384, amounting to nearly \$16,000,000. As compared with the United States, the showing for Canada is not very encouraging. While in the United States there has been one failure in every 94 traders, in Canada there has been one in every 48 traders. The average of liabilities in the United States has been \$18,000, while in Canada the average has been \$11,000.

The plasterers in Toronto went out on strike just eleven weeks ago, and the Committee think they are no nearer a settlement with the master plasterers than the day they struck. About two weeks ago they made an effort towards meeting their employers half-way, but one of the committee said the "bosses" would not accept the proposition. It is understood that the plasterers offered to allow any master plasterer who would take back any of the four boycotted men to employ union men, and go on with the work and waive the wages claim.

In Kingston, malicious persons entered Gordon street school and burned all the slates, books, &c., they could lay their hands on in the stove. The furniture was also burned and destroyed.

A woman named Mary Walsh was found dead on Christmas Day, near Kilroy, in Essex County, Ontario. It is thought she lost her way in the woods and died from exposure.

Fergus Jordan, of Battersea, was run over by a team of horses last week and fatally injured. He is a deaf mute.

A Munceytown Indian was found dead about three miles from Watford on the Sarnia branch on Saturday. He had been under the influence of liquor, and had been run over by a night train. One leg was entirely cut off between the knee and ankle.

The store of Messrs. J. J. Lugsdin, on Yonge Street, Toronto, was audaciously burglarized on Monday night, and two thousand dollars' worth of furs stolen from it.

At London, on Sunday, while Mr. Swayze, of York Street, was buying a ticket at the G. T. R. Station some one stole his valise which, with the contents, was valued at \$100.

Monday night a sad accident occurred at Kingston. An old carter named Robert Lee did not arrive at his home at a proper time, therefore his friends started out to look for him, but he could not be found. Next morning some men went on the ice in the harbour to get water, when they observed a dark object in the water about a hundred yards distant, which proved to be Lee's horse and sleigh. His body has not yet been found. It is thought that he was drunk and that the horse wandered on to the ice and walked into the open water.

Joseph Gosshide, second engineer of the Tecumseh House, London, while exploring the cellar on Saturday to find the cause of an unusual amount of smoke, fell into a vat or tub of boiling water and was badly scalded.

The two-year-old son of Mr. Bladon, of St. Thomas, obtained possession of a razor in the room of one of the borders and attempted to shave himself, cutting a gash through his cheek five inches long. He will probably die.

Mr. Ott's tannery at Brantford was burned on Tuesday night. Cause incendiarism. Loss very great but covered largely by insurance.

On Christmas night John Kennedy, a farmer living in Rawdon, took two teaspoonfuls of Paris green with the intention of committing suicide. He died last night.

On Sunday night a couple of men plundered the store of Grant Silcox, in the village of Middlemiss, about twenty miles from London. One of ruffians struck Silcox a violent blow on the head with a metal weight. The old man died next morning from the effects of the injury. His son, aged 12, who was with him when he was attacked, claims to know one of the robbers. Two men have been arrested for the crime.

A fire occurred on Monday, at Brussels, in the shoe shop owned and occupied by F. Pelton. The building, a one storey frame, together with the stock, tools, etc., is a total loss; insured.

On Monday night of last week three masked men armed with revolvers and bowie knives entered the house of Mr. Robert Stubbard, at Thistle-town, Ont. They expected to find a lot of money, but were disappointed, and decamped with what cash there was in the house—about eleven dollars.

The St. Lawrence Hall Hotel, in Belleville, was burned on Sunday. Several employees escaped very narrowly. Nearly all the guests and boarders lost some property. The building was owned by ex-Mayor Comstock, who estimates his loss as fully \$15,000, with an insurance on the whole of \$8,000. The lessee, Mr. Amos Robinson, will lose at least \$7,000, with an insurance of about \$2,500. The cause of the fire is as yet a mystery, though the general verdict of incendiarism has certainly some foundation.

A fire broke out at Seaforth last Friday, in the office of A. G. Van Edmonds, adjoining his woollen mills, and soon extended to the main building, completely destroying it and the contents. Loss will be about \$30,000, insurance, \$5,000.

A terrible tragedy occurred in the Beauport Asylum for the Insane, near Quebec, last week. A furious lunatic named Gouin, who was usually kept chained and in solitary confinement, managed to effect his escape into the wards occupied by the other male patients, where he assaulted and almost immediately killed one of the number named Martel. Great difficulty was experienced in preventing him from doing further fatal harm.

The writ for the election in York County, New Brunswick, has issued. Nomination day, January 22nd; election day, 20th.

The export of fish from Halifax, N. S., to West Indies, and Brazil during the past season amounted to 240,906 quintals and 51,653 barrels of pickled, a slight decrease from last year.

The riots between Catholics and Orangemen at Harbor Grace, Nfld., are not yet suppressed. Thousands of men are under arms. Troops are endeavoring to maintain order, and many arrests have been made.

An awful accident occurred on the Great Western division of the Grand Trunk Railway, near Toronto, on Wednesday morning. The suburban train consisting of a dummy engine and two cars, and carrying a number of employees of the Dominion Bolt Factory, was run into by a freight train, close to High Park station. Both trains were smashed, and nearly all on board either killed or injured. The sad event has thrown a gloom over the city that was so gay with holiday festivities. Many of the killed and wounded men were the mainstays of families, with whom actual want is likely to follow close upon their painful bereavement. At present the conductor of the freight train seems to be the person whose forgetfulness led to the disaster. Active measures are being taken for the care of the wounded survivors, and the relief of the families that have been robbed of their supporters. The following is the *Globe's* list of the killed and injured:

The following is a list of the dead up to the time of going to press:

THE KILLED.—David Cruthers, Joseph Keefer, John Donohue, Wm. Turiff, Richard Mulligan, Jas. White, Thomas Wells, John Rowlett, John Lynch, Charles Spohn, Joseph McDonald, Samuel Bayley, Geo. Prescott, John Kernoughan, Charles Stanley, John McKenzie, H. D. Kerman, Geo. A. J. Seal, John Aggett, Fred Bothroyd, James Kelly, Hugh Cunningham, Eddie Robinson.

The following is a list of the wounded in the wards at the General Hospital.

THE WOUNDED.—W. Fitzgerald, Richard Cruthers, John Corrigan, Matthew Walker, Michael Kelly, Alexander Banks, Michal Kelly, Charles McDonald, Patrick Kaveney, Patrick Norton.

Two brothers, Robert and John Montgomery, who lived on Front-street each had a broken leg from the accident. Neither of them is in the Hospital, however. Among the others who were injured but who were not taken to the Hospital are:—Victor Giroux; Thomas McDonald, J. J. McIntyre.

UNITED STATES.

Archbishop Napoleon Joseph Perche, of the Roman Catholic diocese of New Orleans, is dead.

For the first five months of the present fiscal year, the total internal revenue collections amounted to \$51,279,000, being \$11,343,000 less than the corresponding period last year.

About forty professors of modern languages from the principal colleges of the country have held a convention at Columbia College with a view