

# Weekly Messenger

AND TEMPERANCE WORKER.

VOL. III.

MONTREAL AND NEW YORK, SATURDAY, MAY 10, 1884.

No. 19.

## The Weekly Messenger.

### BUSINESS NOTE

This paper steadily makes its way in public favor, which is not surprising, seeing its many good qualities and its almost nominal price. It would, however, make manifold more rapid strides in strength, and consequently afford more opportunity for improving it, if its readers more numerously made it their own paper in a greater degree than being merely possessors each of a weekly copy. If all would take sufficient interest in it to resolve that it should have at least one new subscriber at each of their hands in the course of a year, the progress thus ensured to it would be more gratifying than any achieved since its remarkable growth of the first year. Price only fifty cents a year; five copies for two dollars. Address JOHN DOUGALL & SON, Montreal, Canada.

### THE AMERICAN CONGRESS.

Mr. Hiscock, discussing the tariff bill, upheld protection, attributing to it the greater prosperity of the country now than twenty years ago. Free trade might give the farmers a market abroad, but only by driving more people to farm and lowering prices. He thought the protective system incited the inventive genius of the people and provided safe investment for capital. It had not, in his opinion, the effect of building up monopolies. Mr. Hurd, of Ohio, spoke at length on the disastrous effect of the high tariff on the shipping, agricultural, manufacturing and laboring interests of the country, and prayed for "the day when the divine thought of man's brotherhood to man would succeed the degrading and humiliating one of national isolation and foreign exclusion."

### THE SOUDAN.

According to the *Pall Mall Gazette* the Ministers will not help General Gordon to resist the Mahdi and will do nothing unless he executes his pacific mission. The *London Times* says that the public opinion will find expression in Sir Michael Hicks-Beach's motion of censure with regard to the Government's course toward General Gordon. General Wolsley has submitted a plan for the relief of General Gordon and proposes that General Graham be placed in command. In a despatch to Sir Evelyn Baring dated April 16, General Gordon states his intention to retire to the equator if he fails to crush the rebellion, thus leaving England the disgrace of abandoning the garrisons of Senaar, Kassala, Berber and Dongala, and causing great difficulty in order to conquer the Mahdi.

BEFORE ISSUING HIS ENCYCLICAL against freemasonry, the Pope, after hearing reports from qualified sources, said he had reason to believe that the Freemasons, and various societies that are affiliated to them or result from them, are strong numerically among Catholics on both hemispheres.

### THE BRITISH PARLIAMENT.

A sensation has been caused by the report of the parliamentary commission to enquire into the condition of the crofters of Scotland. It regards the dependent position of the Scotch laboring classes and their not holding property as a very serious matter. The commissioners consider that the ownership of property by the people who till the soil is a large element of civilization, morality and public order. They say there is a larger, richer, more active and enthusiastic Celtic community outside than inside Scotland, and in this no one who knows what Scotchmen are and have done in the New World will disagree with them. Of course the report that so frankly acknowledges human rights is unpalatable to the aristocratic orders. A criticism by the *Pall Mall Gazette*, the aristocratic Liberal mouthpiece, characterizes the report as audacious, favoring agrarian revolution and striking at the chief features of the present social organization. The report of the commission advises emigration as a remedy against poverty, the emigrants to be aided by Government grants for their passage expenses and the acquirement of land in Canada.

Mr. Chaplin made a motion declaring that to increase the electoral privileges in Ireland at this time is dangerous to the welfare of the state. Mr. Gladstone said it was impossible to maintain union between England and Ireland except by giving equal rights to both countries. He said England was strong enough in wealth and population as compared with Ireland to let her be equally strong in right and justice, and she would have abundance of force to settle whatever matters might arise between the countries in future. Mr. Chaplin afterward abandoned his motion.

Mr. Samuelson, M. P., in a speech before the Iron and Steel Institute, said that the report of the parliamentary committee on technical education would show that England is not behind other nations in the facilities offered for acquiring technical knowledge and skill. He declared that Englishmen were more ready than any other people, except Americans, to adopt new ideas and new inventions.

An amendment to the cattle bill passed by the House of Commons limits the compulsory prohibition of diseased cattle to two years.

A bill licensing cremation was rejected by the House on the ground of public feeling against that method of disposing of the dead.

### PRESIDENTIAL NOTES.

General Butler is the unanimous choice of the Democratic Convention of Massachusetts for President.

Resolutions were adopted by the Vermont Republican Convention binding delegates to the national convention to vote for Mr. Edmunds for President as long as his name is up.

Delegates to the National Convention at Chicago from the Kansas Republican Convention are not instructed how to vote, but are expected to go for Mr. Blaine.

EDWARD CURRY WAS MURDERED at Eastman, Georgia, in February last, by George Fuller and Henry Roberts. They have confessed the crime, saying they committed it because they failed to win Curry's money at cards. The body was disposed of by putting it in a hollow stump and burning it.

CHIEF ENGINEER, Melville, of the Jeannette Relief Expedition, testified before the commission that Dr. Amber and himself had decided in case of an emergency arising to take cyanide of potassium and put themselves out of the way rather than be tempted to acts of cannibalism. They, however, when the emergency arose, left the ship in such a hurry that they forgot the poison. It seems Providence was kinder to them than they were prepared to be to themselves in their extremity. Had they not forgotten their own remedy they would possibly have abandoned the struggle for existence which resulted in their escape.

ABOUT SIXTEEN INMATES of the poorhouse in Van Buren county, Michigan, perished in the burning of that institution on the night of April 29th.

PRICES OF WINDOW GLASS have been advanced ten percent by the combination of makers.

THE REGISTRAR-GENERAL lately read a paper in Dublin, which argued that Ireland can be more benefited by improved cultivation than by reclamation of waste land. He declared that Irish farming had not ruined trade and that Ireland was not a ruined country.

ALL THE FEDERAL PRINCES OF GERMANY agreed that if the Reichstag rejected the bill prolonging the law against the Socialists, a dissolution of that body must ensue.

MUCH PROPERTY is being destroyed by forest fires in Northern Michigan.

A CONSTABLE NAMED WRIGHT tackled a burglar in Toronto a few days ago and a desperate struggle took place. Three times the constable was floored with a heavy chisel, but he stuck to his man and threw him twice. The burglar drew a revolver and was going to shoot the constable, when the latter knocked the weapon out of his hand. This action gave the villain a chance to tear himself away, and he got off with the loss of the revolver and chisel.

AMERICUS ROGERS, son of the postmaster at Hamilton, New Jersey, has been sentenced to three years imprisonment for robbing the mails.

A VICIOUS HORSE belonging to a cabman attacked a young lady who was passing a cab stand in Quebec, throwing her to the ground and then trampling on her.

WILLIAM POLT is under arrest for robbing the mails to the tune of \$10,000 while assistant postmaster at Union, South Carolina.

AMERICAN ARTISTS are highly praised for their works in the French Salon by the Paris correspondent of the *London Daily News*.

TWO GIRLS NAMED JAMES at Charleston, West Virginia, were fatally poisoned by eating sugar sent to them by some unknown scoundrel pretending to be their cousin.

SEVERAL ROBBERIES of the British Columbia mails have been discovered to have been committed recently on the Northern Pacific Railway. A mail for the East and Europe and two from Canada and England were taken at different times.

JOHN HOWDEN, of Turtle Mountain, Manitoba, is under arrest charged with manslaughter, for having caused the death of his half-witted son Alfred by allowing him to wander away from home last winter to perish in the wild.

A COMMITTEE of the New York Assembly has concluded, after investigation, that Evin D. Hughes received the injuries that caused his death in the Utica Insane Asylum at the hands of three attendants, one of whom is personally responsible for his death.

THE SLOOP "GRAPPLER," flying the British flag, while working on Cap Island, about eighty miles west of Port-au-Prince, Hayti, was captured and burned by natives. She was commanded by Samuel F. Furrington, a submarine diver, and had on board when attacked about \$10,000 worth of the wrecked cargo from the royal mail steamer "Nile." This property was plundered and destroyed, and the crew were either killed or driven to the mountains by the savages. A ship of war has been despatched by the Haytian Government to the place, in the hope that the crew may be found alive.

SCARLET FEVER is epidemic at Canandaigua, N.Y., carrying off as many a sixteen victims a week, and public funerals have been prohibited.

STOCKHOLDERS AND CREDITORS of the iron manufacturing firm of Brown, Bonnell & Co., of Youngstown, Ohio, are desirous of starting a new firm with a capital of \$1,200,000 to take the place of the above one, which failed.

RUSSIA HAS FULLY RECOVERED her credit, or else money is a drug in Europe, seeing that the Russian loan of fifteen millions of pounds to build railways attracted subscriptions of more than seventeen times the desired amount. An article in the *Fortnightly Review* by the Rev. Malcolm McColl discourses of Russia in an optimistic tone and ridicules nihilism, which the writer says has been greatly exaggerated by the press. It would, we imagine, be pretty hard to exaggerate an organization that treacherously mangled the head of that vast empire and that makes the ruling despots constant slaves of terror whether walking or riding, going abroad or staying at home. We can understand the press being charged with lying about the state of the country in such an item of news, for instance, as that just published, to the effect that owing to a plot to assassinate the Czar having been discovered at Moscow, contemplated festivities to celebrate the coming of age of the Czarevitch will be held at St. Petersburg. This may be a lie, but it is a statement so plain and direct that there is no possibility of it being a mere exaggeration.