

Weekly Messenger

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THE WEEKLY MESSENGER.

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BUSINESS NOTES.

Brown, Bonnell & Co.'s iron works, Youngstown, Ohio, have been attached by creditors but will be kept going. The Vulcan iron works, Carondelet, Missouri, after being closed six months by a strike of union men, have been started with a partial force of non-union men. Two million dollars is the estimate made of the aggregate loss to the cattle interests of the West from the recent severe storms. The Pittston, Pennsylvania, stove works, closed by a strike since the first of January, have been reopened with new men. Rice, the ex-President of various railways in New York State, held for embezzlement, was released on bail the other day but was immediately arrested in a civil suit for fifty-five thousand dollars and placed in gaol. A mineral oil, giving a brilliant light and comparatively little smoke, is reported to have been discovered in Flintshire, North Wales. Coal is said to have been discovered at Mansfield, Massachusetts. People in Galway, Saratoga county, New York, are excited over a discovery of petroleum, present so largely in water as to spoil it for the cattle. Increased activity is being shown in copper mining operations in Cape Breton Island, Nova Scotia, the deposits getting richer as they are developed. A new horse exchange, with every convenience for buying and selling horses, with low charges for feeding and stabling them, has been opened in Montreal. A recent steamer has brought out from the British and Channel Islands large herds of the very finest cattle there procurable, for the Cochrane Ranch Company, and they are to be forwarded to its grazing grounds at Bow River, North-West Territory. Among the prominent failures of the week are the following:—Lake & Co., contractors for Millford docks, England, liabilities over a million and a quarter dollars; John Kirkland & Son, timber merchants, Dundee, Scotland, liabilities three hundred thousand dollars; W. T. Allan & Co., wholesale grocers, Chicago, liabilities four hundred thousand, assets three hundred thousand dollars. Ballantine & Rovau, sugar refiners, Greenock, Scotland, liabilities heavy. B. A. Mitchell, wholesale druggist, London, Ontario, due to Mahon's Bank failure there; the Wampum Iron Company, Wampum, Pennsylvania, caused by the difficulties of Kloman Bros., Pittsburg; Hatch & Peters, brokers, New York, liabilities small and failure produced by the embezzlement a year ago of a clerk with fifty to seventy-five thousand dollars; Nightingale Bros., Paterson, New Jersey, liabilities a hundred and fifty thousand and assets two hundred thousand, ask an extension of time; Hamer & Thompson, wholesale druggists and grocers, Utica, New York, confessed judgment for ten thousand but total

has occurred in Lawrence, Massachusetts, liabilities unknown. An immense failure involving large numbers of the working classes. The Augustinian Society, a Roman Catholic organization, conducting a heavy real estate and savings bank business, has collapsed, owing about half a million dollars, the larger portion of which is due depositors in the savings bank. The priests on Sunday soothed the anxious and excited people with promises that every effort would be made to meet all the Society's obligations. Returns from the chief commercial centres of the continent indicate encouraging prospects generally for the spring trade. Iron is still in an uncertain state, owing to the delay of Congress in dealing with the tariff. Ocean freights are low, shipping being abundant and the demand slight. Two hundred and forty failures are reported in the United States last week, seventeen less than in the preceding week, sixty-nine more than in the corresponding week of 1882, and sixty-four more than in the same week of 1881. Canada had twenty-nine failures, a decrease of six.

CASUALTY.

Fearful storms have spread wreckage mingled with the remains of mariners along the English coasts, and it is said there is hardly a town in England untouched by the effects of either flood or wind. Mr. Charles E. Freeman, a young lawyer of Hamilton, Ontario, has been drowned by driving into a hole made by ice-harvesters in Burlington Bay. There was insurance of thirty-three thousand dollars on his life. A bill has, since this accident, been introduced in Parliament to compel ice-cutters to properly guard the places made dangerous by their work. A collision between express trains on the Grand Trunk, three miles west of Hamilton, on the fifteenth February, wrecked three engines and some cars, caused the death of an engine-driver, Edward Mason, and of a passenger, Thomas S. Douglas, and injuries to several others. A broken rail threw a Grand Trunk train off the track near Effort, Michigan, three coaches going into the ditch. Mrs. Huldah Seaman, aged seventy-four, of St. Vincent, Ontario, was killed, and her daughter, Mrs. Hill, was injured badly and became insane. Thomas Lindsay was fatally injured, and a large number were hurt more or less seriously. Louise Starnard, aged twelve, died lately in New York, from a toy pistol bullet that she carried in her brain for seven weeks, having been accidentally shot by a playmate. The Diamond coal mine at Braidwood, Illinois, became suddenly flooded with water that worked its way from the surface, and all the men in one shaft, about eighty in number, were drowned. Many of the victims leave families, and the greater portion had been but a short time in the country. The accident is attributed to the fact that a fresh hand was on watch at the foot of the shaft, where an experienced one should have been. Four small children were burned to death at Brackett, Texas, by the explosion of a lamp left near them by their mother, which was probably turned down—the cause of many accidents as well as a source of poison to the air. An awful accident happened on the Baltimore & Ohio Railway last week,

Two freight trains met in a tunnel, and the cars of both were piled on top of the engines, breaking in the tunnel roof and letting down the rock, which blocked the tunnel up. An engineer and a fireman were killed, and a brakeman scalded, perhaps fatally. The Allan steamship "Buenos Ayrean" sunk another steamer off the Scottish coast with eleven of the crew. Donald McLellan, of Little Harbor, Prince Edward Island, lately fell out of his sleigh and his body was found frozen stiff with the feet caught in the reins resting on the sleigh, and his faithful dog was keeping watch over the corpse of his master. A floor gave way at a political meeting in Belleville, Ontario, and many men were injured in various degrees. An alarm of fire in a German Catholic school building in New York caused a panic, and one of the stairways became packed with a mass of children from four to twelve years of age, causing the death of sixteen or eighteen of them. The building was five stories high and a regular fire trap, but fortunately the fire on this occasion was not allowed to get headway. A grease vat exploded in a packing house in Toronto, causing much damage to a building and injury to a workman. Two women, three men and three children were drowned in the Mississippi below Cairo by the upsetting of a skiff. May's chemical and oil works, Manchester, England, exploded, illuminating the whole city. A large number of buildings were destroyed, but only one man is reported killed. The steamer "Pywell Castle," which sunk the excursion steamer "Princess Alice" on the Thames several years ago with a loss of over five hundred lives, is reported to have foundered in the Black Sea with all hands, while bound for Boston with a cargo of cotton seed and beans. A girl of ten named Neily was shot in the face by a little boy in Annapolis county, Nova Scotia, the bullet entering at the nose and lodging in the back of the throat, but, strange to say, she is expected to recover. The boy found a revolver that was left in his way with one chamber loaded, and having snapped it at a dog without a discharge he thought it was not loaded. A boy aged twelve in Hants county, Nova Scotia, got entangled in a roller towel while playing and broke his neck. The "Ashuelot," an ancient paddle-wheel ironclad steamer belonging to the United States navy, sunk in Chinese waters, drowning eleven of the crew. The steamer "Glamorgan" was wrecked on passage from Liverpool for Boston, and Captain Court and six other persons were drowned.

FIRE RECORD.

A large frame building of small value used as an engine house at Guelph, Ontario, was burned, February twenty-first, and one locomotive engine was destroyed. The steamship "Morro Castle," of the Clyde Line between New York and Charleston, South Carolina, was burned at the latter city when half loaded for her trip to the former. The loss is two hundred and seventy thousand dollars, and the officers and crew, who were asleep at the outbreak of the fire, had a narrow escape. A boat house with several boats and a quantity of netting were burned at Toronto, February twenty-first, and the police were searching

for a man suspected of setting the fire. In the same city on the same day the storehouse of the Railway Supply Company, with about fifteen hundred dollars' worth of material, was burned, and this also is supposed to be the work of an incendiary. A fire supposed to be of malicious origin at Emerson, Manitoba, on Sunday week totally destroyed two or three blocks containing Noble & Follis furniture store, Reid's restaurant, Burnham's loan office, the Ontario Bank, several offices and private apartments. Dr. Sanderson had to save his life by jumping from a second story window and he was seriously injured. Somerville & Birdmyre's mill, Lanark, Scotland, has been burned; loss one hundred thousand dollars. The Roman Catholic church at River du Loup, Quebec, has been burned down. It was valued at a hundred thousand dollars, and insured for thirty-six thousand five hundred. The town has no appliances, it seems, for putting out fires and the people looked on calmly at the destruction of the edifice—one of the finest of its kind in the Province, having a spire a hundred feet in height and a splendid chime of bells. At Williamstown, Massachusetts, the old Walley Mill, owned by Danforth & Chadbourne, employing seventy persons, was burned on the twenty-fifth February, it is supposed by the hand of an incendiary, entailing a loss of seventy-five thousand dollars. Denis Hennessy's house at Quarantine, Staten Island, New York, was burned on the twenty-fifth, and himself, wife and two children perished. The village of Hillestad, near Lund, Sweden, has been burned.

THE GREAT STORM predicted for March ninth by Mr. Wiggins, a clerk in a Government office in Ottawa, is likely to do as much injury to property and people's feelings if it stays away as if it comes. Many fishermen of Gloucester, Massachusetts, refuse to go to the Grand Banks at present, as they are afraid to be there when the storm comes, and the vessels are therefore idle at a great loss. Commercial shipping is likely to be detained from the same cause, and it is impossible to estimate how much mental suffering will be endured by nervous people who will have friends on the sea on the date fixed for the storm. Weather signal service scientists of both the United States and Canada declare no storm can be foretold more than forty-eight hours in advance, and their opinions ought to have as much weight as those of a man who stands almost alone in professing ability to foresee the weather by the position of the sun, moon and stars. Even although the heavenly bodies may influence the weather on the earth as they are believed to govern the ocean tides, yet there are modifying conditions upon the earth—such as high mountains, great forests, vast accumulations of snow and ice, burning plains, etc.—which would have to be taken into account in estimating outside influences upon the winds and seas of this globe.

THERE IS INDIGNANT FEELING in Cuba over tax collectors, going round for the third quarter's taxes, trying to obtain far more than the lawful rates, and the rate-payers are resisting the imposition.