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The Toronto Weekly Mail.

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RELIGIOUS.

Rev. J. E. Barker, superintendent of Pickering College, has accepted a call from the Baptist church, Whitby, and will assume his new duties after the Easter vacation.

The long standing difficulties between the Ultramontane party of the Roman Catholic Church in Quebec, of which Archbishop Bourget, formerly head of this diocese, and Mgr. Lafleche, the eloquent Bishop of Three Rivers, have been the staunch supporters, and the modern school of Liberals so called, which has Laval University and Archbishop Taschereau behind it, are likely to be settled. A French organ at Three Rivers makes the following announcement:—"The Very Reverend Charles Olivier Caron, Vicar-General of the diocese of Three Rivers, went to Montreal lately to his Excellency the Apostolic Commissioner to place in his hands numerous petitions bearing the signatures of about 100 members of the clergy of this diocese, and of 500 laymen, professional and leading men of the district of Three Rivers, asking him to institute a canonical enquiry into the causes of the religious difficulties of Canada. His Excellency accepted these petitions and has taken them into consideration."

A Methodist Refused Church Membership for Attending a Theatre.

CAMDEN, N.J., March 15.—In the Methodist conference here to-day there was an application made for the membership on trial of John Dewit Miller, of Trenton. Bishop Harris objected, claiming that Miller was an advocate of unholy doctrines; that while he was pastor of a Trenton church he upheld the theatre as a means of diffusing moral and intellectual instruction. He had attended the "Passion Play" in New York, and subsequently wrote a favourable criticism of it. On the vote being taken but one delegate favoured his admission.

[illegible] had a right to elect representatives, the proposed [illegible] in the province were equally deserving of [illegible]

FOREIGN INTELLIGENCE

General Gleanings from Distant Lands.

EUROPE.

A merchant at Trieste has been arrested for smuggling bombs and petards in flour sacks.

Bismarck is said to have appeared in better health during his speech in the Reichstag on Thursday on the Lasker incident than for a long time past.

Prince Napoleon has left France for Switzerland, taking with him his papers and valuables. Parisians are eagerly anticipating a manifesto from him.

An Afghan sheikh named Ed-Din, who professes a hatred of England, and claims descent from the Prophet, intends publishing in Paris an anti-English journal for circulation in Moslem countries.

Several banquets in honour of St. Patrick's day were given in Paris and vicinity Monday. At one at Belleville, at which was displayed the motto, "O'Donnell's death will be avenged," several delegates from the Irish Republican brotherhood were present.

The first number of a paper called *Swobodnoje Slowa, or Free Speech*, has appeared at St. Petersburg. It summons the youth of Russia to oppose the despotic form of government. It says the Russian State machine is rapidly decaying, discontent is increasing among all classes, revolutionary ideas are spreading everywhere, even in the army. The day of victory is approaching. The paper strongly deprecates terrorism, and favours the union of all branches of Socialists, who, it says, should pursue the desired end by moral energy, not by brute force.

ASIA.

The Chinese Ambassador has asked Earl Granville to mediate between China and France.

A Bacninh despatch says the French forces, while pursuing the Chinese near Phulangysen, crossed the river and captured the Phulang fort. Three men were killed and several wounded. The Empress of China has summoned a military council to consider affairs in Tonquin.

Capture of Bacninh by the French Troops.

The French occupied Bacninh on the 12th. The Chinese fled in the direction of Thainguien. The French had seventy wounded. Gen. Negrier's column entered Bacninh at six o'clock in the evening. The Chinese, demoralized by the turning movements of the combined French columns, abandoned their positions and fled. The Chinese loss is heavy. A Krupp battery and much ammunition were found in the citadel.

The following description will be found interesting in connection with the attack on Bacninh:—

The citadel is situated in a plain, three miles from the nearest point on the river, and four and a half from the Canal des Rapides. The nearest hillocks in the direction of the canal are two miles distant. It has six bastions, with fronts each of 1,000 feet in length, surrounded by a moat crossed by fixed bridges. The town lies alongside the direct road from Hanoi to Langson. The position is greatly inferior to that of Sontay, for the French have a choice of stations for shelling it unless the hills be defended. These heights once taken, the result is certain. The French are discussing the question of a march on Langson after the capture of Bacninh. This would involve from five to seven days' march through a broken I1 country. The difficulties in the way are obvious, and it would be a dangerous experiment.

The *Times* says the situation at Bacninh ends in nothing. The rainy season, which begins in a fortnight, will postpone operations six months. The Delta of the Red river will be handed over to pillage and anarchy. The French Government will shortly be compelled to ask for a credit of twenty-five million francs, and eventually for some hundred million francs, which the Chamber will certainly refuse. The expedition will require sixty-three ships and four hundred thousand men. The end to be gained is out of all proportion to the outlay.

AFRICA.

There is increasing activity on the part of the rebels near the Nile. Beyond Berber telegraphic communication is cut and a steamer has been fired upon.

Adamis Fraser, the largest man of the Black Watch Regiment, killed twelve Arabs with his bayonet in the recent battle. Drummond, of the same regiment, bayonetted Osman Digma's nephew.

The Marquis of Hartington has telegraphed to Admiral Hewett, asking whether he has offered a reward for Osman Digma's head, and warning him not to issue such proclamations without consulting the English Minister at Cairo.

The British reconnoitering force is entrenched at Handouk. No rebels are visible. Osman Digma declares he will renew the fight in ten days. He has told his followers that Mahomet was often beaten, but was finally victorious.

It is reported that Stanley has discovered another affluent of the Congo. The Arabs in a recent slave raid captured 1,800 children. The natives recently attacked the European factories on the lower Congo, plundered the caravans, and killed several Europeans.

Many partizans of El Mehdi have been arrested in Hedjaz, Arabia. A leading sheikh between Shendy and Khartoum has declared in favour of El Mehdi. Gordon telegraphs that there is no immediate danger at Khartoum. It is reported that Zobehr Pasha has been appointed Governor of the Soudan.

Gen. Graham has been ordered not to push his reconnoissance far beyond Handouk. It is not true that Turkish troops are going to Suakim, or that the British Government has decided to send an expedition to Sinkat and Berber. The offer of a reward for the head of Osman Digma was made against the orders sent Gen. Graham.

Osman Digma has returned with 2,000 followers to the neighbourhood of his former encampment. He is exhorting them to a religious war. He assures them that in the third battle success will be theirs. The tribes, however, are much demoralized. Two sheikhs who attempted to leave his camp have been placed in chains.

A boat has left Shendy to try and reopen communication with Gordon at Khartoum. Zobehr Pasha has offered to go to Khartoum and assist Gordon on condition that he be allowed to take funds to raise a force of 1,500 blacks. Zobehr Pasha declares he will be responsible with his own life for bringing Gordon safely to Cairo.

Gen. Millot has been instructed to advance as far as he considers advisable. The occupation of Langson, Kaobang, and Laokai, it is thought, will be necessary to provide for the security of Tonquin. Gen. Millot telegraphs:—"The rout of the Chinese is complete. It is useless to pursue them further. Fort Phulang will be our advanced post."

Zoebehr Pasha is willing to take the place of Gordon as Governor-General of the Soudan. He advises that it be subdued by pacific means, and says slavery will be got rid of gradually when the Soudanese appreciate the benefits of civilization. He doubts that the Mehdi is considered a prophet in the Soudan. Zoebehr says there is no feud between himself and Gordon.

Advices from Berber make no mention of any uprising of Arabs in that region. The country is reported quiet as far as Shendy. Despatches from Cairo, however, state that in the province were equally deserving of the Government is suppressing bad news from Khartoum. A number of Arab rebels have reappeared at Tamanieb and attack all stragglers that approach them. There are no signs that the defeat of Osman Digma has crushed the spirit of the rebel tribes. The Haddendowas, who suffered the greatest loss of life, still adhere to Osman.

Another British Victory.

A despatch from Graham, dated "Osman Digma's Camp, March 13th," says:—"The camp of the enemy has been taken after hard fighting. Over seventy of the British were killed and 100 wounded."

As the British advanced men sprang up, sometimes within 200 yards of them, armed with spears and brandishing huge shields. These would charge upon the British at breakneck speed until the latter's bullets laid them low. The British stormed the works, where the rebels were in force. The blacks held out their shields and spears against bullets and bayonets until the trenches were like one vast grave. The loss of Osman Digma's forces was 2,400.

During the battle the rebels, under cover of the smoke, crept close up to the British lines and dashed against the marines, the Sixty-fifth, and Black Watch regiments, throwing themselves upon the bayonets of the British, giving and receiving. Great confusion ensued. The Sixty-fifth began to [illegible] became inextricably mixed. Gen. Graham and his staff did their utmost to rally the men, and assistance from the other brigades prevented a disaster. There were many narrow escapes among the officers. The horse of Gen. Buller was shot from under him. The pluck shown by the rebels was unexampled. They entered the second British square upon their hands and knees beneath the muzzles of the Gatling guns. Then they commenced slashing with their weapons, doing terrible execution. The British were no match for them at close quarters.

Parties of Arabs wandered over the battlefield in the moonlight and uttered heartrending cries of grief whenever they found the dead bodies of friends. In many places they were piled in heaps. The Black Watch regiment was almost denuded of sub-officers in the battle. Friendly sheiks are of opinion that Osman Digma will go to El Mehdi, report the recent disaster, and ask for orders. They doubt whether he will succeed in mustering a fresh force.

Gen. Graham telegraphs that five officers and 86 men were killed, and eight officers and 103 men wounded, and nineteen men missing. The rebels numbered from ten to twelve thousand. Three officers and seven men of the naval brigade were killed at the guns.

GENERAL.

A City of Mexico despatch says yellow fever is raging at Tehuponepec City. John Meyers, an American railroad contractor, died of the disease the other morning. Many people are leaving the city.

A Havana despatch says it is probable the Bank of Santa Catarina will be forced into insolvency. It is reported than $120,000 in gold is missing from the vaults of the Havana Savings Bank, which recently suspended.

Reports have been received of the almost entire destruction, by fire, of Port Spain, Trinidad, one of the most important commercial towns in the West Indies. The loss is estimated at over four hundred thousand dollars.

NOTES OF SPORT.

Arthur Croft, a well-known back all player, died on Monday of pneumonia at St. Louis.

Boyd, of Woodstock, and Cole Carruthers are matched to run 100 yards for $250 a side in Toronto on April 10th.

C. H. Hosmer and Alfred Hamm have agreed to row their three-mile race for $500 a side not later than June 20.

The Montreal fancy skater, Rubenstein, has been on a successful tour east, winning matches at St. John, St. Stephen, and Newcastle, N.B.

Tom Herbert, the pedestrian, offers to run any man in the United States a race of from one to thirty miles for $500 a side. Of all others he prefers to meet Steele.

A Winnipeg despatch says:—The soft glove match at St. Vincent, March 7, between Billy Hawkins, champion of the North-West, and McKeown, of Winnipeg, for $300, was won by the latter in eleven rounds, Time, fifty-five minutes.

Mr. Robert Shoff, of Birr, has an extraordinary two-year-old colt. It already stands 16 hands high, with a tendency upward. Mr. Shoff is getting the animal up expressly for walking purposes, and will walk his colt for $100 against anything of his own age in the Dominion.—*London Advertiser.*

G. H. Hosmer rates only Ross, Teemer, Hamm, Conley, and himself as in the first-class of scullers, and says if all were well trained and in perfect condition for a race, it would be difficult to say which was the best oarsman until the last stroke had been sculled. This is, of course, barring Hanlan. He thinks Lee, Courtney, and the others all below par.

A party of thirty Detroit sports went to Chicago on Thursday taking with them Con. Moran's brindle bull dog to fight Jack, the Bridgeport white dog, for $200 a side. The fight came off and was witnessed by a great crowd. The Detroit dog won after a terrible fight lasting four hours. The Bridgeport dog was carried from the pit dead. The Detroit gang arrived home Saturday with their dog badly wounded besides being blind of one eye.

Weston Completes His Big Walk.

LONDON, March 15.—Weston finished his walk to-day, having done 5,000 miles in 100 days. He appeared to be in good condition. The last mile but one was the fastest recorded during the walk, the time being 9 minutes, 17 seconds. Dr. Norman Kerr presided at the meeting which was held at the conclusion of the walk, and Canon Duckworth and many other prominent temperance advocates were present.

NOTE.—The walk completed by Weston on Saturday commenced from London at midnight on November 20, and from there the pedestrian tramped through southern England and Wales, chiefly on the public roads, and occasionally in public grounds or halls. The conditions were that he should average fifty miles per day, Sundays excepted, for one hundred days, rain or shine, well or ill, and drinking meanwhile no liquid save tea or water. The accomplishment of the great walk, at all events, shows what a well-preserved man the long-distance pedestrian is at the age of forty-six.

A Disappointed Girl Wants to Die in the Presence of a Newly-Married Couple.

NEW YORK, March 18.—A woman's screams brought a policeman to a livery stable on 125th street to-day between twelve and one o'clock. He found a girl clinging to the door of a carriage in which a newly-wedded couple were about to start on their wedding journey. The girl made a desperate but vain attempt to enter the coach, and her shrieks aroused the neighbourhood. All the parties were taked to the station-house, where it was ascertained that the couple were Ferdinand Braun, a furniture manufacturer, and his bride, the daughter of a wealthy citizen. The parties were married last evening. Braun was a widower with two children, and the girl who raised the disturbance was employed by him as a servant. She claimed that Braun led her to believe he would marry her, and learning he had married another woman she took oxalic acid, and was trying to get in the coach that she might die in the presence of the newly-wedded pair. The poison was pumped out of her stomach, and she will recover. Braun and his wife were allowed to depart. [illegible] in the district, and the responsibility for [illegible]

UNITED STATES.

A Budget of News from Over the Border.

Large numbers of horses are dying at Portland, Oregon, from blind staggers.

It is reported that a Pittsburg chemist has rediscovered the art of making black glass.

The woman suffrage amendment to the constitution has passed the Iowa Senate by 26 to 24.

Experts pronounce the alleged outbreak among cattle in Illinois not foot-and-mouth disease.

A disease resembling pink-eye is prevalent among horses in Columbia county, N.Y. Several have died.

Fifteen thousand immigrants arrived in the United States in February, against 17,000 in February last year.

A gentleman of New Haven, Conn., who refuses to disclose his name, has given Yale $30,000 for a dormitory.

Physicians pronounce the cattle disease in Louisa county, Iowa, foot and mouth plague. Three animals have died.

A newspaper in Rion, New York, was printed last week by electricity, the first instance of the kind on record.

The peanut trade of Virginia is excited over a dispute between buyers and sellers, resulting in a deadlock in the market.

A noted gambling den was raided in Baltimore Saturday night, and 200 players, including many prominent merchants, captured.

The New York Legislature has passed the third reading of the bill authorizing the taking of land at Niagara Falls for a State park.

L. R. Bogert, station agent at Pearl River, N.J., has eloped with his wife's sister, aged 15. Mrs. Bogert is penniless. She has three small children.

There was no quorum in the New Jersey Assembly the other afternoon. Is is said a poker party at one of the hotels engrossed the attention of a number of members.

Samuel H. Wallace, of Honey Brook, Pa., who died recently, bequeathed his entire estate of $20,000 after the death of his wife to the Episcopal church at Honey Brook.

Pierre Cottee, aged 115, the oldest man in Indiana, is dead. He was very eccentric. He used cayenne pepper for snuff, and swallowed large quantities of it to quench his thirst.

While ploughing at Island Shoals, Ga., on Friday, Samuel McDaniel unearthed a jug containing $9,500 in gold. The money was buried by McDaniel's grandfather during the Florida war.

A man resembling Patrick Joyce, secretary of the Fenian Brotherhood, bought a dozen pistols similar to those used in dynamite machines at Remington's store in New York six weeks ago.

Rev. J. W. Fackler, who recently deserted two women he married in Georgia, is preaching in Texas under an assumed name and meeting with great success. The Church has denounced him as an impostor.

Several girls have been spirited away from Scranton, Pa., and vicinity during the past month, the latest case occurring on Saturday. The police believe they have been abducted by an organized gang.

There are a number of prominent dynamiters in Paterson, N.J., and it is said they are being watched by detectives from Europe. It is rumoured that Paterson has been made the headquarters of the dynamite party.

Mrs. Genevieve Hubbard has obtained a limited divorce from her husband, Rev. Dr. W. C. Hubbard, rector of one of the most fashionable churches in Brooklyn, on the ground of cruel and inhuman treatment.

A few nights ago the slabs covering the vaults of thirty tombs in old St. Louis cemetery were unscrewed. The object was doubtless robbery. The high wind of Tuesday night blew the slabs in every direction, shattering them.

Swine plague is prevalent in Arlington, Mass., and neighbouring towns. One farmer has lost two hundred out of five hundred, and with others the loss is heavy, half their droves having died. The disease is similar to that in the west a few years ago.

A Mormon missionary who has been working at Lacrosse, Wis., for two months, says there are six or eight elders in Minnesota and several in Indiana and Iowa. There are a good many Mormons in Minnesota who believe in polygamy but do not practise it.

It is said the employés of the Yellowstone Park Improvement Company have had no pay for six months, and have been on half rations since November. They have little clothing and no shoes. The snow is six feet deep, and the men cannot get out of the park.

In order to relieve the State of Massachusetts from the stain of illiteracy, ninety-three thousand of its population being unable to read or write, a bill is to be introduced prohibiting the employment of minors under fourteen who cannot read and write English correctly.

Action has been begun against Rev. Griffith Humphrey, pastor of the Welsh Presbyterian church, New York, to compel him to support Laura Jones and a two months' old child of which she alleges he is the father. A civil suit for breach of promise of marriage has also been begun.

Mrs. Caroline Miller has sued her father-in-law, Rev. Alex. Miller, of Dunellin, N.J., for $25,000 damages for slander. She recently had her husband arrested on a charge of abandonment, and while the case was being tried Elder Miller charged her with being guilty of adultery.

Still another mine horror is reported, this time in Virginia. An explosion occurred at midnight on the 12th at the mine at Pocahontas. There were one hundred and fifty men in the mine at the time, all of whom are believed to have perished. The victims are stated to have been mostly foreigners.

William King, upon being converted in a Methodist revival meeting in Caldwell, Ky., arose and confessed that he had robbed a store in 1863 of $300 worth of goods. He went to the proprietor the next day and paid the amount with 20 years' interest, but was immediately arrested for the theft,