

# Weekly Messenger

AND TEMPERANCE WORKER.

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## BUSINESS NOTICE.

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## THE AMERICAN CONGRESS.

The tariff debate began in the House of Representatives on Tuesday of last week, and was expected to last twenty days.

A bankruptcy bill is before the Senate. Any person with debts over \$300 may become a bankrupt, and a trader who tries to get out of the way of his creditors, or to put his property beyond their reach, shall be deemed to have committed an act of bankruptcy. The bill was reported to the Senate on Monday, read a third time and passed by 32 to 15.

Trade and commerce organizations are pressing Congress to suspend silver coinage. One delegate said greater apprehension filled the minds of business men to-day than he had ever seen. The House committee on coinage has unanimously agreed to report a bill prohibiting the issue of treasury notes of less than \$5, and to provide for the issue of \$1, \$2 and \$5 silver certificates.

The Senate bill providing for the performance of the duties of President in case of there being no President or Vice-President has been amended by the law committee of the House, limiting the time when a cabinet officer may perform the duties to twelve months, after which period he shall issue a proclamation for a special election.

A resolution reported by the House committee on foreign affairs directs the President to bring to the notice of the Government of Venezuela the claim of John E. Wheelock, a citizen of the United States, for \$50,000 indemnity for gross outrages and tortures inflicted by an officer of the Venezuela Government, and to demand the immediate settlement of the claim.

By ten to one the House committee on post offices resolved that it is expedient to adopt the contract system of postal telegraphy. After further discussion the committee purposed formulating a bill upon the subject.

The ways and means committee of the House will report the bill abolishing the discrimination in favor of American artists and decreasing the duty on works of art from 30 to 10 percent on the value.

THE MADOC "REVIEW" says there is not a temperance society of any kind in the county of Hastings, Ontario. There were Lodges of Good Templars at Foxboro' and Stirling in that county, whatever has become of them.

THE SONS OF TEMPERANCE have a membership of about 14,000 in Nova Scotia, in a population of about 500,000, and the Order continues to grow rapidly.

## THE DOMINION PARLIAMENT.

A number of amendments were made to the Dominion License Act, 1883. The time for receiving applications for licenses was extended to the 15th of May. No saloon shall form a part of or communicate with any shop or store wherein any goods or merchandise are kept for sale. Nothing in the Act shall apply to the North-West Territories or to that part of Manitoba which was added thereto in the West by the extension of Manitoba's boundaries. Persons who have sold under licenses hitherto in force failing to obtain a license under this Act may have a three months' license to get clear of their stock. By-laws passed by Quebec municipalities under Provincial legislation since July 1st, 1867, restricting or prohibiting the liquor traffic within their bounds, are to remain in force.

The "better terms subsidies granted the several provinces are as follows:—Ontario, \$2,884,289, bearing interest annually at \$142,400; Quebec, \$2,549,215, interest, \$130,000; Nova Scotia, \$793,368, interest, \$39,698; New Brunswick, \$604,519, interest, \$30,235; Prince Edward Island, \$152,973; interest, \$9,148; Manitoba, \$110,825, interest, \$5,541; British Columbia, \$83,107, interest, \$5,155.

On motion of Sir John Macdonald a free grant of land of not more than 6,400 acres per mile in Manitoba and 12,800 acres in the North-West Territories was voted in aid of the construction of a railway from Manitoba to Hudson's Bay.

The bill to amend the Canada Temperance Act so as to enable it to come into force in counties where no licenses are in existence was passed by the House of Commons, having been sent down from the Senate. Mr. Ives, of Sherbrooke, and Mr. Cameron, of Victoria, made assaults upon the bill in the form of amendments to make a three-fifths instead of a majority vote necessary for the adoption of the Act.

An arrangement between the Government and the Grand Trunk Railway was accepted, whereby the latter is to deposit a million pounds sterling as security for its engagement to build a double track between Montreal and Toronto.

About the last sharp contest of the session was over an item of \$395,000 awarded by arbitrators against the Government in favor of Messrs. Manning, Shields & McDonald, contractors on Section B, Canadian Pacific Railway. The Opposition complained that sufficient information regarding the matter had not been submitted to the House, and that the arbitration had been conducted in secret. Sir Charles Tupper said the Government did not think the contractors' claim was valid or it would have paid it without reference to arbitration. The item passed by a vote of 82 yeas to 34 nays.

During the last few days of the session Mr. Mills led the Liberal side of the House instead of Mr. Blake. The latter was ill, but the Government papers say illness was not the only reason. They say he withdrew from the leadership of his party because many of his followers voted for the Government subsidies to railways in different

Provinces, which he opposed. The House was prorogued on Saturday.

THE DYNAMITE WAR is being waged with increasing boldness. It is said two hundred and fifty pounds of dynamite has been sent from France to England in three weeks. A girl living in Cork, sister of a dynamiter in Paris, carries the dynamite across the Channel and is the courier between the conspirators on both sides. The dynamiters in England are opposed to isolated attempts, and are designing a general explosion in various parts of the country on a certain day and hour. Dynamite is taken from Havre, France, to England, concealed in the lining of men's coats. The *London Times* correspondent in Paris has been interviewing Irish revolutionists there. James Stephens, the ex-head centre of the Fenians, is reported as saying the dynamite policy would likely result in the Irish residents in England being ostracised or driven from the country. He advocates instead an armed revolution, believing that the dynamite business will kill all revolutionary agitation during the present generation, and perhaps forever. James O'Leary agrees with Stephens. Patrick Casey is in favor of dynamite, and would extend its use to the blowing up, first, of Atlantic passenger steamers and, next, of merchantmen. Father Hogan declares the action of the dynamiters to be morally a crime, politically a blunder and socially a disaster. He says that if the Irish get fair play, in a few years Ireland will be one of the most prosperous countries in Europe. A nest of rifle cartridges has been found at the Four Courts, Dublin, and near where Lord Cavendish was assassinated in Phoenix Park a notice has been discovered, declaring that the Invincibles are impregnable. Their position must then have been greatly strengthened since that foul murder, for the sequel to that showed them to be not impregnable to assault through their fears, their greed of gold or their capacity for concealment. They proved weak at every point.

THE CORONER in the case of the Italian killed in the riot at St. Thomas, Ontario, on Good Friday, has, upon the strength of a verdict of wilful murder, committed the eleven imprisoned rioters to stand their trial for that crime. Their names, as given by themselves, are as follows: Thomas Galligan, Thomas Foley, James Curley, Ed. McFadden, Patrick Flanigan, Michael Haikan, Andrew O'Brien, Thomas Ballie, Thomas Flanigan, Martin Joyce and Patrick White.

AN ENGLISH EMIGRANT named Little was put on a car of the Grand Trunk Railway at Goderich, Ontario, and was put off at Clinton upon being found by a physician ill of small-pox. The carriage in which he began the trip continued on its way eastward, while the baggage car in which he completed it was left on a siding for disinfection. What queer things are done under the rule of railway corporations!

IT IS REPORTED that Prince Bismarck has resigned his position in the Prussian Ministry.

ENGLAND HAS BEEN SHAKEN by an earthquake, which visited the eastern counties at nine o'clock on the morning of Tuesday last. At Ipswich the walls of the houses were shaken, plates were rattled and bells rung. Consternation ensued which produced a temporary suspension of business. Colchester suffered heavily, the concussion there lasting half a minute. Beginning with a low, rumbling sound and ending with a quake that shook down the smoke stacks of factories and destroyed other structures, the phenomenon there assumed a disastrous form. The spire of one of the largest churches in the city, one hundred and fifty feet in height, fell with an awful crash. A child was killed and a woman's skull was fractured, and the damage to property is estimated at £10,000. Traffic has had to be stopped in several streets, owing to the unsafe condition in which they are left. At Chelmsford, Southend, Maldon, and other towns, the shock was great but much shorter in duration. A business house in the Strand, London, was rocked, causing the employees to flee in terror.

HEAVY TAXPAYERS OF DESMOINES, Iowa, are greatly troubled over the loss of \$50,000 of revenue from saloon licenses, and are trying to get an ordinance passed by the City Council which will enable saloons to evade the new law. Probably these big-pursed people made their money out of saloons and are still interested in them. If not, their ignorance and moral stupidity must both be in excess of their wealth. Have they asked anybody how many times \$50,000 the saloons take from the people? What are the taxes the city has to pay to dispose of the criminals and paupers made by the saloons?

THE GOVERNMENT OF MANITOBA, elected by the party that supports the present Dominion Government, has come forth before the Legislature of that Province and the world as the declared antagonist of the Dominion Government. In making his budget speech the other day Mr. Norquay, the Provincial Premier, denounced the Dominion Government in strong terms for its treatment of Manitoba, attacking the railway monopoly and the tariff as special instances of bad treatment. He said that unless better terms were obtained the Province would be better out of the confederation. After the delivery of the speech, the Opposition, by invitation of the Government, attended a caucus of the whole House. A joint committee was appointed by this caucus to prepare a statement of the claims of the Province upon the Dominion, which will likely be carried to Ottawa by a delegation from the unanimous Assembly. Manitoba gets a smaller subsidy, according to some considerations upon which provincial subsidies are based, than the other Provinces, and its revenues are a good deal below the requirements of so rapidly growing a country.

THE MILITARY COMMANDER at Cardenas, Cuba, has been arrested because he allowed General Aguera to land. American war vessels are watching the coast to catch other filibusters reported to have left the United States.