

Weekly Messenger

AND TEMPERANCE WORKER.

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The Weekly Messenger

BESIDE THE PYRAMIDS.

A despatch from Assouan to the *Morning Post*, an aristocratic paper published in London, declared that the Canadian *expeditions* attached to the Egyptian relief expedition had become insubordinate, often flatly refusing to obey the officers in command, and threatening to become a serious hindrance to the progress of the expedition. This has been denied, semi-officially, by the Government. The Canadian boatmen and Indians are probably more free in their ways than disciplined English soldiers; and perhaps they object to taking orders from officers who know nothing about the work in which the men are engaged.

The news this week is that it is impossible for the boats to make more than an average of eight miles up the Nile daily, on account of head winds. There is much anxiety on this point and it is feared that unless a north wind springs up the expedition will be unable to proceed.

The one thing absolutely certain about this Egyptian expedition is that the amount which the British taxpayers will have to pay for it is sure to be enormous—perhaps as much as \$50,000,000.

It is most likely true that Col. Stewart was murdered, as at first reported. The *Standard's* Cairo despatch states that portions of Col. Stewart's clothing and some papers belonging to the Greek consul have been found near the place where those gentlemen are supposed to have been massacred. Information has just been received by the Government from a reliable source to the effect that the Mahdi, who with a large force was marching on Khartoum to aid the rebels in that vicinity to capture the place, had arrived within six days' march of Khartoum when he was compelled to return in the direction of El Obeid on account of several tribes with him revolting.

A Dongola despatch says that an Arab from the Mahdi's camp reports much sickness among the Mahdi's forces. The defection of the tribes at the rear continues. His followers are dying from drinking from polluted water pools. The cattle are dying from fly bites. Altogether, the Mahdi seems in a bad way.

THE UN-CELESTIAL WAR.

The French Chambers opened last week, and the Minister of War at once introduced two bills: one to establish a "colonial army," and the other to provide \$2,160,000 for the fighting in Tonquin up to the end of this year.

A despatch sent home from Tonquin says that the Chinese have lost 3,000 men in a battle, the French loss being only 20 killed and 90 wounded. Possibly the number of Chinese dead is exaggerated, to put the money-voters at home in a better temper. But the independent papers of France denounce the practice of the French troops in Tonquin of taking no prisoners

and killing the wounded. The *Gaulois* says the official defence that the Chinese refuse quarter cannot justify the soldiers of a country pretending to be the advance guard of civilization in making war like savages.

Another despatch tells of two battles, in one of which the French were victorious and in the other the Chinese. Admiral Courbet is thinking of another attack on Tamsui, where he was defeated before. An opposition French paper asserts that of the ten thousand French soldiers in Tonquin only four thousand are effective. It declares that the Chinese invasion, if not arrested, threatens to overwhelm the French, and that it is necessary that not mere reinforcements, but a full army, be sent to their assistance. And the *Times* correspondent at Peking is informed that the French commander in China has telegraphed to Paris that if ordered to march to Peking he will require 40,000 men of all arms, two pontoon trains, 8,000 horse, 120 field guns and a corps of ambulances.

The Paris correspondent of the *Telegraph* states positively that the court of Peking has offered, through the Washington Government, to pay \$1,000,000 to compensate the French for losses, in order to smooth the way for a settlement. The correspondent says M. Ferry considered the offer too small. America is so satisfied with the Chinese attitude, which she regards worthy of defending, that Mr. Frelinghuysen even declared his inability to understand the reluctance of France to accept an amicable settlement.

It is believed China will soon be in straits for cash and that financial difficulty will lead to an early conclusion of the war. As France is herself hard up for ready money, she may think it best to take the one million dollars at once, instead of fighting for more.

THE INHABITANTS of Watertown, Wisconsin, are just at present greatly interested over the alleged faith cures of W. H. Bulkley, a harness maker, of No. 17 Quincy street, in this city. Mr. Bulkley has been mentioned frequently in the Chicago papers as having performed miraculous cures by the laying on of hands and prayer. On Friday evening he began holding meetings in the Baptist Church, at Watertown, and his first meeting created such surprise that it was made the subject of special dispatches to the Chicago papers. The most noticeable instance was the cure of Miss Ellen Buehle, of Waterloo, Wisconsin. Consumption had so reduced her strength that she had to be carried to the altar. The harness maker placed his hands on her head, prayed for and with her for a few minutes, and at the conclusion she rose and walked with a firm and steady step to her seat. Miss Buehle declares she is entirely cured.

THE PORTUGUESE GOVERNMENT has protested against Britain annexing certain territories which the Boers seized from the Portuguese. The difficulties between the Transvaal Boers and the British Government are now expected to be settled without violence.

THE SCOTT ACT CAMPAIGN.

THE SIXTEENTH OF OCTOBER, 1884, will long be remembered as the day on which one of the most glorious battles of Right against Wrong was fought and won, the United Counties of Dundas, Stormont and Glengarry having adopted the Scott Act by the tremendous majority of 1,706. What is more, each of the counties gave a large majority on the same side. Dundas leads the van with a majority of 733. Stormont's majority was 572,—Osnabruck giving 423 and Roxborough 121 for the Act, and Finch and Cornwall townships respectively giving 15 and 6 against it. The most pleasant fact is that Cornwall town itself gave a majority of 46 for the Act, and the town of Iroquois and Morrisburg 28 and 63 on the same side. Glengarry's majority was 404: in this county, Charlottetown gave a solid majority of 244, Kenyon 100, and Lochiel 100, for the Act. Lancaster gave a majority of 40 against it. An Alexandria correspondent writes: "From the indefatigable Secretary of the Central Committee in Cornwall, Mr. Henry C. Patterson, down to the 'see-you-everywhere' little *War Notes*, all are deserving of the most unbounded thanks and praise, for their good and kindly efforts." Latest reports are that the vote stood 4629 to 2923.

THE ATTEMPT TO REPEAL THE ACT in Charlottetown, P. E. I., was defeated by a vote of 755 to 715, although the liquor men did their "level best," and many temperance people stayed at home. Speaking at an immense meeting in the City Hall, a few days before the election, Mr. Foster remarked that it was surely something gained when the liquor was banished from respectable places to hide itself in low run dens. But, he continued, "If twenty-five good citizens would only be determined and united to enforce the law, which is a strong one, rum could be driven out of these dens, and from your front streets, too,—banished altogether in six months," and the speaker was loudly applauded. "Judging from the tone of the meeting," says the *Daily Patriot*, "if the Scott Act is sustained on Thursday, those whose duty as paid public officials it is to enforce it, in conjunction with temperance men, will have to work better in the future than they have in the past."

THE BATTLE OF STANSTEAD.—The total vote for the Scott Act in Stanstead was 1,300; against, 975: majority for the act, 325. Four years ago the vote stood 941 to 760 against the Act. So the liquor vote has remained almost stationary, while the temperance vote has increased 75 per cent.

THE CHIEF-JUSTICE of Prince Edward Island, in his charge to the grand jury at the opening of Prince county court on the 7th of this month, referred at length to the absence of crime in this Province, which in his opinion was largely attributable to the repressive legislation in regard to the sale of intoxicating liquors.

WELLINGTON.—The petitions from this county will be filed in the Registrar's office at Guelph on the 1st of November.

BELLEVILLE, AND HASTINGS COUNTY.—A large and influential meeting has organized into a branch of the Dominion Alliance, and resolved to agitate with a view of carrying the Scott Act. Temperance literature and *War Notes* were recommended to be spread all over the city and county (Hastings).

BRANTFORD.—The Scott Act petitions for this city have now been filed with the registrar; they were signed by 628 electors. The temperance men ask a vote to be taken in the latter part of November. The petitions for Brant county have been filed in the Sheriff's office, Brantford.

LANTON.—Senator Vidal informs the Ottawa correspondent of the *Montreal Daily Witness* that the Scott Act will certainly be adopted in this county at the election next February. He also expressed his firm conviction that the Dominion will be fully prepared for prohibition by the next general election.

LANARK.—The petitions from Lanark, which have now gone to Ottawa, were signed by 2,226 voters,—400 more than the required one-fourth. The total number of votes polled at the Provincial elections last year was 4,640.

ST. JOHN, N.B.—The temperance organizations of this city are united for a Scott Act campaign, which will probably be opened as soon as the county and Portland Town also decide to enter the ranks and carry on a simultaneous contest.

YORK, NEW BRUNSWICK.—The proposal of the rum-sellers, that the rumous traffic shall be restored to a position of respectability among other trades, will be decided by the electors of this county on Thursday the 30th. York, which was the second place in Canada to adopt the Act, is not likely to disgrace itself by again entering into partnership—(for that is the meaning of giving licenses) with the liquor traders. But there should be not one vote lost for want of effective organization, or for want of some means of bringing the voter to the poll. Let every ballot paper in York county be marked with a cross in the lower space.

ELECTION FIXTURES.—The county of Peel, Ont., is voting on the petition for the Scott Act this week,—Thursday, the 23rd. The following polling days on this question have also been fixed by proclamation:

Bruce, Ont.,	30th October
Prince Edward, Ont.,	30th "
Huron, Ont.,	30th "
Dufferin, Ont.,	30th "
Renfrew, Ont.,	7th November
Norfolk, Ont.,	11th "
York, N.B., (on question of repeal).	30th October.

GEN. SAMUEL LAPPIN, formerly State Treasurer of Kansas, has been arrested at Albany, in Oregon. He was travelling as a book-agent under the name of Richardson. In 1874 he was charged with forging \$19,000 of school bonds, was arrested and confined in gaol at Topeka, but escaped and fled to South America, and had not been heard of since until his arrest.