

The Weekly Messenger.

SATURDAY, JANUARY 19.

THE WEEK

SINCE THE FIRST OF NOVEMBER 3,845,000 hogs have been packed in the Western States, a deficiency compared with last year of 180,000 hogs.

A QUESTION having been proposed in Congress in the regular way, as to whether a British spy had been allowed to tamper with the mails in the New York Post-office, investigation has proved that no such thing ever took place.

A PILGRIMAGE, in which sixty thousand persons from all parts of Italy participated, was made to the tomb of King Victor Emmanuel in Rome last week.

AN OFFICER of the United States navy is endeavoring to charter a whaling steamer in Dundee, Scotland, to go in search of the Greely Arctic Expedition.

THE QUEBEC GEOGRAPHICAL SOCIETY are going to ask the Provincial Government to aid in exploring the great North-East of the Province of Quebec.

THE CATTLE COMMISSION recommends to Congress that the shipment of cattle northward from districts infected with Texas fever shall be confined to the term between the first of November and the first of March; that the Secretary of the Treasury be empowered to order the slaughter and safe disposal of imported herds found infected, and that an appropriation of a million and a half be made to prevent the further spread of lung plague among cattle in the United States. A bill has been prepared to provide for the formation of a bureau of cattle industry in the Department of Agriculture, to attend to preventive measures against cattle diseases.

ALL THE SALOONS in Wichita, Kansas, numbering over thirty, closed on Monday last week by concerted action, their keepers going permanently out of the business.

THOMAS WELCH, a farmer, of Amaranth township, Ontario, started, under the influence of liquor, to walk from Shelburne to Orangeville, a few evenings ago, and was found dead in the snow by the roadside with a bottle of whiskey beside him.

A GANG OF MEN shovelling snow on the railway track near Brinton, Pennsylvania, were run into by a train and several were killed and fatally injured and others hurt more or less. The accident was caused by the men neglecting to have a lookout to warn them of the approach of a train.

IN AN EXAMINATION in Toronto of about fifty masters and mates, applying for new certificates under a new law, many of the applicants showed great difficulty in distinguishing colors.

NEW YORK STATE PRISONS made the best showing last year ever made in finances. The earnings for the year ending September were \$407,061 and the expenses \$397,955. Steady improvement in the condition of the prisoners is reported by the Superintendent, and the number of prisoners is gradually diminishing notwithstanding an increasing population. A more thorough and more easily maintained discipline is noted, with less frequent resort to punishments or severe penalties.

THE FRENCH GOVERNMENT is going to assist in the replanting of vineyards with cuttings from American vines.

A CLEVER JOURNALIST in London rigged himself up as a beggar in order to ascertain how beggars thrived. He was arrested as a vagrant and one of his fellow-workers had difficulty in identifying him when before the magistrate. When at length recognized and his business made known, there was great fun in the court-room. Of course the zealous scribe was set free without punishment. He fared much better than another reporter, who took small-pox in investigating the condition of the London poor.

PROFESSOR BINDING, of the Leipsig University, Germany, in a lecture denounced the English, American and Swiss Governments for their leniency toward the Nihilistic propaganda. Several Swiss students took offence at the remarks of the Professor, and protested to the Swiss Legation at Berlin. They were informed, in reply, by the Swiss Minister who had first consulted the Swiss Federal Council, that the Government could take no action in reference to the personal opinion of even a prominent professor. Next time those students will allow their discretion to have equal play with their patriotism.

FRANK COLLINS, an alderman of Abilene, Texas, who had been active in suppressing gambling, was set upon in a saloon by one Hemphyle, a notorious gambler. Walter Collins, a deputy marshal rushed into the melee that followed. At the end of the pistol firing all three lay dead or dying. Hemphyle had six bullet holes in his body.

A GERMAN SPY has been arrested at Poitiers, France, with complete plans of the military depot there in his pocket.

A STRIKE OF CARTMEN in Havana, Cuba, against an increase of taxes, has caused a suspension of business.

IN A SPEECH in Liverpool, England, Mr. Samuel Smith, a member of Parliament, said ninety-five percent of the destitute children sent to America had done well. Many of them became the heirs of Canadian farmers, obtained a good competence in life and rose to good places in society. The financial results of the work had also been successful.

CARDINAL McCABE, head of the Irish Catholic clergy, declined to accept the Presidency of the International Peace Society, saying that he deeply deplored war and the causes which lead to it, but until the Christian world retraced its steps and once more accepted His Holiness the Pope as the Supreme Arbiter in vexed international questions, wars would be waged and human blood be spilt. That is equal to saying that His Grace does not want peace so long as the lust of his spiritual head for universal temporal sovereignty is unsatisfied.

A FIRE STARTED in the basement of a large school in Toronto the other day while four hundred children were at their lessons, but the head master sounded the fire drill alarm, and the children filed out in safety. They thought it was part of the drill, and when the truth became known some of them tried to get back for their books, but sentinels stationed at the doors of the rooms drove them away.

THE BALTIMORE & OHIO TELEGRAPH COMPANY purposes extending its lines from New York to leading centres in New England, and also into the North-West and South-West.

TWO THOUSAND STEEL WORKERS in England stand out against a reduction in wages.

FIVE HUNDRED NAVVIES employed on the Canadian Pacific Railway near Sudbury Junction, north of Lake Huron, have been discharged owing to the road being almost completed to Algoma. Freight trains are now running west to the junction and passenger trains to a point not far from it.

BISHOP RYAN, of St. Louis, Missouri, lately preached in Dublin on his return from Italy and France. He said religion and patriotism had been pitted against each other in Ireland, and the Church had triumphed, as it always had in such cases. This triumph would be for the Irish people's ultimate good, as the clergy loved them too well to deceive them by flattery or to inculcate such false and dangerous principles as would lead them to sure destruction. The people should strictly follow the advice given them by their pastors. Their first duty was to the Church, which would always remove perilous doubts and point out the true and loyal course. Bishop Ryan's remarks are the first utterances since the recent hierarchical conference in Rome which show the attitude of the Church upon the Irish question, and are therefore regarded as significant.

A DISEASE OF THE EYE, producing total blindness, has struck a large and valuable flock of sheep belonging to Mr. William Graham, Richmond Road, Ontario.

THREE WARRIORS of the Salvation Army were fined two dollars each, or ten days in gaol, at Bridgeport, Connecticut, a few days ago, for violation of the city ordinance in parading the streets.

A MEMORIAL of Capt. Chas. G. Lundborg has been presented to Congress, describing a new design for a fast ocean steamship. Eminent shipowners and naval architects have expressed the opinion that large ships built after this design would have greater speed, safety and carrying capacity than any ships built before. Twenty-four knots an hour are the calculated speed of the proposed novel craft.

THE POPE HAS PROMISED the first stone for the church proposed as a memorial of the late Daniel O'Connell, the Irish patriot, at Caherciveen, Ireland.

DURING A DEMONSTRATION of workmen in Vienna, Austria, recently, detachments of military and police were held in readiness for any emergency. Rumors were afloat of designs of the Socialists to wreck certain newspaper offices.

A MOST IMPORTANT CASE has been decided in San Francisco by the granting of a perpetual injunction against hydraulic mining. It was a question between farming and mining for the whole Sacramento Valley. Hydraulic mining consists in washing out the soil with forcible streams of water in order to obtain the gold deposited in it. The defendants in the case decided are permitted to apply to have the injunction dissolved or modified, if a plan be devised for abating the nuisance.

GENERAL BORTHWICK PASHA, a Scotchman, has been appointed to succeed General Strecknor as commander of the Bulgarian army.

AMONG THE REFORMS whereby monarchy designs to conciliate democracy in Spain is a scheme for the decentralization of government. It is proposed to gradually bring about this change by the division of the country into a hundred provinces, each to have local governing powers.

PRINCE BISMARCK has undertaken the suppressing of the circulation in Germany of Socialist papers issued in other countries. The publication of such literature in Germany has been pretty effectually stamped out by the severe laws enforced against it during the past five years.

A CHINESE LAUNDRYMAN was murdered in New York lately, and it is believed possible that he was a victim of a secret society said to exist among the Chinese in America, which exacts the death penalty from those who disobey its laws.

ACHIN, the only State of Sumatra independent of the Dutch, has given that nationality cause to threaten its autonomy. The Rajah has been holding in captivity the crew of the steamship "Nisero," numbering twenty-five and including an American. Troops have been sent by the Dutch Government to compel the surrender of the prisoners, but there is danger of the latter being massacred if the troops make an attack.

AN INSURANCE SCHEME for the benefit of workmen, which Prince Bismarck is pushing in Germany, is regarded by some as a bid for the support of that class. If it is a good measure, however, it need not be condemned on that account.

A STATE OF UNREST is still reported of the Indians at Metlakahla and Fort Simpson, British Columbia. They have refused to receive McKay, the Indian Agent, or to recognize his authority, and he has therefore returned to Victoria.

SOME TIME AGO the Toronto *Globe* charged a contractor on the Canadian Pacific Railway with having spent a large sum of money in the Ontario elections, with the understanding that it was to be recouped to him by the Dominion Government. The contractor, Mr. Shields, responded by entering an action for libel against that paper, but prosecution has been delayed so long that the Court of Chancery has thrown out the suit. This leaves the contractor and the Government resting under a very grave charge.

A NUISANCE that Parliament must remove, if no other authority can, is the selling of intoxicating drink, of course of the most atrocious sort, on the ice bridge at Ottawa between and outside the jurisdictions of Ontario and Quebec.

NAIL WORKERS in the Eastern States threaten to strike against a reduction of fifteen percent, which is the fourth reduction they are asked to submit to and they claim it to be unjust.

ROSES WERE BLOOMING out of doors in London, England, a week ago.

THE FEMALE COLLEGE at Columbus, Georgia, was burned early on the morning of the ninth, the 130 inmates being all aroused in time to escape.

A TERRIFIC GALE swept the whole north Atlantic coast about a week ago. Shore resort property at different points suffered heavily.

HERR LASKER, the eminent Liberal statesman of Germany, who died in New York lately, left much valuable literary material, some of which is likely to shed light upon certain obscure points in German parliamentary history.

GENERAL LONGSTREET, United States Marshal in the Northern District of Georgia is in a financial scrape, his bondsmen repudiating responsibility for him. His troubles are ascribed to his want of capacity for details of business.

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