

General News.

CANADIAN.

The Quebec Legislature was prorogued on Saturday afternoon last.

The Right Rev. Charles Hamilton, the new Bishop of Niagara, has arrived at his diocese from Quebec.

The smallpox that was spreading in Montreal has been got under control through sanitary precautions being thoroughly carried out by the health department of the city.

The infantile mortality in Montreal bears an alarming proportion to the adult deaths, eighty-one out of one hundred deaths reported in that city last week being those of infants.

A proclamation is issued declaring that elections under the Canada Temperance Act will take place in the Counties of Lincoln, Middlesex and Perth, on June 18. J. A. Woodruff, Sheriff James Grant and P. R. Jarvis will be the Returning-Officers respectively.

At Toronto, on Saturday last, Charles Barker and Herbert Johnston took a skiff and started for a row on the bay. The boat capsized and Barker was drowned, his companion being rescued by a tugboat that went out to the assistance of the men.

At Cayuga, on May 9th, George Harper, aged 13, was playing with a shot gun when it was discharged, the charge entering the legs of his sister, Francis Harper, aged 15. The young lady lingered for twelve hours or so and then breathed her last.

A detachment of Canadian voyageurs, who accompanied the British expedition up the Nile, sailed from Liverpool on Saturday on the steamer *Parisian* for home. They were in London a week sight-seeing. Col. Denison, of the voyageurs, is still at Cairo. He has been ill, but is recovering.

At Hamilton, on May 10th, Mary, infant daughter of T. J. Holland, was sitting beside a fire while her father was at Sunday school and her mother at a funeral, and pulled a coal out on her clothes. The little child was so badly burned that she died in an hour.

A sad drowning accident occurred at Galt on the afternoon of May 11th between 1 and 2 o'clock. A little son of William Smith, builder, going to school by way of the railway track, fell into the race which runs under the track at Hume's dam. The body was discovered by one of the train hands and pulled out, but life was extinct.

An accident, which resulted fatally, occurred on the N. & N. W. R. track at Hamilton, early Saturday morning. Wm. McKee, moulder at the shops of R. M. Wanzer & Co., while intoxicated, wandered on to the track and was struck by the locomotive of a train, the wheels passing over his right leg. A terrible wound was inflicted on his head, the skull being smashed in. He only survived a few hours.

All day on Saturday last, Gen. Middleton's brigade had some severe fighting with the rebels. Middleton started at early morning from Dumont's, marching seven miles north to Batoche's, where the rebels were strongly entrenched. He immediately commenced to attack them in their stronghold, and after some severe fighting succeeded in dislodging them, and driving them into the bush. Very effective service was rendered by Lieut. Howard, with his Gatling gun. It is stated that the other guns would have been captured only for the effective manner in which this gun was used. Its vomiting produced quite a panic among the rebels, and mowed down so many of them in their onslaught on the guns, that they were forced to relinquish their attack and retire as quickly as possible. On account of defective telegraphic communication no fresh news has been gleaned of the movements of our troops and the enemy, except that the fight has been continued every day since, and that Gen. Middleton is fighting the rebels in their own style. The killed and wounded in Saturday's and Sunday's engagements are: Killed:—Pte. Phillips, "A" Battery; Pte. Moore, 10th Royals. Wounded:—N. Carpentier, M. Toohy, W. Fairbanks, T. J. Stout, "A" Battery; Cook and Allen, scouts; Ptes. J. Kemp, Crickson, A. O. Wheeler, Ralph Baron, 90th Regiment; and Capt. Mason, Ptes. Scorell, Stead, Cantwell, 10th Royal Grenadiers.

The force at Battleford under Col. Otter, is at present inactive, but it is believed they are making ready for another attack on the Indians. Poundmaker shows a strong belligerent spirit. He is supposed to have a large force with him, several other tribes and branches having joined him at his Reserve. Gen. Strange will join with Otter from Edmonton. The P. O. W. Rifles, of Montreal, and a provisional battalion from New Brunswick have received orders to go to the front at once.

News just received from the front states that Middleton captured Batoche on Tuesday at 4 p.m., and has driven the rebels out of their rifle pits. They are now in full flight. The fighting was desperate, many of our brave fellows biting the dust, before the enemy were driven from their positions. All the prisoners that Riel had with him were released, and in his flight he left Half-breed families, horses, and large quantities of stores behind him. The Breeds suffered great loss. Lieut. Fitch, 10th Royals, of Toronto, was shot through the heart, and many more of our gallant fellows have been severely wounded.

UNITED STATES.

The latest reports from Illinois, Indiana, and Ohio, do not indicate more than half an average crop. The Government's report from Kansas reported only 45 per cent. of last year's output.

General Grant has greatly improved during the last week. The cancerous spots in his throat are still unchanged. He works occasionally at his book, and is very cheerful.

Eliza Shelly, a coloured servant of Dr. Johnson, living at Austin, Texas, was hacked to death with an axe in her bed-room, on the 8th inst. A half-

witted negro has been arrested charged with committing the crime. The object is supposed to have been robbery.

At Chicago, Ellen V. Libby, wife of Charles Libby, who disappeared mysteriously a week ago, took a dose of carbolic acid on the 8th inst., and died almost instantly. She had been despondent since the disappearance of her husband.

At New York, Charles Liehman, aged 72, a workman for Buddensack, a bogus builder, and his wife, aged 71, were found dead in their rooms on the afternoon of the 10th inst. The couple had taken Paris green. Utter poverty was the cause.

At Walthurville, Georgia, on May 11th, a number of coloured mill hands who had just been paid off, indulged in a game of poker, and as the gamblers were all flushed with liquor, they were considerably excited. One accused another of cheating, when angry words followed, and as the offender drew a knife, the man who had been charged with cheating drew a revolver and fired. The bullet entered the forehead, and the victim fell a corpse cross the cards and stakes. Friends of the dead man arose to avenge the murder, while those of the slayer rallied to his defence. Each side was well armed with knives and revolvers, and in the fight that followed five were killed, and four or five badly wounded. Others came up and took a hand in the struggle, which eventually assumed the proportions of a riot. The faction which started the trouble fled, pursued by a posse of police. If any of the fugitives are captured lynching is certain.

BRITISH AND FOREIGN.

A big fire at Chatham, Eng., on Monday night last destroyed property to the value of \$200,000.

Franco has made fresh annexations on the southwest coast of the Red Sea and south of the present French possessions at Obok. The new acquisitions include the port of Doungarala.

It is reported that an affray has occurred between Catholics and Orangemen at Conception Bay, Newfoundland, a number of the combatants being severely wounded.

Thirty-two men, composing the crew of a Newfoundland sealer, which was sunk by an iceberg in the Gulf on the 19th ult., were rescued on Friday from an ice-floe on which they had lived for nineteen days.

An avalanche from a mountain near Lake Van, in Armenia, Turkey-in-Asia, recently fell on a native caravan, and killed 68 persons.

At Yaguachi, the headquarters of the Southern Railroad of Ecuador, an explosion in the machine shop of the road killed several persons, and a number were wounded.

An avalanche, last month, swept fifteen dwelling houses in Iceland into the sea, and twenty-four persons were drowned. The avalanche also destroyed fifty fishing boats, and the loss in one village was \$20,000.

While the French steamer *Ville de Marseilles* was on her way to Buenos Ayres the emigrants on board mutinied owing to the bad quality of food furnished to them. They were finally overpowered, ten of their number being killed or wounded, while the captain and several of the crew were severely injured.

The British Government are still undecided about the abandonment of the Soudan campaign. The majority of the ministers favor the withdrawal of the remnant of Gen. Wolseley's army. It is expected that 12,000 Egyptian troops will be sent to the Soudan immediately on the withdrawal of the British. An alarming amount of sickness prevails among the troops at Suakin. The Mahdi has again been encountered and defeated by the new Mahdi, near Obok.

There is every indication that satisfactory arrangements will be concluded between England and Russia, at least, for some time. A conciliatory disposition is being shown on both sides, and there exists a hope that war may be now averted; although many, knowing Russia's grasping spirit, cannot but feel that this difficulty is only postponed until she can make up some more grievances for advancing her forces on Afghan ground. An agreement, drawn up between Lord Granville, Lord Kimberley, Baron DeGiers, and M. Lessar, has been submitted to Russia for acceptance. This, no doubt, will, if conceded to by the Czar, settle the whole affair. Gen. Lumsden has left India for England to attend a meeting of the British Cabinet.

We send this week to a great many of our subscribers extra parcels of specimen copies of *The Canada Citizen*. Our friends will very much oblige us, and also aid the good cause materially, if they will kindly distribute these extra copies, at once, among persons who will be likely to become subscribers.

OLD SPECKLE.

"Old Speckle" rose from off her nest
And cackled with so much vigor,
As if to say: "That egg's my best—
No hen can lay a bigger";
While Johnnie, standing near the gate,
In mute contempt was gazing,
As if he could not tolerate
The fuss the hen was raising.
Her protest took her down a peg—
He raised his voice to say it:
"You fink you're smart—Dad made zat egg—
You toodn't help but lay it."

—Youth's Temperance Banner.