

popularity. The expense of the war in China would soon be a cause of serious trouble in France, but that trouble will be precipitated by defeat. What the war is about few know either in France or out of it.

The threatened war between Great Britain and Russia is not likely to take place. Neither party is anxious for it, and when both are unwilling some means of settling the dispute is almost sure to be found. The trouble seems to have been caused by the actions and threats of Russian military men who are far from headquarters and are moreover hard to restrain.

An Act has been passed by the Ontario Legislature extending the political franchise so far as to make it practically manhood suffrage. There are really few, who ought to have votes, who are omitted. The assessment roll is still the basis of the register of voters, but no man will hereafter be allowed to vote in more than one constituency. An important feature of the extension is the enfranchisement of an enormous number of young men. That they will generally abuse the trust reposed in them by the State I do not believe. On the contrary I think that our teachers, clerks, farmers' sons, and mechanics' sons are just the men to depend on whenever a crisis occurs. What they chiefly need to ballast them is just the sense of responsibility which the franchise is sure to carry with it. The proposal to confer it on women was withdrawn this year, but it will no doubt be renewed next session.

ONLOOKER.

General News.

CANADIAN.

Diphtheria is still prevalent in Hamilton. Fresh cases are reported on Wellington Street South.

Mr. Judah, Q.C., of Montreal, has been found guilty of obtaining \$25,000 by false pretences.

Conrad Lutz, a farmer of New Hamburg, aged 40, was killed here by the cars, on the 25th ult.

A petition is being circulated in Sandwich and Windsor asking the Dominion Government to aid the Canadian Pacific railway in building a branch from Ingersoll westward to Detroit river.

Celanie Heard, a servant girl, was tried at the assizes at Montreal, for murdering her new born infant, whose body was found, but after being locked up all night the jury could not agree, and they were discharged. Prisoner will be tried at the next assize.

A farmer named Tenbroeck, 45 years of age, living in the township of Grantham, two miles from St. Catharines, met with his death during a drunken quarrel with his young farmhand, Wm. Tuttle. Returning from Dalhousie they quarrelled when a short distance from the house. Tenbroeck's son Alfred, saw his father strike at Tuttle with a piece of board. Tuttle wrested it from Tenbroeck and struck the latter a murderous blow, which felled him to the ground. After lingering in a half-stupified condition for some hours he expired. Tenbroeck was a prominent member of the Township Council.

The Half-breeds of the North-West Territory under the leadership of Louis Riel, the notorious ringleader of the revolt some years ago in that territory, have again broken out in open rebellion and taken up arms against the Government. Major Crozier, Superintendent of Police in the North-West, was sent with 100 men under his command to Duck Lake, to secure a large quantity of supplies there stored. They were met by some 200 rebels, who held an advantageous position at Beards' reserve, and were taken so much by surprise that they were forced to retire on Carleton Fort in an orderly manner, suffering severely in killed and wounded. Ten civilians of Prince Albert and two policemen were killed, and four civilians and seven policemen wounded. It is much feared that the Indians will side with the rebels. Some small tribes have already done so, and if the larger tribes join Riel, among whom he is trying to breed disaffection, the affair will assume a most formidable aspect. Great excitement reigns throughout the country and a general response has been made to the call for arms. The following troops have been ordered to the scene of action:—200 men of "A" and "B" Batteries of Artillery; 585 men from Toronto, namely, 250 from the "Queen's Own," 250 from the 10th Royal Grenadiers, and 85 men from the detachment of regulars at the Old Fort; all under the command of Lieut. Col. Otter; a battalion of 340 men under Lieut. Col. Williams, M.P.; the 35th Battalion, 360 men, under the command of Lieut. Col. O'Brien, M.P.; and a company of sharpshooters from Ottawa, commanded by Capt. Alf. Todd. Large battalions are also being prepared in Manitoba and the North-west, and the Quebec volunteers are held in

readiness for the field. The Toronto contingent started on Monday in two trains by the C. P. Railway and was by last accounts well on the way to Port Arthur. The breaks in the road will delay them considerably, but everything is being done by the Government and the railway company to facilitate their journey, and the great enthusiasm of our people will not allow such obstacles to deter them from punishing the rebels.

UNITED STATES.

At Cadillac, Mich., the bodies of six Indians have been found on Pine River. They died from cold and starvation.

There is a smallpox epidemic among the negroes at Mound city, Ill. There are fifty cases in the city, and eight deaths have occurred during the past week.

The Indians on the Winnebago reservation, Dakota, are in insurrection. Stock and buildings are being burned all along the Chappelle creek. The lives of settlers are threatened.

At a horse race at the Wichita agency, near Port Smith, Ark, Frank Copeland, a cowboy, and John Foster, a half-breed scout, quarreled and fought a duel at fifteen paces. Both were killed at the first shot.

At Groton, Vt., on March 27, the boiler of the Groton Pond lumber company's mill exploded last night, killing two men and injuring several others, some fatally. The mill was nearly demolished.

The citizens of Mercer county, Pa., are in a state of excitement over the institution of legal proceedings by Catholic members of the community to prevent the use of the Bible in the public schools.

Dreadful tales of suffering among men, women and children in the drought-stricken district of Virginia have reached Charleston, and active measures are being taken to relieve the sufferers. Live stock are perishing by scores.

BRITISH AND FOREIGN.

The British steamer *Orestes*, Capt. Webster, from Liverpool for Penang, collided with and sunk a Chinese steamer. Seventy persons were drowned.

The French peasantry are clamoring loudly against the increased duties on grain, which has had the effect of raising the price of bread and other necessities.

A special to the *Mail* says the trade depression in France is terribly severe, and that bread riots are feared in Lyons, Marseilles and Paris.

Fifty miners were imprisoned by a mine explosion at Troppau, Austrian Silesia, and it is believed all have perished. Fifty-six others were killed by an explosion in the Rothschilds mines at Austrian Moravia.

Advices from Tamatave state that a disastrous hurricane visited the east coast of Madagascar Feb. 25. The American bark *Sarah Hobart* and the French steamers *Oise* and *Argo* were wrecked and seventeen persons drowned. The damage was great.

The President of Nicaragua telegraphs that he is marching with the combined forces of Nicaragua and Costa Rica with the object of preventing the forces of Honduras joining those of Barrios in San Salvador. Aspinwall, the seaport of the Columbian Republic, has been captured by the revolutionists, under General Aizpurn, after very slight resistance, only a few being killed.

The Russian reply to Earl Granville's note has been received. It states a willingness to allow the Russian and English outposts to remain as at present, and to take immediate steps to hasten the work of the delimitating commission. This reply is not considered satisfactory.

The startling news of a heavy defeat sustained by the French troops operating against the Chinese in Tonquin, has caused great excitement in Paris, the natural result of which has been the formal declaration of war by the French Government. The Government being defeated by an adverse vote in the Chamber of Deputies, the ministers have resigned, M. de Freycinet is spoken of as the new Prime Minister. The new Government will, it is expected, sustain a vigorous policy in the East, and send large reinforcements to Tonquin. Since the crushing defeat of the French under General Negrier, the Chinese have recaptured all their former positions near Langson.

The interest in the Egyptian campaign has gone down a great deal as everything will now remain almost at a standstill until the autumn. The heat until that time, will be too deadly in its effect for much active operations. Gen. Graham is engaged clearing the way for a railway to be laid towards Berber, and to secure the operatives from molestation.—It is reported that Osman Digma has sent a messenger with a flag of truce, suing for peace. It is strongly rumored that his forces are deserting him in large quantities.—The Mahdi's rival is named El Maki. The number of his adherents is increasing. He has occupied El Obeid. The followers of the Mahdi are alarmed.—The New South Wales contingent has arrived at Suakim. They were complimented by Gen. Graham on their fine appearance. They go immediately to the front with the other troops.