

The Weekly Messenger.

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 22.

THE WEEK

THE COMMERCIAL CABLE COMPANY, with a capital of \$4,000,000, has been incorporated in Albany, New York, with the object of constructing lines to all parts of the United States, Europe, West Indies and South America.

AT A TRIAL of members of the Salvation Army for a breach of the peace in conducting their services on the streets, a policeman named Sullivan testified that he considered the songs sung as blasphemous. If police men—particularly Irish Catholics—are to be judges of what is proper to be sung in the praise of God in America, then religious liberty on this continent is a shocking caricature of what it is boasted to be. At the same time the streets of modern towns are not designed as places of public assembly, and should not be used as such except with the explicit consent of the authorities.

THE PARLIAMENTARY BUILDINGS of Canada are to be lighted with electricity at next session—except the legislative chambers, where the light will not be changed until the new system is thoroughly tested in other parts of the buildings.

THE MAYOR AND PROMINENT RESIDENTS of Cheyenne, Wyoming Territory, characterize as gross exaggerations statements published in the East that woman suffrage is a failure in that country. They say that public opinion there is favorable to the new order of things.

MR. ROBINSON, of New York, has in the National House of Representatives called upon the Secretary of the Interior for information concerning the reported purchase of public lands by foreign noblemen, with a view to having laws passed to prevent land monopolies and landlordism in the United States; whether the Minister to Great Britain has accepted from any foreign state a title of nobility such as Lord Rector, and whether as such he is still retained in the service of the United States; whether any officer of the navy had without the consent of Congress accepted a present from any king, prince or foreign state; whether officers and sailors of the navy had assisted the British navy in the bombardment of Alexandria, and whether a British spy had been allowed to tamper with the mails in New York and thus secure the conviction of a number of persons in Liverpool, among them some American citizens, who were sentenced to imprisonment for life. Mr. Robinson appears to represent Irish revolutionists rather than American constituents in Congress.

FEARFUL STORMS raged throughout the British Islands on Tuesday night of last week. Damage both on sea and land was terrific. In many cities loss of life is reported from falling buildings and flying wreck. Among the marine casualties was the total wreck near Stranraer Scotland, of the ship "Liverpool," Captain Davidson, from Quebec for Greenock, only a man and boy being saved, nineteen drowning.

ARMS AND AMMUNITION have been found stored in the house of a Fenian named Dunne, in Dublin, and together with the occupant taken in charge by the police.

CYVOET, AN ANARCHIST, has been sentenced to death for being the author of an explosion in a restaurant in Lyons, France, over a year ago.

SIR STAFFORD NORTHCOTE, who is accused of having stirred up the Orangemen in his recent tour through Ireland, has replied to a complimentary resolution from the Orange society at Blackpool, Lancashire, saying that he cannot wonder at the irritation of the loyal Irishmen at the unequal treatment they have received while striving to support the unity of the Empire.

THE REPUBLICAN NATIONAL CONVENTION, to prepare for the next Presidential election, will meet in Chicago on the third of June next.

AN ALDERMAN of Joliet, Illinois, moved a resolution in the City Council, to grant ten dollars to each policeman to buy an overcoat. Other aldermen attempted to kill the measure by tacking on an amendment giving a like gift to every employee of the corporation. This was, however, accepted by the promoters of the original resolution, and the ordinance was passed as amended, obliging the municipality to give a handsome Christmas box to every one of its laborers. The taxpayers may congratulate themselves that their money was not voted away for overcoats for the aldermen themselves.

THE "ORGAN OF TRUE JUDAISM" is being prosecuted in Lemberg, Austria, for publishing an anathema pronounced by notable Rabbis against the candidates for the Galician Diet and the Austrian Reichsrath belonging to the sect of reformed Jews. Acts of violence are alleged against the defendants in the indictment, it being notorious, it recites, that such excommunications in Galicia undermine among the Jews the civil existence of those against whom they are issued. Apply the same rule to all other religious systems, and clerical domination in politics would be broken down.

THE BANQUET TO MR. PARNELL on Tuesday night of last week in Dublin was attended by persons from all parts of Ireland and Great Britain. Five hundred and eighty tickets had been sold, and great pains taken to prevent any but members of the National League from entering. The address accompanying the tribute to Mr. Parnell was enclosed in a gorgeous album made of bog oak, richly mounted, which cost \$500. In the giving of the honors of the evening, the toast to the Queen was omitted, and Mr. Parnell, replying to the address, read to him by Lord Mayor Dawson, declared boldly for the independence of Ireland. He spoke very offensively in his references to British statesmen, particularly Mr. Forster, and denounced coercive emigration. The cheque given to Mr. Parnell, the result of collections made among Irishmen all over the world, was for an amount equal to \$190,000. At the banquet the French, United States and Irish flags, the latter with the harp but without the crown, were grouped together over the chairman's seat. Thirty priests were present. The London papers respond firmly to Mr. Parnell's treasonable utterances, the *Times* saying there was never a more uncompromising defiance flung in the face of the English nation or Government than when Mr. Parnell declared war upon constitutional principles and the connection between England and Ireland. Upon all hands there is a concurrence of sentiment that ensures a union of the leading parties whenever necessary to defeat any attempt at Irish domination.

AMONG EIGHTEEN PERSONS executed in Servia for participation in the recent revolt were four priests, four merchants and a schoolmaster. Some of them had shot peasants for refusing to join the insurrection. An editor and a Radical deputy were condemned to death, but the King commuted their sentences. Two Radicals were sentenced to eighty-five years' imprisonment.

AN ORGANIZED BAND OF THIEVES has been discovered among the students of Oberlin College, Ohio. Its members are all in good circumstances and one or two have wealthy parents. Some of them are in prison and have confessed and all proved to be connected with the band will be expelled.

SOME IDEA OF THE BRUTALITIES associated with the prize ring may be gained from the description of the process of training being undergone by a bully named Harry Snagg, to prepare him for contests with Gaffer Bill and John Sullivan. One day last week he was walked around Franklin Square, Philadelphia, with a dumb bell fastened to each leg. He was given ice water baths and had his legs beaten black and blue with billiard cues. Hitched to a swill cart he was trotted three miles, and afterwards walked a mile with a beer barrel tied to one leg and a dumb bell to the other. Again he was beaten with billiard cues, then sand-papered from head to foot. His food is bananas, and his drink a mixture of brown stout, mustard, gin, vinegar, molasses, soda water and pepper sauce. All this is of course to divest him as much as possible of any good human qualities, and endue him with the disposition and sensibilities of a wild beast. All who go to see contests between such debased specimens of their race will be brutalized more or less according to their susceptibilities, but it requires brutal instincts in the first place to be attracted to that sort of so-called "sport."

ABNER LLOYD, of White Rose, and Joseph Mitchell, of Frontenac county, Ontario, are two recent victims of fatal gunning accidents. Thomas Arthurs, of Toronto, while fooling with a revolver that he did not know was loaded, shot himself through the hand and narrowly missed his younger brother.

IN RESPONSE TO AN APPEAL from the President of the Woman's Suffrage Society of Toronto, the City Council of Kingston, Ontario, by ten to nine resolved as follows:—The Council approve of the exercising of the franchise by widows and other unmarried women, in the same manner as is done by men in respect to their own property.

A HURRICANE in the province of Alicante, Spain, uprooted four hundred olive trees. An immense sea demolished the quays at Denia, flooded the town and wrecked fourteen vessels.

THE POPE HAS APPROVED of the proposal for a memorial church to Daniel O'Connell, the Irish patriot, and promised a gift for the corner stone.

COMMANDER CHEYNE, of the British Royal Navy, has been officially informed that his scheme for reaching the North Pole by balloons was considered by the United States Secretary of War to be impracticable.

FORTY MEN WHO CLEARED OUT from Crossmaglen, Ireland, when the members of the Patriotic Brotherhood were being arrested, have returned from America.

THE REV. DR. WILSON has been dismissed from the curacy of St. George's Cathedral, Kingston, Ontario, for having taken an active part in the exercises of the Salvation Army.

By 109 to 103 the Hungarian Diet has rejected the bill legalizing marriages between Christians and Jews. The bill will be introduced again under the special care of the Cabinet.

THE EGYPTIAN GOVERNMENT has been offered a loan of ten million pounds by the Anglo-Egyptian Bank, Cairo, to build a second Suez Canal.

THE SUPREME COURT of Ontario has sustained the verdict of a jury at Lindsay, awarding a boy, Levy, one thousand dollars' damages against the Midland Railway. Plaintiff was crossing the track and his foot caught in a spike, and a train backing down ran over his leg. Defendant appealed on the ground that the statute was complied with by having a man on the last car looking out, against which plaintiff contended that the man must be in such a position on the car as to avoid accidents. While familiarity with danger breeds carelessness on the part of some railway hands, it is well that the public can make railway owners intimate with heavy penalties for the results of their servants' carelessness.

THE WHITE CROSS steamer "Plantyn," from New York for Antwerp, has been given up for lost.

DEATHS FROM CHOLERA are still reported from Egypt.

COLORED CHILDREN in Brooklyn, New York, are declared by the Board of Education to be entitled to admission to the public schools on the same terms as white children.

A GRAVEYARD INSURANCE SCHEME, in which medical examiners, agents and others acted in collusion, has been unearthed at Fall River, Massachusetts. Insurances were obtained upon broken down constitutions, consumptives and unhealthy persons for sums ranging from \$1,000 to \$5,000. Physicians, agents and others would hold the policies till the death of the insured persons and pocket the insurance, or they would sell the policies to resellers who would hasten the death of the victims with rum and then collect the insurance. A suspected physician and an agent lately left the city.

NEXT YEAR it is expected the immigration business of the St. Lawrence will be largely conducted from Quebec city on the north shore. It is said immigrants will be carried from Quebec to Winnipeg for ten dollars.

A SWISS STATESMAN warns his countrymen against impending war in Europe, which he says can hardly be escaped after 1884 and may even come next spring.

RACHEL BARCOCK, a woman living in the village of Hamilton, near Toronto, Ontario, is in prison charged with murdering George Mitchell, a boy of ten. She became enraged at the child for chasing her hens and pursued him about half a mile, when he fell and she beat in his skull with a heavy file, causing his death in agony a few days later.

A BUFFALO BILL ORGANIZATION composed of four boys about thirteen years of age, sons of respectable people, has been discovered in Milwaukee, Wisconsin. Seventeen incendiary fires were traced to the gang, which had a pirate's den stocked with dime novels, guns and lassoes, and from which raids were made on the pantries of the neighboring residents. This is one of the natural results of sensational reading upon young boys. It intoxicates them in as bad a way as alcohol or tobacco.

A BILL TO GIVE ALASKA a civil government is progressing favorably in the American Congress.