

# Weekly Messenger

AND TEMPERANCE WORKER.

VOL. III.

MONTREAL AND NEW YORK, SATURDAY, AUGUST 23, 1884.

No. 34.

The Weekly Messenger

## TO OUR WORKERS.

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### WEATHER AND CROP REVIEW.

The weather for some time has been most favorable for farming operations, being both warm and dry, hastening the ripening of all late grains and giving ample opportunities for "rushing" harvest work, which will be pretty well through in another week of such weather as has prevailed lately. The dry weather has also, to a considerable extent, staved the ravages of the rot among the potatoes which threatened to do great injury a couple of weeks ago. In a few sections where there has been very little rain since seeding time, the drought is being severely felt and a good deal of the grain was not well filled while the pastures are being searched. The produce of the dairy, which was unusually large through the early part of the season, has been greatly diminished of late owing to the grass drying up and losing its succulence, while the flies are unusually annoying to the cattle, which, together with the heat, and in some localities, the scarcity of water, have

greatly diminished the flow of milk. The prices of both butter and cheese have an upward tendency and the dairyman's profits for the whole season's operations are likely to be larger than usual. The wheat crop is nearly all harvested and where threshing has been done the yield has exceeded anticipations. Should the weather continue favorable for two or three weeks more, the corn crop will be the largest ever known and nearly all the other grains, as well as the potatoes, will yield above an average. The apple crop is "panning" out remarkably well and prices of the earlier sorts are exceedingly low, but as there will be an increased demand from European countries, owing to a small fruit crop there, the prices of all good-keeping apples are likely to be well maintained.

### THE CHOLERA.

The cholera in Europe continues to make sad havoc in many places, and is deadly in villages in which there are no doctors. In one of these no fewer than twenty-one deaths occurred in one day. One family of thirteen died in one village and no person for thirty hours could be found that would bury them. In Italy the disease continues to spread, and at Castelnovo and Seboyo several cases had been found. In Marseilles on the 12th of August there were twelve deaths. In the department of the Lower Alps the disease rages. The record from Paris shows that on the 14th there were fifteen deaths at Arles and one at Aix. The very latest from Marseilles is that the Mistrail is blowing and the health of the inhabitants improving. Some of the horrors of these epidemics are experienced that have been known of past epidemics. For example, in a despatch from Paris of the 17th we learn that at Les Omesques a grave digger noticed a sort of tremulous movement on the part of two of the corpses given to him for burial. He was afraid to bury them and gave the alarm to the authorities. Friction was applied and proper restoratives given when the persons recovered consciousness and ultimately health. There seems reason to fear that the scourge has not done its worst for France. If the scourge came from China, as has been asserted, certainly the Chinese are having a terrible revenge. Paris news states that hardly a day passes without the appearance in some new quarter of the dread visitor. It is rather curious to note the remarks of Dr. Bury upon Cholera. He says that persons employed in copper and bronze factories never have been attacked. His preventive is the treating of all flannels for wear with copper salts. One aspect of the cholera is its effect on European travel. Tourists who have reached England on their way to the Continent hesitate about going any further, dreading to come to closer quarters with cholera than they do at the breakfast table when the morning newspaper is spread before them.

THE COTTON YIELD in Arkansas State this year is expected to be 1,000,000 bales, which is 300,000 more than has been produced in any former year.

### EGYPT AND GORDON.

The Egyptian problem presents no new features. Everything points to an early advance from Cairo and the Nile is rising rapidly. It is believed that Major-General Earle will be assigned the command of the expedition. Among the preparations announced is the likely departure of two battalions of troops from Simla, a proceeding which is objected to by some of the members of the Indian Government as depletion of the British forces in India. The expeditionary force that is to go to General Gordon's relief will comprise three thousand Infantry and a very strong force of cavalry and artillery in addition to other branches of the service required. Colonel Sir Redvers Buller is to be chief of staff of the relief expedition and Captain Boardman is to be in command of the flotilla. Sir Redvers Buller was about to start for Egypt when the despatch of the 15th left London. The Government has decided to send 380 boats with the relief expedition, contracts for the building of which are being made. They are to be built in England and sent out. Each boat will be 33 feet long, will carry fifteen men each, and will be supplied with lug sails. They will be manned by twelve oarsmen each. While all these proposals are taking shape there are two enemies at work in opposition to British prestige—the open enemy in the field and the secret enemy in the councils of Europe. In Alexandria the populace of Arabs and lower class Europeans made a demonstration demanding indemnity for the British bombardment of the city. Meanwhile the relief of Gordon goes on steadily though nothing is heard of him, except that the Muir of Dongola has collected a large force to assist the relief expedition over the Cataracts.

### FRANCE AND CHINA.

The Franco-Chinese war cloud has continued to gather during the past week. France declares that she has not rejected mediation and preferred war, but that no power has offered to mediate. In denial of this it is asserted at London that the United States Government offered to mediate between France and China, but that France refused the offer, China alone being willing to accept. Lord Granville urged China to concede the indemnity demanded by France, provided the French fleet left Kelung at once. The Budget Committee of the French Senate on Saturday last voted recommending the sums required for carrying on a war if necessary.

China refuses to agree to the demands of her adversary and is defending Tamsui, on the northwest coast of Formosa, with torpedoes.

The late King of Annam, it is asserted, was poisoned by the anti-French Mandarins.

The Chinese Legation at Paris had not, up to last advices hauled down its flag. The Chinese protest against the action of France and deplore the French refusal of American mediation. The French in the meantime have ordered further naval action, and placed two regiments of marine with three

iron-clads in readiness to proceed to China. The British Government has been advised that China is disposed to grant England equal trading powers with France in the southern provinces.

HORRIBLE STORIES have been told about members of the Greely expedition party having eaten the flesh of their dead comrades. The bodies of the dead men were covered with blankets before being taken to the relief ships. They were encased in strong iron caskets at St. John's, Newfoundland, and so it was not seen what condition they were in. Some of them were afterwards taken out of the graves and examined when it was found that the flesh was picked clean off the bones. Lieut. Greely says that he knew nothing about any of the men having eaten human flesh, he thought they might have done it, but not by his leave, and he did not encourage it. There is very little doubt that the men did eat the flesh of the others who had died, but they can hardly be blamed for saving their own lives by this means, although it is horrible to think of eating the flesh of a human being. Charles Henry, one of the party, was shot by Lieut. Greely's orders for stealing part of the small stock of food belonging to the party. When the relief party arrived one of the survivors cried, when the sailors took hold of him, "Must I be killed and eaten as Henry was?" "Don't let them do it!" Lieut. Kisingbury's body was mutilated, and his brother believes that there were two divisions in the party, one of which kept the food, and that Lieut. Kisingbury died of starvation when the others had food. Lieut. Greely says that he was sick in bed when some of the men died, and does not know whether their flesh was eaten or not, but that the members of the party had all denied having done so. There will likely be an enquiry made by the Congress.

THUNDERSTORMS have been plentiful in England and Scotland, doing much damage. In one very severe storm several buildings in Edinburgh and other cities in Scotland some people were killed by lightning, one of them being the Earl of Lauderdale, who was out riding. Buildings also suffered a great deal, and in Dundee it was so dark that all traffic was stopped for an hour. Altogether, it was one of the worst storms ever known in the country.

LETTERS containing large sums of money have been stolen in Austria. A letter containing about \$7,500 was taken from the mail bag lately, and now the bag has been stolen, one of the letters in which contained checks amounting to \$140,000.

A MINISTER who had just been married in Montgomery, Alabama, was stabbed by some of his bride's relations who did not like him.

TWO FIREMEN were killed by the roof of a burning building in Boston falling in when they were standing on it.

NORTHEAST, Pennsylvania, which suffered from a large fire in 1871, has had a like misfortune happen to it. The business part of the town, including the finest buildings, is mostly destroyed.