

The Weekly Messenger

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 17.

THE WEEK.

ON A RECENT SUNDAY NIGHT, near Sanford, North Carolina, a negro and his wife returned from church, after an absence of three hours, to find their house in ashes and three children, the eldest a girl of fifteen, burned with it.

TOO MUCH WANT OF CONFIDENCE in our fellowmen is a very bad thing. Jacob Seib, a farmer of Erie, Pennsylvania, was somewhat seriously affected in that way and kept his wealth in a safe at home. Fearing a raid by burglars, who abounded in the neighborhood, he took the money—\$10,000 in paper currency—from the safe and put it in his sitting room stove. Mrs. Seib, not having been apprised of this brilliant piece of sagacity, kindled a fire and burnt the little fortune to ashes.

A COMMITTEE is forming in Glasgow, Scotland, to buy the late Thomas Carlyle's house—advertised for sale or to let—and make of it a Carlyle Club house.

MRS. CORNWALLIS WEST, one of England's beauties, is going to Washington to keep house for her brother-in-law, the English Minister to the United States.

ENGLISH GOSSIPS are already talking up the marriage of the Princess Louise Victoria Alexandra Dagmar, eldest daughter of the Prince of Wales, now sixteen years old. The Duke of Portland is the happy man selected, but doubts are cast upon the rumors altogether.

THE BRITISH PARLIAMENT meets on Monday next, unless further prorogued.

JOSEPH LAMBERT, who killed his father, George Lambert, in Holland township, Ontario, last spring, has just been tried for murder at Owen Sound and acquitted on the ground of insanity, Judge Osler agreeing with the jury's verdict.

AN EXPLOSION OCCURRED during the burning of a factory at Roubaix, France, employing three hundred persons. The escape of many was cut off, and thirty women leaped from the upper windows. Forty persons were injured, and dreadful scenes were presented as the sufferers were being extricated from the ruins.

AN EGYPTIAN OSIRID that for many years remained almost unnoticed in the Mechanics' Institute Museum at St. John, New Brunswick, was lately subjected to a critical examination, and a copy of the hieroglyphics was forwarded to Professor T. O. Payne, of Boston, who translated the inscription and decided that the object is the image of Pannek, an Egyptian priest of three thousand years ago, and that one of the inscriptions is not known to occur on any other ancient Egyptian figure or monument.

AN ODD FISH was lately brought to California from Alaska. It belonged to a species of which only two others had previously been found. This one was five feet long and about eight inches wide from back to belly the whole length. It has a widely opened mouth and long teeth curving backward, characteristics that ally it with the serpent tribe. The Esquimaux and Indians of Alaska say that these fish inhabit deep water and are so ferocious as to frequently attack seals.

MR. GLADSTONE is said to be encouraging the Prince of Wales to make a state tour through Ireland, to do which he has received many invitations.

MUCH EXCITEMENT is reported in Loughrea, Ireland, over a wholesale series of evictions of the tenantry.

DUBLIN has been adjudged by the Court of Queen's Bench a debtor for compensation to persons whose property was destroyed to make fuel for bonfires in the rejoicings over the assassination of James Carey the informer.

THE INSURGENTS in Hayti claim to have scored advantages in recent encounters with the Government troops. A settlement has been made by the British war steamer "Dido" of the difficulty created by the Haytiens firing upon the British steamer "Alps" while taking refugees aboard. Hayti is to salute the British flag and pay the Alps Steamship Company five hundred dollars as reparation.

TRUMAN J. SMITH, a wealthy farmer of Watertown, Connecticut, assaulted his wife, throttling her and breaking her leg. The cause given for his brutality is rage at his children all being girls, the third of whom was born two weeks previously. His neighbors threatened to take his punishment into their own hands.

SLAVERY had not many more humiliating incidents than what happened the other day in the United States. Twenty Chinese laborers on their way from Cuba to Hong Kong passed through New Orleans billed as merchandise in bond. This piece of human degradation was effected in order to get round the prohibition of Chinese laborers in the United States.

WILLIE POWELL, son of the postmaster of Duncanville, Russell County, Ontario, has been detected in pretty heavy mail robberies, effected during his trips in charge of the mails from Osgoode station to Duncanville.

IT IS CUSTOMARY for the Lord Mayor of London, upon assuming office, to give a grand banquet to the British Ministry and other political dignitaries. This year Mr. Fowler's inaugural feast was attended by many distinguished persons. M. Waddington, the French Ambassador, replying to a toast, said there was no greater guarantee for the peace of the world than hearty cordial friendship between Great Britain and France. At present France was not pursuing an aggressive policy, but endeavoring to hold her own and to settle pending questions affecting her interests. His mission to London was one of peace, the French wished to approach Great Britain in a spirit of good will and he was met with the same desire on the part of the English. Mr. Gladstone, replying to the toast of Her Majesty's Ministers, said, "Our hearts' best wishes are with France in every career of peace, justice and orderly government on which she may find it her interest to enter." With reference to the affair of Mr. Shaw, the missionary, he said what had come from the French Government had been offered rather than demanded, and he believed the incident would tend to confirm good feeling between the two countries. Orders had been given, he said, for the withdrawal of a portion of the British forces from Egypt, Cairo to be entirely evacuated. As to Ireland he said, "There is much to be done, much to be desired, much to be lamented, but there is also much to be hoped for. Peace and order must be firmly maintained."

PNEUMONIA is spreading to an alarming extent among cattle in England and Ireland.

CHINESE LABORERS are coming into San Francisco in large numbers at present, evading the law against them by means of certificates obtained for a fee at home, declaring that they are traders, a class exempt from the restrictions.

FRANCE HAVING MODERATED her demands in Madagascar, an early conclusion of peace is anticipated. The Protestant missionaries have advised the Queen of the Hovas to conclude as a basis of peace a treaty ceding a small portion of the southwest coast to France, with a protectorate over the Sakalavas. Admiral Galibert, who was conducting the negotiations with the Hova delegates, promised an immediate evacuation of Tamatave on the signing of such a treaty, but insisted that France must hold the customs port of Majunga until the payment of the indemnity. The Hovas lately secured a fresh supply of gun-powder from America. In a recent interview Prime Minister Ferry, of France, said there was no difficulty with England regarding either Torquin or Madagascar which could not be amicably adjusted. There is later news than the above from Madagascar, to the effect that an insurrection broke out at Antananarivo, during which the Premier was murdered, and that the envoys, just returned from a visit to America and Europe, had been strangled. Tastaqa, a son of the former Queen, was made Premier, and the French had resumed warlike operations. Still later is a report that Hova delegates were at Tamatave to treat with the French.

STEAMER "IRIS," from Cardiff, Wales, for Port Said, Egypt, has been lost off Cape Vallino, Spain, and only one saved out of a crew of thirty-six.

SPRINGFIELD, MISSOURI, has been visited by a tornado that killed several persons, wounded many more and did much damage to property.

IN AN INSURANCE CASE the Supreme Court of the United States has decided that self-killing by an insane person understanding the physical nature and consequence of his act, but not its moral aspect, is not suicide within the meaning of the condition in the policy. In view of this fine decision, the question is how, after the self-killing policy-holder's death, his understanding previous to the act can be accurately gauged.

VERA PHILIPORA, the woman lately arrested at Borkoff, Russia, is alleged to have been the actual head of the Nihilist Executive Committee. She has shown in a written confession that she and another woman alienated the allegiance of many army officers, forty of whom have been arrested. The Nihilists have lost heavily in men and means within the last two years and are miserably weakened, the arrest of the woman chief being the severest blow of all. They now look to Saroff, who is in Paris, as their chief, and intend henceforth to have their operations directed from without. A recent account represents the Nihilists as broken up into widely scattered groups, driven to murder and robbery in order to obtain funds. As all news coming from Russia has to undergo official revision, however, that account may be taken with all due allowances.

IN A CONFLICT between the police and a mob of Jew-baiters at Zalaova, Hungary, the rioters were dispersed after two of them had been killed and several wounded.

AT A MEETING of the Irish National League in Dublin, a resolution was passed at the instigation of Mr. Davitt to organize vigilance committees to frustrate the Government's emigration scheme—or expatriation scheme as they call it—and to send delegates to the United States and Canada for that purpose.

IN THE IMPEACHMENT of the Ministry of Sweden, the case for the prosecution against Mr. Semler, Minister of State, was closed and the counsel for the defence began his argument on Thursday of last week. This case decides the others. The charge is violation of the constitution of the country by disregard of the will of the people constitutionally expressed.

GERMANY IS GOING to at once double the standard of her artillery service, raising it from 340 to 680 batteries. Of course this is in the interests of the peace of Europe. News has been received in Germany, so it is said, that important divisions of the Russian army are being placed upon a war footing, and soldiers belonging to them out on furlough are being recalled for immediate service.

ROMANCES CROP UP everywhere, even among the navies or railway works. Count Salm, the eldest son of a German noble, ran away from home because his father opposed a match he intended making. He came to America and went to work as a laborer on the Illinois Central Railway. There he was recognized by a fellow laborer, who notified the prince of his son's whereabouts. The prince sent a messenger across the sea, who has adjusted difficulties, and the count has returned to the Fatherland.

GENERAL PRYOR, the American lawyer sent to England to assist in the defence of O'Donnell, the slayer of Carey the informer, could in any case only be permitted to speak in an English court by a great stretch of courtesy, but since the boasts have been made by O'Donnell's American friends of complicity in the explosions in the London Underground Railway, it is doubtful if the American counsel will even be allowed to sit at the lawyers' table during the trial.

A TRAIN, having among the passengers thirty school girls, went over an embankment at Chelsea, Massachusetts, a few days ago. The engine was severely injured and the passengers badly jarred, but none hurt.

MR. JOHNSTONE, Conservative, member of the Legislature of Ontario for West Middlesex, has been unseated for corrupt practices by agents. Enough corruption was proved against the other side to put it in for its own cost.

A MARRIAGE is talked of between the Princess Amelia, eldest daughter of the Count of Paris, and the Grand Duke Alexis of Russia. The Czar advised that the proposed union would facilitate the restoration of the Orleansists to the French throne and an alliance between France and Russia.

THE ARCTIC WHALE FISHERY out of Bedford, Massachusetts, has been a failure this season.

MANY ARRESTS have been made in St. Petersburg and Odessa, Russia, of persons charged with counterfeiting bank bills.

A CONGRESS HAS BEEN SITTING in Madrid to consider mercantile, colonial and geographical matters. Its discussions embraced the commercial interests of Spain with different parts of the world, the necessity of erecting factories and the opening of free ports in the Spanish colonies.