

# Weekly Messenger

AND TEMPERANCE WORKER.

Vol. III.

MONTREAL AND NEW YORK, SATURDAY, JULY 26, 1884.

No. 30.

## The Weekly Messenger

### THE GREELY EXPEDITION.

The relief ships "Thetis" "Bear" and "Loch Garry" arrived at St. John's, Nfld. from West Greenland, on July 17th, with the survivors of the Greely party on board. Those rescued alive were Lieut. A. W. Greely, Sergeant Brainard, Sergeant Fredericks, Sergeant Long, Hospital steward Buderback, Private Connell and Sergeant Ellison. The latter, having lost both hands and feet by frost-bite in an attempt to reach a hidden store of provisions during the winter, died, after amputation, three days from the date of the rescue. Seventeen out of twenty-five persons composing the expedition died of starvation before the ships arrived. Twelve of the dead bodies were recovered and brought home. Lieut. Greely abandoned Fort Conger, his observing station, on August 9th, 1883, reaching Baird Inlet, September 29th; having abandoned all his boats he was adrift for thirty days upon an ice floe in Smith's Sound. He arrived safely at Cape Sabine. Provisions running short, the party were forced to live upon boiled seal-skin strips cut from their clothes, eked out with occasional shrimps and lichen-moss. The channel between Cape Sabine and Littleton Island did not close all winter, thus preventing the party from reaching provisions stored for them at the latter place. Six weeks before the rescue, regular provisions ceased. The first death occurred in January last. Ellison's case was one of great hardship and endurance, his hands and feet being frozen to the bone whilst on an expedition. He was dragged back to his hut by his comrade and lingered on until after the rescue. The most northerly point that had been reached by Lieut. Greely and his party was an island, named by them Lockwood Island, in latitude 83. 24, long. 44. 5, W., nearly three thousand miles north of New York. This is a short distance farther north than the place reached by the English explorers in 1876. From a height of 2000 feet they could see no land to the north or north-west, but to the north-east, they saw a cape on the west coast of Greenland, and named it Cape Robert Lincoln. Lieut. Lockwood was turned back from proceeding farther north by open water, his party barely escaping a drift into the Polar Ocean, if such an ocean exists. The two years' station duties, observations, all explorations, and the retreat to Cape Sabine were accomplished without loss of life, disease, or serious accident. At Washington the news of the arrival created much excitement, the President taking a deep interest in the report and expressing great concern at the death of so many of the party. Valuable records of meteorological, tidal, astronomical, magnetic, pendulum, and other observations were made by Greely and his men while at their station, which they left in accordance with their first instructions, to meet a relief expedition if none arrived within two years.

In view of the sudden change from an

extreme northern to a southern climate, and its possible ill effects, Lieut. Greely and his party have been advised to visit and remain in Maine during the present summer; this suggestion will probably be carried out. Mrs. Greely, who was in California at the time of the arrival of the party, came east at once with her family. The expedition which has rescued the party is the third sent out for that purpose by the United States Government, the "Neptune" having sailed in 1882 and returned after a month of ineffectual struggling with the ice. The "Proteus," sent out in 1883, also came to grief, being crushed in the ice. Her crew were brought back by the "Yautic," which picked them up at Upernavik, in Greenland. The gravest anxiety has been shown by all civilized nations in this last attempt, and universal relief is felt at its partial success.

Queen Victoria has telegraphed her congratulations on the rescue of the survivors; President Arthur has replied, again returning thanks for the gift of the "Alert" one of the vessels which helped in the rescue.

### A "COMMISSION NOT TO ENQUIRE."

FOR SOME WEEKS the five Commissioners appointed by the Provincial Legislature of Quebec have been carrying on their work in Montreal. Their business was to enquire into a charge made by Mr. Mercier, leader of the Opposition, against Judge Mousseau; the charge being that Mr. Mousseau, while Premier of the Province last year, sold a contract for new pavilion buildings to a contractor named Charlebois. As a fact Charlebois got the contract, although his tender was the highest instead of the lowest. Three of the Commissioners were Conservatives, and showed from the first that they were not so anxious to expose an iniquity as to shield their former leader. Mr. Mercier succeeded in proving a good deal; for instance, that Mr. Jean de Beaufort, a government employee who was promised \$10,000 by Charlebois to get him the contract, solemnly declared that one third of that sum was to go to the Premier himself. Mr. Bergeron, a lawyer and member of the Dominion Parliament was shown to have been mixed up in the proceeding. After fighting against many obstacles put in his way by the lawyers and Commissioners opposed to him, Mr. Mercier at last had to yield to the inevitable. The majority of the Commissioners would not even allow him to prove that Mr. Charlebois subscribed to Mr. Mousseau's election about the time that the contract was awarded; though that was one of the most suspicious circumstances of all, as Mr. Charlebois was a Liberal and Mr. Mousseau a Conservative. The two Liberal Commissioners then refused to have anything more to do with this sham "enquiry." Mr. Mercier then argued that the Commission could not act without all its members being present; but the three Conservatives decided that they would go on, and they will probably bring in a verdict of "not guilty."

IN PARIS it is said that 2500 soldiers will go to Tonquin next month; but it seems likely now that war will be avoided.

### MORE FROM BLAINE.

Is he either fish or flesh or good red herring, this Mr. J. G. Blaine! The *Union Signal* has the following:—

"Neal Dow proclaims Mr. Blaine a prohibitionist of the right sort. The *Chicago Tribune* is in despair at the mere intimation of such a thing, and begs the Germans to take account of the fact that Mr. Blaine is in nowise responsible for the Maine law, as he did not reach Maine till after it was passed and has never done anything in anyway to help it along." Whatever Mr. Blaine is or was personally, he has positively declared that he agrees in every particular with the platform laid down by the Republican convention at Chicago; and one plank of that platform is decided hostility to prohibition.

Mr. Blaine has published a long letter, formally accepting the nomination for the Presidency by the Republican National Convention. He comes out strongly, of course, in favor of "protection," making the sweeping declaration that "the tariff has increased the export trade, fostered agriculture, and benefited the mechanic and laborer." For all this, we have the authority of—of Mr. Blaine! The Republican candidate very discreetly says nothing about spreading the eagle's wings all over the continent, though he would like to see the United States have closer relations with its neighbors. He says that the nation is, and is likely to remain, at perfect peace with all other nations. As to the holding of land in large quantities, it should, with proper regard to vested rights be discouraged; this especially applies to foreigners: "it is but fair," he says, "that the public land should be disposed of only to actual settlers and to those who are citizens of the Republic, or willing to become so."

THE CHOLERA is still slaying people by scores in Toulon and Marseilles; in the latter city 874 deaths have already occurred. Famine is being added to disease, in consequence of the stoppage of work and business. The Pope has subscribed \$5,000 and President Grevy \$2,500 toward a fund for the relief of distress. Comparatively few tourists are going East this year, and those already on the continent are returning home. Cities on this side are bestirring themselves to set their drainage in order and clean their streets. We cannot have too much cleanliness at any time, but to allow dirt or bad air now is suicidal.

A GREAT DEMONSTRATION, perhaps the greatest ever held in London, took place on Monday. Over a hundred thousand men walked in procession to Hyde Park and passed resolutions denouncing the House of Lords for refusing to pass the Reform Bill. The whole of the proceedings were most orderly, but the people of England are evidently determined not to be thwarted by the irresponsible Lords. The Prince and Princess of Wales were spectators of the procession.

THE BRITISH IRONCLAD warships, the "Valiant" and the "Defence," came in collision on Monday night, and both were more or less damaged.

THE HISTORY OF AUSTRALIA shows some wonderful strides forward. In shipping, for instance: in 1882 the number of vessels registered was 3, representing a total of 163 tons. In 1883 the number of vessels was 155, representing a total of 19,972 tons, and exclusive of 102 colonial-built vessels, representing 7,253 tons, forming a total of 257 vessels, with a capacity of 27,225 tons. In connection with these figures, it may be mentioned that at Sydney, the capital of New South Wales, the free trade colony, the iron ship-building industry is assuming respectable proportions, although colonial-built wooden screw steamers are still frequently constructed for passenger and other purposes in Sydney harbor. Trade in general has wonderfully developed. In 1833 the total value of articles imported into New South Wales was \$3,569,860. Fifty years later, in 1883, the amount was \$104,800,785. In 1833 the exports amounted in value to \$1,974,005. In 1883 the exports amounted in value to \$99,430,090. The significance of this increase will be better understood when it is remembered that during the earlier years mentioned, Australia was not divided as at present into various colonies, several of which, viz., South Australia, Queensland, and Western Australia, have each a larger area than is possessed by New South Wales.

THE PRIVY COUNCIL in England, the highest Court of Appeal in the British Empire, has decided that the decision of the arbitrators, in the boundary dispute between Ontario and Manitoba, is not legally binding. A decision as to what the boundaries shall actually be, has not yet been given.

A BOX OF GUNPOWDER was exploded at the foot of a statue of Lord Herbert, at Salisbury, England, the other night. The pedestal was injured. As Lord Herbert was one of the statesmen who joined with Sir Robert Peel in giving England the free trade demanded by Cobden and the people, it is difficult to say what the grudge can be against him.

A CROWDED EXCURSION train on the Valley Railway, Ohio, was wrecked near Canton on Saturday night, running off the track and going over an embankment into three or four feet of water. Twenty-five persons were injured. It is thought the accident was caused by the rails spreading.

THE RICHMOND NATIONAL BANK, Indiana, has suspended, Green's Bank, Jackson, Mississippi, has also suspended.

THE NEW BRUNSWICK cotton mills, owned by Mr. J. H. Parks, have suspended work; they are expected to go on again in a few weeks.

THE CANADIAN VOLUNTEER riflemen in England have won the Kolapore cup, a valuable trophy offered by the Sultan of Kolapore, in India.

GENERAL GORDON's situation is still doubtful, but the last reports, from a merchant who left Dongola on July 4th, is that Gordon is still safe in Khartoum, having recently defeated a body of rebels. Letters, this merchant says, were passing nearly every day between Gordon and the Mahdi.