

## General News.

## CANADIAN.

Gold has been struck in a rich streak in British Columbia.

The Scott Act will be voted on in the City of Brantford on the 11th of December, and in the Counties of Leeds and Grenville on the 18th of December.

The Queen has conferred on Sir John Macdonald the Grand Cross of the Order of the Bath.

The anti-Scott men of Carleton have submitted a counter-petition to the Secretary of State, claiming that the petition of the temperance people praying for the submission of the Act is invalid.

Samuel Driffl, aged seventy, general merchant of Bradford, committed suicide on the 18th by cutting his throat. Business troubles are supposed to be the cause of the act.

The eastern division of the Canada Pacific Railway has been fully completed to a point eighty miles west of Sudbury, and trains have commenced to run over the whole distance.

At Pictou, N. S., William Allard, who went adrift on Saturday while trying to save his comrades, landed safely near Arisay the same night. He had drifted about twenty miles before the storm, and with an oar piloted his light boat for a mile through the breakers, and was thrown far up on the shore, bruised and bleeding.

A desperate and fatal affray occurred on the 19th inst., in Montreal, between two detectives and an escaped convict whom they were endeavouring to arrest. The ruffian attempted to murder one of his captors, and succeeded in severely wounding him, when he was shot through the head and instantly killed by the second officer.

The postoffice and registry office at Milton were burglarized on the 12th inst. Entrance to the postoffice is supposed to have been effected by means of a skeleton key. The safe was drilled and about a hundred dollars' worth of stamps and a number of registered letters taken therefrom.

**FIRES.**—At Newburgh, the Orange Hall, a substantial frame building, was burned on the 15th inst. The origin of the fire is not known.—At Hamilton, a fire occurred on Sunday at a house occupied by Martin Foster and wife, No. 8 McGill street. The loss will be about \$300, and is covered by insurance. Both the occupants of the house were intoxicated when the fire occurred, and Mrs. Foster saved her husband's life by dragging him out of bed, where he was lying in a drunken stupor, with the flames raging only a few feet away from him.—On Saturday night a large barn belonging to Patrick Gorman, of Stoney Creek, was burned. The building was totally destroyed, together with 375 bushels of wheat and a number of farming implements. The loss will be between \$800 and \$1,000.

## UNITED STATES.

The health officers of New York expect the arrival of cholera there early next summer, and will not be surprised if sporadic cases appear sooner. They are taking precautions.

At Lacrosse, Wis., on Nov. 12, Maggie Eckert, a domestic, was shot and killed by a lawyer, C. W. Bunn, who mistook her for a burglar.

At St. Joseph, Mo., the court fined sixty liquor dealers \$200 each and denied them license for two years for refusing to take out licenses under the Downing law. Thirty additional cases are pending.

At Philadelphia, on Nov. 18, Peter Bergstram was arrested on a charge of kicking his wife to death. She had pawned his clothes to buy rum.

A band of Indians from Mexico have been raiding in Presidio county. They murdered Ranchman Petty and wife, and carried off their three children. Troops are in pursuit.

At Blue Hill, Neb., on Nov. 18, Joe. Cook, murderer, was taken from gaol and hanged to a derrick. The sheriff rescued him, but he will probably die.

At Raleigh, W. Va., there is a great scarcity of water owing to the long drought. Flux is prevalent amongst men and animals, and nearly a hundred persons have died from it, while the loss in stock reaches many thousand dollars. The water is heavily charged with mineral matter from the mountains.

## BRITISH AND FOREIGN.

The Gaiety theatre, Southampton, has been burned to the ground. No person was in the building at the time.

The English Government has sent 200 tons of torpedoes to protect coaling stations in China.

Fifteen passengers were killed and a large number injured by a railway collision in Hanan, Prussia, recently.

Germany has officially recognized the African Association. It is expected the other powers will soon follow her example.

Several Socialist prints have been found in the kits of the soldiers of an engineer regiment at Olmutz, Austria.

At Paris there were 41 deaths from cholera on the 18th inst., all but 16 in the hospital. To noon to-day there were 40 fresh cases admitted to the hospitals, and there have been four deaths.

Forty-three persons, accused of complicity in the recent anti-Jewish riots in Hungary, have been sentenced to various terms of imprisonment.

Spain has taken possession of the territory in West Africa about the River Oro.

The report that Gen. Gordon has been killed lacks confirmation.

General DeLisle denies the report that 500 Chinese were beheaded at Kep. He admits, however, that 600 were killed by bullets or bayonets, but does not state whether they were killed after or during the battle.

## Selected Articles.

## WHAT CAN A LICENSE LAW DO?

We have already seen that the question before the people, though nominally between the Scott Act and a License Law, is really between a certain law and a very uncertain one.

But now we will grant, for argument's sake, that we could, by doing away with the Scott Act, get a License Law. What good would it do us, if we had it?

This question ought not to be a hard one to answer, for we have had experience of License Laws from our country's earliest history down to the present time. What good did the Licensed Taverns ever do to any one? Surely those who want us to vote for Licenses will tell us this:

Do they add to the peace and quiet of the town?

Do they raise the value of the property in the neighborhood?

Would any quiet citizen be glad to see a tavern opened near his house?

Do they provide desirable places of resort for any class of the community?

What do they give to the community or to any individual in return for the money spent in them?

Of how many homes do they increase the happiness?

What improvement do they bring about in the morals of the people?

What do they add to their physical comfort?

What to their intellectual improvement?

What to their rational amusement?

To what man, woman or child did any one tavern ever do any good to body, or mind, or soul?

Surely we shall be told of some little good somewhere, at some time, done to somebody. If not, we certainly will be slow to take back what after a long trial we rejected, because by bitter experience, we knew it to be an evil and a curse.

And yet, now we are told, "Have licenses and you will be prosperous and happy! Have licenses and your town will be quiet and peaceful, all this dreadful sale of liquor will be stopped! Entrust yourselves to the liquor dealers; men now shocked and pained at seeing so much liquor sold; trust the work of temperance reform to them,—and see how rapidly and effectually they will restrain the sale of liquor."

Yes, we are actually asked to do this—to let the liquor sellers be the ones to restrain the sale of liquor!

Among the many legends about Reynard the fox, is one that tells how once, in pious mood, he called to him the hare, and promised to teach him his creed, and "make him a good chaplain." So the fox took the hare and set him between his knees, and sang and cried aloud "credo, credo;" but soon he left what first he read and sang, and began to play his old play, for he caught the hare by the throat, and had not a friend come by, he soon would have taken his life.

The city that trusts licensed liquor dealers to restrain the sale of liquor will be as safe as the hare learning his creed from the fox.—*Charlottetown Examiner.*