

made considerable advance. For the first time the Council reported a majority of abstaining ministers—namely, 1,317 out of a total of 2,605. The majority is believed to be still larger, but positive evidence of the fact is wanting. In the twelve colleges, out of 363 students, 306 are teetotalers, so that the influence of future ministers who favor abstinence will largely predominate. Other denominations show a proportionate advance. The Free Methodist Temperance League was formed in 1880, but the past year was the first year of systematic work; and the Committee report that out of 340 ministers on the home circuits, about 300 are abstainers, and 250 are members of the League. Temperance activity is also well maintained in the Methodist New Connexion, 73 per cent of the ministers being total abstainers. The societies existing in connection with the Bible Christians and the Society of Friends have maintained satisfactory progress, and so also has the Catholic League of the Cross, whose branches have been largely multiplied."—*Alliance News*.

General News.

CANADIAN.

The Nor'wester, a new Conservative paper, will be issued at Calgary next week.

Farmers in the vicinity of Fort McLeod, N. W. T., finished sowing wheat about April 6, nearly a month earlier than last year.

Advices from Battleford show that the reported Indian uprising is a canard. The Indians are gathering there and are discussing their usual grievances. The telegraph wire inopportunely grounded immediately after receiving the report, which led to the belief that trouble had occurred.

In the *Canada Gazette* the Dominion Government gives notice of the incorporation, under an Act of the British Columbia Legislature, of R. Dunsmuir, J. Bryden, J. Dunsmuir, C. Cracker, C. F. Crocker, L. Stanford and C. P. Huntington, as the Esquimault & Nanaimo Railway Company.

A verdict of wilful murder has been returned against the men who caused the death of the Italian laborer at St. Thomas on Good Friday.

Philip Ryan, of St. Thomas, a C. S. R. brakeman, was horribly mangled to death at Windsor last Friday. The switch-shifter knocked him off the caboose ladder and he was thrown under the wheels and instantly killed.

Wm. Ridsdale, sen., of Luther attempted suicide a few days ago by cutting his throat with a knife, but failed. His son, Wm. Ridsdale, jun., hanged himself in Peel on the 2nd inst.

At Harriston, on the 17th, the body of an unknown old man, who had by some previous accident lost both his legs below the knees, was found in the river at the Grand Trunk bridge. It is supposed that the unfortunate man had fallen into the river during the winter.

Last week some persons unknown entered the *Times* printing office at Stratford and pried all the type in the place, including every case and all the forms in advertisements and jobs. Mr. H. T. Butler, who is the editor and publisher, attributes the outrage to personal spite, and not as the result of party or sectional feeling.

A man named James McGuire fell into the hold of one of the Canada Pacific railway steamers at Port Colborne to-day and was killed. He was not missed until about 2 p.m., when he was found in the hold dead, his neck broken and skull crushed in.

Saturday morning about 7 o'clock Simon Zavitzs, well-to-do and highly respected farmer of the township of Bertie, committed suicide by hanging in his horses' stable.

It is said that about \$90,000 will be paid by the G. T. R. Company to the relatives of the Humber disaster victims.

Chief Justice Spragge died about 10 o'clock Sunday morning from congestion of the lungs and bronchitis. He was a most able, painstaking and experienced judge, and highly respected in his capacities of judge and citizen. He was in the 78th year of his age. He was appointed Vice-Chancellor in 1850; Chancellor in 1869, and Chief Justice of the Court of Appeal and of Ontario in April, 1882.

Davis Clements, of Napanee, employed on the N., T. & O. Railway was run over by the construction train Saturday at Newbury. One leg was taken off and his side badly injured. He died about 10 o'clock, and leaves a wife and family.

The body of Flora Tripp, 22 years old and unmarried, was found in a millpond at Eddystone on Thursday of last week.

The new Congregational College building on McTavish street, Montreal, will be opened in June.

Michael Kilary, assistant lighthouse-keeper at Flint Island, N.S., went gunning on the drift ice last Saturday. A breeze sprang up, the ice parted, and he soon disappeared.

Mr. Barrett, an old citizen, formerly in business, but latterly employed as a bookkeeper for Mr. Mann, a civic contractor, committed suicide last Saturday by taking a dose of "Rough on Rats." Barrett is believed to have been mentally deranged for some time past.

In Quebec a public meeting of the leading citizens, at which the Bishop of Quebec and most of the Protestant clergy of the city assisted, was held to protest against the Provincial Lottery Bill which has already passed the Assembly.

FIRES.—The steam saw and shingle mills at Foxmead, belonging to Mr. J. Madden, were destroyed by fire on Sunday morning. Loss, \$5,000; insured for \$2,000.—At Parry Sound, on April 21, a fire started in a dwelling on Seguin street. The dwellings occupied by Robert Belcher, butcher, E. Rollo, F. Lafex, butcher, Robt. Adam, cabinetmaker, W. Whalen, and Wm. Howard, barber's shop, were entirely consumed. Most of the contents were saved. The loss will be between \$2,000 and \$3,000.—In Woodstock, April 17, a fire broke out on the roof of the kiln of the large flour mills owned by McDonald & Thompson, but by the prompt attendance of the employees and the Water Works Company a serious conflagration was avoided. Loss between \$500 and \$1,000.—At St. Catharines, the steamer *Europe* at Lock 2, was burned to the waters edge. She was recently purchased by the Graham Bros., for \$15,000, and they have since expended about \$1,000 in repairs. She was insured for \$10,000.—At Fenelon Falls, on Monday, the 21st inst., a fire broke out in the kitchen of the Canada House, a high north wind blowing at the time. The whole block between Bond and Frances streets, some seventeen buildings, was destroyed. The loss was about \$25,000.

UNITED STATES.

Three hundred Mormon converts and seventeen missionaries arrived in New York from Europe on Sunday.

The Governor of Texas has issued a proclamation restoring in the border counties the law against carrying concealed weapons.

A portion of Salineville, Ohio, is sinking into a coal mine. It is feared the new brick school house will be destroyed.

At Canisteo, Minn., Wm. Laftemaker shot his wife and then himself during temporary insanity.

There is a great feud between the followers and opponents of the negro incendiary Clark, in Middle Georgia. Two churches have been burned by the Clark men.

At New Haven, Conn., Chas. Spaulding, a jewelry thief, shot himself five times while the detective who had him in charge was dining. Spaulding will die.

At Odelika, Ala., John Dickerson shot and killed Jno. Peassley, who married a woman for whose hand both had been suitors. Dickerson was usher at the wedding, and it was not supposed he harbored resentment.

Frank Shenton killed his father at Golden Hill, Md., while the latter was brutally assaulting Mrs. Shenton. The elder Shenton had shot at his son, and was standing over his wife with a knife in his hand when the son struck him with a club, killing him instantly.

Heavy rains last week caused immense floods in different parts of the country, and much property was destroyed.

At Newcastle, O., Mrs. Solomon Horn attempted to kill her husband yesterday with a revolver, firing three shots at him without effect. She then shot herself in the head and cut her throat. Both parties were over 60 years of age.

On Saturday night, at Ogden, Utah, a discharged Japanese waiter entered Mrs. Gridgell's restaurant, and after assaulting her shot her a number of times. Twenty-five citizens took the murderer out of gaol and hanged him.

A freight train on the Kansas City, Fort Scott & Gulf Railway ran into a washout west of Springfield, demolishing the locomotive and nine cars, killing one and mortally wounding another tramp stealing a ride in a box-car.