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Weekly Messenger

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PUBLISHERS' NOTES.

All who have not yet renewed their subscriptions to the *Weekly Messenger* are urged to do so without delay, so as to avoid any break in the receipt of their papers and much unnecessary expense to us.

We should like to have renewals, in every case possible, accompanied with new subscriptions.

Fifty cents a year and five copies for two dollars are such remarkably low prices that no urging should be required to extend the circulation of such a valuable paper.

Address all letters to JOHN DOUGALL & SON, Montreal, Canada.

MR. PARNELL is reported to be about establishing large saw mills and stone quarries in Wicklow, Ireland. He ought to do something by way of return for the self-sacrificing generosity of his poor countrymen, who have saved him from bankruptcy, if not made him rich, out of their small means.

BURGLARS ARE SEEMINGLY growing more numerous, active and desperate in the Province of Ontario. Depredations and acts of violence, including murder, are reported from many places.

SOME OF THE FRENCH PRESS in Quebec are raising the cry that it is time the Dominion Government was doing something toward colonizing the older Provinces as well as Manitoba and the North-West.

THE SHIPBUILDING INDUSTRY of Maine has been better the past year than the previous one. 174 vessels were built, an increase of six, and the work was more evenly divided.

THE MINISTER OF THE INTERIOR, Russia, strongly opposes the conclusions of the Commission that has for many months been preparing a reform of local administration. So great is the conflict between the Minister and the Commission that the Emperor has been called upon to decide between them.

SUSAN GIBBS, a reputed miser, was murdered at Humber, near Toronto, and a man named Williams was placed under arrest at the coroner's inquest.

A LETTER from a prominent gentleman to a Paris paper argues against the fears of disease from the use of American pork being considered chimerical. It quotes from the statements of an inspector in Chicago, who certified that diseased and dying hogs passed his house daily, which were sold cheap and shipped to Bordeaux and Havre. Later accounts say the inspector denies that he ever made the statements attributed to him. There is no doubt of a strong feeling being raised against American pork in France, and it is said to have been fostered by protectionists.

DYNAMITE AND GIANT POWDER have been successfully used in breaking an ice blockade that stopped late steamers at Coteau on the St. Lawrence River.

GENERAL GRANT was hurt severely but not dangerously last week by a fall on the pavement at his own door in New York.

ALEXANDER WARDROPE, aged nineteen, son of the Rev. Dr. Wardrope, of Guelph, Ontario, was shot dead on Christmas Day by a hunting comrade named Murray, who was experimenting with a hammerless gun that he did not know was loaded.

JAMES YATES, on his way home to Collingwood, Ontario, from Winnipeg, Manitoba, came to his death in Toronto by blowing out the gas in his room at a hotel.

A LAD NAMED COSMAN, at Petitcodiac, New Brunswick, fell a victim to the fatal folly of trying to drive across a railway track in front of an approaching train.

OVER TWO HUNDRED STUDENTS in Paris, offended by an article appearing in a Communist journal, besieged the office and demanded of the editor the publication of a retraction. The editor refused the demand, and the students dispersed to consider the situation later. They met and resolved that four of their number should visit the editors and demand satisfaction by resort to arms.

DRAGOONS STATIONED in Volhynia, a province of Russia, suddenly attacked and plundered the Jews in a certain village, who were helpless to resist. The Rabbi and several of his confederates died from their injuries.

RAILWAY WORKMEN revolted against the exactions of contractors at Lydia, Russia, and in an ensuing riot one official was killed and several workmen were injured.

DURING THE PERFORMANCE in a theatre in New York, Christmas Day, a panic was created by a young scamp crying "fire." Means of egress from the building were ample and the people got out without trouble or injury. On the same day a panic was caused in the German Evangelical Church, during the progress of a children's festival, by the outbreak of fire in an adjoining building. The pastor, assisted by a few others who kept cool, forced his way to the doors and held them, telling the people there was no danger and that not a soul should leave until the close of the services. Quiet was then restored.

GENERAL BUTLER, Governor of Massachusetts, has denied that he engaged the green-back organ to put his name forward for the Presidency.

ELIZABETH SOMERFIELD and her two children, living on Rich Mountain, West Virginia, were lately murdered and their cabin burned. A mail driver discovered the crime and reports having met two men before coming to the scene, who told him the cabin had been burned but said nothing of the murder. Portions of the victims' remains were strewn about the ruins.

A CHRISTMAS DINNER and gifts to four hundred children were given in New York by the Children's Christmas Club. President Arthur, whose daughter Nellie is President of the Club, was present.

A SLIGHT IMPROVEMENT in the iron trade is reported from Philadelphia during the closing days of the past year. Both there and in Pittsburg large lots of steel rails are in demand.

HITHERTO SAILING VESSELS have monopolized the petroleum trade but a few days ago a steamer left New York for Italy with 10,000 barrels of the article. Dulness in the grain trade has sent steamers looking for other business. Steamer building has been overdone in Great Britain, and petroleum men in the United States are considering the advisability of securing the services of some of the surplus steamers in their business.

MRS. MOORE, Toronto, was burned to death by a lamp upsetting upon her.

A RESOLUTION has been passed by the Upper House of the Prussian Diet, forbidding hunting on Sunday under penalty of heavy fines and imprisonment.

ABOUT FORTY PROFESSORS of modern languages met in New York a few days ago, with a view of establishing an association for promoting the study of foreign languages.

A DECREE has been gazetted in Madrid removing certain restrictions upon trade between the United States and Cuba.

REPRESENTATIVE SCOTCH-IRISHMEN from Great Britain and the Colonies and the United States will hold a reunion in Belfast, Ireland, on July 4th, 1884.

A SHOCK OF EARTHQUAKE at Zepee, Bohemia, was so severe as to make the inhabitants take to the fields.

IMMIGRANTS FROM FINLAND who have settled on the Upper Ottawa, Canada, have proved a most industrious class of settlers. They have assisted friends to come out and are encouraging others to follow their example.

A LAMP-LIGHTER in Birkenhead, England, on Christmas Day saw two men watching a canister burning opposite a dwelling house. He rushed up to the canister and kicked it a few yards, when a terrible explosion broke the windows of all the houses round. The men who were watching the machine escaped, leaving behind them a fuse a foot and a half long. Upon investigation the police gave the opinion that the explosion was the work of mischief-makers wanting to get up a dynamite scare in the vicinity.

THAT STRONG DRINK IS RAGING is proved by the large number of tragedies occurring in places where liquor is sold. A recent instance is the case of W. N. Travis, who in a saloon in Tracy City, Tennessee, shot and killed two men and fatally stabbed a third.

A GRACE DARLING has turned up in the Province of New Brunswick, and the Canadian Government intends to present her with a testimonial in recognition of her efforts in saving life. Her name is Miss Boyd, and her father is a pilot and keeper of the lighthouse at Spruce Point, St. Croix River. One night last summer Miss Boyd and her mother were sitting in the lighthouse, when they were startled by hearing cries for help. Miss Boyd without any hesitation launched a boat and rowed to the rescue of two men who were drowning and saved them.

GLOUCESTER FISHERMEN who are claimants under the Fortune Bay award are to receive seven percent of the amounts allotted at the first disbursement, the rest of the fund having gone to pay lawyers' fees, commissions, interest on former awards and other expenses.

GENERAL THOMAS L. KANE, who was Colonel of the Bucktail Regiment in the War of the Rebellion, and a brother of the famous Arctic explorer, died in Philadelphia a few days ago of pneumonia.

THE FRENCH SENATE, by 201 to 51, has voted to restore the salary of the Archbishop of Paris to 45,000 francs per annum, the Chamber of Deputies having reduced it to 15,000.

M. DE LESSEPS has been boasting in a lecture delivered in France that so long as he or his sons lived the Suez Canal would be under French control.

A NUMBER OF WORTHLESS IRISHMEN—saloon keepers and loafers—in Buffalo, New York, are talking about getting up an expedition to the chief Canadian cities, to destroy British and Canadian property. Their main object is probably similar to that of the same class in New York—to attract the pennies of their simple-minded countrymen and women, whom they delude into the notion that they are the self-sacrificing saviours of Ireland.

THE CONTRADICTED REPORT, that a crank who wanted to kill President Arthur was arrested at the Fifth Avenue Hotel in New York on Evacuation Day, is now said to have been true. It is said the matter, hushed up at the time, came out when the President's quarters at the hotel were changed during his recent visit. When the man was searched a bowie knife and loaded revolver were found upon him, and he said he had instructions to serve the President as his predecessor had been treated.

THE FAMOUS CANADIAN OARSMAN, Hurlan, has been giving exhibitions of his strength and skill at San Francisco, where he rested awhile on his way to Australia.

A MAJORITY OF THE COMMITTEE ON WAYS AND MEANS in the United States House of Representatives are said to be in favor of reducing customs taxation, or a tariff for revenue purposes mainly. Mr. Mills, a member of the Committee, is reported as having said he was an uncompromising reformer and thought if protection was an evil it should be dug up by the roots and there should be no half-way policy. He favored an open and straightforward fight for revenue reform. The Committee would report a bill and it would undoubtedly pass the House, but he did not expect the Senate would pass it.

A PROTEST IS BEING RAISED by the native Indian press over the proposed compromise in the bill giving native judges jurisdiction over Europeans. By the compromise Englishmen would have the right to be tried by a jury composed of a majority of their countrymen. Agitation in favor of the bill being passed in its original form is being counselled by the native press.