

**A BRAVE WOMAN.**—There was a barn raising out on a Western prairie at which all the neighbors were invited, and there was a large assemblage present. When the frame was well up and everything made safe and sure the man went to his house and rolled out a number of kegs of beer and invited all to partake freely of the amber beverage. Just at this time a woman appeared on the scene, our hostess. She says:—"Gentlemen, I have in my house a nice supper for you all, and all are bidden, but not a man is invited who partakes of the beer. If you prefer the beer to my supper you are welcome to it." "But," she continued, "I want that you should take your beer away, for I have boys whom I don't want exposed to such influence that has ruined a thousand households." There was quiet at the close of her few but decisive remarks; they all knew what they meant and for whom they were intended. Not a drop of the beer was touched. All partook heartily of the supper and went home under the consciousness that leaves not a sting behind nor a breath poisoned with the perfume of lager beer.—*Ex.*

## General News.

### CANADIAN.

Hon. J. O'Connor, is gazetted judge of the Queen's Bench of Ontario, *vice* M. C. Cameron, appointed Chief Justice.

An exceedingly cold wave is now passing over the Maritime Provinces. In several parts of Cumberland County several inches of snow have fallen, and on Sunday it was reported that a five inches fall of snow had taken place at Moncton, N.B. It is thought that the crops will suffer from the unseasonable change.

His Excellency the Governor-General and the Marchioness of Lansdowne paid an official visit to the Toronto Industrial Exhibition Tuesday afternoon, and were presented with an address by the directors, to which His Excellency made a suitable reply.

Two hundred and twenty-eight men have thus far been engaged at Ottawa for the Nile expedition, and it is expected that at least 200 will turn up on Saturday morning, when the men will march to the railway station and take the train for Montreal to embark on the Ocean King.

About five o'clock on the evening of the 12th, freight train No. 36 was coming fast down the grade between Copetown and Dundas, when the three last cars jumped the track and were wrecked. Conductor Turnbull, of London, was killed, and brakeman Thomas Smith, of Hamilton, was injured, it is feared fatally. Robinson, another brakeman, escaped.

A young man named John Johnson, of London, was the victim of a deplorable accident between 5 and 6 o'clock Tuesday morning on the Grand Trunk Railway near Beachville, where he was on duty as a brakeman. By some means he slipped off the tender, and the wheels of the cars following passed over both his legs, mangling them below the knees. He was picked up and brought to the city. The doctor who examined him stated this morning that one limb, and perhaps both, would require to be amputated. The operation was performed.

On Tuesday about half-past five o'clock, a woman named Rebecca Hanscombe, who resided just off the Kingston Road, near Leslieville, came to her death under circumstances which makes it difficult to say whether it was the result of an accident or suicide. The unfortunate woman was given to drink, and at the time referred to was under the influence of liquor. When the 5:30 car was going east she came out of the house of Mr. Mitchell, which is situated close beside the tannery, and was seen to either throw herself or fall across the rails just in front of the horses, and before the driver could stop the car, the wheels had passed over her body. Dr. McKenzie was sent for, but by the time he arrived the woman was breathing her last.

**FIRES.**—A fire at Midland, Ont., on the 12th inst., destroyed a large number of business buildings on King street. Loss about \$20,000.—The barns of Mr. Neil McAlpine, near Payne's mill, Back street, Southwold, were destroyed by fire on the 11th inst., together with all their contents.—A fire broke out in the sash and door factory belonging to T. Lewis, Trenton, on the 13th inst., completely destroying it in a short time. The flames spread to a dwelling house adjoining, which was also entirely destroyed.—A somewhat dangerous fire occurred at Lindsay on the 16th inst. The Government drill shed caught fire from some cause at present unknown, and in a little more than an hour was consumed with all its contents.—Four railway cars standing on the Sylvester siding were also burned, and the old fire hall and hose-tower caught fire in several places, but the citizens put it out after the greatest exertions.—At Dunnville, on the 16th inst., a fire broke out in some lumber and ties which were piled on the canal bank about two miles below here. The lumber destroyed consisted chiefly of chestnut and maple, valued at about \$5,000, and was the property of Mr. G. P. Moore, of Welland.

### UNITED STATES.

The negotiations regarding the Spanish-American treaty of commerce promise to reach a speedy termination.

The striking coal miners in the Hocking Valley region are becoming desperate, and further trouble is feared.

Serious floods are now taking place in Wisconsin. The loss at Eau Claire is appalling. In and between Chippewa Falls and Eau Claire the loss will not fall short of \$1,500,000.

At Rena, Iowa, Jacob Steen, postmaster, shot and killed his wife and himself last week. It is possible he was insane.

There was a serious smash-up on the Grand Trunk road near Merrittton, twenty miles west of Buffalo last week. As the train coming east left Merrittton it was run into by a Welland train, and several cars thrown from the track and badly wrecked.

N. C. Thompson's bank at Rockford, Ill., closed Monday morning. The liabilities will be half a million. The assets include stock in the N. C. Thompson Manufacturing Company, and are believed to be sufficient to cover the liabilities.

The boiler of the Central Railroad Compress at Eufala, Ala., exploded on the 15th inst, killing four men and wounding several. About four hundred bales of cotton were burned. The compress had been recently erected and cost \$65,000. Total loss, \$100,000. The chief clerk and three colored labourers were killed. The boiler was defective.

The body of Francis F. Taylor, of New York, who threw himself over the Niagara Falls, on Sept. 8th, was found at Youngstown, on the 16th inst. The remains were buried on the bank of the river.

At Jackson, Miss., the other night, "Sonny" Smith and Bob Marlow, under the influence of whiskey, entered a train at Crystal Springs, disturbing and abusing the passengers and flourishing pistols. In the smoking car, after abusing a number of passengers they encountered Mr. Bell, guard in charge of convicts. Marlow, urged by Smith, drew a pistol and commenced firing. He fired five shots and Bell four. Conductor McShane received two shots, one in the left shoulder, the other in the right hip. Marlow received a ball in the breast, near the heart, believed to be fatal. Bell received a slight wound.

Late on the night of the 16th, a fire broke out in the drying-room of Nicholsance & Co.'s marble mantle manufactory, East 128th street, New York. The fire spread rapidly, and the building was consumed. Loss, \$100,000. An adjoining building, occupied by the Palvert sash and blind manufactory, was also consumed.

### BRITISH AND FOREIGN.

The English Parliament is convoked for the 23rd of October. The Ministerialists intend to curtail the debates, and expect to finish the session in four weeks. The Parnellites will move for inquiry into the Maamtrasna confessions, and demand the recall of Earl Spencer and Trevelyan.

Twenty thousand persons participated in the demonstration in favor of the Franchise Bill at Kilmarnock, on the 13th inst. A great procession of trades, in which 8,000 men took part, was a feature of the occasion.

At Victoria Park, London, there was a Radical demonstration attended by some 50,000 persons. Three platforms were erected, from which Bradlaugh and other speakers delivered addresses. Resolutions were adopted at meetings at both Oldham and Victoria Park favoring the Franchise Bill and bill abolishing the House of Lords.

The Queen has sent a message of condolence to the Queen of Italy in consequence of the virulent outbreak of cholera at Naples. The disease is also spreading terribly in Spain. There have been over 500 deaths reported.

In consequence of the falling of the Nile, Gen. Wolseley has ordered preparations to be made so that if necessary, the expedition can proceed from Debbeh to Khartoum *via* the desert route.

Wolseley will proceed to Wady Halfa as soon as his troops and transports pass the second cataract. From that point the expedition will proceed to Dongola by water, and at Dongola it will be decided what route to pursue in the advance to Khartoum.

The British steamer Dart, from Rio Janeiro for New York and London, has been wrecked near Santos, Brazil, South America. The crew and passengers were saved.

A dispatch from Major Chermiside says that it is reported at Wady Halfa that General Gordon has attacked Berber.

London.—The Chinese threat to block the port of Shanghai, by sinking obstructions in the Woosung river, has led to a remonstrance from England, and a number of diplomatic notes have passed between the two governments.