

# Weekly Messenger

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## The Weekly Messenger

### THE ICE LION.

This mammoth structure is to be erected under the direction of the East End Carnival Committee, Montreal. It will stand on one of the public squares, opposite the French Parish Church of Notre Dame. The lion will rest in an attitude of repose upon a pedestal some twenty feet high, with a base diameter of twenty feet. The latter will be in the form of a cross, which will gradually assume a conical shape, the top being six feet broad. Between each of the angles will be a row of rounded steps, over which water will be poured, making an icy cascade. The interior of the structure will be lit by electric light. The lion is to be sixteen feet in length, and the structure in its entirety will be thirty feet high.

### THE EGYPTIAN PROBLEM.

The British outlook in Egypt is described as more encouraging. A couple of native tribes have refused to join Osman Digna in his tactics against the British. The Mahdi himself is busily preparing for battle. He has sent all the women of his tribe back, ordered the inhabitants of Metannah to evacuate the town and forced men to join his army. Lord Wolsley recently paid a visit to the hospital at Korti, and conversed with the sick soldiers, thanking them for their faithful services and using other cheering words. The brigade under command of Lord W. Beresford arrived at Korti after a journey from Sarrass in twenty-seven days. They are to man General Gordon's steamers on the Nile. A prisoner brought to Lord Wolsley says that four of General Gordon's steamers were recently at Shendi, awaiting the advance of the English. Other prisoners say that the Mahdi will make a stand at Metannah, where he has had earthworks constructed. General Stewart is proceeding there and will occupy that place by the end of this week. To the Sussex regiment General Lord Wolsley has promised the honor of being the first to march into Khartoum. As the army advances, the transmission of telegraphic despatches from the front becomes uncertain. The troops under General Stewart are described as being in excellent health and spirits. A messenger reached Korti on January 9th, with despatches. On his way from Gakdul he fell in with some armed natives who proved very friendly and directed him on his way. He reports that the country is safe for quite eighty miles beyond Korti, but that after that, it is dangerous from the caravans of the Mahdi. General Lord Wolsley has telegraphed to the Prince of Wales that he expects to be in Khartoum on January 24th. He wants the Government to send three thousand picked troops to Suakim to operate against Osman Digna. Lord Wolsley anticipates heavy fighting even after Khartoum has been relieved. A messenger reached Khartoum on

December 27th bearing despatches from Lord Wolsley to General Gordon. The messenger, in attempting a return, was captured and beaten, and his despatches from Gen. Gordon to Gen. Lord Wolsley taken from him. General Stewart, with an army of 2,000 men is expecting to attack a hostile force of 8,000. In Europe, the problem continues to attract the greatest interest. France and Germany, it is stated, have come to an agreement on the subject, and France will shortly reply to the English proposals respecting Egyptian finances. The scheme of France will of course be rejected by England, whereupon Prince Bismarck will propose a conference of the Powers.

men as reinforcements at Tonquin in the best health and spirits. In order to end the campaign before the rainy season France proposes to send 6,000 fresh troops to Tonquin at once, and 6,000 more in February. China is reported as actively at work recruiting and fortifying strongly every exposed point. China counts upon a German attack upon France, as soon as the latter becomes deeply involved. German officers travelling in China continually, where they are at once engaged to drill the Chinese soldiers. The Chinese call these German officers "Bismarck's missionaries." The reinforcements to be sent from France in February will

ment still adheres to its scheme, which is also desired by England and Germany. The King of Belgium wants Albert, second son of the Count of Flanders, recommended as Viceroy of the Congo State. The scheme of a railway from Stanley pool to the Lower Congo is not looked upon favorably by the conference. American activity is looked upon as a sign that the United States will in future show itself more concerned in European interests than heretofore. The International Association has decided to send out plant for a narrow gauge railway, and a British Congo Company has been formed with a capital of £2,500,000.



THE ICE LION.

### THE FRANCO-CHINESE WAR

Despatches received from China dwell upon the difficulties by which the French are surrounded through sickness, and inadequate transport facilities. Advices from Tien Tsin report the loss of the French in Formosa from fever and dysentery as enormous. Saigon despatches state that the French transports arriving there are crowded with invalid soldiers. Cholera and typhoid fever are reported as committing fearful ravages among the troops on the Tonquin delta. The Annamite troops near Hanoi have revolted, pillaging the commissariat and killing the French guards. Admiral Courbet has been ordered to occupy Tamsui and to raise the Formosa blockade. General De Lisle announces the arrival of 3,200

make a total effective French force of China of 31,500. The Government now intends to go further than the capture of Tonquin, and hopes to occupy Canton. The French diplomatists at Shanghai have been ordered to quit by M. Ferry.

### THE CONGO CONFERENCE.

Advices from Paris state that France is moderating her demands with regard to her proposals in this matter. It is now said that she will renounce her claim to the left bank of Stanley pool and that the African Association shall cede to her all its stations on the upper and middle Niari. For this session the Association asks from France the sum of 3,000,000 francs. The American govern-

THE English papers, commenting on the attempt to assassinate Phelan in O'Donovan Rossa's office, in New York, stated that the time has now certainly come for setting the law in motion, the *Telegraph* stating that if a few Americans were killed the American Government would perhaps interfere to check the operations of the murder colony in their midst. Phelan states that he will be able to prove a conspiracy on the part of Rossa, Kearny, O'Brien, Joyce and Short to lure him to New York for assassination; and that Rossa and Kearney are British spies.

EDMUND ORTON has returned from Australia, where he went at the instigation of Miss Georgia Baring, a daughter of one of the Barings of London, for the purpose of indentifying Arthur Orton, confined in the Paramatta lunatic asylum, at Sydney, as his brother. He states he did identify him to be such, and is therefore thoroughly convinced the claimant recently discharged from prison in London is really Roger Tichborne's heir to the Tichborne estates. The real Arthur Orton, now in Australia, will be taken to London to further establish his identity.

AN ORANGE flag, having been hoisted across a street in Bay Roberts, Newfoundland, the Roman Catholic Bishop of Harbor Grace took umbrage at it, and refused to pass under it. The government despatched a force of police to keep order, and subsequently the warship "Tenedos" was ordered to Bay Roberts. The people of Bay Roberts subsequently held an indignation meeting, and condemned the despatch of an armed force to a place they declared peaceable and law abiding. The general feeling was that the flag was a childish thing, unworthy of the notice of Bishop McDonald.

A MAN named Phelan, of Kansas, was stabbed on the 9th inst., in the office of the *United Irishman* (New York), of which O'Donovan Rossa is one of the proprietors, by a man named Short, a butcher, whom he subsequently shot. The mysterious affair of which Rossa pretends that he knew nothing, points to treachery in the Fenian camp.

KING ALFONSO and his ministers have proceeded to visit the scene of the earthquakes in Andalusia. The Queen, on parting from her husband at the railway depot, was much affected by apprehensions of possible mishaps, and wept profusely.