

General News.

CANADIAN.

PARLIAMENTARY SUMMARY.—In reply to a question by Mr. Blake, Mr. Pope reported that the number of immigrants who have settled in Canada during the last year was 133,303. The number of persons reported to have gone to Manitoba was 50,400.

A Bill was introduced by Sir John A. Macdonald to confer certain privileges on the more advanced bands of the Indians of Canada, with a view to the municipal franchise.

Reduction of Postage Rates was the subject of a question put to the Postmaster General, who said it was under the consideration of the Government.

Mr. Cameron, M.P. (Huron) has introduced a Bill to repeal the Dominion License Act of 1883, on the ground that it was passed by the House under a mistake as to the powers of the House and the necessity of such an Act.

ONTARIO LEGISLATURE.—The debate on the address has been assumed daily during the week, the principal subjects for discussion being The Boundary Award, The School Book Question and The License Act.

Another fur robbery has taken place in Toronto. On Saturday night, last, the establishment of Mr. Dineen was broken into, and furs to the value of \$3,000 were carried away.

A verdict of "Not Guilty" was returned by the jury on the Humber disaster in favor of conductor Barber.

The Scott Act will be submitted to vote in Oxford county, on March 13.

The Dominion Government has a charge of \$800,000 against the Government of the Province of Quebec due since confederation, and it is reported that an action has been entered for its recovery.

On Wednesday, last, the body of a young man was found frozen to death at Point Traverse, near Kingston. He left his home in a state of intoxication, and was found in an upright position frozen in a snow bank.

Mr. Thos. Hardy, a well-known temperance advocate from Manchester, England, has been lecturing on temperance with great success in London, Hamilton and Toronto. He goes to Montreal next week.

About forty Italian laborers who claimed protection from the police, at Montreal, as being destitute, and who received food and shelter at the expense of the city were offered work in the city stone quarries, but refused it because the wages were not high enough. They got notice from the Chief of Police that they will not receive any further public assistance.

The funeral of the widow of the late Dr. Ryerson took place on Tuesday last, in presence of a large body of mourners, among whom were some of the most distinguished ministers and laymen of the Methodist Church.

A train on the Welland Railway came in contact with a snowbank near Thorold. The train which usually arrives there at eleven o'clock in the morning went on as usual nearly as far as Allanburgh, there it ran into a snowbank over eight feet deep. The passengers were kept without either food or water for thirteen hours.

Theurer, the famous acrobat, while giving a public performance at Quebec, on the 23rd inst., fell from a trapeze and badly fractured his leg. Great excitement prevailed for a time among the audience, under the impression that he had been killed.

The Dominion Alliance met on Thursday and Friday, January 30 and February 1, at Ottawa. The proceedings will be reported in next week's CITIZEN.

The annual meeting of the Dominion Alliance at Ottawa closed on Friday, after a long and interesting discussion.

Prof. Foster moved the following as a substitute: "That we send a deputation to the Government asking them to grant simultaneous polling in groups of counties which are agitating for the adoption of the Canada Temperance Act; that we instruct our executive to take measures for introducing into the House of Commons a resolution affirming the desirability of passing a prohibitory law for the Dominion of Canada."

The following were elected officers for the year:—President, Hon. A. Vidal. Vice-presidents, the same as last year, and Sir A. T. Galt. Montreal; Wm. McCraney, M. P., Oakville; J. Jamieson, M. P., Almonte; Hon. Judge Jones, Brantford, Ald. J. T. Moore, Toronto; Lieut.-Governor J. C. Aikins, Winnipeg; Rev. D. I. Brethour, Milton. Chairman of Executive, J. R. Dougall, Montreal; Solicitor, J. J. McLaren, Q. C., Montreal; Treasurer, J. May, Ottawa; Corresponding Secretary, F. S. Spence, Toronto; Recording Secretary, Rev. J. Wood, Ottawa.

The Executive Council was the same as that of last year, also Rev. J. Longley, E. Botterell, T. M. T. Hannum, J. Smith, and Rev. Dr. Moore, of Ottawa.

UNITED STATES.

An Ice gorge is forming above the city of Toledo. A very disastrous flood is apprehended.

Governor Bourn, in his message to the Rhode Island Legislature, says the increase in the proportion of divorces to marriages in that State is absolutely startling. He recommends that testimony in divorce trials be heard in open court.

A Cincinnati bookkeeper, alleged to have absconded with the proceeds of a \$10,000 forgery, has been arrested in Toronto.

An extraordinary conflagration broke out at the docks, bottom of West Market street, Toronto, on Thursday night. Two of the largest elevators and grain stores in the city were totally destroyed. The flames illuminated the whole of the south portion of the city, and the effect from the bay was awfully grand. Many thousands of persons witnessed the scene both from the shore and the frozen bay. It is estimated that the loss will amount to between \$200,000 and \$250,000.

BRITISH AND FOREIGN.

A terrible hurricane blew over the whole of England and a portion of France on Saturday night last.

Much damage was done at London and many persons injured. The glass roof of the Westminster Aquarium was demolished, causing a panic among the audience, in which several persons were hurt. A printing office in Haymarket was unroofed, and a boy killed. Many vessels were wrecked off the coast, and a large number of lives lost.

At Torquay there were many casualties. Trees were uprooted and many boats swamped. The shops on the Isle of Wight were closed early Saturday owing to the hurricane. At Newry many houses were unroofed. At Leeds the roof of a dwelling collapsed, killing a daughter of a workman. The mail train between Durham and Darlington was twice stopped by the gale. The barque *Nokomis*, Capt. Murphy, which sailed from Londonderry on January 19 for Baltimore, and which returned to Lough Foyle for shelter, parted her cables and was driven to sea. It is feared the vessel and all hands have been lost. The Iron Chapel at Newcastle was demolished. The roof in falling killed a woman and two children.

Several bodies have been washed ashore at Hyde.

The barque *Marie Charlotte*, from San Francisco, is ashore at Westport. The brig *Jonathan Weir*, from Newport, Eng., for Matananez, was wrecked in Biddeford Bay. The crew were saved. The barque *Bjornstjerne Bjornesen*, from Charleston, is ashore in the Mersey. All the crew except the carpenter were saved. The barque *Coit* is a total wreck at Land's End. The crew were saved, except the captain and one of the seamen. The ship *Herbert Beech*, for Philadelphia, is stranded near Flushing. The brig *G. D. T.*, from Oporto, is stranded in St. Alban's Bay. The crew were saved. The *Modjeska*, from Londonderry for Montreal, is totally wrecked near Port Rush. The crew of fifteen are supposed to have been drowned. It has been ascertained that all the crew of the ship *Simla*, which was wrecked on Saturday, have been rescued.

Reports of damages caused by the late gale continue to arrive. At Newcastle-upon-Tyne the spire of All Saints' Church was badly damaged and the roof partially destroyed. On Letterkenny Railway (Ireland) the train was overturned near Londonderry. Sixty yards of embankment on the Northern Railway were swept away.

The *Juno*, for Calcutta, foundered in the Mersey. All hands, numbering 25, are lost.

The breakwater at Port Erin, Isle of Man, the construction of which cost £70,000, has been entirely destroyed.

The barque *Mokomis*, from London for Baltimore, has been wrecked at Port Stewart. The fate of the crew is unknown.

A colliery explosion occurred in the Rhonda Valley last week, when 68 persons were killed.

Queen Victoria leaves England at the end of March for Darmstadt, to be present at the marriage of Prince Louis of Battenberg with her granddaughter on April 15th.

St. Petersburg.—In spite of the numerous arrests the agrarian agitation continues in Pskov and Vitebsk. So intense is the irritation of the peasants in the latter province that the Governor has asked that the troops be withdrawn, as a collision is feared. Appeals addressed to the educated classes have appeared in White Russia, urging them to join the struggle against absolutism.

The *Financial Reformer*, published in England, supplies details which, when summed up, show that 28 ducal families, composed of 519 members, occupy 1,013 offices under the Imperial Government as hereditary privileges, at a cost to the state of £9,760,000; that the families of 33 marquises supply 621 poor relations for 1,250 offices, at a cost of £8,302,750; and that the family connections of 200 earls, numbering 3,391, hold 5,963 public offices, at a cost of £48,105,192; equal to 8,226 offices held by 4,531 members of the nobility, at a cost of £66,168,032. The masses of the people get little or nothing.