

same; what is there in politics that should exclude them from participating in Committee work or attending Conventions? It was thought until recently that strong men were alone fit to be guards in lunatic asylums. The experiment has been made, however, with women, and with perfect success. In the hands of a gentle woman, possessed of a little tact, the powerful and obstreperous lunatic, who would knock down a man, becomes as amiable to discipline as a child, accepts reproof without a murmur, and listens to praise with manifestations of delight. If women exercise so beneficial an influence on lunatics, why not on politicians? Those who have taken part in political contests know that there is much room for improvement in the methods of conducting campaigns, and if the drinking, and lying, and rowdiness now so prevalent, cannot endure the presence of women, so much the worse for these time-honored customs. Let us hope that at no distant day more reliance may safely be placed on appeal to reason and public spirit, and if the political enfranchisement of women is going to hasten that day, as I firmly believe it will, the sooner they are enfranchised the better.

Those women who have already the school and municipal franchises in Ontario, I would advise to use them to the fullest extent. They can now see the argument which is most readily resorted to, and the hardest to meet—that they would not use the political franchise if they had it. The best answer to that argument is furnished by women going to the polls and depositing their ballots every time they have a chance to do so. I grant that the argument is unsound and unfair, and that it is not applied to men; but if it has carried away a man with such strength of intellect, honesty of purpose, and fairness of disposition as Mr. Blake, it cannot fail to carry away the great majority of those who are less able to come to an independent conclusion. To the women of Toronto this view of the case is of special importance. We have thousands of women in this city who will be able to vote at the next civic election. We have a brewer for mayor, and he is *ex-officio* a Police Commissioner. We have several brewers in the City Council, and that body is clothed with important discretionary powers in the matter of liquor licenses. If the women of Toronto who have votes choose to organize at once and select candidates whom they can conscientiously support for the mayoralty and the aldermanships, they can next January elect a temperance Council, which will steadily control the number of licenses, and see that the law is stringently administered. The brewers must go and the Chief of Police with them.

ONLOOKER.

## General News.

### CANADIAN.

A verdict of wilful murder has been returned against James Stewart and John G. Wesley, for the murder of J. R. Arnold, at Thornhill, on the 3rd of February last.

The death is announced of Mr. John R. Yorke, Conservative M.P. for East Gloucester.

Colonels of Canadian volunteer regiments have been privately informed that the English Government will be willing to accept volunteers for service abroad in event of necessity.

Col. Kennedy who commanded the Winnipeg contingent of the Canadian voyageurs, sent up the Nile, died in London, Eng., on May 3rd. The deceased, who was only forty-six years of age, contracted small pox at Suakim, and had only just arrived in England.

The Presbyterian Synod of Toronto and Kingston is now in conference at Cobourg. Rev. D. J. McDonnell, of Toronto, was unanimously elected Moderator.

The Canadian voyageurs, who recently arrived in England from Egypt, are to be allowed their own time in returning to Canada, so as to give them an opportunity to see the old country.

Startling news has come in from Battleford of an engagement between our troops under Col. Otter, and some bands of Indians under Poundmaker. It seems that Col. Otter, with a flying column, consisting of North-West Mounted Police, B Battery, the Ottawa sharpshooters, part of C Company, and two or more companies of the Queen's Own marched out of Battleford on Friday last. His destination was Poundmaker's Reserve, or a few miles beyond, and his object was to chastise the Indians who were there assembled. After a very rapid march, the Indians were found to the number of 600. An engagement commenced at 5 a.m. on Saturday and lasted till noon. Seven of Col. Otter's men were killed and twelve wounded. It is estimated that fifty of the Indians were killed. Otter then seems to have deemed the object of his journey accomplished, as he marched back to Battleford, arriving there some time in the night of Saturday-Sunday, thirty hours after the time of his leaving Battleford. Colonel Otter covered seventy miles, fought the battle, and re-

turned to Battleford inside of 30 hours. The list of killed and wounded as far as known, is as follows:—Killed—Corporals Laurio and Sleight, and Bugler Burko of the N. W. M. Police; Privates Osgood and Rogers, Ottawa Foot Guards; Private Dobbs (b), Bugler Faulkner, of C. Company, Toronto Infantry School. Wounded—Sergt. Ward, N. W. M. P.; Lieut. Peltier, Sergt. Gaffer, Corporal Martin and Gunner Reynolds, of B. Battery; Sergt.-Major Spackman, C. Company; Colored-Sergt. Winter, Pte. McQuilken, Ottawa Foot Guards; Sergt. G. E. Cooper, Ptes. George Watts, Elliott, Nary (b), Queen's Own Rifles, and Mr. Gilbert, of Battleford.

### UNITED STATES.

There are 8,000 coal miners idle or on strike in Illinois.

Gen. Grant is making wonderful strides towards recovery. He has been recently working on his book, and has written several pages of manuscript himself.

Three prisoners who fired Winton gaol in North Carolina in the hope of escaping were burned to death in it.

The epidemic at Plymouth, Pa., is now said to be of a much more serious nature than supposed. One hundred and thirty new cases are reported since Thursday, making in all over six hundred persons prostrated with the disease. The average death rate is about three daily.

A collision occurred between the troops and striking quarrymen at Lemont, Illinois, on May 4th. Two strikers were killed. The strikers in large numbers made an assault upon the men loading canal boats a mile north of Lemont. Three companies of troops went to the scene and a fight resulted.

Owing to the bitter fight at Kedkey, Ind., between saloon-keepers and prohibitionists and frequent threats of incendiarism, all fire risks in the town have been cancelled. Several attempts to fire saloons and other property have been frustrated. Much excitement exists.

A fire in a five-storey tenement house in New York, early on Saturday morning, caused a panic among the occupants, many of whom were killed or injured in their frantic efforts to escape from the burning building. Fourteen people were taken to the hospital, of whom eight or nine are believed to be dead.

An immense factory building in Brooklyn, New York, in which several hundred men and girls were employed in various industries, suddenly collapsed Tuesday morning, entombing a large number of the inmates in the ruins. The wreck caught fire almost simultaneously, and by the fall of some walls four firemen were buried. The number of lives lost has not been ascertained correctly, but it is variously estimated that from twenty-five to fifty are buried in the debris.

The dwelling of James A. Logan, member of the Democratic County Committee, was burned at Waterloo, N. Y., early Sunday morning. When the firemen arrived, the body of Mrs. Logan was found partly out of the second storey window, burned to a crisp. She was probably suffocated in the attempt to escape. After the fire was under control search was made for other bodies. In the second storey was found the dead body of Logan, with his youngest child clasped in his arms. The eldest daughter was found wandering in the hall burned badly and black with smoke. Three daughters who slept downstairs succeeded in escaping, but the eldest is burned badly, and there are small hopes of her recovery. The origin of the fire is unknown.

### BRITISH AND FOREIGN.

The English Government does not intend to press for a present renewal of the Irish Crimes Act, as the reports from Ireland are much more satisfactory. It is possible that the Queen will pay the island a visit next autumn.

The International Exhibition at Antwerp, Belgium, was opened on Saturday by King Leopold, assisted by the Queen and other members of the Royal family, together with Cabinet Ministers and foreign diplomatic representatives.

Severe earthquake shocks were experienced in different parts of Austria on Friday, and many people were killed in Kindberg and Styria.

Mount Vesuvius is again in eruption. A copious stream of lava is flowing from the principal crater toward Torre del Greco and Pompeii.

The troop ship *Jumna* with 1,000 Coolies, which sailed from Suakim for Bombay, has been ordered to return. Men were despatched to man the monitors in Bombay Harbor. Gen. Wolsley has arrived at Suakim. Famine prevails in Kordofan. The revolt against the Mahdi is spreading. The report of the routing of the Mahdi with heavy losses at Mesalamei is confirmed.

A Sunday night fracas occurred between Jamaicans and National soldiers near Panama. The latter were disarmed and afterwards retired. After procuring reinforcements they returned and broke into the barracks, where there were Jamaicans sleeping, and in a most barbarous manner killed 25 of them and wounded 20. One Colombian was killed. Jamaicans are leaving in great numbers. Their departure will delay work on the canal.

An understanding has been arrived at between Russia and England relative to the Afghan boundary difficulty. It is agreed that the matter should be settled by arbitration. It is to be hoped now that matters will be settled satisfactorily and definitely, as we do not want to see in the future the prospects of a terrible and devastating war. The war spirit of England seems to be greatly disappointed over the turn affairs have taken, as a conflict with Russia would no doubt give a great many an opportunity to distinguish themselves, but these views are not shared by all, and nearly everyone will appreciate the labors of England's Premier in trying to avoid war with the Muscovites when it can be done without endangering the honor and prestige of the country. The most of the London papers, prompted undoubtedly by the same military spirit, are strong in denunciation of the steps taken by England to bring the question to an amicable settlement, and say that the inevitable conflict is only postponed for a brief period. Gen. Lumsden and Col. Stewart have been directed to return to England to consult with the Government before the arrangements with Russia are concluded.