

strikes sore strokes, and pity shall no longer avert the blow? You are Christians; yes, but see that you have not been admitted into a holier sanctuary only to commit a deeper sacrilege! Why, had you been Pagans, these very same arguments ought to be irresistible to you! To millions of Pagans they have been so. The sobriety of China was due to Confucius. The sobriety of India and of Burmah was due to Buddhah. I am horrified to read that in contact with us in the last three years the sale of drink has increased in India 36 per cent., in Burmah 74 per cent. The sobriety of the vast regions of Asia and Africa was due to Mahomet. In the day of judgment, shall not Confucians, shall not Buddhists, shall not Mahommedans, rise up in judgment against this generation and condemn it, for they abstained from strong drink at the bidding of Confucius, Buddhah, and Mahomet, and behold a greater than these is here! Ah, if the voice of all these tempted, suffering, perishing, miserable souls be nothing to you—if the voice of your country be nothing to you—yet, if you be Christians, listen to the voice of Christ pleading with you in the pathetic accents of myriads of the little ones, that it is not His will, that it is utterly against His will that his cross and passion be thus rendered of none effect for multitudes for the least of whom Christ died. "If thou forbear to deliver them that are drawn unto death, and those that are ready to be slain; if thou sayest, Behold we knew it not" (when now, at any rate, you have no excuse for not knowing it), "doth not He that pondereth the heart consider it? and He that keepeth thy soul doth not He know it? And shall not He render to every man according to his work?"

General News.

CANADIAN.

The snow storms of the present week have been the heaviest known for many years.

The Dominion Parliament meets on the 17th inst. at Ottawa.

The funeral of the victims of the Humber catastrophe took place at Toronto on Saturday last. The crowd was one of the largest ever seen in the city.

The writ has been issued for the local election in South Renfrew, Ont., nomination on the 11th inst., and polling on the 18th, at Pembroke village.

A St. Catharines lady is in a critical condition from a blow inflicted by a burglar, whom she discovered burglarizing her cellar.

On Wednesday last the crew of the *Silver Spray*, six men, after laying up their boat at Silver Islet, started on foot for Port Arthur, 30 miles distant. After passing Thunder Cape they were overtaken by a snow storm, losing their way. Five arrived at Port Arthur exhausted and partly frozen; the sixth man, named Porter, of Owen Sound, separated from his companions during the storm. A search party discovered his body yesterday some miles from the Cape.

At Collingwood last week Mrs. McLachlan, an old woman living alone in a tumble-down house at the East ward, was frozen to death. She was found Friday morning by neighbors.

W. Tweedle, an old farmer living near the city, swallowed a quantity of medicine for colic, which turned out to be ammonia, and he will probably die.

Two young men lost their way in a snowstorm on the ice near Kingston last week. Both were badly frozen. One was dead when discovered.

At Coldwater a disastrous fire took place on Monday about 10 p. m., entirely destroying the store and hardware stock of Mr. W. H. Manning. The damage is estimated at between \$6,000 and \$7,000. Insurance on Mr. Manning's stock, \$3,200, no insurance on the building, which belonged to Mrs. Bush.

At Newcastle, N. B., the Roman Catholic Presbytery was destroyed by fire on Wednesday. It was valued at about \$3,000; no insurance.

UNITED STATES.

A large meeting was held in the Stock Exchange at New Orleans on Tuesday night and a cremation society organized.

Small-pox is rapidly extending in Girardville, Pa. There is much alarm. The schools are all closed, and the neighboring towns are taking precautionary measures.

The Convent of the Sisters of Notre Dame, at Belleville, Ill., was burned at 11 o'clock last Friday night, involving a loss of from \$100,000 to \$125,000. All means of egress were cut off and 27 persons perished in the flames.

The schooner *Adrian*, Elizabethport for Providence, with coal went ashore at Block Island. The captain and one sailor were tak-

en from the vessel during the night by the islanders. The mate and cook were frozen to death. The vessel will probably be a total loss.

J. W. Dent, a cousin of Mrs. Gen. Grant, suicided at the Alvered mine, Cal., on Saturday through poverty and sickness. He leaves a wife in poor circumstances.

Hampton Bird and eight members of his family were attacked violently at New Orleans with symptoms of poisoning. Bird and two of his daughters died; the others are in a precarious condition. Foul play is suspected.

At Hunter's Point, L. I., J. C. Townsend and his wife were found lying unconscious on the kitchen floor. They had been assaulted with a mason's hammer and the house robbed. Both will probably die. Mrs. Townsend is seventy years old and Mr. Townsend seventy-five. Simon Rapalyea, colored, has been arrested.

At Brinton, Pa., fifteen or twenty men employed in clearing snow from the railroad track, were run down by a train. It backed up, and the dead and dying were seen scattered along the track for fully fifty yards. The bodies of two men were found badly mangled, life being extinct. Five others were badly injured, and one has since died.

The mail train on the Erie and Pittsburg railway collided with a freight train at Newcastle, Pa., last week. Engineer Dougherty of the Erie train was fatally crushed and scalded. Expressman Moser, of Pittsburg, and a number of passengers were badly injured.

FIRES.—At New York, on Tuesday, Smith, Winston & Co.'s coffin factory was burned. Loss \$90,000.—The same night at Payne's Junction, Michigan, Jan. 8th, the house of Mrs. Alma was burned. Her daughter, aged 15, became bewildered, rushed into the flames and was burned to death.—The Opera House block at Meadville, Pa., has been burned. Loss \$175,000.—At Bradford, Pa., the dwelling of J. V. Garver, near Duke Center, was burned last week. His four children, aged 1 to 6, perished in the flames.—Saturday night on the plantation of W. G. Taylor, Lenoir County, N. C., an entire family of negroes, William Groom, wife and six children, were burned to death.—At Cincinnati Proctor & Gamble's soap and candle works, the largest in the city, were burned on Monday. Loss \$200,000 to \$250,000.

BRITISH AND FOREIGN.

It is reported that Lord Dufferin will be sent to Egypt to remain so long as the present difficulties continue.

A portion of the bridge on the railway between Wigan and Preston collapsed on Wednesday. Seven workmen were killed and as many injured.

A Dublin correspondent states that the actions of the police at the meetings of the Nationalists and Orangemen at Dromore have shaken public confidence in their neutrality, coolness and discipline, they having treated the Orangemen with marked brutality.

The rupture between the Liberal factions is complete, and the country waits to see whom King Alfonso will call to power. Great uneasiness prevails. The army is suspected of preparing for a revolt. An international tribunal for the settlement of the American claims is much discussed. The United States asks \$5,000,000 and not \$10,000,000. Spain will answer with claims for the cession of Florida and the losses of Spanish subjects during the war of Independence. The situation is critical for the Ministry, King and nation.

The Salvation Army has invaded Germany, and is holding meetings in various parts of the empire. Thus far the Salvationists have met with no opposition, neither have they received much encouragement.

Over 300 persons suspected of complicity in the murder of Col. Sudeiken, at St. Petersburg, have been arrested.

CHINA.—Admiral Courbet reports that the loss during the attack by the French forces upon Sontay was four hundred killed and six hundred wounded. The Annamite commander and lieutenant were wounded. Several Chinese officers in the service of the Annamites were killed.—An explosion at the Hanoi on the 28th ult., destroyed two batteries of French artillery. One man was killed and three injured. Several houses and the barracks were badly damaged.—Two thousand Annamites attacked a French post held by fifty marines. After hard fighting the enemy retired with the loss of one hundred killed and wounded.—Col. Brionval recently attacked the pirates in the provinces of Nam Dinh. They retired to a strong position, and after severe fighting the French routed them.