

NOTES OF THE MONTH.

RUSSIA.

In Europe the all-absorbing topic is the fresh attempt upon the life of the Czar. When we read an account of what the Winter Palace is, and who live in it, we cannot help seeing that there are more symptoms of a palace intrigue than of popular indignation in the late occurrence. Can it be that the explosion was so timed as not to kill the Czar, but to try and scare him into abdication? It seems hard to understand why conspirators who must have had a thorough acquaintance with the ins and outs of the palace, should not have known when the Imperial Party would certainly be in the dining room. Alexander II. has abolished serfdom and freed fourteen millions of his subjects; has done away with capital punishment, and with the oppressive system of farming the taxes; separated the judicial system from the executive, and given the country trial by jury; he has lessened the term of military service and removed many restrictions from the press. And this is the return he receives for his liberal measures. It looks as if Russia were hardly yet fit for even the measure of freedom given, and that, after all, Nicholas knew better how she should be ruled.

GERMANY.

Prince Bismarck either feels or affects to feel a fear that the internal troubles of Russia will force the Czar to a war; that the war must be against Germany; that in it France will join. Consequently, he has asked the Reichstag to provide for an increase of the army by 26,000 men in time of peace, and 85,000 in war, at a cost of £850,000. This little increase is more than half the British army. Germany grumbles and assents. Most other countries think that a false alarm has been given. We must indeed hope that it is so. A war between France and Russia on one side, and Germany and Austria on the other, each nation with its tremendous armies, would be one of the most fearful that the world has ever witnessed. The war force of the four countries is as follows: Russia, 500,000; France, 490,000; Germany, 427,000; Austria, 252,000. — Total 1,669,000 fighting men.

AUSTRIA.

Austria seems to have been doing some really good work since her occupation of the Turkish Provinces handed over to her by the Treaty of Berlin. Wisely determining to disturb as little as possible the existing civil arrangements of the country, she has put honest officials in the place of the Turkish officers who had left the country. The result has been very satisfactory, and proves that it is not the "machine" that is bad in Turkey, but the men who work it.

FRANCE.

Two eminent men died in France towards the end of January,—two men who, in public affairs, were widely separated. The Duc de Gramont was Foreign Minister when Napoleon III. declared war against Prussia; and when, after Sedan, the Empire was overthrown, Jules Favre was Foreign Minister under the Republic. It was he who then declared that France would yield "not one fortress, not one inch of territory;" and, not long after, he had to agree to the cession of Alsace and Lorraine, with their fortresses.

GREAT BRITAIN.

A Parliament in its last session is not expected to do very much. Honorable members are supposed to be too anxiously occupied in "making up their accounts" to lay before their constituents. If the criminal code should be enacted, the last session of this Parliament will have given the country a most important reform; and we shall see another proof that the most useful legislation is that which is passed with least popular clamor. It would be hardly too much to say that the usefulness of reforms is in inverse ratio to the popular excitement about them. If there could be given an inexpensive system of land conveyancing, and a compulsory registration of titles, many of the "land difficulties" would settle themselves. But the influence of the lawyers is too strong in Parliament to make Law Reforms easy. The friends of the Government are in rather better spirits this month than before. Early in February Mr. Cowen, a Radical member, in a speech made by him, praised and defended the foreign policy of the Ministry. The victory at Liverpool was merely holding their own in spite of the defection of the Irish vote. But in Southwark, hitherto looked upon as safe for a Liberal majority, a seat was won, and the combined votes of the Liberal and Radical candidates fell short of those of the successful candidate. These events have started fresh rumors of a near dissolution. But that is very uncer-

tain. Mr. Russel is repeating more definitely, and with circumstantial details, his charges against Sir Garnet Wolseley's force in South Africa. If his statements are true, the facts are most discreditable to the British army.

The Irish distress has been too prominent a matter to need special comment. Some most sad particulars have been made known. But there is every hope that private charity and public aid will so far blunt the keen edge of want that famine may be kept off. Already the Relief Committees are speaking more hopefully. But there is no excuse yet for relaxed efforts.

UNITED STATES.

General Grant's name is now put definitely forward as one of the Republican candidates at the next Presidential election, with Sherman and Blaine as his rivals. Tilden is so far the favorite Democrat; but that party has not yet healed its divisions sufficiently to be safe in making a nomination. There are in the States, elections within elections. The party conventions have first to elect the party's man, and then to try and carry the country. As the election will take place in November next, we shall know the candidates before long.

It is fortunate that Mr. Parnell's exhibitions of himself have alienated the sympathies of the American people only from himself and not from the sufferings of the Irish. It speaks most highly for the American people that they have separated the cause of political agitation from that of Christian Charity; and, while keeping themselves free from the one, have liberally responded to the calls of the other. The New York Herald has done good service, both by pricking the Parnell bubble and by its handsome gift to the Relief Fund.

CANADA.

If the Parliament at Westminster has its energies chilled by approaching dissolution, that at Ottawa should be in the fullness of vigour; and it does seem to be settling down to work. So far, there has been but one division which gave the Government a majority of 71. That the second reading of the Bill for the repeal, pure and simple, of the Insolvent Act should pass without a division, shows how strong the feeling is against the law. It is most unlikely that the Senate will interpose again to save it. So we are pretty sure soon to be without the law. It is very desirable that our Local Legislature, which is soon to meet, should follow the example of Ontario, and make provision for some equitable distribution of a debtor's effects. We have no doubt the subject will occupy its attention.

The various departmental reports are before Parliament. Of course the question of chief interest is, how has the New Tariff affected the revenue? and how far has the promised decrease in expenditure been effected? As, however, the reports are made up only till June of last year, they include only about three months of the new tariff. Later returns have been asked for, and when they are before the House, a fairer opinion can be formed than at present. The Minister of Railways has withdrawn his report to add to it the receipts and expenditure to the close of 1879, and it is known that he can show them to be nearly balanced. If this has been effected without allowing the road and stock to run down, Sir Charles Tupper must be congratulated on his management.

An accident which might have proved most serious, providentially resulted in some comparatively trifling injuries to the Princess, who, we are all glad to learn, is rapidly recovering. In connection with this there has been a storm among the press reporters, a protest against DeWintonia, and a very absurd comparison drawn between what the Rideau Hall Secretary is said to have done, and the press restrictions of the Indian Government. The blame, if blame there is, lies with the Telegraph Companies. The matter seems clear enough. We imagine that had Major DeWintonia made it known that a lady having met with an accident, felt anxious that no exaggerated reports of it should be made public, and had directed him to furnish an accurate account of what had really happened, and to request that it only might be published, any GENTLEMAN would have complied with this reasonable request. But if he ordered no despatches to be sent without his permission, the Company should have treated his order as they would that of any other man who came into their office and dictated to them what message they should or should not send. If they obeyed this command, they will no doubt, have many similar ones, and only themselves to blame for them.

We are promised this session a revision of the Banking and Currency laws. We sincerely hope that there will be no encouragement given to "soft money" men, with their "legal tender promises not to pay." Some arrangement might be made by which

the country generally might get the advantage of all the paper currency. One of the most striking instances of how banking influence may take to themselves profits which belong to the country generally was to be seen in our own Province shortly before we went into Confederation. A new issue of Provincial notes was put out, all of \$20, while the banks were free to issue \$1 and \$2 notes to a large extent!

OUR OWN PROVINCE.

In our own Province there has not been much to note. The winter is slipping by all too slowly for the many who last summer failed to earn enough to get through the winter. We fear that many of our poor people will find themselves more heavily in debt in the spring of 1880 than they were in that of 1879. One hundred men were employed for three weeks in the woodyard opened by the Relief Committee of this city. During that time they sawed and split fifty-eight cords of wood and were paid for their labor the sum of five hundred and forty six dollars. Forty-five cords of wood were sold to the citizens, and the balance to the men employed by the Committee. Forty cords of unchopped wood remain on hand. Work in the yard was discontinued on Saturday last, but it will recommence on Monday, the 1st of March. Besides the money expended in the wood yard, the Committee paid out ninety dollars for breaking stone for the city streets.

It never rains but it pours; and if there were such a science as Intellectual Meteorology, the bulletin would have given us the probabilities: "More lectures may be expected." The subjects lectured, and to be lectured on, show a pretty wide range—biography being favorite. From the time of Moses down to that of Cardinal Wiseman, stopping on the way to investigate the sources of early English Christianity, and to look at the work of Francis of Assisi, and sympathizing with the sorrows of the Royal Dane. But anything that stimulates thought is good. The large audiences gathered show that the people like it, and no doubt the lecturer is not without his satisfactions—especially if he can jump upon his hobby and take a few turns up and down on that harmless animal. An amateur social reformer can trot out his fancies under the protection of such a venerable name as that of "Moses;" and both the modern Cardinal and the medieval Saint may be made to point a moral for these degenerate days.

OBITUARY.

The death of Lieut. Governor Chandler makes the fifth death of these holding the Governor's office in the Dominion of Canada. P. E. Island is the only one where this has not occurred.

FIRE.

The partial destruction by fire of the Legislative Buildings of New Brunswick, has served to direct attention to the advisability of having the seat of Government at St. John, instead of at Fredericton. It is urged that St. John is the more central place; and that as it is the commercial city of the Province, it should also be the political capital. It seems not unlikely that the charge suggested will be made—unless, indeed, the proposed union of Nova Scotia and New Brunswick be first decided on.

Apples, &c.

BY AUCTION, MONDAY, March 1st, at 2 o'clock, at Auction Rooms, No. 11 Queen Street,—

25 BBLs.—APPLES.

In Baldwin's, Russets, Pippins, &c. Also, 10 bbls. HERRING, Peanuts, Grapes, etc. all in prime order; and a lot of Counter and Platform Scales, all of which must be sold to close consignments.

A. McNEILL, Auctioneer. Feb. 23, 1880.

Union Bank of P. E. Island.

THE Annual General Meeting of the Shareholders of this Bank will be held at their Head Office, Charlottetown, on WEDNESDAY, 3rd March, at 12 o'clock, noon, for the purpose of electing Directors for the ensuing year, and the transaction of such business as may be laid before them.

Proxies for voting must be left with the Cashier at least one day previous to the meeting.

GEORGE MACLEOD, Cashier. Charlottetown, Feb. 24, 1880.

LECTURE.

PROFESSOR ANDERSON will deliver the third Lecture of the Course in connection with the St. Patrick's T. A. & B. Society, in

ST. PATRICK'S HALL, Friday Evening, 5th March. Subject—"MACBETH."

Doors open at 7 o'clock; Chair to be taken at 8. Admission 10 cents. RICHARD WALSH, Secretary. Feb. 25, 1880—th s t h

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MARCH 1880.

OUR STOCK-TAKING SALE during the month of February has been very successful; we have therefore decided to continue it through this month. The demand for patterns, as everybody knows, is always great, and we regret to say that in this line we have been particularly busy. The desire for "snips" has become chronic, but we trust a healthier state of things is in the future.

Our Dress Materials have had a steady sale, and give great satisfaction; their quality and unsurpassed cheapness make them very tempting. Black Cashmeres and Lustres are in great request, in "snips" of 8 to 16 yards.

We have recently received a new lot of Gents' Spring Overcoats and Suits, also a lot of Suits for Boys; all at very low prices.

Gents' wear of all kinds we find to go off very rapidly. We call especial attention to our Fine Black Broadcloth, Tweeds, Linders and Drawers, Ties, Paper and Linen Collars, Hosiery, &c.

Carpets, Hemp, Scotch, Felt and Tapestry, a very good assortment, and ridiculously cheap, Hearth Rugs, Door Mats, &c.

Table Damasks, Wool Table Covers, Linen Table Covers, Towels, 40 cents per doz. upwards.

Our Dress Fringes at 5 to 10 cents per yard, and Ladies' Dress Caps at 10 to 20 cents, are selling readily.

New Lot of Prime Teas just come in; our 32-cent is nearly run out, but we have on hand a few chests of 36-cent Tea, which we retail ONLY. Our 40-cent Tea is regarded as the best in the city; but all grades sell rapidly. We sell in caddies of 5, 8, 10, 15 or 20 lbs., neatly done up, so as to retain the flavor.

All kinds of Dry Goods cheap for Cash at

TREMAINE & METCALF'S, 83 QUEEN STREET.

Ch'town, Feb. 28, 1880.

LECTURE.

MR. E. J. HODGSON

Has consented to deliver his Lecture upon FRANCIS OF ASSISI,

MONDAY, 1st March Next,

Y. M. C. A. HALL,

AT EIGHT O'CLOCK.

Admission 15 cents. Tickets for admission can be obtained at W. R. Watson's, Feb. 18, 1880.

The Insolvent Act of 1875 and Amending Acts.

In the matter of John Sellar, an Insolvent.

THE Subscriber will sell at AUCTION, on WEDNESDAY, the 3rd day of March next, at the hour of eleven o'clock in the forenoon, at his new Warerooms, 52 Queen Street, the whole Stock in Trade of the above Insolvent, consisting of

- Aest. lot Crockeryware, Glassware, Earthenware, Confectionery, Biscuit and Crackers, blbls. Pilot Bread, boxes Fancy Soaps, boxes Blacking, Canned Lobsters, Lamps, Lamp Chimneys, Lanterns, Brooms, Pails, lot Logwood Dyes, Cream Tartar, Paper Bags, quintals Codfish, 1 Buggy, etc., etc., Shop Furniture, 1 Show Case, 1 Glass Case, 1 Iron Safe, 4 sets Counter Scales, 2 Platform Scales, 50 Egg Boxes, 2 Stoves, 1 Cheese Case, 1 Molasses Tin, lot of Tin Measures, 3 Shop Lamps, etc. etc.

Also, to close sundry consignments,— 5 bbls. Dried Apples, Puns, Molasses, Chests Tea, 1 Iron Safe, etc. etc.

B. WILSON HIGGS, Auctioneer. Charlottetown, Feb. 25, 1880—pat till sale



Canadian Pacific Railway.

Tenders for Rolling Stock.

TENDERS will be received by the undersigned up to noon of MONDAY, the 23rd FEBRUARY instant, for the immediate supply of the following Rolling Stock:—

- 4 First-class Cars.
- 2 Postal and Baggage Cars.
- 60 Box Cars.
- 60 Platform Cars.

Drawings and specifications may be seen, and other information obtained on application at the office of the Engineer-in-Chief, Pacific Railway, Ottawa, and at the Engineer's Office Intercolonial Railway, Moncton, N. B. The Rolling Stock to be delivered on the Pembina Branch, Canadian Pacific Railway, on or before 15th of MAY next.

By Order, F. BRAUN, Secretary. DEPT. OF RAILWAYS & CANALS, Ottawa, 7th February, 1880. { 16 14 2aw

The time for receiving the above Tenders is extended one week, viz.: to MONDAY, 1st MARCH, and the time for delivery of a portion of Rolling Stock is extended to the 1st JUNE.

By Order, F. BRAUN, Secretary. Feb. 19, 1880. { 26

TEA.

170 CHESTS, } Strong and Excel-
55 half-chests, } lent flavor.

CARVELL BROS

Meeting of Parliament.

ST. JAMES' KIRK BAZAAR!

THE Ladies in connection with St. James' Kirk will hold a Bazaar for the Sale of Fancy and Useful Articles,

—ALSO— A Tea and Refreshment Table, On the 31st March Next,

MARKET HALL.

The proceeds to be applied to the liquidation of the debt on the Church edifice.

Doors open at 2 o'clock, p. m. Admission—Adults, 20 cents; children, half-price. Tickets to be had at the Drug Stores of W. R. Watson, Dr. Dodd, C. D. Rankin, and at the door.

PRESIDENT—Mrs. McLennan. COMMITTEE—Mrs. McPherson, Mrs. Longworth, Mrs. A. Kennedy, Mrs. Stirling, Mrs. Lord, Mrs. Dunn, Mrs. McLaren, Mrs. A. Murray, Mrs. Cavanagh, Mrs. Rankin, Mrs. P. W. Hyndman, Miss Mackieson, Miss Owen, Mrs. Malcolm McLeod.

T. A. STEWART, Secretary. Feb. 19, 1880.

CAUTION.

THE public are hereby cautioned not to pay to any person except the undersigned, debts due to the firm of McKinnon, Fraser & Co. WILLIAM JOHN FRASER. Feb. 19, 1880.

THE place to get your Printing done is at the EXAMINER PRINTING ROOMS.