

CHINA.

The Times' Hong Kong correspondent writes:—

"At Canton matters remain much the same as before, and are most unsatisfactory. The Viceroy Hwang has issued a notification that despatches from the Court of Peking have been received, advising the conclusion of the treaty. As yet it has produced no effect on the policy of the war party, and it is much to be doubted if it will create any change.

The British Consulate has again retired from Canton, and only one or two foreigners are at present up there.

"In consequence of the great inconvenience felt by foreigners, as well as Chinese, from the edicts of the Mandarins ordering the people and servants away from this place, an address, numerously signed by the British community, was presented to his Excellency Sir John Bowring, requesting him to take the matter into consideration, and with the assistance of the senior naval officer to adopt some measure that would counteract the orders of the Mandarins taking effect here. A proclamation has been issued, warning the Chinese authorities of the retribution they were likely to bring upon themselves for their evil intentions towards this colony. Heangshan and Sun-on have been the principal places whence the orders have been issued. The latter place is close to this. A party was sent in the gunboat Starling to distribute the proclamation there. About half-a-dozen of the party landed with a flag of truce. While proceeding towards the town they were met by a large body of armed men, and had to retire. While pulling away, one seaman was killed by a discharge from a gungall. We hear an expedition, comprising a force of about 600 men, will leave to-morrow morning for Sun-on.

RUSSIA.

The Wiener Zeitung has received news from St. Petersburg which is not without interest. The emancipation question is not progressing favourably. "We have quitted the one shore," says the Russian writer, "but are not in sight of the other. We have begun something which we shall find it difficult to finish." The Russian Government has discovered that the emancipation of the serfs is a financial as well as a political question, and that the business of the State cannot be carried on if the landed proprietors are deprived of the means of paying their taxes. There is no question of a retrograde movement, because all classes agree that serfdom must be abolished, but no one seems to know how the thing is to be managed. Many years ago the late Emperor Nicholas told an Austrian statesman that he would willingly emancipate the serfs, "but did not know how to set about the thing," and his son is in the same dilemma. The Emperor Alexander, however, has raised the hopes and expectations of the serfs, and it is morally certain that, if they are not soon emancipated, they will take the matter into their own hands. When the Galician peasants massacred their masters in 1846, the Austrian Government was accused of having instigated them to commit such fearful atrocities; but the fact is, that the serfs were so grievously oppressed by the landed proprietors, that a regular conspiracy was formed for putting them to death. Before a sufficient number of troops was assembled with which to quell the insurrection, the Austrian Government offered a reward for every landed proprietor who was brought in alive. All persons brought from their country seats were protected by the authorities, but the revolutionary party in Poland did not fail to assert that the Austrian authorities had put a price on the heads of the Galician nobles. Poles and Hungarians, who are well acquainted with the character of the Russian serfs, have repeatedly expressed to me their fears that terrible excesses will be committed if their expectations are not completely realised.—Times' Vienna Letter.

LORD CANNING AND THE GOVERNMENT.

Two letters from the pen of Lord Canning, which appear in this morning's papers, of the 6th inst., contain his lordship's defence and justification of the confiscating proclamation which he sent to the people of Oude. The first letter is an answer to the celebrated despatch of Lord Ellenborough that condemned what the Governor-General had done, and the second is a reply to the vote of confidence that was sent to Lord Canning by the Directors of the East India Company. In both of these communications the Governor-General states the motives by which he was actuated in proclaiming that the landed property of Oude had become the inheritance of the Government of India, to be afterwards disposed of in the way deemed to be most advisable.

Lord Canning begins by complaining that the Ellenborough despatch was made public in England three weeks before he received it, and by contending that it would increase the difficulties of the local Government.

DISTINGUISHED SMUGGLERS.—A correspondent of the Independence Belge writes from Ostend:—"On Saturday last, on the arrival of the steamer from London, the Custom House officers, while examining the luggage of the passengers conceived some suspicions of the amplitude of a criminality worn by the Countess D—R—, who was accompanied by Major K—, both Russian subjects, and who landed at Ostend. The officers thought it their duty to repeat an examination made in the first instance with a delicacy which the position of the passengers justified. This led to the discovery of a great quantity of silks, neckerchiefs, and other articles of dress, amounting to the value of about 120*l*. A process verbal has been drawn up against the noble delinquents."

LORD STRATFORD DE REDCLIFFE AT CONSTANTINOPLE.

The Journal de Constantinople of the 25th ult. has the following:—"On the afternoon of Wednesday, the 23rd, Lord Stratford de Redcliffe, accompanied by the personages attached to his special mission, made his visit at the Porte to his highness the Grand Vizier. M. Rarel acted as interpreter. The noble lord was received at the entrance of the department with all the honours observed on such occasions. Much cordiality was manifested on both sides and we have reason to believe that the speeches exchanged between the Ambassador and the Grand Vizier, were characterized throughout by the same friendly spirit and sentiments of mutual good will. It appears that Lord Redcliffe explained to his highness the circumstances which led to his resignation, as representative of the Queen at the Sultan's court, and also the object and character of his present visit. He concluded by asking that his Majesty might be solicited to appoint a day upon which he (the ambassador) could have the honour of presenting the letter of his Sovereign in an Imperial audience. The Grand Vizier, in reply, expressed himself in terms of great feeling. He said, with a lively emotion, how happy he and his colleagues, without exception, were to see the return of Lord Stratford to the seat of the Ottoman Government, although his stay was to be short.

Lord Stratford was to be received by the Sultan on the 26th.

A STRANGE STORY.—The Opinion of Truin has the following story:—"The parish priest of Varostic was called up a few nights ago to administer the sacrament to a dying person, and, as he was returning home, accompanied by two villagers, he perceived to his surprise, a light in a cottage. Having, with his companions entered the house, they were astounded at perceiving the occupier of it, his wife and his daughter, hanging by the neck to a beam of the ceiling! They cut them down, and found that the man and woman were dead, but that the girl, though senseless, was alive, and they succeeded in restoring her to consciousness. She then stated that a number of brigands, headed by the servant of the priest himself, had forced their way into the house, broken open all the drawers and closets, possessed themselves of everything of value, and then hanged her parents and herself! The priest, full of horror, went home with the two men, and ordered his servant to go into the cellar for wine. The man made some objection; but the priest having insisted, down he went, and the priest locked him in. He then rang the tocsin, and, nearly all the inhabitants of the village having assembled, he caused the cellar to be entered. There were found there, including the servant, six bandits, with the booty which they had taken from the peasant's house. All the six were immediately secured."

SINGULAR TELEGRAPH ACCIDENT.—An accident which happened a few days ago at Zara may, perhaps, serve as a warning to persons who are employed in repairing telegraphic wires. After a violent thunder-storm, accompanied by heavy rain, some workmen attempted to raise two or three posts which had been thrown down. Two of the men took hold of the wire, which was not broken, in order to assist their comrades, but hardly had they touched it when they uttered piercing screams. The one man staggered, and fell to rise no more, but the other remained on his legs. A third man, who was struck by his falling comrade on the shoulder, complained of violent pains in the head, singing in the ears, and indistinct vision. The hands of the two men who had taken hold of the metal were much burnt, and the one who escaped with his life related, that as soon as he touched the wire he suffered "indescribable" pains in the head and body.—Vienna Letter

ANOTHER DEATH FROM CHLOROFORM.—A shocking case of death from chloroform has just taken place at the London Ophthalmic Institution. A little boy eight years of age went to the hospital to undergo an operation in his eyes. Chloroform was administered but death very speedily ensued. The jury returned a verdict of accidental death, but coupled with it a suggestion which will doubtless be attended to in the proper quarter. The recurrence of death from this cause will, no doubt, make people hesitate in accepting the means that promises to alleviate the natural pangs of the body under surgical operations.

THE CHOLERA IN SWEDEN.—Letters from Stockholm states that the cholera is raging there. On the 18th, there were seventy-four new cases and thirty-one deaths. Up to the date there had been altogether 511 cases, and 217 deaths. The authorities had ordered that the dead from cholera should be buried beyond the city walls. A matrimonial alliance is said to be on foot between Prince Napoleon and the Princess Clotilde, eldest child of the King of Sardinia. The prince is to pay a visit to the court of Turin some time in October.

MISS MARSH IN SCOTLAND.—Miss Marsh, authoress of "Memorials of Captain Hensley Vicars," "English Hearts and English Hands," &c., gave an exposition on part of the 16th chapter of Luke, at the Home Farm, Keith Hall, on the evening of September 21st, in a very eloquent and touching style, which seemed to be much appreciated by a highly respectable audience.—Aberdeen Journal.

Mr Smith, the Mayor of Melbourne, Victoria, is annoyed by several persons in needy circumstances who insist that he is a relative of theirs. As the assumed relationship rests upon the belief that he was born in England, the Mayor has been at considerable pains to show that he is a native of Sydney in New South Wales and that he was never born in England before his late arrival here.

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NOVA SCOTIA RAILWAY.

HALIFAX, 6th October, 1858. ON and after Monday, the 11th of October, the WINDSOR TRAINS will run as follows:—

Table with columns: Miles, Stations, Time (1st Train, 2nd Train). Includes Windsor Branch and Down Trains.

Oct. 13. JAMES McNAB.

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