THE CHINESE AS CONQUERORS.

Since we drew attention in these columns to the strange revival of energy in an empire whose subjects divide (as is conjectured) the entire population of the globe, a contemporary has taken up the subject, and is "inclined "to wonder" whether the English people and Government have, at any time within the last ten years (while the Chinese have been steadily growing in strength and military vigour), considered what is to be the probable future between the two States.

The successful result or the invasion of Kashgaria has at length brought the Chinese hordes, more or less disciplined and in possession of modern artillery and small arms—chiefly of German manufacture—into close proximity to the northern frontier of India, and also to that point of the Russian dominions which has been watched for some time past with anxiety. Nor is this popular disquietude surprising, when we consider that these Powers, united in Asia, represent at the present moment more than the empire of Ghengis Khan, and that the capital of that terrible barbarian conqueror, who carried fire and sword through India—namely, Samarcand—is the base of Russian operations against Turkestan; while to the south-west this hostile arc is completed by Persia. We must also bear in mind, that although attention has been entirely fixed upon the Khyber, Bolan, and other less important passes on our north-western frontier, there must be other practicable for troops due north and north-east of the Himalayas, since we knew as an historical fact that, laden with the plunder of Delhi, one of the most ruthless invaders of India suddenly retired into Centeral Asia through those very passes.

We are now confronted with Chinese, in addition to "Russian aggression," and we cannot fail to recognise the fact that, while on her seaboard China assumes towards us a friendly attitude, and carries on relations almost intimate—in the interior and further north, her hostility is scarcely disguised, and her policy along her land frontier cannot be explained by any other hypothesis. Moreover, it is significant that, while Russia has been increasing her trade by land with China, and even forming settlements in Chinese territory, there has been "complete cordiality between Pekin "and St. Petersburg," and not only recently, but ever since that memorable incident, so graphically described in the narrative of Father Ripa, when Count Ismailoff, Envoy of Peter the Great, by a singular relaxation of Court etiquette, was permitted to deliver his credentials direct into the hands of the Celestial Majesty himself.

We have now to consider the chances of an overflowing Mongol population discharging itself wherever a sufficiently attractive outlet may be found without the necessity of taking to the water, and of some future Russo-Chinese league, threatening us in Asia, in combination with co-religionists in Burmah and Nepaul, and enveloping the whole of Eastern India with invaders and rebels, who, although not so difficult perhaps to dispose of in open fight, would, to say the least, prevent the revenue of India being raised, while on the north-west and north equally numerous swarms would be pressed forward.

As we cannot rely on international good faith, or the forbearance of those of our neighbours who may at any time recognize their opprtunity, there can at any rate be no harm in speculating upon their powers of mischief. On the other hand, we might shut up every Russian and Chinese port; but Russia would still be supplied by our commercial rivals in Europe, while China would be able to supply her own wants internally. We could, moreover, bombard the whole Chinese sea-board, and again chase the quaking Celestials to their "Great Wall" itself; but we could never hope to make a permanent impression, far less to undertake the military occupation of so vast an Empire as we have done in India. And yet the imagination might picture to itself some remote future, when the Slav and Mongolian bugbears should no longer trouble the world, and when a general combination of Anglo-Saxon races from all the populous States, Dominions and Colonies of America, Australia, New Zealand, &c., moving across the Pacific, the Atlantic, and Southern Oceans, from India and from England direct, might subjugate such an Empire as China, and eventually dis place or absorb even its now and vast population. But in the indulgence of such patriotic dreams of conquest, we are bound to dismiss the reality of "Constitutional "Government," with its lack of one great directing and controlling WILL, without, however, forgetting that empires are but tentative, while select races are enduring and permanent in the direction of human progress, and that the best of these will in the end prevail, and by a natural law secure paramount power.

THE INDIAN TROOPS AT MALTA.

The days of magic, we are assured, have gone by, otherwise it would certainly be believed that the magician of old, who troubled Aladdin and his palace with a change of situation, had transported a few acres of Indian soil, with an encampment thereon, and had set down the same in the Marsamuscetto Harbor of Malta. This is undoubtedly the impression conveyed to the mind of the visitor to the camp of the Native Infantry adjacent to Fort Manoel. The soldiers squatting in the native fashion in the tents; the cooks, engaged precisely as if at home in India, preparing the usual dishes in their own brass utensils; the "bheesties," with their bullocks, proceeding for, or returning with water; the groups of native and English servants of Her Majesty, many of the former speaking English fluently, and more making the most desperate attempts so to do—the latter in the same predicament as regards Hindostanee; the whole forms a scene which is beheld for the first time in Europe.

The native troops cannot be otherwise than gratified at the reception they have experienced at the hands of the English troops in Malta. The first ship especially which entered the grand harbor was received with ringing cheers from the troops in St. Elmo and Ricasoli assembled to witness their arrival, the band of the 71st highlanders in the latter fort playing "Cheer, boys, cheer," and "The British Granadiers," as the ships passed abreast. Representatives of each of the newly-arrived corps are to be found in every barracks on the best of terms with their English brethern-at-arms, to whom also they often appeal as to the justice of the Maltese charges, and receive every assistance.

The Maltese doubtless anticipated an unusually rich harvest of profits in their dealings with the new arrivals; but the latter have in many cases proved that they know how to resent imposition, taking satisfaction in true English style when milder measures prove useless. A baker charging six times the market price of bread finds his stock playfully transferred to the street, when his customers have been made aware of the extortion; and boatmen declining to give change, fathom the depths of the harbor in their own persons.

Great care is taken by the Indian troops to remove the false impressions they conceive to be abroad concerning them. But one of the illustrious visitors could not have exactly created his intended impression, when, visiting the Black Watch in Fort Manoel, and in order to exhibit to the greater extent the virtues of himself and the half-dozen comrades at his back, he announced that they were all Christians except one, who was a Presbyterian.

A general parade of the troops in garrison at Malta took place on the 1st inst., when all the Indian troops then landed were present. A great degree of interest was naturally manifested in the appearance and performance of the regiments comprising the Contingent, and it must have been admitted by all present that a most excellent impression of the capabilities of both branches of the force resulted. The cavalry were especially admired the men being of fine physique, and their chargers, though small, seeming capable of great endurance. All passed the saluting base with a steadiness which in the case of the cavalry was quite equal to that possessed by the majority of our Lancers; and in that of the infantry compared favourably with the performance of the English regiments on the same ground.—*Broad Arrow.*

So after all Lord Dufferin is not to remain in Canada. Rumor has it that on his return to England he will be created a Marquis. With his learning, his large knowledge of Colonial affairs and his fine speaking ability, a splendid course seems to be open for our Ex-Governor General in the Parliament of Great Britain.

THE FAMINE IN CHINA.

From the London *Times* we find the following with regard to the Chinese famine, written from Shanghai by an eye-witness, and dated in April. Since then the Government has been bestowing itself for relief, and means have been sent in considerable sums by foreigners. Best of all rains have commenced to fall in the Northern Provinces, and hopes are entertained that the long draught may soon end. The distress continues as yet unabated:—

The famine seems now to be at its worst. The impoverished country consists of the greater part of the Province of Shansi, parts of South-Western Chihli, Western Shantung, and the northern districts of Honan, comprising an area variously estimated at from 70,000 to 100,000 square miles. The greatest distress is in the southern half of Shansi, including the provincial capital, Tai Yuen, the population of which, unless rain comes at once, bids fair to become absolutely extinct. In its horrible details, as given by all witnesses, foreign and native, official and missionary, it is the direst calamity that this or any other country has been visited with. The sturdy Chinese peasants do not calmly fold their hands and die like our poor fellow subjects, the Madrassees, last year; they eat the dead, and when there are none to take they kill the living for the same purpose. This is no Oriental exaggeration, but the actual state of things in a district not 700 miles from Shanghai. In the Pekin *Gazette* of the 15th of March there appears a memorial from Li Ho-nien, Governor of Honan, and Yuan, Special High Commissioner for Famine Relief, appealing for State assistance to the distressed province. From it may be gathered the straits to which the famine-stricken country is reduced. I therefore append a translation of it, and I must remind my countrymen as they read it that it is no sensational picture to move the tears of emotional subscribers, but a calm description of the state of the province by its responsible rulers in the language of a Blue-book:—

"The drought with which the Province has been visited for several years in succession has resulted in a famine of an intensity and extent hitherto unheard of. As autumn advanced into winter the number of those in need of relief increased daily, until at last they could be counted by millions. The lower classes were the first to be affected, and they soon disappeared or dispersed, in search of subsistance elsewhere. Now the famine has attacked the well-to-do and the wealthy, who find themselves reduced to greater misery as each day goes by, and they in turn, are dying off or following those who have migrated elsewhere. In the earlier period of distress the living fed upon the bodies of the dead; next, the strong devoured the weak; and, now, the general destitution has arrived at such a climax that men devour those of their own flesh and blood. History contains no record of so terrible and distressing a state of things, and if prompt measures of relief be not instituted the whole region must become depopulated. Local sources of supply are entirely exhausted; the granaries are empty, and the treasury drained dry; while the few wealthy people in the Provinces have helped with contributions and loans till they themselves are impoverished."

The dreadful picture is fully borne out by the letters received in Shanghai from the foreign missionaries in Shansi. The Roman Catholic Bishop of Shansi, Monsignor Monagetta, who is a resident in Tai Yuen, the capital of the province, writes from that city, under date of 24th of March, to the Procureur des Lazaristes here, acknowledging the receipt of 10,000 taels for distribution. He says:—

"Until now the people were satisfied to eat those who were already dead, but now they kill likewise the living in order to eat them. The husband devours his wife, parents their sons and daughters, and in turn children their parents, as we hear it said almost every day."

In the Prefecture in which the capital or Shansi is situated the population has diminished from over one million to 160,000, and the Chinese newspapers here give the number of people who have died of starvation, or met the awful fate just recorded, at over 5,000,000.

The one great difficulty in the way famine relief is the want of adequate means of transport; roads, vehicles, and beasts of burden being alike unequal to the task. The consequence is that the Government is now left to deal with the frightful calamity at present devastating Northern China, with transport appliances of the rudest and most primitive nature. The professional critics of the Government in the Censorate are beginning to grasp this point, and the waste of the public money at the arsenals of Tientsin, Nanking, Shanghai, and Soochow, at a time when people are dying in tens of thousands, has been more than once denounced of late, though without effect as yet.

THE UTILITY OF MACHINES.—The following, translated from a volume recently published in France by M. Menier, entitled "The Tax on Capital," furnishes some suggestive facts for the consideration of those conservative individuals who cling to the sophism that labor-saving machinery is, on the whole, a misfortune to the skilled workman, since it supersedes the manual labor (of which he has, through experience and practice, obtained a kind of monopoly) by work with which, in point of cheapness and accuracy, he can never complete. "Homer," says the author, "mentions twelve female slaves as crushing, between stones, sufficient grain for bread for a day for 300 people. These twelve women, badly fed as they were, consumed themselves a large portion of the corn which they ground, while one women's labor, at the most, could not prepare flour sufficient for more than twenty-five persons. There was evidently then an enormous absorption of circulating capital to produce this small result. To-day, a single mill in France, containg twenty stones, attended by twenty workmen, produces sufficient flour to support 72,000 men, or, in other words, each workman feeds 3,600 bodies. In the time of Homer, the same labor would have required 141 men, so that each modern mill hand has the power of 144 millers of ancient Greece."

Again, if it should be attempted to spin by hand all the cotton which England manufactures in a year by machines carrying 1,000 spindles at a time, it would require 91,000,000 men, or the total population of France, Austria and Russia combined. A woman can knit about 80 stitches per minute; by a circular loom she can make 480,000 stitches in the same period; thus the machine gives her the power of 6,000 persons.—*Scientific American.*

A PHENOMENON.—If anybody wants to live a couple of centuries, (1) let him never overfeed; and (2) let him never get drunk. At least, those are the rules of health laid down by Miguel Solis, a half-breed farmer in the foot-hills of the Sierra Mesila, New Grenada, who confesses to being 180 years old, but is believed by his neighbours to be really much older. Dr. Luiz Hernandez, who has recently paid him a visit, found him at work in his orchard; his skin was the color of parchment, but he was robust and active; his snow-white hair was twisted turban-fashion round his head, and his eyes were so bright that the doctor felt quite uncomfortable when they were turned upon him. Miguel said that the secret of living a century or two was very simple—simply never getting drunk and never over-feeding. "I eat only once a day, a big, hearty meal, which it often takes me half an hour to get through with; but you see it is not possible in half an hour to eat more than you can digest in the next twenty-four." He went on to say that he had not made up his mind about meat, but he did not eat much of it. He fasted on the first and middle days of each month, eating nothing, but drinking all the water he could swallow. He always let cooked food cool before tasting it; and to this precaution he attributed the fact that his teeth are as sound now as they were 180 years ago. Dr. Hernandez was informed by some of the oldest inhabitants of the district that they well remembered Miguel as a reputed centenarian when they were boys; also that the name of Miguel Solis, colored farmer, appears in writ, still preserved, of the contributors to the building fund of a Franciscan monastery near San Sabastian, which was founded in 1712, and that the present abbot is positive it is the same man. But protracted as has been has been his sojourn on earth, he has not succeeded in winning the respect of his fellow-beings. The Indians in the neighbourhood firmly believe that he has sold his soul to the devil.

Recruiting for the Army, which has been remarkably active during the past three months, has become unusually slack, a circumstance attributed to the increase of labor in the agricultural districts as well as to the natural ebb after a sudden flow Most of the regiments are, hower, full, and reerui ting for the Rifle Brigade and other corps has been suspended; but there are still some twenty regiments of cavalry and infantry open to receive recruits, and gunners, not drivers, are acceptable for the Royal Artillery.

Communications.

For the "Agriculturist."

BOYS SPARE THE SPARROWS.

SIR.—A few years ago a large number of Sparrows were sent out from England to New York, they have multiplied amazingly, and are now found here in New Brunswick. I know them well when I see them, and cannot be deceived. I saw them in my garden hopping from cabbage to cabbage, devouring caterpillars and insects. I was delighted to see the English sparrows at work. I went over the cabbages afterwards, and could only find but one caterpillar, the birds had taken the rest. Farmers and gardeners encourage the sparrows, they are quite tame and would stand and be fed, if it were not for the boys pelting stones at the poor birds.

I trust boys will stop this practice, and farmer's and gardener's will be benefited. I heard to-day, that boys are trying to make a wholesale slaughter of the sparrows, at an institution on the hill. I hope it is not so, as sparrows are the farmer's and gardener's friend.

THOMAS. MORRIS.

Fredericton, July 12, 1878.

For the "Agriculturist."

BOSTON CORRESPONDENCE OF THE "AGRICULTURIST."

I mentioned in my last that the heated term was upon us. Alas! for poor sweltering humanity it is here yet, and shows no inclination to bid us adieu. The proprietors of ice-cream saloons and soda fountains, are the only class who seem to really enjoy having the mercury at 100° in the shade. For two weeks, but one day has passed in which the thermometer has not indicated at least 90°; and on several occasions it has climbed away up into the hundreds. 106° is I believe the highest point it has touched near this city. However, as misery loves company, we feel somewhat consoled by knowing we are not alone, but that you can join us in the denunciation of the b—eautiful heat.

On Tuesday afternoon a violent rain-storm, accompanied by heavy thunder and lighting, and again yesterday afternoon heavy showers of rain, followed by cooler westerly winds, has done much to moderate the intense heat; still it is very warm to-day.

There are many ways here, if one can spare the time away from business, in which to pass the day pleasantly even in the hottest of the season. Nothing can be more delightful than a trip down the harbor in one of the many pretty and commodious steamboats which ply, during the summer season, between Boston, and the "Islands down the Bay;" Hull, Downer's Landing, Hingham, Nantasket, Nahant and the Maolis Gardens; the charge is trifling, the places are pretty, some presenting remarkably fine scenery; *all* with good bathing accomodations, hotels, etc. Some have pleasure gardens which the children never tire of, for they are fitted up more especially for the entertainment of the young people.

By cars, either horse or steam, one can go to Revere Beach, a very pleasant place, where you need have no fear for the children, if they accompany you, for the water is shallow and there are no dangerous spots. The Beach is extensive, several miles in length, extending from East Boston past Chelsea and Revere to Lynn. The bottom is smooth and sandy, and there is no place in the country where a timid person could feel safer while bathing. But beware of Sundays and holidays, then owing to its proximity to Boston and other cities, the sovereign people (and dirty looking sovereigns they are) go there in their thousands; the loafer and demi-monde are in the majority, and if you happen to be in the least degree sensitive regarding sights or sounds, take my advice and keep away from the Beach. On other days, it is enjoyable if you would like a little pic-nic, get one or two of your neighbor families to join you, take your children and your baskets, jump on board the first horse-car, and in the course of from thirty minutes to an hour, depending on your starting point, you reach the Beach; proceed if you wish it to the Grove which, is quite handy, children jump on the merry-go-round, or the grass, or a bench, as you prefer. When the children tire of playing off come shoes and stockings, up go the skirts of the girls, the trouser legs of the boys, and hurrah! into the water they go like so many ducks. If you want to do the Beach on a more pretentious scale you have a room in one of the many hotels, get your meals there, hire a bathing machine, and exchange your clothes for a bathing suit. The former course is the more common, and the youngsters enjoy it just as well.

Since Beaconsfield's policy bids fair to be successful, the voice of the press here has undergone a change, and instead of holding him up to scorn and derision, they now acknowledge his superior abilities, and admit that his policy is right. Nothing succeeds like success. Had his course been checked, neutralised by his Gladstonian enemies, he would have met with anything but favorable criticisms; and had war been the result he would have been reviled and denounced by nearly every sheet, high or low, in the United States. Opprobrium would have been cast on his name, his lineaze and his life, and the political adventurer, the crafty ambitious Jew might have bowed his head in shame, where now the wise, far seeing, comprehensive statesmen dictates his own terms to the conqueror of Turkey, without striking a blow, and to whom his August Majesty, the Emperor of all the Russians submits "for the sake of peace!!!" It is true all is not settled, and peace is not yet assured, but all the indications point that way, and once again British pluck will be triumphant. The Anglo-Turkish treaty has called out favorable editorals from most of the leading papers. The *Boston Transcript* alone, sticking conscientiously to the course it has heretofore pursued. If Beaconsfield where its personal enemy it could not have abused him more persistently, and with less regard for decency and good taste, than it has done. In a recent editorial it went so far as to speak of him as a combination of Fagin and Bill Sykes, the one a thief and a trainer of thieves, while the other was not only a thief but a murderer.

Appropos of the Eastern Questien, some very fine articles have appeared in "Littell's Living Age," (published by Littell & Gay of this city,) treating on that subject. In No. 1777, dated 6th inst., is an article from the pen of James Bryce, entitled "The Future of Asiatic Turkey," which is very interesting and instructive. In the number for July 20, so say the publishers, will appear an article by Vefyk Pacha on Asia and Europe.

B. C. H.

BOSTON, July 11, 1878.

The Agriculturist.

FREDERICTON, N. B., JULY 13, 1878.

This week's issue concludes the labors of the present Editor upon the AGRICULTURIST. The arrangement by which we wrote for the paper was only temporary, and has now been terminated by mutual consent, and good will. The management and course of the AGRICULTURIST will be indicated by the new Editor, in the next issue. Our readers may rest assured that the paper will be kept up to the standard, as a live, sensible and instructive publication. In taking leave of our readers we do so with regret. Our work has been a pleasant one to us; we may venture the hope that it has not been wholly unprofitable to our readers. We have endeavored to speak the truth upon whatever has come uppermost, and without fear or favor; but we are afraid that in this naughty world we are a little too uncompromising to please everybody. Our individuality is too dear to us to be lightly surrendered. The world is large; it requires a keen eye and long vision to scan its daily doings, a vigorous and critical mind to present the course of events to the reading public. Yet there is a great delight in keeping trace of this many sided creation, and our sense of shortcoming in the former has been more than counterbalanced by the enjoyments of the latter. We now make to our readers, our best retiring bow, and step aside from the public criticism, though not from the observation of the march of events.

THE RESULTS OF THE CONGRESS.

We remember with what varied feelings the different powers beheld the assembling of the Peace Congress in Berlin. Russia was fresh from the losses, the sacrifices and the victories of a costly and somewhat prolonged campaign, determined on retaining the fruits of her conquests, and drawing one more narrowing circle about the city on which she had for centuries set her heart, Constantinople the key to the Black Sea and the hated barrier of her westward extension. Turkey was conquered, but even then perceived in the newly shown interest of England a probable guarantee against total dis-membermement. Yet she did not hope for defined and strong barriers against Russian aggressive influence. England was looking with wide open eyes upon the far East and beginning to sense the peril to her Indian Empire, should a power so predetermined by all its traditions towards territorial extension, gain a firm base of operations in the Straits and on the Northern slopes of Asiatic Turkey. Prussia was silent, mediatory and boastful of its natural influence, and hoped through its vaunted Bismark to move the powers as chess men upon a board obedient to the finger of the player. Austria was aroused, and fully alive to the danger on its Hungarian border should Russian influence become too near and too preponderating.

France was suspicious of Russian aims and disposed to stand with England upon treaty rights. Italy was watchful of Austrian diplomacy as was natural, but by no means favorable to the Muscovite. Greece was sighing for a rectification of boundaries, and fondly hoped to realize her long cherished ideal,—an united Greece free from Turkish soldiers and Russian manœuvouring. Thus they came together, first to sheathe the bloody sword of war and secondly to arrange the boundaries and ensure the Government of Turkey and its surroundings on a basis which should guarantee the future peace of Europe. They have been in session until now and with what result. One somewhat different from what was anticipated. Peace has been secured, it is hoped a lasting one. But there have been surprises and disappointments. From the very first England through her chief Plenipotentiary, Beaconsfield, took first place at the Congress and kept it. Relying on recognized treaty rights, backed by immense war preparations, and aided by the sense and interest of most of the assembled powers, her course has been one of firm demand and equal success. British influence has vindicated its supremacy in the councils of the world. Beaconsfield not Bismark has been the prime figure in the Congress. Russia has been disappointed. One by one the fruits of her conquests have slipped from her grasp, and all she has gained for her blood and treasure poured out on the rude slopes and passes of the Balkans is the small strip of country between the Pruth and the Valley of Kirki, a portion of that Bessarabia taken from her after the Crimean War. Batoum does not fall into her hands, but it is to be made a free port, essentially commercial. Her army is to withdraw from Constantinople across the Balkans within three months. The Danube is to be made a free river, open to the ships of all nations. Turkey loses and gains. The Provinces are taken from her, and made into independent States. But they are not to be put under Russian influence, and are therefore walls of protection against Russia whose troops cannot now pass their boundaries without stirring the armies of the powers composing this Congress. Steps are taken for the wise government and needed reforms being established in these. Turkey's northern boundary is to be the line of the Balkan mountains, extending east as far as Kirth on the Black Sea, and west to the southern edge of Dalmatia. Servia is to be an independent State. Bosnia and Herzegovina are to be occupied jointly by Austrian and Turkish troops, and in the future to be annexed to Austria, if arrangements can be made satisfactorily. The prayer of Greece is to be heard, and the rectification of her boundaries submitted to a Conference of Turkish and Greek Commissioners.

Thus we find Russia effectually checked in her policy of annexing Turkish territory and gaining a base of operations in Asia Minor. Turkey will be stronger than before, for the Provinces were always uncertain in their allegience, expensive to her and largely antagonistic. Her reserved territory becomes compact and bounded, and under the promised reforms may be more prosperous than ever. We may well be glad at the prospect of an assured peace for Europe, and at the honorable part taken by our own mother land in effecting it.

It is stated with authority that Hon. E. B. Chandler is to be our next Governor. Mr. Chandler has had a long and honorable career in Provincial politics and is universally respected. Many years above the three-score and ten, he is yet as hale and active as most men of sixty. The Governorship will be a fitting honor for the close of a long and valuable political life. We congratulate Mr. Chandler and the Province on the distinction conferred.

The corner stone of the New Educational Buildings at Wolfville, Nova Scotia, was laid on the 9th inst., with interesting and impressive ceremonies. Addresses were delivered by Dr. Sawyer, Dr. Crawley, and Dr. Cramp.

VERA SASSULITCH.—Vera Sassulitch, the young Russian girl, who so early became the victim of the secret police system of the Emperor, who suffered so long and so hardly for no crime but a mere suspicion, and who to rouse her countrymen to a sense of the terrible injustice of political punishment in Russia fired her revolver at Trepoff, the inhuman perfect of police, and who was tried by a jury of her countrymen for the crime and acquitted, and who then fell into the hands of the secret tribunal, has again appeared upon the scene. For a time after her seizure all trace was lost of her whereabouts. She was supposed to have been transported to Siberia, or to be confined in some dungeon nearer St. Petersburg. On the 3rd inst., she made her appearance in Geneva, whither she had fled in disguise. She says that in the riot succeeding her acquittal, she was seized by secret agents of the police disguised as friendly students, and hurried to a house in the suburbs of St. Petersburgh and there detained in honorable confinement. The purpose was to convey her to Siberia. She bribed her captors, and was permitted to escape. On the 4th inst., she appeared at a banquet in Geneva, sitting at the right hand of Henri Rochefort, and made so violent a speech that the authorities have requested her to quit the city. She is going to Paris and will serve to fill the eye of curious thousands, until some new star arises. Vera Sassulitch is famous.

THE YORK COUNTY PROTEST.—We understand that Dr. Dow has filed his protest against the members for York, and the case must be tried before the Judges, unless the members elect think there is sufficient force in it to compel their resignation. In that case there might be no further action. Of course there are various opinions about the Doctor's course. We are clear in our own minds. If there was undue influence used, money paid or rum dealt out, as is asserted, and by this means the elections carried or even partly determined we hold the Doctor right and justified in his procedure. Purity first of all. Let parties take care of themselves. Dr. Dow declares his proof amply sufficient to effect the purpose of unseating the elected men. That remains to be seen, and will be confirmed or otherwise by the sworn evidence. If the Doctor thinks his evidence sufficient, he has every right to proceed; if it be proved sufficient, the cause of political purity will owe him a debt, and gain largely by his action. We shall wait and see.

Hanlan has arrived in the Province, and is practising on the course near Riverside. Boating circles are in a state of nervous agitation and little else is talked of among the sports. Ross will have strong odds against him,—a previous defeat, and a man flushed with a series of brilliant victories. It is a pity that so manly and noble a sport could not be kept free from the evil associations which now cling around it. Betting and gambling have long since smirched and blackened it in the eyes of the better portion of our people. Hanlan and Ross are both, we believe, honest rowers, and the race will no doubt be a fair one, but thousands of dollars will change hands, and many a young man, take his first exciting step into the fair-seeming but ruinous fields of chance. We sincerely hope no public civic holiday will be proclaimed on the day of the race. It will be demoralizing enough anyway, but to turn the whole working force of St. John out in this exciting idleness, will enhance the dissipation of the day.

The citizens of St. John have received their annual tax bills, and they amount in the aggregate to a rather imposing sum. The east side is taxed $256,699.35, as against $220,612.87 for 1877. The school tax is $65,430.34. The number of persons assessed is 6,240, and the total valuation about $19,000,000. The west side pay $15,065.94, an increase of nearly $2,000 over last year. The value of assessable property and income on the west side is $1,231,800, and the number taxed 1441. The amount of assessable property on the East side is, strange to say, very nearly equal this year to last year's, which indicates the building activity of the year and the increased value of the structures. Over a quarter of a million dollars is a large sum for St. John to pay for civic purposes. The citizens ought to keep a strict eye upon corporation expenditures.

G. R. Parkin, Esq., Head Master of the Collegiate School, Fredericton, has taken leave of the rapidly thinning ranks of the bachelors of the city. On Tuesday morning last there was an early service in the Cathedral, a flash of orange blossoms, and a cheery chime of wedding bells; and one more was added to the list of happy Benedicts. With his beautiful young bride he has sailed out upon the sea of married blessedness and given hostages to society. In common with his numerous friends and well wishers we present him our hearty greeting, and wish him and Mrs. Parkin a sweet and prosperous future.

Tuesday's heat brought with it a violent rain and thunder storm accompanied by a strong wind. The limbs of trees were scattered in many directions, and grass and garden stuff considerably beaten down. A young lad named Wilkes, only 9 years old, was struck at Stewart's mills near the city, by a a board blown from a house, and almost instantly killed. The picnic and festival at St. Mary's suffered a temporary disorganization. Afterwards the air, before heated to nearly 98°, became free and cool and a most lovely evening was enjoyed by the celestials.

The "Phonograph" has been on exhibition for a day or two in the City Hall. The enterprise is conducted by two gentlemen from Boston. The invention which is really wonderful does not attract so much attention in Fredericton as it otherwise would, from the fact that the ready genius and practical skill of Mr. John Babbit, has already familiarized many of our citizens with the machine. Mr. Babbit's Phonograph is fully equal to the new comer.

Evelyn Grove, the residence of the late Ex-Governor Wilmot, with its well kept and beautiful grounds and gardens, is offered for sale. Here is an excellent opportunity for investment by some person. But he must be a man of means, taste and leisure who will keep this desirable residence up to the level of its previous excellence.

The Steamer "Soulanges" will leave here on the night before the great boat race between Hanlon and Ross, and proceed to the Kennebeccasis the next day, returning to Fredericton after the race is over. The tickets will be put at the very low figure of $1.00. The Reform Club Band will be on board. A pleasant time may be expected.

Excursion Return Tickets will be issued by the Fredericton Railway on the morning of the 25th inst., to enable parties to witness the great boat race between Hanlan and Ross. Trains will leave Fredericton at 6 40 A. M., returning in special train which leaves St. John at 8.40 P. M.

THE NEW TREATY.

One of the developments, least looked for perhaps but most important in its bearings on the future of Asia, which have arisen from the Eastern complications is the recently proclaimed Anglo-Turkish treaty. In this, in short, England guarantees the integrity of the Ottoman Empire in Europe and Asia, and leaves no room to doubt what attitude she shall assume if Russia endeavors to assail it. In return she receives the island of Cyprus and has already taken possession of it. Cyprus has an area of 4,500 square miles, is fertile in soil, producing corn, wine, fruits, cotton, wool timber &c., and manufacturing especially carpets, cotton prints, and leather. Its population is about 150,000. It was taken from the Greeks, by the Turks in 1575. It lies but a short distance from the mainland, and has a fine climate, and beautiful scenery. Cyprus is immediately to be occupied as a military post, and Sir Garnet Woolsley has been ordered thither. The Indian troops will remain here for an indefinite period. As a strategic point Cyprus is most important. It virtually gives command of the Suez Canal and Western Asia. The British fleet using it as a central station can govern the Canal and the Mediterranean. A railway built from the coast off Cyprus to the Euphrates will open up the fertile valleys and bring the centre of Asia into easy communication with Europe. Not only can England thus pour troops into Asia in case of war with Russia, but a great and increasing commerce must inevitably be built up by this route. The relations of the country to European civilization and improvements will be swiftly changed, and the riches of the Euphrates valley will be easily accessible to European enterprise and skill. But England has taken a responsibility vast indeed. How will the great powers view this step? What will be their attitude towards England in future complications which may arise from this? Can the Turk be propped up in Europe, and kept firm in Asia? And will not this very protectorate assumed by England, give rise to trouble with Russia and future wars? These are questions for the coming years to solve. Meantime British influences has gained a a preponderating position in Asia. May she use it righteously.

The press of Europe and America are most diligently canvassing the treaty. The majority are favorable, and nearly all concede that England's diplomatic venture has been a brilliant one. The *New York Herald* says:—

"By the treaty made England secures for herself not merely an equivalent for Batoum, but more than an equivalent for all that all other Powers taken together will gain by the disintegration of Turkey. If Russia, instead of making the Ottoman Territory north of the Hellespont independent of the Sultan and a series of free States, had actually absorbed all that territory and made it a great Russian Province, she would not have gone so far in the pursuit of her own aggrandizement as England will prove to have gone if this compact stands. Cyprus alone made an Eastern Gibraltar, and a great naval and military station might suffice to remove absolutely from the English mind all the apprehension that could ever have been felt of what would happen to England in the East, her great commercial routes and her military communications by the advance of Russia's naval pretensions to the Mediterranean through the freedom of the Dardanelles. England with Cyprus in her hands might any day with perfect safety assent to the absolute freedom of the straits for Russian men-of-war. But Cyprus is not all that England gains. She gains a military foothold in Anatolia; she annexes to India all that is left of Turkey. That is what the treaty will come to if ever made effective. Treaties of this nature made between moribund powers and powers of great vital resources never have any other result than that the feeble Power becomes a mere subject appendage to the other. Anatolia will, under the protection of England's Hindoo troops, and an Anglo-Ottoman administration, become as much a British dependency as the Punjab."

AFRICAN AMAZONS.—It is rather unusal for women to participate in war. We live in an age of strange developements, however, for the last account from the seat of war, in in South Africa, where England is sorely pressed by the Caffres, who are so blindly infatuated as to desire not to have their country and themselves absorbed by English colonization, is that in one engagement the British troops had to retire, owing to the superior number of the enemy, and that, in a second and severe fight, one officer was shot dead and another seriously wounded, while the enemy marched off in good order, through the cunning of a body of 400 women, who can scarcely be called "the *fair* sex," who threw themselves between the Caffres and the British soldiers, in the conviction that the latter would not fire upon them. Nothing like this has been recorded by history since the memorable day, two thousand six hundred years ago, when the Sabine women, who had been forcibly seized by Romulus and his adherents, and were the cause of a war, rushed down from the Palatine hill with dishevelled hair, and, throwing themselves between their Roman husbands and their Sabine kinsmen, induced a peace to be made, which ended in the union of the two races.

Dr. James C. Ayer died last week in Massachusetts. He began life as a poor factory hand in Lowell. He then became a clerk to a druggist, and succeeded to his master's business. He early noticed the immense profits made in the manufacture and sale of patent medicines, and his knowledge of chemical combinations aided him in competing with those engaged in the business. Cherry Pectoral and Cathartic Pills constituted his happy venture. He was a large buyer of factory stock and real estate. He aspired to legislative honors later in life, but was defeated in his first and only campaign. In 1876 he was taken to a private asylum for the insane, and since has suffered more or less from mental aberration. His Pills and Pectoral will long survive him; they have served him well in his day and generation, and will no doubt long retain their popularity with the mass of nostrum hunting humanity.

The Indian troubles in the United States threaten to be extended and very serious. Advices from Oregon say that 500 volunteers under Sperry, have been defeated by the redskins, and nearly all killed or captured. About 1600 are supposed to be armed, and are awaiting strongly entrenched the approach of General Howard near Canyon city. Great alarm prevails among the settlers, and the Government are preparing for a crisis. Oregon will be pretty effectually disorganized for a time at least, and if the rising be, as feared, general, will cost an immense amount of blood and treasure.

Complaint comes from British Columbia that the Dominion Government is very slack in enforcing the laws there against supplying liquor to Indians. Disorder and licence, it is said, prevail on the West Coast, and the Indians get all the whiskey they want without much trouble. Wrecks on the coast are not unfrequent, and from almost every vessel wrecked, the Indians secure large supplies of liquor. As a consequence, murders and woundings are frequent, and the Dominion Gouernment is urged to perform the duty it undertook when the Province become part of Canada.—*Ottawa Citizen.*

WHAT DOES IT MEAN?

Mr. Parkin, the head master of the Fredericton Collegiate School, was in attendance upon the Synod meeting in St John, at which it was determined to establish a Divinity school in Fredericton, under the supervision of the Bishop. Mr Parkin enthusiastically and ably advocated the scheme, and the following are some extracts as reported in the *Telegraph*:—

He had visited England with a view of studying the English public schools, and on his return he was offered the head mastership of Windsor school, but he had refused, principally because of his feality to the church in this province, and he had gone to Fredericton to begin in his own way, in order to carry out there in his own way his project, and he was satisfied that the tendency of the students of this country was to Fredericton, and while he only began last May, he had even now four theological students. His plans were such that he thought in two years he would would be able to transfer to the Synod a house and forty or fifty boys to be controlled by the church. He discussed the financial question, and and stated again the scholarship attached to the University of New Brunswick. He also illustrated the benefit of these scholarships by the case of two sons of a clergyman of this diocese who would not otherwise have been able to get a University education He also illustrated by students of his own, school, who had this year taken $600 in scholarships. He stated facts which showed the influence of the church in Fredericton to draw men to her fold. They have no, such centralization of church work as is presented at the Cathedral under the ministration of the Bishop, and he wished that every man, women and child could listen to his teachings. Nor would it injure the clergy.

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The question is great and it would take much time to state it. Of the county scholarships, nine at least of the Divinity students would get hold of them, and the amount of $82.50 a year is a considerable amount to a young fellow. He said that since its establishment the University of New Brunswick had been an instrument in the education of many clergymen of this Diocese. We want the young strength of our clergymen in sympathy with our Bishop. The true interest of the University of New Brunswick is to draw churchmen there in every way. He said that he was founding a Church house and he was sending from the Collegiate School, with church training, more students to the University than the rest of the province. As a churchman he wanted to come into contact with every class of mind in the province and dissenters who came to Fredericton filled the Cathedral every Sunday evening to listen to the profound teachings of His Lordship. He referred to some remarks by a friend outside of the Synod and said he wished to state that the position of the Senate of the University was that it was disposed to make every concession which churchmen might think consistant with intellectual training. He stated also the nature of changes in the honor course in the University to suit the divinity course.

We are afraid that Mr. Parkin, in his zeal for the scheme he was advocating almost made it appear as though his chief interest in the Collegiate school and the University was as to him much use could be made of these towards the futherance of the work of the Church of England. Both these institutions are strictly non-sectarian; the drift of Mr. Parkin's speech would be to create an impression that the former at least was largely in the interest of a denomination.

A SYNOD AND TWO GREAT QUESTIONS.

The Synod of the Diocese of Fredericton composed of all the Church of England clergy in New Brunswick, together with delegates from the various parishes has finished its annual session in St. John. In the absence of Bishop Medley who is attending the Pan-Anglician Synod, the chair was occupied by His Honor Governor Tilley. Among other questions which engaged the attention of the assembled delegates two very important ones may be mentioned. The first was in relation to temperance action. Rev. Mr. Almon moved the following:—

That this Synod appoint a standing committee for the purpose of organizing as soon as possible a Diocesan Church of England Temperance Society, and that the Presidents of the Church of England Temperance Societies being clergymen of the Church of England should be members of this committee, and such other members as the Synod may appoint; and that such standing committee shall every year report on the work and progress of the Diocesan Temperance Society.

This occasioned a long and able debate. The motion was supported by Rev. Mr. Pentreath