

THE KINGDOM OF SPAIN.

The investiture of King Alfonso of Spain, with the "Order of the Garter" by the Queen of England, a lengthy account of which appears in another column, once more brings that country prominently before the eyes of the British people.

Yet, only a century later, the Spanish dominion was destroyed in Europe, Asia and Africa; and so completely undermined in America, that, except in the mere form, it was virtually dead.

The reasons that led to Spain's falling so fast and so far has been traced to the following causes:—

- 1st.—The extensive emigration to the New World;
2nd.—The relaxation in the industrial habits of the people;
3rd.—The arrogance and despotism of several of her rulers which embroiled the country in wars with the most powerful States in Europe and draining the country of its population to supply their armies;

No sooner was the Cross placed above the Crescent on the walls of the Alhambra, than the Jews were driven from the soil of Spain. By this act the country was stripped of the most intelligent, energetic and thrifty class of her population.

The Government organ at Montreal calls upon the people to vote against one of the candidates at Shediac for the County Council because he is a Grit.

Yes, but in this Parish the organ of the Opposition and the Dominion member, Mr. Snowball have been running the Councillors on Dominion politics for four years.

A couple of interesting articles on the Yorktown Centennial will be found on our first page.

culture of silk, sugar and cotton, and the manufacture of cloths, gloves, tools and weapons. When they went, the industry and the wealth of Spain went with them. Vast areas of territory were left totally desolate.

THE MUNICIPAL ELECTION.

The result of the election in the Parish of Chatham yesterday, was a revelation to the few who imagined they carried the town in their vest pockets.

In our last issue we called upon the electors to put an end to the evil system which would mix up our Parish affairs with Dominion politics.

Mr. Loggie is to be congratulated on the splendid vote he received. He came out as an independent candidate, and as such the people gave him a noble support.

The STAR has reason to be proud of the result. It has constantly kept our people posted on Town matters, and in the future as in the past, will deal with local affairs without respect to men or parties, always upholding what is of benefit to the Town, and denouncing what it believes to be injurious.

We trust our new Councillors will act independent of any party or clique and do their duty to the whole people who have so well supported them in yesterday's contest.

DOMINION POLITICS.

The St. John Globe says:—"The Government organ at Montreal calls upon the people to vote against one of the candidates at Shediac for the County Council because he is a Grit.

The Fredericton Capital says:—A very sad accident occurred at Edouardston on Saturday last. A little girl, aged about six years, daughter of Narcisse Marquis, merchant at Little Falls, was standing watching a pile of shavings burning, when a spark caught in her clothing.

EDITORIAL GLEANINGS.

A RUSSIAN SHAM FIGHT.

During the recent sham fight at the manoeuvres in Russia several people were knocked down and run over by the artillery, two being killed on the spot.

DISAPPEARANCE.

A German Jew named Marcus Kaliech arrived in St. John several months ago, and announced he was about to start a factory at Rimouski for the manufacture of agricultural implements and engine boilers.

ENGLISH SHIPS AND DOCKS.

England is bound to be true to herself no matter what Government may be in power, and no matter what agitations for free trade or for fair trade exist within her borders, or what bounties to shipping are given by her neighbour, the French Republic.

SAD ACCIDENT.

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NORTHUMBERLAND AGRICULTURAL EXHIBITION.

The yearly Exhibition of this Society was held at Bushville, on Friday last, on the grounds of His Honor Judge Wilkinson.

The judges for the first department were Finlay McDermott, James Scott and John Baldwin, who were to decide for the ploughing match.

The six ploughmen then drew lots for their respective places and set to work. In the meantime the other judges examined the live stock, and an award of \$3.50 for the best entire 3 year old horse, was given to Mr. Searle, his being the only exhibit.

Next came 3 year old geldings, but as Mr. Chas. Sargeant's was the only one on the ground the prize of \$2.00 was awarded to him.

The next prizes were for the best and second 2 year old mares. There were only two entered, and Mr. Johnathan Dixon's took the first prize \$200, and Mr. William Stothart took the second of \$1.50.

The next exhibit was a two year old gelding. Jota Galway's was the only entry and he got the best prize of \$2.00. Then George Dickson received \$2.00 for the best mare and John Baldwin received the second prize \$1.50.

J. B. Snowball exhibited three one year old colts and received \$1.50 and \$1.00 for the best and second respectively.

The prize of \$1 was awarded Mr. John Johnston for the best 1 year old filly. Mr. Alex. Gordon had the best spring colt for which he received the prize of \$1.50, and Mr. James Fitzpatrick received \$1.00 for the second.

Then came the exhibit of roadsters. Mr. James Fitzpatrick received \$2.00 for his two year old gelding and Mr. J. B. Snowball received \$1.50 for the best 1 year old filly.

Then came the exhibit of cattle. Geo. Searle had the only bull on exhibit, and was awarded \$2.50. Geo. Searle also showed two heifers each 2 year old, and received \$1.75 and \$1.25 for the best and second respectively.

J. B. Snowball received \$1.50 for the best 1 year old heifer and Alex. Gordon received \$1.00 for the second.

Mr. Jas. Fitzpatrick exhibited the best ewe of any age and received \$1.50 for his exhibit, and William Martin received \$1.25 for the second.

Alex. Dickson exhibited two 2 year old ewes and received \$1.50 and \$1.25 respectively.

James Fitzpatrick received \$1.50 for the best 1 year old ewe and Mr. William Martin received \$1.25 for the second.

The ploughmen had now completed their work and the judges appointed to look after it came forward, and after inspecting it in the minutest details, finally gave in their report.

Mr. Edward Martin was awarded first prize and received the prize of \$5.00, and the others were awarded as follows, each receiving 50 cents less than the one who precedes him till the last, viz:—

Louis Dick, Thomas Fitzpatrick, Alex. Dick, William Condron, and Geo. Murray, who received \$2.50.

The entrance fee for exhibitors was \$1.00 and the amount of money voted to be given to exhibitors was \$115. The number who entered was 39, and they carried away only \$63.75.

QUEEN VICTORIA HONORS ALFONSO OF SPAIN.

MADRID, Oct. 11.—The investiture of King Alfonso with the Order of the Garter took place this afternoon. Alfonso XII had received many marks of sympathy from Queen Victoria, but none more agreeable than the high distinction conferred upon him in this century conferred on another Spanish sovereign.

Lord Wellesley, after the great Peninsular war, brought the Garter to Ferdinand VII, grandfather of Alfonso. The relations cooled between Spain and England during Queen Isabella's reign, while the famous Guizot marriage policy annoyed the British Government.

During the revolution of September, England, ever slow to recognize governments like those of Amadeus and Serrano, was among the first to hail the restoration of the boy prince, who, when fresh from exile, was called to his throne by the daring General Martinez Campos.

Therefore the Spanish court received with much pleasure the announcement that a special envoy extraordinary, one of England's most ancient peers, chief of the old House of Commons, and himself a knight of the Garter, would come as bearer of this royal present to Don Alfonso.

The Garter counts on its proud roll but twenty-five knights, who are of England's bluest blood, with the exception of Lord Beaconsfield, who entered the noble chapter by right of talent and exceptional services to the Crown.

The foreign knights must be crowned heads, or heirs apparent at least, to obtain the Garter. King Alfonso had signified his acceptance of the proffered order and had fixed October 11th as the day for investiture in his royal palace.

The special envoy and a brilliant following arrived just on the day when the King left for Caceres to receive the King of Portugal. Long before the appointed hour for the ceremony of the investiture guards of honour

with band and colours took up their station in the palace court opposite the State entrance, and immense crowds gathered near the approaches, crowding the efforts of horse and foot patrols.

Carriages began arriving with privileged guests, grandees and wives, the Ministers, the highest palace functionaries, state dignitaries, marshals, generals, and military knights of the noble order in their robes, cardinals and bishops, in fact, all that galaxy of

THE MISSION.

that habitually assembled around King Alfonso, following the ceremonial and etiquette of the court of the eighteenth century and the military display of which modern Spain is so fond.

Eager expectation was visible on every face in the distinguished gathering filling the ante chambers and throne room. The grand stair case and landing were lined with halberdiers in the gala dress of musketeers of the last century and palace servants with gilt liveries and powdered heads.

Meantime fine State carriages, drawn by fine teams of Andalusian horses, plumed and brilliantly harnessed, went with the Marquis del Valle, the principal introducer of the ambassadors, to the Hotel de Paris.

The escort was formed by a squadron of Royal Horse Guards. The Marquis of Northampton, and Sir Albert Woods, Garter King at Arms, and the members of the mission were driven to the palace through crowded streets.

As soon as they reached the palace they were hailed with a royal salute and the British anthem. A procession was formed, in which marched the members of the royal household, the chamberlains in order of precedence, the suits of the plenipotentiaries, carrying the book of the statutes, the sword, mantle collar, hat, and plumes.

The herald carried the Garter riband. Then came the secretary of the mission and Blue Mantle Pursuivant with the royal commission. Last came the Marquis of Northampton, an aged and haughty looking peer, and on his left the Garter King-at-Arms in the mantle of his office, carrying Queen Victoria's letters of credence.

At the door of the royal presence chamber the Duke of Sexto, Lord Chamberlain, announced the mission, and it advanced, making profound reverence, and preceded by the introducer of the ambassadors. The King, standing in the halberdiers' uniform, but without any cross or star whatever on his dark blue tunic, awaited the mission, surrounded by the Court of Ministers.

Queen Christina stood on the left of the King, and at her left were the infants. Nearest to the King, on the right, were Senor Sagast and Marshal Campos. The Marquis of Northampton advanced to the foot of the throne, and in French, in a short address, explained the object of the mission.

The King replied. After duly handing their letters, the book and their commission, the plenipotentiaries, Lord Northampton, and the Garter King-at-Arms, approached the King and

on the left leg of His Majesty, below the knee, Garter reading an admonition. Afterwards Lord Northampton successively invested the King with the ribbon, mantle and collar, hat and feather, of the order. The King receiving the sword unbuckled his own and gave it to the Garter Knight-at-Arms.

During the whole ceremony Queen Christina, the Infanta, and the ladies of the court remained standing, and, like the whole assemblage, watched the ceremony with eager interest. It is difficult to describe the curiosity excited at the court and in Madrid about every detail of this investiture.

As the conclusion of the ceremony the Marquis of Northampton returned with the usual reverences, and was taken back to his hotel with the same pomp and with the same cortege of royal carriages. The following is the

DESCRIPTION OF THE INSIGNIA.

The garter is made of links of massive gold on blue velvet, with buckle, collar and garter, a representation of St. George killing the dragon being splendidly designed in gold.

The Knight's mantle is of blue silk velvet, lined with white satin, with buckle of solid gold. He wears a quaint hat and feathers. These insignia were carried on red velvet cushions with the exception of the sword. The commissions and letters of credence were written on fine vellum, signed by Queen Victoria herself. The following is a description of the

COSTUMES WORN BY THE MEMBERS OF THE MISSION.

Lord Northampton was in admiral's uniform, his sons and the two other members of the mission being in diplomatic dress. Lord Down and Colonel Elliot were in the Guards uniform.

The Garter Knight-at-Arms and his officers wore magnificent talbards and coats with the royal arms embossed on them. For two days past Sir Albert Woods and the Spanish chamberlains have been discussing etiquette. The mission was taken to the palace as an embassy extraordinary.

The Queen wore a dress with long velvet train covered with lace. She also wore the crown diamonds, and a royal mantle. The Infanta Isabella was in dark blue brocade, with sapphires and diamonds. The Infantas Gaz and Eulalia were in pale blue velvet and pearls.

The ladies of the court wore décolletées dresses with diamonds and no trains. The grandees and courtiers were in full gala costume. The ceremony of investiture, including the addresses of the Marquis of Northampton and the King's answer, lasted for twenty three minutes. The mission was entertained at a grand banquet in the palace at night.

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REMOVAL.

DR. J. S. BENSON has removed to the residence lately occupied by A. D. Shirreff, Esq., on Duke Street, where he can be consulted at all hours as usual. Chatham, October 15, '81.

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ALLAN A. DAVIDSON, Q. C. ALLAN A. DAVIDSON Chatham April 30—1881.

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