

left the ice on the Great Slave Lake on July 3, and afterward found ice again on the Mackenzie River beyond the polar circle as early as September 17.—*Montreal Witness.*

THE KINGDOM OF ITALY.—On the 9th of January, the 9th anniversary of the death of Victor Emmanuel, the first King of United Italy, was observed in that country.

The Italians do well not to forget the brave, honest, patriotic monarch; under whom they received the liberty they now enjoy.

In recent years the career of this still youthful kingdom has been one of quiet progress. It has a free constitutional monarchy, with a Parliament freely elected by the people, and responsible ministers, the country enjoying as large a degree of political liberty and self-government as England.

MR. BAKER, one of the chief engineers of the Forth Bridge, lecturing the other night, gave a very graphic and interesting account of that stupendous work. The men who reared the great Pyramid must have possessed no little engineering skill, but the modern engineer looks on the Pyramid as a very little thing. Mr. Baker said he had sometimes looked at the Pyramids from a contractor's point of view, and he would be glad to take a contract to build the great Pyramid in six years, for the sum of £3,000,000 sterling. It contained about 7,000,000 tons of stone. If, with steam Titans and cranes that can handle and set blocks of concrete of a hundred tons weight as easily as a bricklayer sets a small brick, six years would be necessary to rear the great Pyramid, how long did its construction occupy the ancient Egyptians? Their work was designed to last for ever, and it will doubtless exist when

many of our marvellous combinations of girders will shrivel into a heap of rust.—*School Newspaper.*

LORD DUFFERIN IN INDIA.—Lord Dufferin has been very skilful and successful in the management of Indian affairs, fully as much so as when he was a constitutional ruler in Canada, or a diplomat at St. Petersburg or Constantinople. He has reformed the zemindar or landlord system, made a considerable reduction in the expense of the civil service, and made it much easier for natives to enter it, defined the boundary between India and Afghanistan, annexed Burmah, pushed forward with vigour the railroad system, one of the most important roads being that into Afghanistan, and through these roads an important influence has been brought to bear upon the trade of the country. He has also been remarkably successful in his management of the native Princes, who pay great attention to the due observance of formality, but those who remember how deferential Lord Dufferin could be to a Canadian Deputy Reeve, when occasion required, will understand that in his conferences with the Indian Princes there will be no lack of courtesy or good management.

DISCOVERY OF A BRONZE-AGE BURIAL PLACE.—The *Ausland* reports a peculiarly interesting "find" in Sweden. In the course of the researches going on under the conduct of the archæologist G. J. Carlin, at the cost of the Royal Swedish Academy of Antiquaries, a burial-place of the bronze age has been opened. A stone coffin, 11 ft. in length, and containing two corpses, was discovered. One of the corpses had been burnt, and was wrapped in wollen cloths; while the other, which bore no sign of having been exposed to a fire process, was enclosed in an