

# Dominion Churchman.

THURSDAY, JANUARY 3, 1878.

## NEW YEAR'S GREETING.

THE publisher of the DOMINION CHURCHMAN in offering the readers of this journal the customary salutations and compliments of the Season, takes the opportunity in this first number of the New Year to say a few words upon the subject of the undertaking to which his unremitting energies have been devoted. He must first, however, express his unfeigned thanks to Divine goodness for the uninterrupted health and strength which he has enjoyed in the midst of the labours and anxieties of his position, and also acknowledge his obligation to the Clergy and Laity of the Dominion who have in any way encouraged and aided his endeavours to maintain and circulate the CHURCHMAN by their subscriptions, recommendations, or literary contributions. The Publisher has the gratification of stating that the paper has been steadily gaining ground in the confidence and good-will of the Church people throughout Canada. This is evidenced by the very numerous letters he has received from all parts during the past, as in the previous year, expressing satisfaction with the manner in which the journal has been conducted, and with the principles and tone by which it has been characterized. Another proof of its growing popularity is exhibited by the continued increase of the subscription list, and this increase seems to have been greatest in those places where the paper has been best known. The Publisher of the DOMINION CHURCHMAN does not desire to conceal the fact that the prosperity of his undertaking, in common with business of every description, has been affected by the severe monetary depression which has prevailed throughout the commercial world. And perhaps public journalists suffer more than others at such times, because their support depends upon numerous small amounts, which appear to individual subscribers so trivial as to make it a matter of small consequence whether their payment is delayed or forgotten altogether. Let the CHURCHMAN'S subscribers, whose consciences prick them on this point, remember that they can materially lighten the burdens and anxieties of those who issue the journal by paying their subscriptions punctually and regularly. Another effect of hard times upon newspapers is to check the extension of their circulation; people say they cannot afford to subscribe. Notwithstanding this drawback, however, the subscribers to the DOMINION CHURCHMAN have, as above stated, increased. But we know not how many more might have been added if the clergy and laity of the Church generally had exerted themselves in furtherance of this object, as some few have done. Will they not endeavor to spread the circulation of a paper which by the showing of so many testimonials needs but to be known in order to be valued by all sound and moderate

churchmen? It would, the publisher is persuaded, require but a slight effort on the part of the friends of the journal to double or treble the list. If the many would follow the example of the few there is nothing to hinder the DOMINION CHURCHMAN from flourishing in this Canada of ours. The publisher, while thanking contributors for their past valuable aid so kindly and freely rendered, begs that they will "not be weary in well doing," but will continue to forward during the present year items of church news and articles on church subjects connected with the topics of the day. As for himself he would say that he will endeavor to merit a continuance of the confidence which his patrons have reposed in him, and trusts he shall be spared to prosecute and achieve the object which he has at heart, and for which his conscience testifies he has labored faithfully and self-denyingly, viz.: to establish and conduct such a journal as shall, while shunning all extremes and discouraging party contentions, foster and propagate attachment to the true and broad principles of the Church as well as diffuse information upon church work and movements, especially such as take place in our own dioceses, so that a loving zeal and rivalry may be provoked among Canadian church people whereby the Church may be edified and God glorified.

### THE WEEK.

IT is surmised in some quarters that the British Government have called Parliament together in order to submit a plan for the purchase of the Suzerainty over Egypt, now held by Turkey. The scheme, it is alleged, is freighted with considerable difficulty. It is urged that in searching for the title of this claim, it will be found to rest on the right of conquest, which was repudiated by Mehemet Ali forty-six years ago, when he would have made Egypt independent, and probably have blotted from existence the Ottoman Empire, if England had not interfered. But should the settlement of 1866 be deemed conclusive, Great Britain would be able to purchase only the right to a tribute amounting to about three and a half million dollars annually, with authority to call on the Khedive for military and naval aids, while any further encroachment on the sovereignty of Egypt would amount to an act of war. In the event of hostilities, England would have to deal with a fierce and revengeful race. It is believed, however, that the gravest contingency arising from the purchase of the Suzerainty of Egypt would be that she would awaken the hostility of France and Italy, and give the signal for the further partition of the Ottoman Empire; and that Russia, feeling released from all further obligations, would arouse the energies of the Greek and Slavonic races, and would move at once by land and sea upon Constantinople.

While we have been enjoying an unusually balmy air, with roads as soft as batter pud-

ding, we are told that the early and severe winter in Europe threatens to add a new horror to the Eastern war. Roumania and a great part of Bulgaria are exposed, precisely like Russian Turkestan, to the full force of all northern and easterly winds, which produce a change of temperature amounting, as we sometimes find in Canada, to fifty or sixty degrees in a day. Wherever these winds blow, the same severe hurricanes occur as in Minnesota and on the plains in the United States, more destructive than almost any amount of quiet Arctic cold. Such a hurricane has now fallen upon the half-famished garrison of Plevna and the Russian convoy near Bucharest. Wagons, horses, and men have been entirely buried in snow within half a mile of a place of shelter; while the snow on the ridges and in the passes of the Balkans must put a stop to military operations for some time. In America, however, it appears that the first violence of winter has exhausted itself and moderate weather now prevails. This region, although rough and lofty, is protected by the immense wall of the Caucasus. It is subject to deep snows rather than to violent storms or great extremes of cold, and the winds of the Black Sea and the Persian plains, meeting on the highest ridges, make the climate uncertain during winter. The operations at Erzeroum have hitherto been retarded by the difficulty of bringing the siege guns from Kars.

The intrepid African explorer, Stanley, is on his way to Europe. He has telegraphed from Aden his arrival there from Zanzibar, and also his departure for Suez; so that he is expected in England soon, when he will probably be lionized more enthusiastically than when he returned successful from the search for Livingstone. And he cannot do better than call for Cleopatra's Needle on his way. It would furnish one of the best, and certainly one of the most lasting trophies he could pick up. In the minds of the people of England we doubt not that the solid results of his recent triumphs will overtop the brilliancy of his first happy stroke for fame. In an interview with the Sultan at Zanzibar, he obtained promises for the suppression of the slave trade. The Sultan, Syed Barghash, appeared to be much moved by Stanley's expostulations in reference to the infamous traffic, and appeared to comprehend the gravity of the situation, when informed that the civilized world was determined to put it down. The Sultan also promised to recall Said Ben Salm, the governor of Unyanyembe, on account of his participation in the slave trade, and encouraging others to do the same. He engaged to send a governor there who could be trusted to refrain from such practices, and to lend his co-operation in the suppression of the trade in human beings. Mr. Stanley paid off and discharged the native members of the Expedition, who left him with many demonstrations of entire satisfaction.

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