

THE EASTERN QUESTION.

The state of matters in Europe touching the Eastern question have not materially changed. Uncertainty seems the most abundant feature. Russia's position is no stronger in European courts, while owing to certain causes well-known every day works to her internal condition. Russia is honey-combed with nihilist and socialist secret organizations, which elude in the main her vigilant police, and scatter broadcast doctrines subversive of absolute Government and civil rights. Russia's relations to the powers whom she undertakes to aid, Roumania and Bulgaria, are of the most unsatisfactory kind, and the cause of continual heart burnings and outbreaks. The cable brings us news as well of the outbreak of Mussulman hostilities in the Balkans, and of typhus fever among her own troops. Turkey is drawing nearer and nearer to England who stands firmly as she has been on the subject of the San Stefano treaty to Congress. England's war force is being steadily put on footing for active service, and already troops are on their way from India to Malta. We do not believe there will be war. Unless Germany is playing a deceitful game, Russia has no help, and Russia will not fight without allies sympathetic of active war. We append report of the Russian Ambassador's opinions on the reasonableness of his country's demand. It will interest our readers to see the question from the stand point of a Russian Diplomat.

The Vienna correspondent of the Daily Telegraph sends a report of General Giers, which he has had with General Giers. You have not forgotten that I told you just a year ago how earnestly I was for peace should be maintained. Well, sir, I am far more desirous for peace at the present moment than I was then. First of all, there is not the smallest pretext for war, and if there is not to any remote chance exists of its leading to any result. I am, as you know, one of the authors of the Treaty of San Stefano, and my constant pre-occupation in drawing up that document was scrupulously to avoid anything that might affect the interests of Great Britain or Austria. Thus you will observe that in Armenia, Russia contents herself with an unhoped for minimum. Everbody expected she would claim Erzerum, but I remember what our Salisbury said to me on that particular question, and I did not even claim the demolition of the Erzerum fortifications. Bottom is indispensable to Russia on commercial grounds; and England, too, will find that in our hands Batum will offer great advantages to any use as a commercial harbor. We have spent incalculable sums with a view of rendering it a first-class port, but all to no purpose. The River Rion drift sands to such an extent that all our efforts remained fruitless. The mountains that mark the frontier in Armenia are impracticable during the greater portion of the year, which prevents communication with the Kurds and other uncivilized tribes, while our military boats are safe from all surprises on our part. We have been no less diligent in the question concerning the Straits. They form the passage leading to our hostile corridor (the Bosphorus), and we surely had some right to see that it was kept clear. The Dardanelles must remain open. If England were to establish herself permanently there, we should have to secure the Bosphorus, England having a fleet, whereas we have only a few ships. But there is no reason why England should not take one of the islands outside, such as Mytilene for instance, if she thinks proper to do so. As to the difficulty that has arisen between St. Petersburg and London respecting the Treaty of Peace being submitted to Congress, I myself attribute this to a misunderstanding of words. We might have kept the Treaty back till the Congress met, and thus have given the Powers at all in a preliminary examination. We proved our good faith by communicating it in full as soon as it was ratified, and why do you suppose we accepted the Congress at all if it was not to discuss the conditions of peace with the Powers represented? Moreover, you have all Europe against you in this question, and, therefore, cannot expect us to yield.

THE OPENING.—By reference to our advertising columns it will be seen that the Carleton Opera Troupe will give two performances in this city on the 6th and 7th May. They have been performing in St. John where they have met with good success. On Monday evening 6th inst, they will produce "Opera Martha." In referring to this play the St. John Globe says:— "Everybody present at the performance of 'Martha' at the Institute last evening appeared to be pleased with the entertainment. The general verdict was one of approval. There seemed to be nothing to condemn. The solo singers were found to be true artists, possessed of finely cultivated voices, capable of expressing all the emotions; the choruses were rendered in a grand and effective manner, never before equalled in St. John hall; the orchestra was composed of superior musicians whose performance alone was a treat; the scenery was good; and there was not the slightest hitch throughout the entire entertainment. Everything combined to make the Concert a success, and it was such. A few of the performers were previously known in St. John, particularly Miss Stone, who had made a good impression during the brief opera season last winter. Her rendition of 'The Last Rose of Summer' was a splendid effort, and showed her sweet voice to great advantage. Miss Randall is a capital actress and charming singer, and she made an excellent 'Nancy.' Mr. Carleton (the director) has a baritone voice of rare power and expressiveness, and it destined to become a favorite. Messrs. Cooper, Taylor and Clark gave an excellent support, and their singing was much admired. A plan of the Hall may be seen at Davis & Dible's Drug Store, where Reserved Seat Tickets are for sale.

Mr. Sampson requests to state he will be prepared to issue Permits and furnish information to all pupils who have passed a satisfactory examination for admission into the High School, after a compliance with the conditions of the Board of School Trustees at his office from 2 o'clock till 6 o'clock, P. M., on Monday and Tuesday next, 29th and 30th inst.

An unprecedented breadth of spring wheat has been sown in Minnesota, Nebraska, and Kansas, and western authorities are predicting that under favorable conditions the largest crop ever known in the West will be raised. Texas estimates an increase of fifteen per cent. in her wheat crop over last year. The average last year was about 400,000; this year it will be about 550,000, at an average yield of 15 bushels per acre will produce a crop of 8,250,000 bushels.

A unique bunch of promise case is before the Courts in New Jersey. Miss Gulich says her uncle, eighty years of age, for \$20,000 for his bright and affectionate by refusing to marry her. The suit is not yet ended. Auburn prison N. Y., has a choir of convicts. A man sentenced for larceny plays the organ, the first violin, the double bass, and the tenor are women, and another member is a forger.

Stewart's hotel for nurses has not been patronized as well as was expected at its opening. With accommodation for 2,000 boarders it only has forty.

A letter from Venice states that Madame Patti sang forty-two times during her stay in Italy from November to the end of February, and netted no less than £10,000.

Austria is becoming uneasy about the health of Europe, engendered by the vast number of corpses unburied in Roumania and Bulgaria.

A Buffalo exchange says a paper mill found a block among the logs she was cutting containing six gold pieces amounting to \$24.

The Postmaster of New York has made 101 removals in five years. Eighty were for drunkenness.

ORIGIN OF PETROLEUM.—The true source of petroleum is not in the strata where it is found, but must be looked for much lower down, as it floats on water. This element on penetrating downward has washed the petroleum out of its reservoir and caused it to float on itself—in fact, in the sandstone where it is often found, no carbonized animal remains are found. Hence we must look lower down, even below the Silurian, as the mineral oil in the Caucasus is found in the Tertian, and in Pennsylvania in the Devonian and Silurian. As, however, in the rocks below the Silurian there was very little organic life, the formation of such a quantity of petroleum could scarcely be traced to such a limited source. Mendeloff, professor in St. Petersburg, Russia, proposes a substitute for the organic theory. He goes back to the nebular hypothesis of Laplace, and applies Dalton's laws of the original gaseous condition of the material of the earth, and taking into consideration the density of the earth and the vapor density of the elements, he arrives at the conclusion that the interior contains many metals, and that chief among them is iron; finally, he assumes the presence of carbonized compounds of the metals, and comes to the following conclusions: Through some of the iron in the form of vapor to the upper strata, where they condensed to liquids in porous sandstone and other rocks having a tendency to absorb liquids. The internal heat of the earth occasioned the reduction of carbonized matter, and the gas rose to hydrocarbons. Other chemists think Mendeloff has shown experimentally that something very like petroleum can be produced artificially by imitating in the laboratory the process of its natural formation.

EMERSON'S PRESENT LOOK.—Thus looked Emerson as he gave his lecture the other day in the Old South. A tall, slender figure, now a little bent with years, his gray hair straggling over a crown partially bald, his features more sharply cut than ever, his manner as cool and bashful as that of a maiden entering society for the first time, his eyes as sharp as his audience as ever, and his voice as low and broken, hardly dimmed, his voice is now so broken, it is said, that heard with distinctness by more than two hundred people. It was pleasant to hear his daughter, sitting by Mr. Alcott's side, occasionally prompt her father to speak louder, and to feel the sympathy of the great audience with her effort.

When Representative Eugene Hale married Miss Chandler her father, ex-Senator Chandler, gave him \$10,000 for a wedding present, and at the coming of every grand child a cheque for \$20,000 has been forthcoming, to be placed to the credit of the little one as the nucleus of its future fortune.

GRAINLAD SUGAR. 20 LBS. For sale by GEO. HATT & SONS.

TO LOAN. \$1000 TO LOAN ON Real Estate. FRANK WETMORE & WINSLOW.

TO LET. THAT VALUABLE BRICK BUILDING with 1000 Stairs, situated corner of Regent and King Streets.

SCHOOL EXAMINATIONS. The Public semi-annual Examination of the pupils in the following order, viz:—

Under the Patronage of HIS HONOR THE LEGAL GOVERNOR and Mrs. TILLEY. CITY HALL.

CARLETON English Opera Co'y Two Nights Only. Monday Ev'g, May 6.

"MARTHA," with the principal artists now performing at St. John.

Tuesday Ev'g, May 7. VERDI'S GRAND OPERA, "IL TROVATORE," with a splendid cast.

Grand Literary and Musical ENTERTAINMENT. Under the patronage of His Honor the Legal Governor and Mrs. Tilley.

Thursday Ev'g, May 2. MISS DORA H. WILEY, Soprano; MISS GEORGIA E. CAVAN, Elzevionist.

GAS FITTING, PLUMBING, &c. THE subscriber keeps on hand a large assortment of all the best quality of

STRAW GOODS, STRAW GOODS, STRAW GOODS. 50 D'VEL, Straw Vests and Bags of Straw.

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NOW LANDING FROM CARS. 50 D'VEL, Flour Flour.

SALT AND MOLASSES. 50 D'VEL, Salt and Molasses.

BROOMS, PAILS, CEMENT, and LIME. 50 D'VEL, Brooms, Pails, Cement, and Lime.

Harvey Grass Seed. 50 D'VEL, Harvey Grass Seed.

RAILWAY Ticket Office. THE subscriber is now agent for the sale of Tickets over all the Great Lines of Railway in North America, among some are:—

Flour. Flour. 1000 BARRIS Superior Extra FLOUR. TO ARRIVE: GEO. HATT & SONS.

20,000 Rols HOUSE PAPER. JUST RECEIVED. English Room Papers!

M.S. HALL. HALL PAPER! PARLOR PAPER! KITCHEN PAPER!

T. W. SMITH. FISHER'S BUILDING, Queen Street, Fredericton, N. B.

Oats, Bran, Shorts AND HEAVY FEED. ALWAYS on hand at the warehouse of the undersigned, Campbell Street.

Brushes. Brushes. JUST received by rail from McLaughlin's Brush Factory, Boston.

JAS. L. BEVERLY, Bookseller, Stationer, Book-binder, dealer in Fancy Goods, &c.

JOHN RICHARDS, Insurance Agent. Representing the following first-class Offices:—

A. BACK SEAT. 50 BARRELS. THE subscriber has on hand a large assortment of all the best quality of

COSSITT'S RAKE. SIX FIRST PRIZES and Two Grand Special Prizes at the Montreal Exhibition.

COSSITT'S RAKE AT Eight Provincial Exhibitions. Over Fifty First Prizes at County Fairs.

New Drug Store. TO OPEN 1st MAY. R. CHESTNUT & SONS, Agents.

HALL'S BOOK STORE. Opposite City Hall. FISH'S BUILDING, Queen Street, Fredericton, N. B.

Patent Medicines. HAYANA AND AMERICAN CIGARS. A GOOD ASSORTMENT OF

G. L. Atherton & Co. All Nature Dies and Lives Again. 50 bush. Grass Seed

ELY PERKINS. 600 BUSH. OATS. TO ARRIVE. 1000 lbs. Northern Red Clover.

FARMERS! WHITTIER & HOOPER. Are selling the best grades of AMERICAN AND CANADIAN FLOUR.

JUST RECEIVED BY RAIL FROM BOSTON. 4 CANIS READY MIXED PAINTS, from 10 to 25 cts.

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WHOLESALE & RETAIL. MILLER & EDGECOMBE. New Stock

DRY GOODS. April 13, 1878. MILLER & EDGECOMBE. Have just received the following

NEW GOODS! IRELAND, Scotland, England, and France, NOW OPENING.

CARPETING, SILKS, Millinery Goods. P. McPEAKE. Everything Newest Design.

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SPRING STOCK OF Seeds, GERMAN FLOWER SEEDS in original packages, very fine.

GEO. H. DAVIS. Druggist and Apothecary. 1878. SEEDS. 1878. FRESH

Garden Peas. FLOWER SEEDS, in original packages from Germany, and of the choicest varieties. Novelties in

GEO. C. HUNT. Druggist, Queen Street. LAND FOR SALE. A Lot situated in the Parish of Douglas on the

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