

The Advance of Russia in Central Asia.

The well-known Asiatic traveller, Vladimir Vambéry, published some months ago in the German periodical *Zeitschrift*, an interesting article about the advance of the Russians in Central Asia. As Vambéry is generally regarded as one of the standard authorities on the affairs of Central Asia, we give below the substance of his article.

According to him, the Russian operations in Central Asia for the last three years took a fair start by the conquest of Khokand, the eastern division of the three Turkistan Provinces, or Khanates, where civilization has as yet made but little progress. The raids of the Khodjas into Chinese territory had exposed the Khanat on its eastern frontier to the danger of a conflict with China, while the western part of the country was constantly harassed by the expeditions of the fierce and avaricious Emir of Bokhara. The first blow against the integrity of the province was the fall of K-Meerhet. The violent struggles which took place just at that time between the Kirgheezes and the Kiptchaks, rendered the conquest of Kashgar on the Taxartes River comparatively easy for Russian bayonets. A regular line of fortifications was soon constructed all along the river, on which the steamers of the flotilla from the Aral made their appearance and offered sufficient protection, not only against Turkistan but also against Kirgheez invasions. The greatest energy was displayed on the part of the Russian government in the work of occupation, and it was not until the army corps operating respectively in the north-east and the north-west were concentrated near a place called Gulia-Ata, that Russian diplomacy considered it expedient to publish the act in a dispatch signed by Prince Gortschakoff in November, 1864. The dispatch said that the Russian Government had complied with the general desire, by transferring the frontier line of their possessions from the fertile soil of the desert to the more habitated portion of Turkistan. It so stated that Russia had no more desire for aggression; that it would respect the independence of the neighboring Tartar States; that it was without any further design of conquest. It is useless to state that the European Governments as well as public opinion, attributed but little faith to these assertions. It seemed, in fact, to be an impossibility for Russia to stop half way; to depend for supplies on the road of communication from Tashkent and Semipalatinsk alone would not do, and the annexation of the rich and fertile district of Tashkent was therefore resolved upon. The latter city, one of the great commercial markets of Central Asia, was occupied in June, 1865. Hostilities with the Emir of Bokhara were the immediate consequence. That prince will considered himself the sovereign of Western Turkistan, and imprisoned Col. Struve, who had been sent to Bokhara to settle the little difficulty. An attempt of the Russian forces to seize the Colonel proved unsuccessful, and the natives of Bokhara were militant, greatly exaggerating the risk which they had opposed to Russian progress. The Commanding General Tschernajef was relieved by order of the Czar, and Gen. Romanovsky assigned in his place. The latter advanced slowly but carefully, and in March, 1866, defeated the Tartars in the battle of Trdshar, took Fort An, and after a hard fought battle made himself master of the important and well fortified city of Kodjend. As for the natives, their sympathies were all these movements and differences much as their nationalities and modes of occupation. The warlike and powerful Kiptshahs have, out of jealousy toward their old enemies the Bokharians, at once sided with the Russians, while the prevalent race of the Oerbegs offered some resistance, but had soon to submit to the superior Russian force. The only parties, however, really benefitted by Russian occupation were the rich merchants of Ashkend, and the small number of Persian slaves; the former by the greater facilities offered to trade, and the latter by prospective improvement of their wretched condition. Outside of this main line of operation other transformations have gradually taken place. In Chinese Tartary for instance, the Chinese have, since 1864, been driven from the garrisons, and replaced by national troops, and Russia is said not to be a stranger to this movement, looking for an intervention and occupation.

The course hitherto pursued by the Russian Government in Central Asia leaves no doubt as to their plans for the future. The extreme southern parts are at Delizzag, a very unhealthy place. Bokhara was therefore destined to fall into their hands sooner or later, and the line of operation of Ashkend, Khojena, and Samarkand, consequently of much importance to Russia. The struggle about the possession of the right shore of the Aral will be a desperate one, but it is sure to come, and owing to the lack of energy on the part of the Turkians and of the Islamites generally, the house of Romanoff must come off victorious. Afghanistan will then be the next object of Russian diplomacy other than of aggression by force of arms, and the unpopularity of British preponderance is very apt to promote Russian interest in that quarter. The same may be said of Persia. Here, the Court of St. Petersburg has secured a very lucky card for the last twenty years, and Russian influence has gradually wrenched the influence

admit that although its Southern outposts in Asia are at present on the Araroes, it will, in the course of its progress, come in contact with a European power, and the line of demarcation will soon be transferred to Central Asia. The journey from Delizzag to Peshaver does, in fact, not take more than a fortnight, and the road, although tiresome for an army, is by no means impassable. England may consider the snow-covered mountains of Hindookush to be a powerful bulwark of its frontiers; its statesmen may be skeptical about the intention of Russia to swing its scepter over the Asiatic continent, from the Arctic to Cape Horn; they and their organs may see in Russia's progress an advantage rather than the reverse, to English commercial and political interests, but they ought to remember that Russia is the greatest and most powerful enemy of Islam; that in the eyes of the Mohammedan the ruler of India is the ne plus ultra of power and greatness; and that, by the subjugation of the British lion on the Ganges, the Oriental question is more easily solved beyond the Himalaya than on the Bosphorus. It may also be safely asserted that, if Russia had had its present position on the Tascartes at the time of the Crimean war, when Nush Sahib's brother was feted in Sebastopol, the plans of the Emperor Nicholas on Constantinople might not have been buried quite so easily under the ruins of Malakoff.

GUELPH AND ELMIRA ROAD.

In the report of the proceedings of the County Council, which we publish to-day, it will be observed that among the appropriations made to roads is a loan of \$3000 to the road from Guelph to Elmira, the construction of a portion of which is now under contract. The loan is granted on condition that the road be completed from the town line of Woolwich to the town of Guelph, and consequently may or may not be of service as the Company find themselves adequate or otherwise to the task of raising the complement to the \$3000, which will be necessary for the construction of the road between the points we have mentioned. From the readiness with which shares were bought when the project was first started it may be reasonably inferred that the Company will not find much difficulty in selling stock to the amount of \$5000, which is about the sum that will be required, as the distance from the Woolwich line to Guelph is about eight miles, and as it is probable that the work can be let at much the same rate as that which is now being performed on the far end of the road, namely about \$1000 per mile.

Bank of Montreal.

On Monday the 1st inst., the fiftieth annual meeting of the shareholders of the Bank of Montreal was held in the city in which the Bank has its headquarters. The report of the Directors was handed in, accompanied by a statement of the result of the business for the year ending 30th April. The net profits for the twelve months were shown to be \$902,410.43, and there was a balance of \$19,338.57 at the credit of profit and loss account, making a total of \$921,749.00. From this was deducted two half yearly dividends of \$300,000 each, and an addition was made to the "Rest" of \$250,000, leaving a balance of \$71,749.00 to be carried forward at the credit of profit and loss account for the current year.

Some discussion occurred on the subject of the "Rest," which now amounts to twenty-five per cent of the capital. It was urged by some of the Directors that it ought not further to be increased, but that the profits should be divided among the shareholders, which would give them a half-yearly dividend of seven and a half instead of five per cent. Mr. King however, in acknowledging the vote of thanks accorded him, said that "though he was not called upon for his opinion, he was strongly in favor of a very large reserve fund. He thought the shareholders derived as much benefit from the confidence in the Bank which it imparted, and the increased value which it gave to the stock, as they would from a division of the surplus. The permanent interests of the Bank should be considered above those of a mere transitory nature. The Committee of the Legislature might introduce a different Banking system, and he thought it of very great consequence that their Rest should be increased so that they might be able to meet any phase of the question." The old Directors were re-elected, Mr. Peter Redpath being chosen instead of the Hon. John Rose, who resigned his position in the Board on his acceptance of the office of Minister of Finance.

A great number of Yankees are in the neighborhood of Montreal, buying up and sending away the best Canadian horses, to work on railways in the States.

THE WHITEY OUTRAGE—Patterson, the father of the little boy killed on Tuesday, was arrested and lodged in gaol yesterday. He has been lurking in the woods the last two days. He appears very penitent; and says he did not intend to hurt the child, but being the worse for liquor, pushed him to stop the ravenous appetite he was subject to.

New Advertisements.

BASE BALLS.
BASE BALLS at
W. J. McCURRY'S BOOKSTORE,
Guelph, June 5, 1868. d

SPEED LODGE No. 180.
THE next regular communication of this Lodge will be held in the Masonic Hall, on TUESDAY EVENING NEXT, JUNE 9th, when a full and punctual attendance of the brethren is requested.
JOHN CRIDFORD, Secretary.
Guelph, 5th June, 1868.

A STONE BUILDING

at the Guelph Mills, 30 feet long, 30 feet wide, and about 35 feet high. The foundation is already excavated, and the greater portion of the masonry on the ground. The work to be commenced forthwith.
Plans to be seen at the Guelph Mills. The subscriber does not bind himself to accept the lowest of any tender.
June 4th, 1868. d2m DAVID ALLAN, Guelph Mills.

Carmina Collegensia

A COMPLETE COLLECTION OF
The Songs of the American Colleges.

WITH Piano-forte Accompaniments, to which is added a Compendium of College History, collected and edited by H. R. WAITE.
This is the most extensive collection of Student Songs presented to the public. Every College in the United States having been solicited to contribute to its pages, nearly a thousand songs were received from which great care was taken to select those most valuable in reference to quality, permanency and general interest, only such being used as possessed intrinsic merit, or cast light upon some peculiar College custom.
Prices: In Cloth, emblematically embossed, neat and durable, \$2.25. Superior Edition, on extra paper, full cloth, emblematically embossed, gilt edge, \$3. Mail, post-paid.
OLIVER DITSON & CO., Publishers, 27 Washington Street, Boston. CHAS. H. DITSON & CO., 711 Broadway, New York.
June 4, 1868. daw tf

Turnip Seed.

C. & A. SHARPE
A GAIN call attention to their stock of SWEDISH and WHITE-FLESHED TURNIP SEEDS, the growth of 1868, comprising the following favorite varieties which have been grown expressly for their retail trade:
Sharpe's Improved Purple Top Swede, Maise's, Marshall's, East Lothian, Ash's, of the, Banholm, Slumrock, Skirring's, Loring's, King of Swedes, Hall's Westbury, White Globe Turnip, Red do, Green do, Green Top Yellow Aberdeen Turnip, Purple Top do, Grey Stone, (a great favorite variety for Fall feeding.)

And all other Varieties of Turnip and other Seeds.
Guelph, June 3rd, 1868.

Apothecaries' Hall!

MARKET SQUARE.
JUST received, a large supply of
Hagan's Magnolia Balm.
LAIRD'S
BLOOM OF YOUTH
For Beautifying the Complexion, Eradicating Freckles, Eruptions, Sunburn and Tan.

A. B. PETRIE,

Chemist, Market Square.
Guelph, 3rd June, daw tf

The Ontario Packing House,

HAMILTON.
THE Ontario Packing House has commenced slaughtering and packing hogs, and will pay for
SELECTED FAT HOGS
delivered at the Packing House, Hamilton, five cents per pound, live weight.
Guelph, 1st June, 1868. dw1m

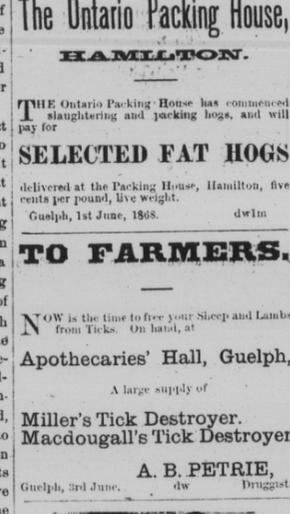
TO FARMERS.

NOW is the time to free your Sheep and Lambs from Ticks. On hand, at
Apothecaries' Hall, Guelph,
A large supply of
Miller's Tick Destroyer.
Macdougall's Tick Destroyer
A. B. PETRIE, dw Druggist.
Guelph, 3rd June.

Cunard Ocean Steamers.

LEAVING New York every Thursday for Queens-town or Liverpool.
FARE FROM HAMILTON
First Cabin, - - - 887, gold value
Steerage - - - - - 29, "
Berths not secured until paid for. For further particulars apply to
CHARLES T. JONES & CO.,
Exchange Brokers, Hamilton.
Agents for the Erie and New York Railway.
Fare from Hamilton to New York \$7, gold value.
Hamilton, 1st June, 1868. dw

SHOEMAKER



DIRECTED.

STEWART

Now showing a choice assortment of Black Lace Shawls from \$4 to \$40.

STEWART

CALLS for special attention to Silk, Tissue, and Fancy Jackets and Mantles.

STEWART

Mr. STEWART has ever had in his power to offer to the public. Inspection and comparison will bear out his statement, that he is now giving his customers a benefit of at least 20 per cent, by having his Goods purchased in January and February, since which time Goods have advanced from 35 to 50 per cent.

WM. STEWART

PRICE, VARIETY and STYLES

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GENERAL GROCERIES,

WINE AND LIQUORS.
The Quality of Goods kept are the best that are produced on the Continent, and will be SOLD AT AS

REASONABLE PRICES

As FIRST-CLASS GOODS can be bought for.
GEORGE WILKINSON.
Guelph, June 5th, 1868.

CHROMOS

A Fresh Lot of CHROMOS Just Received at
CUTHBERT'S.
HAVE YOU SEEN THEM?
They Supercede everything in the Picture Department that has ever been seen in Guelph.
Guelph, 5th June, 1868. dw

DRESS GOODS!

Grand Display of DRESS GOODS at the
BRADFORD HOUSE
NEW FANCY DRESS GOODS.
NEW BLACK GLACE SILKS.
NEW BLACK GROS' GRAINS.
NEW COLORED POPLINS.
NEW CAMLET CLOTHS.
NEW CHALLIES.

THE cheapest Dress Goods in Canada is our Challies at \$1.25 the full dress; also, Grey Barges for Travelling Dresses and suits.
Just arrived, a splendid lot of Muslin and Lace Curtains.
VERY CHEAP.

PHILIP BISH.

Bradford House, Wyndham Street, Guelph, May 30, 1868. dawtf

MUSLINS

AND
GRENADINES
NEW.

A. O. BUCHAM.

Guelph, May 30, 1868.

NO. 7. Medical Dispensary

Wyndham-st., Guelph.

20 cases Boston Lobsters
5 " Sardines
10 cases Crosse & Blackwell's

PICKLES BALSAM

(Piccally Onions and Mixed.)
A most speedy, safe and effectual preparation for the cure of
Coughs, Colds, Bronchitis, &c.
PRICE, - - 25c. per Bottle.
Prepared and for sale only by
E. HARVEY,
Chemist and Druggist, Wyndham-St., Guelph.
May 20. daw tf

JACKSON & HALLETT'S.

No. 7, Wyndham-st.
Guelph, 30th May, 1868.

WM. STEWART.

Guelph, 5th May, 1868. dw