

Intelligence has been received from Chin Kiang that a body of native soldiery at that place insulted the U. S. Consul and his wife. Two of the aggressors were arrested and temporarily confined in the British Consulate, when a mob of soldiers surrounded the building and tried to effect the rescue of their companions. The Europeans hastily mustered and prepared to defend the Consulate, but the Chinese authorities succeeded in quieting the mob. The British and American Consuls at this city have left for Chin Kiang. The United States man-of-war Palos and British war ship Thalia will follow them.

A new circular note of the Russian Government to the Powers, dated May 20th, says that the object of the St. Petersburg Conference is not the conclusion of a formal international treaty. Invitations will be issued when all the Governments have replied to the circular. It is believed Russia intends that a protocol shall be drafted, enumerating the principles of international law, accompanied with a declaration from each of the powers signing it, that they will observe the principles as far as possible.

The Committee of Thirty have been considering the Electoral Bill. They have decided to maintain the system of voting by departments. In the Assembly, lately, violent recriminations took place between GAMBETTA and the Bonapartists as to responsibility for the extraordinary taxation, made necessary by the late war. The Assembly has decided to take up the Public Powers Bill for immediate debate.

General MARTINEZ CAMPOS has succeeded in crossing the River Ebro, notwithstanding the heavy fire that was kept up on his forces by the Carlists. By this movement he has established communication with General JOVELLAR, commander of the army of the centre.

PRESBYTERIAN UNION.

Precisely at eleven o'clock, on Tuesday, June 15th, the members of the Canada Presbyterian Church in connection with the Church of Scotland, entered the Victoria Hall, in this city, by the western door, the Rev. Principal Snodgrass and Rev. Professor MacKerras both of Queen's College, Kingston, preceding, wearing their official robes. The Churches of British North America and of the Lower Provinces followed, and the ministry of the Canada Presbyterian Church brought up the rear. Five tables were placed to the front of the dais, decorated with potted flowers; and, commencing at the west end, were successively occupied by the Moderators and clerks of the several churches as follows:—Rev. W. Cavan, D. D., and Rev. W. Reid, of the Canada Presbyterian Church; Rev. Principal W. Snodgrass and Prof. MacKerras, of the Church of Scotland; Rev. F. G. MacGregor and Rev. A. Falconer, of the Church of the Lower Provinces; and Rev. G. M. Grant and Rev. Mr. McMillan, of the Church of the Maritime Provinces; the centre table and chair of honour was reserved for the Moderator of the United Church.

Precisely at half past eleven the whole assembly joined in singing the hundredth psalm which was given out by the Rev. G. M. Grant. The Rev. Principal SNODGRASS read selections from both the Old and New Testament specially appropriate to the occasion, and the Rev. Dr. Cavan offered up the dedicatory prayer. The final minutes of the last and concluding meeting of the four Synods were read by the several clerks.

The Rev. P. G. MCGREGOR then called upon the Rev. Mr. Reid, the oldest clerk in point of ordination, to read the preamble and basis of Union which was listened to with the greatest attention by the audience. This being concluded, the four Moderators signed that document, the Rev. Principal Snodgrass taking precedence and pronounced aloud the following words:—"In the name and by the appointment of the Presbyterian Church of Canada in connection with the Church of Scotland, I affix my signature to the above articles and resolutions now read." A similar declaration was made by each of the other Moderators, the ministers of each church represented expressing their approval of the act of their Moderator, by rising to their feet during signature. Just as the Rev. W. Snodgrass was about to affix his signature to the document, one of the protesting ministers withdrew his protest and entered the United Church.

The Rev. P. G. MCGREGOR, being the oldest of Moderators in respect of ordination, declared the Union consummated in the following terms:—"The Moderators of (mentioning the four Churches) having signed the terms of Union in the name of their respective Churches, I declare

that these Churches are now united and do form one Church, to be designated and known as the 'Presbyterian Church of Canada.' A hearty burst of applause followed this announcement. The 133rd Psalm was sung, each member of the United Church meanwhile giving his neighbour the right hand of fellowship.

The Rev. P. G. MCGREGOR then constituted the United Assembly in a fervent and eloquent prayer.

The rolls of the Court just united was called by the respective clerks as forming the roll of the General Assembly, and which occupied an hour, in completing.

The Rev. P. G. MCGREGOR then announced the next duty of the Assembly to be the election of a Moderator.

The Rev. Dr. TAYLOR on rising was greeted with loud applause. He testified to the honour conferred upon him in suggesting the name of the Moderator, the more so as it was that of the Rev. Dr. John Cook, of Quebec, who had laboured hard for the Church for 40 years in that city, and during the whole of that time had occupied the chief place among the ministers of the gospel not only in the church of which he was a member, but in all others throughout the Province. He contended if it was a spiritual rule that they that have used the office of a deacon well purchased for themselves a good degree, much more so was Dr. Cook worthy of the honourable office for which he then proposed him. (Loud applause). Dr. Cook was a person of great erudition, and for this reason was able to preside over that Assembly. He also occupied a prominent position as Principal of Morrin College, Quebec,—an institution in which the Presbyterian Church has always had the deepest interest. He also referred to Dr. Cook's services in the cause of Union—so happily consummated that day—not only in this country, but also in Scotland, and concluded by testifying from personal intercourse with him during a great number of years, to his amiable Christian bearing to all with whom he had come in contact and his continual readiness to do good. (Applause).

Dr. BAYNE, of Pictou, N. S., seconded the motion, which was carried most enthusiastically.

Rev. Dr. Cook having left the platform, a psalm was sung during the interval. When the applause which greeted his arrival had subsided, Rev. Dr. COOK thanked the members of the newly constituted Church for the honour conferred upon him, and said he saw around him men who by their judgment and other good qualities, had obtained a large amount of influence among their brethren and he should count upon them for counsel should ever any difficulties arise in their deliberation. He then reviewed the circumstances under which he had first occupied the Moderator's chair in 1838, when the Synod of the Church of Scotland was first constituted in this city, and the present when in the decline of life, thirty-seven years after he found himself in a similar position, he rejoiced to say in a season of triumph—a triumph of Cristian feeling over party feeling that would have kept them separated; a triumph over all that hinders men from acting together who, by every consideration to the Master whom they serve and the cause in which they are engaged, feel themselves bound together in love and belief. If he rightly understood the formalities of that day and of the deed to which the Moderators had placed their signatures it was that they should hereafter live together as brethren, and that nothing shall ever arise again to provoke them to strife and bitterness, but on the contrary to do all that Christ would have them do, to provoke to love and good works, and the hastening of the kingdom of our Lord Jesus Christ. He believed there were far greater things yet in store for the Presbyterian Church of Canada, in the expulsion of atheism and other errors. In conclusion he stated that the course of action laid down at Glasgow was not to be implicitly followed. He believed there was not one Evangelical ecclesiastical organization from which some good lesson might not be learned with advantage, and he trusted that with such views, they might in time by God's grace look for that church union, before which, that which had that day been accomplished would sink into insignificance. (Loud applause).

The Rev. Dr. CAVAN read the following telegram which he received on Saturday last, with directions not to open it till after the union:—"The Irish Assembly send congratulations and pray God's blessing on the Union." Subscribed Dr. Wilson, in the name of the Irish General Assembly.

On motion of Rev. Dr. TOPP, seconded by Rev. Dr. Jenkins, the Clerks to the four dissolved Synods were elected to sit in that capacity *pro tem*.

Rev. R. CAMPBELL, convener of the Local Committee on Arrangements, extended the hospitality of the Presbyterian Church in Canada to the members of the Assembly at a social entertainment in the evening at the same place. The offer was accepted.

The Revs. Professors McVicar and Falconer, and MacKerras, Mr. Maclaren, B. Macrea, Dr. Jenkins, were elected a Committee on Business *pro tem*, and the meeting was closed by singing the 72nd Psalm and prayer.

By the information of a local board of directors in every business centre, the "Stadacona" Fire Insurance Company, has virtually changed the reciprocal dealings between the insurer and the underwriter. From this system are derived the interest every local board take in the Company's affairs, the exact knowledge of the risk to be covered, and the feeling of entire confidence on the part of the insurer, in the dealings of people he is already acquainted with.

G. L. FOX.

De Bar's Opera House was crowded every night last week, and no wonder. There was the genuine and inimitable Fox, and the original Humpty Dumpty Pantomime. To say the sum of enjoyment, fun, good humour evolved in that theatre, last week, the amount of merriment, and laughter and pleasant recollection brought home from it by the thousands of children, big and little, that visited it, is beyond our arithmetic. Fox never grows old. We have seen him scores of times, at the Olympic and elsewhere; and he is always the same comic, irresistible clown. His face has lost none of its quaint drollery. His tricks are all as mirth provoking as of old. We know some tall men that went every night, and grew Foxey in the ordeal. As to the children, happy are those who saw Fox. They will speak of him for many a long day, and banish propriety from the paternal and maternal visage, with their ludicrous attempts to imitate his grimaces. Mr. Fox was well supported, Mr. Chapman, as old One-Two, and Pantaloon, Mr. C. Winter Ravel as Tommy Tucker, and Harlequin, and Miss Louise Boshell, as Goody Two Shoes, and Columbine, performing their several parts admirably. Miss Boshell is a vivacious and graceful dancer and good actress, and her performance on the slack wire a marvel of equilibrium and agility. In the second act, the gymnastics of the Orrin Brothers were the great attraction. Miss Spaulding's performance on the Harp and Cornet, and little Gabrielle's playing on the Crystalicon were also much applauded. We hope this combination will visit us again. They have won golden opinions, and have no doubt taken away some golden dollars, and housed a golden harvest for manager De Bar.

MUNICIPAL COLONIZATION.

With the sole exception of our great lines of through transit, which are partially independent of colonization, the maxim is universal: "If we want railways we must colonize." The two forces, as the CANADIAN ILLUSTRATED NEWS has already remarked, are strictly co-ordinate, but we think a little more skill, than we are accustomed to see, might even yet be applied to the processes of colonization, with considerable benefit to this youthful Dominion and its future prospects.

Municipal colonization is a grand idea—not new, by any means,—for it will date as far back as Herodotus at least; but far too seldom acted upon. It is altogether opposed to the old plan, on this continent, of isolating settlers, and of having them to struggle with the great forces of nature, out of which they have to conquer a livelihood, in the absence of all neighbourly consolations, and the aid of the experience of those who have gone before. A halo of romance has certainly been thrown over the very sufferings of the founders of our now prosperous districts and thriving cities, in this Dominion. All honor to those noble strugglers whether still on earth, or gone to that bourne from whence no traveller returns! All honor to them, we say, but we should not let our political feelings and ideal picturings so lift us of our common sense appreciation of fact, as to lead us to dread the risk of "coddling" our agricultural immigrants. Whatever dangers may attach to neglect especially of sufficient instructions for his procedure, there is, we are persuaded, very small risk of the settler on wild lands suffering injury through being too much "coddled" by the governmental and philanthropic bodies through whose invitation he has come into the country. To get him safely over the bridge of settlement that leads to happy pastures and reasonable success in the not too distant future, is what we of the cities, who after all only half understand the question, should be rather thinking about. That temperance, industry and teachableness are as necessary as any other qualities for success, we are quite assured; but any help that can be rendered in perfecting communications for transit, without a given amount of which, settlement cannot well begin—in the formation of the homestead, the occasional use of plows and teams,—the seeding for first crops,—grist and saw-mills, post-office and general stores,—blacksmiths', wheelwrights' and boot and harness makers' shops, with the comfort and guidance of the church and school, ought not to be designated by the lively expression of "coddling," if the settler be in intelligence and health, the right sort of man for the work, but should be looked upon rather as just that remunerative and happy class of enterprise which is really the making of a new country. We must, in short, leave off fancying that agriculture is formed to stand alone. The time for such a notion is gone by. While the mother of the arts, and the nourisher of mankind, she needs the neighbourhood of the children she has helped to a reasonable luxury, for her own prosperity. The arts must compensate her natural deficiencies. The railway stations and the factory, with mineral and lumbering enterprise, where available, and as much concentration of powers and operations as can be introduced into a new district will be the elements which will form all difference (the presence of good soil being always understood) between a successful settlement and a dwindling one. Under very special circumstances, as in certain points of our great North-West, we even do right to plan and lay out cities. It is better than allowing them to grow up of themselves in a disorderly way. The finest crops will be valueless in the absence of the means of bringing them to market, and mechanical employments, at not too great a distance from his home are often ne-

cessary to enable the farmer to utilize the dull hours, and replenish to family exchequer. We ought not to expect our settlers to grow and make everything they eat and wear, for in this it found as truly a defective economy for the community at large, as it certainly is in regard to the settlers and their families. They will have to "rough it" in any case, and they will have a great deal to learn, but the life is a happy one, in spite of all drawbacks, if they only retain their health, good principles and honorable conduct.

A BAND OF BIRDS.

Lucy Hooper writes from Paris to the Philadelphia Press: I had the pleasure, the other day, of inspecting the curious and valuable collection of birds belonging to our celebrated compatriot, Dr. Thomas W. Evans, who is devoted to his feathered pets, and has lodged them in a most sumptuous manner. Not penned in stifling cages, but in large inclosures of wirework out of doors, the beautiful creatures enjoy all the privileges of freedom and all the protection of captivity. The collection is no ordinary one, but comprises several remarkable rarities. Gold and silver pheasants, parrots, and paroquets, lovely white peacocks, and others of the most easily domesticated foreign birds abound. The curiosities comprise, first, a superb specimen of the gorgeous *lophophore splendissant* (I believe that is the technical name for the lovely creature), radiant to behold in gold-colored and velvet brown plumage, pencilled with white; a Lady Amherst pheasant; said to be the most beautiful of that beautiful tribe, with silvery pencilled plumage falling over a ground of glossy black; a pair of rare tropical peafowls, with collars and crests seemingly in black velvet, and far richer in plumage than our soberly attired birds of the same race; and lastly, the greatest rarity of all, a pair of the original breed of chickens from India, samples of the race from which all our domestic hens and roosters have sprung. The plain brown little hen sitting so contentedly on her comfortable perch has been brought successfully through the ordeal of a European winter, an almost unheard of triumph, and she is now worth 10,000 francs (\$2,000). The Doctor, however, refuses to part with the gem of his collection even on these terms. Should she ever lay an egg her possessor would become entitled to a prize of 500 francs, but as yet she has neglected the obvious duty of hens. Perhaps so high-priced a bird feels it beneath her dignity to attend to such commonplace affairs. The collection finds a home in the spacious garden attached to the residence of Dr. Evans on the Avenue de l'Imperatrice. The rarer species of small birds are even more sumptuously lodged indoors in an elegant aviary. The centre of the garden is taken up with enclosures for waterfowl, which are furnished with paved basins for their aquatic frolics, while the large wired enclosures extend around the outermost limits of the ground. Rare ducks and fowls disport themselves at will around the shrubbery, while a stately demoiselle crane, tame as a chicken and solemn as a judge, marches around in solitary dignity, condescending to accept food and caresses only from her master's hand.

HISTORY OF THE WEEK.

Halifax has inaugurated an Importer's Association.

A St. John, N. B., despatch says the change of gauge was effected on the line of the Intercolonial Railway.

News from Rangoon says the King of Burmah, finding resistance impracticable, has yielded to the English on every point.

The Moscow Gazette says Russia has no reason to withdraw from the alliance of the three Emperors and seek more intimate relations with England, considering that the latter country has declined to enter into any arrangements with Russia till the Central Asian States are placed under international protection.

It is the rumored intention of the Carlists to bombard Bilbao.

Judgment will be delivered in the Armin case on the 24th instant.

The annual regatta of the New York Yacht Club was sailed last week.

Sir John A. Macdonald has been presented with a very valuable horse and carriage by a few of his admirers in Toronto.

The Directors of the Baltimore and Ohio Railway Company have ratified the basis entered into by them with the Pennsylvania road.

Admiral Worden and officers of the American squadron interviewed the Crown Prince of Prussia and afterwards dined at the new palace at Potsdam.

Senor Sagasta and his followers have paid homage to King Alfonso.

In the match for the All Ireland Challenge Shield, the Irish team scored 745 to the Americans' 725 points.

Three large failures took place in London, and the announcement of the suspension of other important houses is expected.

A motion praying Congress to withdraw U. S. legal tender notes, and substitute specie payments therefor, was adopted by the National Board of Trade in session at Philadelphia.

The procession to Bunker Hill was 4 hours 10 minutes passing a given point, the entire length being estimated at 10 miles. It is estimated that 20,000 men took part in the procession, including 11,500 military.