

Tsnng-li-Yamen's passport. Captain Deasy was compelled to refer to Mr. Macartney, of the Kashgar Residency, who promptly intervened, but the local officials at Polu suddenly refused assistance.

There is at present an interchange of courtesies between England and Russia as regards officers of both countries travelling in Central Asia which may be noted as a pleasant sign of some abatement perhaps, of the mutual suspicion hitherto shown by the authorities of both Empires. Lieutenant-Colonel Powell, of the 1st Gurkhas, is now crossing Russian Central Asia on his way home to England, and Lieutenant-Colonel McSwiney, of the 1st Lancers of the Haidarabad Contingent, has just received permission from the Russian Government to proceed to India along the Transcaspian Railroad and thorough Turkestan and Kashgar. The Russian officers who have received similar permission from the British Government to visit India through Central Asia are Lieutenant-Colonel Polusoff and Staff Captain Snasareff, both of the General Staff. Lieutenant-Colonel Polusoff has been learning Hindustani at Tashkeht.

Toronto St. George's Society.

For the first time in the history of the Dominion the rare treat was afforded its subjects of witnessing the bringing together from the various provinces (more particularly Ontario and Quebec) the various objects and relics of historic value which have been in the possession of Canadians and their ancestors from the earliest period of its history. The Ontario Historical Society to whom the thanks of the country is due, are responsible for the magnificent, costly and successful undertaking which they have accomplished. Victoria College, which is considered the largest and finest Institution of learning in the country and possibly the handsomest building which adorns this beautiful city, being situated upon an eminence in the most picturesque quarter of Queen's park, was, by the kindness of the Governors wholly utilized for 3 or 4 weeks during the months of June and July for the purposes of the exhibition.

To say that the exhibition was a success is to say the least of it. To enumerate, even the various classes of exhibits, would take much space. The catalogue, which comprises over 160 pages of closely printed matter is a sufficient answer to that. The purpose of this article is simply to touch upon one exhibit, viz: that of the St. George's Society.

Time, trouble and expense were not considered in the preparation of this magnificent display, occupying as it did the entire wall space of a portion of the great hall of the College and on account of its historic and highly popular character was the centre of attraction for all sight-seers. Stretched across from one end of the exhibit to the other was a large streamer bearing the Society's motto and crests. To begin with, the exhibit comprised valuable portraits by eminent artists of past presidents of the society, many of them deceased. Prominent among these might be mentioned an oil painting by Hoffman Meyer of the late Hon. Col. Wells, who won his laurels upon the field of Waterloo. Col. Wells was the first president of the society and he might justly be said to have led to its establishment in 1835. A life size portrait of the late Colonel Macaulay who succeeded him in 1836. A very fine portrait of the late Hon. John Beverley Robinson, a noted Lawyer, Politician, Ath-

lete, and a former Lieutenant-Governor of this province. The whole family of Ridouts in the male line, the early pioneers of the country; and many others in the higher walks of life. This magnificent gallery of pictures (which is the property of the Society) includes the representative of nearly every line. Framed presentation addresses, charts and emblems completed this part of their exhibit which amounted in all to about sixty. In one glass case might be seen the very earliest records of the society, the original charter and constitution, a list of the first members, the first minute and other books and autograph letters from eminent men, among them being the late Rt. Hon. W. E. Gladstone, numerous Governors-General and others. Another case contained a complete collection of past president's and officer's Jewels, many of them very curious. The president's jewel called "the Frying Pan" and weighing several ounces was the centre figure of this exhibit and excited great curiosity. A very fine bronze bust of the Queen by Hamilton McCarthy and draped with a magnificent old Union Jack kindly lent for the occasion by the Rev. Dr. Scadding one of the chaplains of the Society was another centre of attraction. The old banners of the Society, bearing all sorts of curious devices were arranged in their proper order. The whole exhibit was flanked by the two magnificent silk flags, the Union Jack and St. George's Cross, recently presented to the Society by Mr. Geo. H. Gooderham, the late president. The committee entrusted with the formation of this exhibit feel that their labours have not been in vain, but may congratulate themselves on the complete success which has attended it. In another issue we hope to be able to refer to some of the other exhibits.

CENTRAL CANADA EXHIBITION, OTTAWA.

Last year the Central Canada Exhibition directors had new poultry and dairy buildings erected and big increases made in the live stock and dairy premium lists, making the prizes, it was admitted, all that could reasonably be asked for. Nevertheless, with the object of making this year's dairy exhibit excel anything ever seen in Canada the prizes in that department have been still further increased and special inducements held out to parties to exhibit. All cheese and butter exhibited at the fair and remaining unsold at the close of the Exhibition will be placed in cold storage by the directors until it is disposed of at exhibitor's price.

Three new classes have this year been added to the Central Canada Exhibition Association's premium list for horses. Two of these are specially for horses owned by farmers—Carriage and Heavy Draught. The third is for French Canadian horses. Secretary McMahon reports an unusually large number of entries for this year's show, which opens on Sept. 11.

In Ottawa, it is said the displays in the Main Building at this year's exhibition of the Central Canada Exhibition Association will far excel any made in the past. The fair management has received so many applications for space this year that the entire new iron fire proof building, erected last year at an expense of \$60,000 will be devoted to the displays of manufactures and novelties. Two or three of Canada's big exhibitors have promised to make exhibits to eclipse any ever arranged before in the Dominion. The fair is to be opened on Sept. 11th and closed on the 23rd.

Reports are to the effect that the fair in September, will excel any exhibition ever given in Canada. Among the special attraction will be several aquatic feats and sights, and workmen are now constructing a big lake at the fair grounds for the purpose. The night spectacular will be "The Bombardment of Peking," and several hundred of the volunteers of the capital will take part in its presentation.