

# Dominion Churchman.

THURSDAY, APRIL 18, 1878.

## THE WEEK.

ANOTHER ship belonging to the British navy is reported as lost—a wooden train-ship, the *Eurydice*—three hundred and sixty-six men having been lost with her. She was originally a twenty-six gun frigate of 921 tons, and was believed to be in every respect a most excellent and seaworthy ship. Last year she was fitted out as a training ship, twenty-four out of twenty-six of her guns were removed, and two sixty-four pounders were left on the main deck for purposes of exercise. In November last she went for a cruise round the West Indies: her seamen were unmarried, in this respect differing from the *Captain*, to the loss of which off Cape Finisterre the fate of the *Eurydice* bears considerable resemblance. The *Eurydice* left Bermuda on the 6th ult., with, it is believed 368 souls on board, on the way back to England, and was expected home nearly as soon as other vessels which sailed at the same time. Nothing was seen of her until she neared the Isle of Wight, where she capsized in a gale. She sank in eleven fathoms water, and, from her position, appears to have righted before she went down. Of the whole number of the souls on board, only two persons succeeded in reaching the shore alive. The *Emma*, a schooner, which was not far off, was not affected by the gale. Snow was falling at the time, and as soon as anything could be seen, the masts of the *Eurydice* were observed about two miles and three-quarters off Dunnose, a lofty landmark between Shanklin and Ventnor. The loss of the *Eurydice* and the *Captain* in a similar way, suggest questions of an important character, as to the way in which our modern fleets are constructed.

In the Church of the United States, the Dioceses of Maryland, Albany, Southern Ohio, in addition to those already mentioned, have consented to the consecration of the Rev. Dr. Burgess and the Rev. Mr. Peterkin to the bishoprics of Quincy and West Virginia.

Information has been received in England, by means of a telegram from Aden, of the murder of Lieutenant G. Shergold Smith, the leader of the Church Missionary Society's expedition to Victoria Nyanza; also of Mr. O'Neill, a fellow laborer in the mission. The original party consisted of seven men. One died before leaving Zanzibar; one returned to England, from ill health; another, Mr. Mackay, when half-way on the road, was seized with fever, and returned to the coast. He subsequently recovered, and has been active in constructing a waggon road as far as Mpwapwa. Dr. Smith died on the shores of the lake last May; the two mentioned above have been murdered; and Mr. Wilson remains alone in the interior. It is worthy of note that the murdered men were not far from the island of Bambirch, where Stanley administered so severe a punishment; and it is be-

lieved that the murders were acts of retribution for the massacre of the natives by Stanley, which, it is still contended by many, was of a decidedly wanton character.

Those who have charge of the Mission are chiefly concerned to strengthen the hands of the Rev. C. T. Wilson, who was left alone at the capital of Uganda by Lieutenant Smith last July. Request is made for two suitable men—one a clergyman, and the other such a one as Lieutenant Smith, acquainted with navigation, and possessed of energy, kindness and tact: they would be sent out by way of the Nile. Even if the report of the murders should prove unfounded, such men would find ample employment in the Victoria Nyanza Mission. The question is asked: Are there none prepared, for the love of Christ, to be baptized for the dead?

Socialism in Germany is largely on the increase. It hardly existed there at all before the year 1860. About that time a Dr. Lasalle, a man born for agitation and mischief, succeeded in transplanting it from Paris to Berlin. Politicians connected with the Government were glad of help from any quarter, in the object they had in view just then, in setting the working men against the middle classes, who had made themselves obnoxious to the ruling power; and consequently governmental and conservative politicians connived at the proceedings of this man and his associates in atheism. When the spark had once been kindled, the conflagration rapidly spread, and after some unsuccessful attempts, the Socialists in 1871 succeeded in collecting 120,000 votes, and in returning two members to the German Parliament. In 1874, they had 340,000 votes, and nine members. In 1877, they registered 497,000 votes, sending twelve members to the National Legislature. In that year there were 5,557,700 men who voted—about 60 per cent. of those entitled to vote. So that nearly one-tenth of all the votes given were Socialistic—a notable state of things for a system not twenty years old, and in a Legislative Assembly having only 398 seats. The money spent in the agitation is believed to amount to more than £15,000 sterling a year. They had six journals in 1869; now they have fifty, besides multitudes of pamphlets and fly-sheets devoted to the same cause.

There is no higher name in the list of English architects than that of Sir Gilbert Scott, who died rather suddenly at his residence in South Kensington, on the 27th instant. It is as a great builder and restorer of churches that he is chiefly recognized by us; although his greatest work, in London at least, is the new Foreign Office, which, much to his annoyance, Lord Palmerston insisted on having of an Italian character, because, forsooth, he liked, he said, something cheerful. The desire of the jaunty statesman was consequently not realized; for with all the beauty that may belong to the edifice, the pile has not

much of a cheerful character. Sir Gilbert was also the architect for the Midland Station, Euston Road, which is regarded as tolerably satisfactory, except with regard to its towers. Sir Gilbert's greatest church is said to be that at Doncaster, rebuilt after the destruction of the old one by fire; and it is regarded as a most "sumptuous work." A very large number of the Christian temples in England passed through his hands as a restorer; and fortunately, he is honourably distinguished as much as any thing for the cautious conservatism which marked nearly all his restorations. The new cathedral at Edinburgh is the latest of his productions, although it is not yet finished, and some anxiety is expressed as to its completion. He has, however, left behind him a son, who is said to be in every way fitted to walk in his steps; and in some respects it is thought that he gives promise of surpassing him.

A majority of the Bishops and of the Standing Committees have consented to the consecration of the Rev. Dr. Seymour as Bishop; but he declines to be consecrated. It might seem an exceedingly ungracious thing to do, to wait till all that cumbrous machinery, which our republican brethren think necessary, had been set in motion and worked, before the Rev. Dr. thought it desirable to announce his objection to being consecrated to the Episcopate; but in a letter to the Standing Committee of the Diocese of Springfield, Ill., to which he had been elected, he says he never faced the matter as a real issue until he received the official letter from the venerable presiding Bishop, informing him that a majority of the Bishops and of the Standing Committees had consented to his consecration. He states, also, that his delay arose from his "grave and painful doubts" as to what was his duty in the premises. Those whom he has consulted, his own Bishop, other Bishops, and the majority of the members of the Standing Committee of the General Theological Seminary, strongly advise him that the interests of the Church at large will be best promoted by his remaining where he is. He adds that it is an act of stern self-denial for him to say that, under all the circumstances of the case, he has reached the conclusion that it is his duty to follow the advice given him with such unanimity, and to continue to serve God in the humble sphere which He has assigned him. He prays that the Blessed Spirit may over-rule this decision, to His own glory, the good of the Church, and the individual benefit of all.

The prospects of peace continue to increase by each mail and telegram received; the alternate character of the latter having for the present, at least in some respects, ceased; for whatever other difficulties lie in the way, or may start up, the exchange of something like civilities between the courts of England and Russia certainly points to the possibility of a peaceful solution. But still we have to