

"And though He thunders by laws,
The thunder is not less His voice."

ALEXANDER of Bulgaria returned in triumph at the call of his loyal subjects, and was received with great joy. But in reply to a very modest letter, he got this rude answer from the Russian Czar:—"I cannot approve of your return to Bulgaria, foreseeing from it sinister consequences for the country already so sorely tried. The mission of Prince Dolgorouki has become inexpedient. I shall abstain, so long as your highness remains in Bulgaria, from any intervention in the sad condition to which the country is reduced. Your highness must decide your own course. I reserve to myself to judge what my father's venerated memory, the interests of Russia, and the peace of the East require of me." This showed at once the utter hostility of Russia, and its hand in the conspiracy. And as neither Germany nor England would go to war in his aid, he was forced to give up his throne to the great grief of his loyal Bulgarians! It is a most cruel outrage of Russia. The end is not yet. ALEXANDER left Bulgaria with all the honors that his subjects could heap upon him. It is reported he is invited to Balmoral by his brother, our Queen's son-in-law. Bismarck keeps clear of strife, lest France and Russia should join against Germany. It is absurd for Russia to say she gives Bulgaria full liberty. Has she not driven her Prince Alexander from her, and will she not do so with every Prince if he be not a mere tool of Russia?

WHILE these war-clouds are gathering in the East, a new and deepened interest will be felt in the question of Imperial Federation. The London *Spectator* says:—"There would be no paper-Union in a Fleet to which, at the thunder of the first cannon, contributory navies might pour from every quarter of the globe. From Australia and the Cape, from New Zealand and the islands of the Southern Sea, and from the Canadian ports that hold with either hand the Atlantic and Pacific Oceans, succour of attack or of defence might come at need. Every island, every settlement, however small—the Mauritius and Fiji, Honduras and the Straits—might have its quota, if but the tiniest of gunboats, to contribute—tiny contributions from some, mighty help from others, making together a force such as the world has never seen, invincible, nay, unapproachable by even the navies of the world allied."

THE BRITISH PARLIAMENT goes on fairly. Parnell brought in so very radical a bill for Irish tenants, that even the English Radicals condemn it. The vote was 297 to 202.

THE MARQUIS TSENG, the well known Chinese statesman, is reported as saying to a German interviewer that the Chinese Government is trying to get a navy of the European pattern. When China becomes a great naval power, the agitation in the United States for an appropriation for coast fortifications will, no doubt, gain great strength. At present Great Britain's ships are the bugaboo with which those who favor such an appropriation try to scare the American people. But there is little reason to fear a war between Britain and the United States, whereas if China should become a great naval power it would never want for an excuse to begin hostilities. The treatment of Chinamen in the United States has been such that the Americans probably have more reason to fear a war with China than with any other country.

THE abrogation of the fishery treaty by the United States Government does not seem to have had the expected effect of ruining the Canadian fishermen. It rather tends to ruin the U. S. fishermen, and really to benefit Canada by raising the price of fish and by driving many fishers back to Canada, to swell our fleet.

TWO FRENCH-CANADIAN communities in Massachusetts are reported to be returning to Canada *en masse*. It is said that 25,000 or 50,000 acres of land will be prepared for them in La Lievre and La Rouge valleys by clearing, building, planting and sowing, and that then they will all return together, farmers, doctors, merchants, traders, etc., forming complete communities to take possession of their new home in their old country. This interesting experiment is full of promise for this Province. We can imagine nothing more likely to promote the progress of our own Provinces than a large influx of French-Canadians who have resided for some time in the United States.

WINNIPEG, MAN., Sept. 13.—Capt. Markham, of the "Alert" expedition, arrived overland from Hudson Bay. The western end of Hudson Straits was reached by the "Alert" on July 20th, ice being encountered for nine days in the Straits. It was ascertained that a whaler had passed up the Straits a month previous without being seriously impeded by ice. Capt. Markham says the Straits are navigable at least four months in the year. The Straits are open to navigation in June.

THE CATHOLICS OF CANADA are building a Cathedral called *St. Peter's*, at Montreal, 333 feet long by 222 broad, and 256 high. This will be the largest yet in America.