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THURSDAY, DECEMBER 5, 1878.

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THE WEEK.

THE vice-regal party left Halifax on Friday. Their passage by rail to Montreal was attended with great outbursts of enthusiasm, and every where they were received with the warmest expressions of loyalty. All along the line, the demonstrations of loyalty and affection were unbounded. In fact their progress was one prolonged manifestation of the deepest and strongest feeling. At Richmond, the Marquis, in his reply to the addresses presented, testified to the gratification experienced by the party at their reception. At St. Hyacinthe the great preparations were made for the occasion. At St. Hilaire the band played "The Campbells are coming" as the train approached; and on the arrival of the party an address was presented in French, to which the Prince replied in the same language. Every railway crossing furnished its quota of inhabitants to cheer the train as it moved on its way, and every station was gay with evergreens. The hearty greetings every where given by all classes elicited frequent remarks from the Marquis and the Princess. After the train had passed Victoria Bridge, the scene fairly defied description, and at least three thousand people were assembled within the gates of the Bonaventure Station. A guard of honor was placed to receive the party. A royal salute was fired, and every possible demonstration of enthusiasm was made. An address was presented and a reply given; a magnificent procession was formed, and a military review took place. In the evening the city was illuminated on a grand scale, and a ball was given at the Windsor. An address was also presented from the St. Andrew's Society, to which the Marquis gave an extemporaneous reply. On Saturday morning, addresses were presented, deputations received, and a drawing room was held. In the afternoon his Excellency and Her Royal Highness visited Ville Marie and McGill College.

On Sunday, His Excellency and the Princess attended the English Cathedral at 11 a.m.

A telegram was received by Her Royal Highness from the Queen, dated Windsor Castle, Dec. 1st, expressing her delight at the reception of the Vice-regal party, and requesting the Princess to say so.

The Governor General and the Princess took their departure on Monday from Montreal for Ottawa. The weather was most inclement. The route to the capital was not interesting except from the congratulations of the populace everywhere assembled to receive the distinguished strangers. The conduct of the Princess during the journey was such as to give her a permanent place in the hearts of the people. The train reached Ottawa at half-past four, being an hour late. The inclemency of the weather prevented

any presentations or addresses that evening, except an address from the corporation, presented by the Mayor, to which the Governor General made a reply.

In Prussia, the sentiment is strongly expressed that the merit of having removed the danger of complications in the Balkan Peninsula is not due to the Earl of Beaconsfield, and that the danger was removed before the noble Earl announced his intentions or uttered his sentiments. They say the merit of a pacific understanding belonged to Prince Bismark, who asked the Powers in September to call upon the Porte to fulfil its engagements. They also say that at that time England frustrated the plan, and was punished for this want of foresight by the danger of the Afghanist complications, as well as by failure in her endeavors to obtain Austro-French assistance. However that may be, it is something to admit that the pacific understanding has indeed been attained, whoever may have been the author of it. The said "pacific understanding" was a consummation most devoutly to be wished, provided that, at the same time, the interests of the Christian populations of European Turkey were not sacrificed to any other interests, nor the populations themselves left a prey either to Turkish savagery or Russian barbarism.

Among the troubles of the Celestial Empire, it is stated that fifty thousand troops have revolted in the province of Kevanzin. No pay and bad rations are reported to be the cause; and as these are pretty general throughout the army, the revolt is expected to become more extensive. The Chinese forces occupying the reconquered western territory have also met with some disasters, and complications are feared with the Russian authorities, in reference to some boundary questions. In Hong Kong, Governor Hennesey is meeting with considerable opposition.

It is expected that a ruling prince for Bulgaria will be elected on New Year's Day.

In Asiatic Turkey, the English Reform Scheme will be tried experimentally by the Sanjaks of Syria and Broussa. The Porte appears to have declined Austria's proposal for a Convention whereby the Austrians would be permitted to enter Novi Bayar immediately. It does not appear, however, that the arrangement is finally disposed of.

It is anticipated that the ensuing session of Parliament in England will be very brief, that a dissolution will speedily take place, and that there will be a general election in January. The Afghan question is supposed to be the motive influencing the decision at which the English Cabinet has arrived, and the various opinions expressed by noted Indian statesmen and military men, as well as the opposition displayed by the so-called Liberal party, appear to render it desirable that the sentiments of the English people should be ascertained.

It is announced that the marriage of the Duke of Cumberland with the Princess Thyra of Denmark, will take place shortly before Christmas.

A publication has been issued of the official correspondence relative to Afghanistan from 1855

to the present time. It occupies 260 pages. The Ameer's letter in reply to Lord Lytton's request for the reception of Sir Neville Chamberlain's mission, complains that before the Viceroy's letter was read or his messenger had an audience, other letters had reached the Ameer from the Commissioner at Peshawaura to the commandant of Ali Musjid, written threateningly. And "when any power shows animosity, the matter is left in the hands of God and to His will." The Viceroy telegraphed to the Home Government that this letter conveyed a direct challenge. He urgently advised an immediate advance up the Khurum valley and Khyber and Pishen passes, if necessary to Candahar. The Home Government, however, instructed the Viceroy to give the Ameer another opportunity to accept the British terms; and the result of the interview between Major Cavagnari and the Commandant of Ali Musjid is already known. Cavagnari asked "Will you oppose the passage of the mission by force?" The Commandant said, "Yes, and you may take it as a kindness, and because I remember our friendship, that I do not fire upon you for what you have done already."

It is said that Russia has announced her intention of actively supporting the Ameer in the event of the English occupying any forts in Afghanistan, from which the Russian dominions in Asia might be effectively threatened. This announcement is based upon the assertion England has violated the alleged Afghan agreement of Lord Clarendon by the occupation of Quettah. The intention of Russia to interfere in Afghanistan is apparently confirmed by the Moscow Gazette declaring that intervention is indispensable, now that the occupation of Quettah has been succeeded by expeditions in the direction of Candahar and Herat.

Some little difficulty has occurred with a small detachment of the British troops, which it appears has been greatly exaggerated, for since then, a single British officer rode the entire length of the Khyber Pass without molestation. It is expected that General Browne's force will winter at Dakka. General Roberts' advance on Peiwar pass will, it is anticipated, meet with complete success. It is also stated in the latest despatches, that no important fighting is expected this year.

The rumour of the dissolution of the Imperial Parliament has been since contradicted.

The recently expressed intention of the Archbishop of Canterbury as to the extended use of the "Lambeth Degree," will probably excite the curiosity of many in order to discover if possible, the motive which may have led to the change. In order that some idea may be formed upon the subject, we may mention that the only degrees conferred under the new arrangement are the following:—The degree of D.D. on the Rev. Samuel Dyson, Principal of the Cathedral College, Calcutta, in consideration of his distinguished services in the Missionary cause; the degree of B.D. on the Very Rev. Alexander Russell, Dean of Adelaide, Australia, in consideration of his distinguished services to the Colonial Church; and the degree of Bachelor of Divinity on the Rev. Arthur Evans Moule, of the Church Missionary College, Islington, and for seventeen years a Missionary in China,