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# Dominion Churchman.

THURSDAY, AUGUST 8, 1878.

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## THE WEEK.

IN connection with the Pan-Anglican Synod, a meeting of the English, Colonial and United States Bishops, was held at the palace of the Bishop of Winchester, Bishop Hertzog of Switzerland, and Pere Hyacinthe being present. A resolution was adopted pledging those who were present to do all in their power in aiding Bishop Hertzog in the work of educating candidates for the priesthood. Another step has therefore been taken in addition to two or three former ones, in enlisting and in manifesting the sympathy of the Anglican communion with the Old Catholic movement.

Constantinople has long been known as the centre of a large amount of intrigue; and now schemes are said to have been discussed aiming at the overthrow of Safvet Pasha and the return to the San Stefano Treaty and a Russian protectorate. It is also stated that at one time the Sultan was disposed to agree to the project. A rumor has been afloat for some days that General Tottleben refuses to withdraw his men from the neighborhood of Constantinople before the withdrawal of the British fleet. Should this report turn out to be true, which we can scarcely believe, it will have the result of increasing the British fleet in the Sea of Marmora and of prolonging their stay. Some slight difficulties appear also to have occurred in reference to the return of the Turkish prisoners of war, but these are expected soon to be settled.

The Austrian army has entered Hertzogovina. The step appears to be scarcely so well received as to call it popular among the natives. Indeed they do not appear to have been consulted in the matter. The congress seems to have supposed that "it was none of their business." The "interests" of somebody or other required such a step to be taken, and that surely ought to be enough to satisfy any reasonable men! However, the worst deeds of an Austrian occupation will hardly approach a hundredth part of the tender mercies of the Moslem invader, and that may be some little consolation.

The result of the elections in Germany is not yet accurately known. From the estimates already made, however, it would appear that the relative position of the parties has not materially changed. Count Bismark,

son of the Chancellor, who was a candidate for the Legislature, was defeated in the election at Lunenburg. The National Liberal Electoral Committee estimate that their party lost fifteen seats. The Conservatives claim a gain of twenty. The United Liberals will still have a majority in the Reichstadt, if the estimate of the returns should be found to be correct. The latest statement gives 47 Conservatives, 74 National Liberals, 19 Progressists, 35 Ultramontanes, 2 Alsatian Irreconcilables, 2 Alsatian Autonomists, 3 Socialists, 8 Poles, and 1 Particularist, while 36 second ballots are said to be necessary.

The Lieutenant-Governor (Richards) of British Columbia, in opening the Legislature, July 29th, alluded to the unusual period of the year at which the Legislative Assembly had been summoned, but stated that the importance of the business to be submitted to them necessitated their attendance, even at the risk of considerable personal inconvenience on their part. The most important part of His Honour's speech has reference to the Railway question. In reference to which he says:—"I regret to state that the railway question is still in a very unsatisfactory condition. By the advice of my Ministers shortly after they assumed office, a telegram, followed by a despatch, was sent to the Secretary of State strongly protesting against the steel rails being used or removed for purposes other than those for which they were designed when landed on the island in 1875. To this despatch, I have received no reply. In considering these and other railway papers, which will be laid before you, I would remind you that the time has come when delay in the construction of the work, both on the mainland or the island, can no longer be justified. It is, therefore, incumbent upon us to take measures much more decisive than the mere entry of protests, which, however firm and just, have been systematically disregarded by the Government of the Dominion." He states that he has not been favoured by her Majesty's Government with any definite answer to the proposal which was made to them with respect to the completion of the graving dock, but he has hope, nevertheless, that during the session, he will be able to place them in possession of the "views" of the Imperial Government on this subject. He says the system of "dual taxation," which has given rise to so much dissatisfaction in municipalities will be discontinued at the close of the present year. He seeks the extension of municipal institutions, so that the management of local affairs may be placed in the hands of those most interested in them. He also recommends some improvement in the representation of the provinces, so as not to increase the number of representatives. The cost of the administration of justice; what we shall do with our Chinese population and one or two subjects relating to other matters, did not receive much consideration, and we are sure that it could not be given to more definite

objects in time to come. The fisheries are also a source of consolation, and it appears that regulations for their protection have been recently made.

There are among us some who are ever talking about "the Law" (meaning the contradictory decisions of the Privy Council), and claiming an extraordinary amount of veneration for those English prelates who endeavor to uphold the "Law." But those English Bishops must be very few in number who carry out all the provisions of this so-called "Law." And those who follow just those decisions of the "Law" which please them, and disregard all the rest, can scarcely be said to be very strenuous defenders of the aforesaid "Law." The Privy Council (i.e., the Law) has decided that a cope is to be worn in a cathedral; but the Archbishops of Canterbury and York, though members of the Privy Council, never obey "the Law" in this particular, neither does the Bishop of Gloucester nor the Bishop of Dover, the Archbishop's Suffragan, nor are there any Deans or Canons who yield submission in this matter. In fact, there are only three or four Bishops in England who obey the Law on this point. But these are not the prelates most solicitous to enforce observance to minute and very unimportant points of ceremonial. Consistency is said to be a "jewel" that

At a recent meeting of the "Home Reunion Society," the Bishop of Winchester made the following admirable remarks:—"Many of us feel, many in the world, and still more, in the Church, that union is strength and that disunion is weakness; it is certainly the opinion of not a few that much of the evil and unhappiness we mourn over is due to our disunion. We all of us cannot but feel that there must be some meaning in the idea of unity—that we are not merely a number of loose units, wholly independent of one another. If, then, we are to have unity, there must be some foundation principles in which we can all join; and that foundation is in the old truths of the Catholic faith. Further, we must bear in mind that for a body to be compacted together, there is a necessity for a proper framework; and that framework clearly must be the Apostolic constitution of the Church. Given then these two things, we may open our arms very wide indeed. We do not desire a mere wooden uniformity, but that unity which is co-existent with variety, leaving a great amount of individual freedom. Where there exist life and zeal, we must allow room even for extravagance; if Christian hearts overflow with love and fervor, other Christian hearts must bear with some peculiar manifestations; and for this a Christian Church must make room. The Church of England has always had sobriety as one of its great characteristics, and probably this is one reason why it has commended itself to the sober Saxon character; but it has not sufficiently allowed for an overflow of zeal. These, then,