

MUSIC.

M. Gustave Jacquard, Violoncellist, gave a concert last Monday evening in the Académie Hall of the Jesuits' College, in this city. This artist won the highest honours at the Imperial Conservatory in Paris, and lovers of music were anxious to hear him. The Violoncello is a difficult, but a sympathetic instrument, and is capable of expressing depth of passion and delicacy of feeling as well. M. Jacquard, in his management of chords, and execution of difficult music, displayed science and skill, but whether from indisposition or from playing, as we were told, on an instrument not his own, did not draw from it the power and sweetness which doubtless he could have done under more favourable circumstances. The indecision of his play in some passages, and its brilliancy in others, justify this opinion. His concert, however, was very successful, and both he and his able assistants, Messrs. Prince, Pelletier, Lavoie, and Boyce, were warmly applauded by a large audience. M. Jacquard is henceforth a resident of Montreal, and we hope to hear him frequently in public.

PRINCE ARTHUR MILITARY MARCH, (as performed by the Rifle Brigade Band), by O. Pelletier. Montreal: Dezonche Bros.

This is a very spirited composition, and has been received with acclamation by the public. It has already gone through two editions.

THE BOW BELLS ALMANACK FOR 1870. Montreal: Dawson Bros.

This is one of the most useful of the Illustrated Almanacks, containing a large amount of information. The illustrations are *à propos*, and exceedingly well executed.

THE CLOISTER AND THE HEARTH; OR, MAID, WIFE, AND WIDOW.

A matter-of-fact romance by Charles Reade: New York. Harper & Brothers: Montreal, Dawson Bros., Great St. James Street.

The Author of "Griffith Gamut," and of many other works more or less familiar to the readers of fiction, has already acquired a reputation which secures for the productions of his pen a favourable reception from a large class of readers. The opening part of this Romance appeared in *Once A Week*, but the work has been enlarged to four times the former size, with an entirely different dénouement.

THE SUEZ CANAL.

Who can fully realize the part the Suez Canal is to play in the world of commerce? It is plain the rich commerce of the Indies, which now finds its way to Europe by way of Cape Horn, will in the future pass up the Red Sea and into the Mediterranean by way of the canal. Suez and Said will become immense shipping points, and Egypt rise in commercial importance, just as did the Italian States when the Indians emptied their treasures into their laps from the backs of countless caravans.

These Mediterranean cities will regain much of their lost prestige. They will become watering, coaling, and shipping points. But the two nations that are to derive special benefit from the canal are France and England, rivals in manufactures at home, rivals in possessions and cotton-growing interests in India, commercial rivals generally, and both mindful of a history provocative of jealousy. As an avenue of Eastern colonial development the canal would prove equally available to these two Powers, were it not for the fact that English manufacturing, which is the source of English potentiality and wealth, is more wholly dependent upon her Eastern colonial dependencies than the same interest in France. British India is a necessity to Britain. Franco-India is not indispensable to France. Both, however, will find the canal a valuable adjunct for increasing their power and commercial importance in the East, and both will use it in proportion to domestic needs. The mission of the canal is to revolutionize the Cape of Good Hope trade. As that trade was chiefly England's, obtained at the sacrifice of a long and bloody war, it cannot be presumed that the new channel will materially change its ownership.

This preponderance of commercial advantage to England may, however, be counterbalanced by the newly-opened opportunities to France for Egyptian or African aggrandizement. While England has been pushing discoveries in Africa preparatory to obtaining a new cotton field, France has been making a friend and ally of Egypt. England may have secured the sources of the Nile, but France will virtually control its mouth. England may have gotten the rich waters of the interior, but France has a foothold on the rich alluvium of the delta.

This new link in the world's commercial system makes others plainer, more necessary, and easier of accomplishment. A glance must satisfy any one that Central Europe cannot partake of the benefits of the Suez Canal, except indirectly. Shall it be shut off from the great Indian treasure-house, from contact with the busy millions that weave, and curve, and paint, and plant in the cities and plains of Cathay? Every commercial instinct, every sense of national pride, every desire of civilization, demands access to Asia and the East. Russia will be stimulated to reach the Amoor by rail, and then as a set-off and to retain political and commercial balances, Amsterdam or Bremen must be drawn unto Peking with iron bands.—*Philadelphia Press*.

DR. LIVINGSTONE'S DISCOVERIES.

In an article on the recent highly important letter from Dr. Livingstone, the African explorer, the last London *Spectator* shows the value of his discoveries, and the facts which they have proved. It says:

"But our delight at the prospect of seeing Dr. Livingstone again in the flesh must not be allowed to overshadow the intense interest attaching to his discoveries. Although in July, 1868—the date of his last dispatch—Dr. Livingstone had not even seen Lake Tanganyika, and of course could not positively testify that the lake drained into the Nile, he had yet found sufficient evidence, to say nothing of native information, to justify the opinion that not only Tanganyika, but a series of more southerly lakes contribute their quota of waters to the 'river of Egypt.' If this opinion should prove to be correct, he will have solved the great problem of modern geography, and established his claim to the foremost rank of geographers of all ages. Ptolemy's mysterious knowledge

will prove to have been something real, and Defoe's imagination will be regarded as having been strangely prophetic. In order to appreciate what Dr. Livingstone has done, or is doing, it must be clearly understood what he was sent to accomplish. The dispute between Captain Burton and Captain Speke relative to the drainage of Lake Tanganyika could not be settled except by personal investigation. Burton believed that this lake flowed into the Nile, but in such a case Speke's Victoria Nyanza would not be the ultimate source of the river. The latter, therefore, maintained, with rather ingenious logic, that the Tanganyika drained southward—probably into the Nyassa, and thence into the Zambezi. Moreover, when Burton and Speke were on the lake its altitude was fixed by them at 1,844 feet, and if this were correct, it would be impossible, supposing other observations to be correct also, for the Nile to receive the waters of the Tanganyika. Baker made the elevation of the Albert Nyanza to be 2,720 feet, and as his observations were carefully tested on his return to England, their accuracy may be relied on. But Speke's thermometer—with which his observations were taken—read 214°, instead of 212°, when brought down to the east again, and Mr. Findlay, has always argued that 1,000 feet should be added to the altitude at which Capt. Speke fixed the lake. This would give it an elevation of 2,844 feet; and as Sir Samuel Baker had shown the Albert Nyanza to be but 2,720 feet, the Tanganyika would be 124 feet higher than the Nilotic reservoir, and the physical difficulty which seemed to intervene between it and the Nile would thus be removed. Dr. Livingstone was directed to settle this question, to ascertain the altitude of the Tanganyika and the direction of its drainage, and to determine the nature of the whole watershed of this part of Africa. How much he had done toward this in July of last year, the interesting despatch to Lord Clarendon which was read before the Geographical Society on Monday evening, clearly shows, and there seems to be little doubt that during the sixteen months that have elapsed since he wrote, he has completed the great work which he undertook.

At the time of writing his dispatch, Dr. Livingstone had not reached the Tanganyika, but he had found a chain of lakes to the south which drained toward the north, and, as he believed, through the Tanganyika into the Nile. These lakes are fed by numerous rivers of considerable size, and should they prove to be the head waters of the Nile, we must look for the sources of the mighty river at least 400 miles south of the most southerly point of the Victoria Nyanza. The river Cameroo seems to connect these lakes with each other and with the Tanganyika, and the whole volume of water which they contain in all probability finds its way into the Nile. We must wait for further information before we can say positively that these lakes and rivers are within the basin of the Nile, but there is every probability that the opinions which have been expressed in favour of this hypothesis will soon be verified. Livingstone's present journey has only confirmed what was brought to light in his previous travels, viz: That instead of Africa being a sandy desert, as was formerly thought, it is really rich in vegetation, and studded with lakes. But there is another fact which Dr. Livingstone has discovered in connection with Lake Liemba, and which goes far towards outweighing all others in importance. The altitude of this lake the Doctor ascertained to be 2,840 feet, thus showing that Speke's observations were incorrect, and that Mr. Findlay was probably right in saying Speke had made a mistake of about 1,000 feet in his calculations. But we must wait until Dr. Livingstone comes home for the detailed information, which will enable geographers to pronounce their final judgment on the Nile question. If the great explorer traces the lake system which he has discovered into the Tanganyika, and should find, on arriving at Ujiji, the stores and medicines sent there for his use, he will proceed to the northern end of the lake, and perhaps follow the affluent. Sir Roderick Murchison thinks he will return to Zanzibar, after having ascertained the direction of the drainage of the Tanganyika, but Captain Sherard Osborn considers that he will probably follow the outlet, and see for himself whether it flows into the Albert Nyanza, and thence into the Nile. In the latter case, Dr. Livingstone would, in all likelihood, meet Sir Samuel Baker, and the result of this meeting would be to clear up the great mystery which, for centuries, has shrouded the headwaters of the Nile."

THE PANTIN MURDERS.—Traupmann is said to have made a clean breast of the horrors of which he is the author. He acknowledges that he alone was concerned in the murder of the Kinck family: he abandons his statement regarding the culpability of Kinck senior, and admits that he murdered the latter on the 25th of August, in a plain near Guebwiller. He has given indications regarding the spot where he has interred the body, which will no doubt lead to its discovery. Gustave Kinck was killed by him a couple of days before the remaining murders were accomplished in the field at Pantin.

On the 20th of September, after making all his preparations, he induced the mother and children to accompany him to Pantin. On arriving at the Chemin Vert, he made Mme. Kinck, her little daughter, and the youngest of her sons, descend from the carriage. After passing the last houses which line that narrow and tortuous avenue, they arrived on the plain. The trench had been dug in a hollow, not very deep, but sufficiently so to prevent what occurred from being easily distinguished from the Aubervilliers road. The *fiacre* was stationed at the corner of the Chemin Vert.

Traupmann first attacked the little girl, whom he stabbed repeatedly with his knife, and then flung, still living, in the furthest part of the trench. He next seized the mother, with whom he had a short struggle—a struggle all the more dreadful from the fact that the youngest of her sons held on fast to her dress and uttered piercing shrieks—no doubt those which were heard by the watchman of a factory situated in the neighbourhood. The screams, however, soon ceased, and the assassin, continuing his work of extermination, hastened back for the eldest and two younger of the children, who had remained in the *fiacre* unsuspecting of what had taken place.

The two youngest children proceeded toward the trench holding each other by the hand. The eldest followed at a short distance behind them. He was the stronger of the three, and with him the murderer commenced. He flung a cord, with a running knot, round his neck, strangled him, cut the throats of the two others, whom he flung at a short distance further, then returning to the eldest, who had begun to exhibit symptoms of returning sensibility, he put an end to him by stabbing him repeatedly. "The trial will soon take place," says the *Opinion Nationale*, from which the above was copied, "and the accused has chosen his advocate."

MISCELLANEOUS.

Kinglake is in the Crimea, collecting materials for the continuation of his "History of the War."

The Indian Government has determined on erecting a monument to the memory of the fallen heroes on each of the battle-fields of the Sutlej.

In Northern Mexico good success has been had in raising cotton, the crop in the municipality of Matamoros amounting to near \$60,000.

The Emperor of China is fifteen years old, and is to be married this year with immense pomp to his first and chief wife, his empress.

The island of Jersey is in a fair way of shortly possessing its first railway—a species of locomotion never yet witnessed by a large portion of the inhabitants. The line is to run round St. Aubin's Bay, near to the main road (a distance of four miles), with intermediate stations.

A terrible conflagration is reported from New Calabar, Africa, by which half the town has been destroyed. In about an hour and a half the fire burnt itself out for lack of material, having destroyed immense quantities of cotton cloth, rum, tobacco and gunpowder.

The raw fur trade of Michigan amounts to nearly \$1,000,000 annually, the greater portion of which is transacted in Detroit. The principal skins taken are mink, martin, fisher, lynx, bear, beaver, otter, red, gray, silver, and cross fox, muskrat, wild-cat, raccoon and wolf.

As some workmen were running clay from a brick yard, in New Windsor, New York, they dug up an earthen jar containing some \$5 50 in Spanish silver dollars, which appeared to have never been in circulation, as they were bright and unworn in appearance. They were dated 1720 and 1773.

The East India Railway Company have provided special cars for women, with women for guards and ticket collectors. At every station "palkees" and bearers are in waiting to carry the ladies to their homes. For all these conveniences, they pay a smaller sum than is paid by male travellers.

A club called the Johnson Club has been formed in London by a few literary men on the principle of the famous literary club of the last century instituted by Dr. Johnson. Its objects are to hold meetings for the purpose of conversing upon and reviewing past and current literary topics.

The office of Principal Registrar of Deeds in Ireland, which was held for more than twenty years by Mr. Morgan O'Connell, eldest surviving son of the Liberator, and lately resigned by him, has been conferred upon Mr. Lynch, proprietor and editor of the Dublin *Evening Post*.

The Roman Catholics are erecting a large cathedral in the city of Peking, China, two hundred and fifty feet long, built of granite, in highly ornamented gothic style. It will take several years to complete it, and will cost, probably, three or four millions of dollars. The funds are provided in Europe and America.

A novelty in ballet is certainly that which we hear of from Russia. A ballet is in preparation in St. Petersburg, wherein the stage is to represent a piano-forte key-board, on the keys of which Lydia, the heroine of the ballet, is to go through her steps. We have often heard of "the poetry of motion;" this, we suppose, illustrates the music of it.

According to the *London Scotsman* the transfer of the telegraphs to the post-offices in Ireland is to be deferred for a year, it having been found impossible to overtake the necessary arrangements in all the three kingdoms within the time previous to January 1. For twelve months the business in Ireland will therefore be conducted in the existing offices, but under the control of the Postmaster-General, to whose offices the revenue collected will be handed over.

In certain parts of Belgium the weather has been more severe than has been known for many years at a similarly early period. In the upper parts of the province of Liège a good deal of snow has fallen, and in some districts the roads are blocked up by it. Near Stavelot it fell on the 15th ult., and has not since melted. Mails and trains have more than once been delayed. The woods, covered with snow while the trees yet retain their leaves, are said to present a very curious sight.

It is stated in the China papers, delivered yesterday, that an English missionary has lost his life near Tientsin. The Rev. J. Williamson, in company with Mr. Hodge, was in a boat anchored in the grand canal, and during the night of the 25th of August, the boat was attacked by armed robbers, and Mr. Williams was killed, whether from personal violence or from falling into the water in the *mélée* is not known. The robbers injured no one else seriously. The body was recovered from the canal some days afterwards.

A poet nearly forgotten by the general public—M. Antony Deschamps—has recently died in France. He was a man of exquisite sensibility; and some years ago he was, in consequence of temporary derangement, placed in Dr. Blanche's lunatic asylum, at Passy. When reported completely cured, he voluntarily continued to live with Dr. Blanche as his boarder and friend. But a few days ago he was seen, looking very ill, among the mourners at Sainte-Beuve's funeral. He died suddenly, in a cab. His principal works were a translation of Dante's "Divina Comedia," a volume of satires, and a poem—"Resignation."

Australian papers intimate that ere long the communication between Great Britain and her Southern Colonies will be by the way of America, by steamship to San Francisco, and thence to the Atlantic by the Pacific Railroad and its connections. To the eastern ports of New Zealand this change will bring London within five, instead of eight weeks, as it is at present. It is also thought that this will ultimately become the most popular passenger route to Great Britain from the Colonies, as it is not only shorter, and likely to be less rough and dangerous than the old one, but it will afford the traveller a capital opportunity of seeing America, or at least a large and important portion of it, with but a trifling delay. If once the Pacific Ocean is made the great highway to and from, Canadians must necessarily be brought into much closer intercourse with their fellow-subjects in the Australasian Colonies than they have formerly enjoyed; and once let communication be fairly opened with British Columbia by another great railroad across the continent and Great Britain, Canada, British Columbia, and the Australian Colonies will begin to reap the material benefits of being united in that one great empire which fairly encircles the world.