# The Canada School Journal.

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# The Canada School Journal and Weekly Review.

An Educational Journal devoted to the advancement of Literature, Science, and the leaching profession in Canada.

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### The World.

Once more the war cloud lowers on the horizon of Europe. The Eastern question is re-opened. At the close of the last war between Russia and Turkey all the country since known as Roumelia was made a part of Bulgaria. This arrangement, which was forced upon Turkey by Russia, was, mainly at the instance and under the pressure of Lord Beaconsfield, broken up, and Eastern Roumelia was constituted a separate State under the suzerainty of Turkey. The people of Roumeha have now, with singular suddenness and unanimity, renounced Turkish supremacy, and annexed their State to Bulgaria. Prince Alexander of Bulgaria has as promptly accepted the crust, and the combined States are preparing, with great enthusiasm, to defend themselves if attacked. It was at first suspected that Russia and Austria, for purposes of their own, had intrigued for this result, and would support the movement. But later advices represent Austria as deprecating the change and desiring peace. Russian officers in Bulgarian service are also said to be resigning, much to the disgust of Prince Alexander. The Porte

another great conference will probably be the result if Turkish action does not precipitate matters. Whether Turkey will attempt to assert her rights by force or wait the slow issue of a conference remains to be seen. She can hardly afford to be driven from the Balkans without a struggle. It seems almost a fatality that Lord Salisbury should find the house of cards which Lord Beaconsfield and he constructed falling to pieces about his ears within a few weeks after his accession to office.

History is being made and geography changed every month. The true teacher will keep an intelligent eye upon the great movements which are continually taking place amongst various nations of the world. Within the last week or two the state of parties in Great Britain has developed some new features of interest. The event whose importance, for the moment at least, overshadows all others, is Mr. Gladstone's manifesto. Our readers will no doubt, have seen the abstracts of it in the political papers. Just at the moment when many were predicting that the sun of the great statesman was going down under eclipse, he has electrified the nation with what may very probably prove the masterpiece of his political handiwork. Its chief characteristic is that it outlines the most radical reforms in the most conservative spirit. We need not take space to enumerate its points, but in declaring for free transfer of land, full land taxation, the abolition of primogeniture and entail, and in contemplating calmly church disestablishment as a possibility of the future, it clearly shows that the political eyesight of the veteran statesman has not waxed dim nor his mental force abated.

A movement is going on in still another quarter of the world which attracts less attention by reason of the obscurity of the place and the quie.ness with which the work is carried on, but which is, nevertheless, far from unimportant. We refer to the French aggressions in Madagascar. This island is blocked by a French flect, whose admiral says he is trying "to starve out Madagascar." The object was pithily expressed by a deputy a few weeks ago. "We can make Madigascar play the role of a Hong Kong for the eastern coast of Africa " The task will not be an easy one, for not only will the climate fight against the French, but a million and a half of brave Hovas will not be easily subdued. The spirit in which they are likely to fight is shown by the words of their queen (Ranavalona II) at her coronation last year, and the manner in which they were received. With her hand upon the Bible, she said . - "We ask you now, O people, to defend our just cause, for God gave this island of Madagascar to my ancestors and to yours It was left as an inheritance to us Malagasy, but the French will take it away by force, they say, therefore I declare unto you. I shall fulfil, my people, the share in the defence of the land which belongs to me as Queen. Though I am a woman, I have the heart of a has appealed to the Great Powers to maintain the treaty, and man, and I stand up to lead you forth to prevent and oppose