

CAUGHNAWAGA.

THE INDIANS AND THEIR SCHOOLS—NINE YEARS' LABOUR.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

DEAR SIR,—All matters of intelligence respecting the welfare and progress of the Iroquois Indians under the care of the Apostolic Church of God will be of interest, and perhaps even of service to the Catholic public at large. For the benefit of the Roman Catholic World, I gladly seize the present opportunity of furnishing you and your readers with a few items. As a resident simply among the Aborigines, it affords me much pleasure to note the evidences of progress which I have witnessed during the past few years. Some of these I will mention. In no one direction, perhaps, has more marked improvement been made than in the matter of cleanliness. Families that formerly lived in miserable log cabins, in the midst of the most abominable filth, have exchanged their former dwellings into neat and comfortable, and their personal appearance, likewise, is greatly improved. Another feature that strikes me is the entire abandonment, on the part of the old men, of their ancient mode of dressing, and the adoption of citizens' clothing. These things give the Aborigines of this reserve a civilized appearance. But as I am something more than a resident, simply, in this place, there is another matter that comes under my observation, and that is the day school of which is under my personal care and supervision. The day school is an institution of very great value to the Aborigines, without it they would soon return to their former state. When the school bell rings it reminds the young that their hands and faces must be washed before going to school. Slothfulness and indolence are cast aside and cleanliness resumes the place. The idle, roving habits of uncivilized life are broken up, and habits of industry, prudence, and forthrightness are carefully and steadily cultivated. The acquiring of the English language is a matter of great importance to the Indians as the greater part of their business is carried on with the United States. We have therefore endeavored to accomplish this point, although a hard one, as the moment our pupils leave the school they don't hear a word in English until they return to it again. Just for the benefit of the public I will here insert a copy of a certificate which was given to Mr. Fletcher on the 10th of July 1877:—

"It affords us much satisfaction to state that the public examination of your School held this day evinced your assiduity in the discharge of your duties. We were much pleased with the progress which your pupils have made during the past year. Dealing as you are with persons alien to the English language, we heartily recognize the great progress made in each branch.

L. GIONDIN,
Inspector of Schools
N. V. BURNIN, Missionary.
G. E. CHARRIER, Agent.

D. MacDONALD, July 10th, 1877."

The above is sufficient to tell for itself. Therefore when I say my pupils I mean the whole reservation from end to end. With respect to the Indian population. Although the old warriors have never sat at the school desks as pupils for the purpose of learning to read or write, yet they have sat at the desks to receive instructions from their schoolmaster upon the value and importance of giving to their children a good education and religious training. Time and again have the old warriors sent their messengers for their present schoolmaster to meet them in their council house for the purpose of hearing his instructions against intemperance.

The following is a copy of a certificate given Mr. Fletcher by a Protestant gentleman who happened to call at his school while visiting the village:—
"I have been much gratified with the result of a short examination which Mr. Fletcher has kindly allowed me to make of his pupils under his care, having had frequent opportunities of observing a similar class in England, I must yield the palm to the little Indians for much more intelligent replies to questions, and whether this is to be attributed to Mr. Fletcher's system or the intelligence of the pupils, it is most satisfactory.

HENRY N. DEWITTE,
M.P.S., England.

CAUGHNAWAGA, June 10th, 1874."

The above is sufficient to tell the state of the school in 1874. Let me here remark that when the school first opened the children were all ignorant alike of the names or existence of letters forming an alphabet. The government saw that their council fires were out, and that their tomahawks were buried, so it resolved to extend to them the blessings of education. After a few lectures the Aborigines began to try more for curiosity than for any other purpose, how their houses would look daubed and whitened all over with whitewash, to their great surprise the experiment had the desired effect, and one copied after another until it has become a habit. The next point to improve was the manner in which they used their dwelling apartments. The kitchen was one common room, this room had to answer for all purposes, cooking, eating and sleeping. In order to illustrate my point I had my own house improved upon and divided into apartments, and as our neighbours were at all reasonable hours welcome to visit us, it was not long before carpenters found employment not only in erecting partitions, but also in building new houses in a more commodious form than that of the old. In a few years the old indolent habit of broken men and women began to adopt the habits and customs of civilized life. The dark smoky log cabin was transferred into a neat and comfortable cottage of either brick or stone, with nice plastered walls and painted floors, from the moss grown shingled roof to the soft feathers and high bedstead with white curtains; from the dirty boots walking over the floor to the carpet slippers; from the dirty habit of spitting about the floor and in the corners of the house to the use of spittoons; from the long neglected matted head of hair to the use of combs and brushes; from the use of Adam and Eve's knives and forks to those of Rogers' cast-steel, and eating from clean white crockery laid on neat tables; from the Equinoxes and covered carriages; from the indolent habit of scratching up the land with a garden hoe to the use of ploughs and harrows; from the printing way of writing to the commercial hand. Indolence had its day; industry has taken its place. The manufacture of Indian novelties is beginning to decay, agriculture has taken their place; of course they are not to be compared with our Canadian farmers, but by encouraging them they will improve in the course of time, and the rising generation will have a better opportunity of accomplishing the art of industry than their ancestors, not but what they had as good, but their nomadic dispositions would not allow them to cultivate the land as such work was considered beneath the warrior, and drudgery of this class generally fell to the poor women. All this has passed away, the Aborigines are not only found in cultivating the land, but Pilots on our Steamboats navigating our great rivers and inland seas in our New Dominion, and also in the United States. They are also to be found in the ranks of our commercial academies. All this improvement, however, has been accomplished within the space of nine years. Although Mr. Editor, the problem of the civilization of the Aborigines in general is a

perplexing one, and the difficulties of its solution are increased in many instances by an assumed knowledge of his feelings and requirements. We are inclined to associate him in our minds with inhuman and horrible atrocities, and yet actual experience with many tribes prove them to be amiable in temper and easily governed by kindness. We are naturally inclined to look upon him as a barbarian and unchristian in his inclinations and habits, yet my experience has taught me that Indians are a long way before some parts of our civilized cities. Never since I came to Caughnawaga have I known, or even heard of any person to have been insulted by an Indian. The most scrupulous young lady might travel Caughnawaga from end to end, either in the night or in the day without being annoyed. But there are those who are jealous of such harmony, and they employ agents more cunning than themselves to destroy it. These dissemblers are easily known, they are always brawling against the church.

The following is a copy of a certificate given by the Archbishop of Montreal and suit:—
"We the undersigned have visited to-day the school of Mr. Fletcher, and we believe it our duty to testify to whom it may concern, that under the present circumstances this school appears worthy of encouragement, and that the said teacher is respectable on every report.

† G. Bishop of Montreal.
Rev. N. PIERRE, Parish Priest at Lachine.
Rev. P. L. DUFFY, Sect. July 10th, 1871.
Rev. J. LEMARCHE.
Rev. V. BURNIN, O.M.I., Missionary at Caughnawaga.
Rev. J. PIERRE."

(From the Montreal Herald, 16 July, 1874).

The yearly examination of the pupils of the Caughnawaga Indian school took place yesterday; the event created no little excitement in the village. The Indians are by no means deficient of intellect, as was fully shown by the promptness and correctness with which several of the pupils answered the various questions put to them, and it was evident that all parties were greatly surprised at their efficiency. Much credit is due to the teacher Mr. E. R. A. Fletcher, for the zeal he has shown in his labors among the Iroquois Indians of Caughnawaga. I am trying your good patience, Mr. Editor, but please bear with me a little longer.

The following is from the Montreal Gazette of July 10th 1877:—

"The annual public examination of this school took place on Tuesday, 10th instant, and it was one of the most successful that we have ever witnessed. The pupils were thoroughly tested in nearly every branch of their programme, the cleverness and accuracy of their answers were as creditable to themselves as they were to those who conduct the school. The first, second and third degrees were examined, and the demeanor as well as the answering of the pupils showed how well they profited by the instructions of Mr. Fletcher, their worthy and indefatigable master. In orthography, geography, mental and practical arithmetic, passing in the English Grammar, &c., &c. It would be hard to find a number of white pupils of their age and standing that could bear a trying test with more credit."

Mr. Editor, you and your good Catholic readers may understand by the above history that we are looking for praise, God forbid. It would be vain on our part to expect such a favor, as we have only supplemented the efforts of our Dominion Government in educating and civilizing the Iroquois Indians at Caughnawaga. E. R. A. F.
April 15th, 1878.

FIGHTING AT THREE PACES.

A SANGUINARY STREET DUEL BETWEEN TWO YOUNG VIRGINIANS.

The brief particulars received here of the duel at Eastville, Va., says the Baltimore American, excited great interest, as both parties are well known in Baltimore society circles, and one of them, Mr. Thom, is a nephew of a city Councilman, Dr. J. P. Thom. A gentleman who witnessed the duel gives the following account of the sanguinary encounter:

On the day of the duel, as Pitts was seated on the steps of R. V. Nottingham's dwelling, adjoining the Court House in Eastville, Thom passed by, Pitts sprung up and exclaimed, "Hold on, Thom, I want to see you." Thom stopped, and the two met near in front of the Court House. Pitts said that he wanted an explanation from Thom for his action in attempting to arrest him. Thom refused to make an explanation, whereupon Pitts exclaimed, "You are a damned scoundrel and liar." Thom flushed up angrily, and drawing back a pace, put his hand in his pocket and drew his pistol. Pitts said, "Oh if that's your game, I can shoot as quick as you can," and he drew also. They were standing scarcely three feet apart, when they both raised their weapons and fired. The ball from Pitts' pistol struck Thom in the band, while Thom's ball made a furrow along the lower side of Pitts' right arm. They instantly stopped back, and both slightly stooped over their weapons, turned the cylinders, and in the act of straightening up they again fired simultaneously. Pitts instantly fell to the ground, the ball from his opponent's revolver having entered his right side just above the nipple, penetrating the right lung. He was picked up by the horror-stricken spectators and carried into a neighboring house, where he breathed his last without speaking a word. The smoke from the pistols had hardly cleared away before Thom was discovered staggering back, and making a desperate but unsuccessful effort to get hold of the fence to support himself. He sank to the ground insensible. The ball from Pitts' pistol had entered his face just above the right corner of his mouth, and knocking out two teeth, had crushed the jaw-bone and passed entirely through his head, lodging just under the skin at the back of his head. The course of the ball was within a hair's breadth of the jugular vein. Thom was removed to his home, where he now lies in a critical condition, and little hope is entertained of his recovery. His head and neck yesterday were much swollen, and he was suffering intensely.

The affray caused intense excitement in the country, and much sorrow is expressed at the rash conduct of the two young men. They are both connected with the best families of Virginia. Alfred P. Thom is a son of Judge W. A. Thom, of Virginia, and a nephew, as has been stated, of Dr. J. Pembroke Thom, of this city. He is unmarried and a lawyer by profession. Sydney Pitts was also well connected, and is a nephew of United States Senator Geo. R. Dennis, of Maryland, and of James A. Dennis, of the State Senate. He is also unmarried, and both his parents are dead. Both of the men were under 25 years of age.

THE DUCHESS OF MARLBOROUGH.

Her Grace the Duchess of Marlborough paid a visit to the Lying-in-Hospital on the Coombe, and wrote a memorandum expressive of the pleasure her visit afforded her. The hospital is situated in one of the poorest and most densely peopled portions of the city, and though its management is mostly Protestant, it does a deal of good amongst the Catholics in the circumstances which it is intended to relieve.

CANADIAN SOCIAL LIFE.

WHAT AN OUTSIDE OBSERVER THINKS OF IT.

A correspondent, writing to the Leamington Warwickshire, and centre of England Chronicle under a recent date, says:—

"The social life of any people is more or less blended with their peculiar form of civilization. I say peculiar, because modern civilization is a conventional term, and not in any two places alike. In England money and descent places a barrier between the rich and the poor, while in the United States there is an assimilation, and in Canada a medium between the two. We are all in a measure the creatures of circumstance, and, as a rule, we borrow our ideas from our surroundings. I have often been to a London theatre when some boy or girl might be sitting near who would know every actor and actress, and what they had to say, because frequently going to the theatre was a part of the training those youngsters received. The same may be said of young English farmers or squires, while not bad in themselves, for they look upon the labourer as intelligent animal, and as for associating with him they would not think of it. In Canada the dividing line is not so tightly drawn while it is much more so than in the United States, for there the employers and the employed meet on a more even platform than probably anywhere else in the world. Canada has copied a good deal of his freedom from the rich and poor, yet still there is a strong aristocratic feeling, and I may say some snobbing, but it is peculiar to individuals, and not to the institutions, as the manner and costumes of the country. Hotels are both in Canada and the United States managed on almost scientific principles, some of them being very large and costly in their furniture and fittings. The Russell House, Ottawa, is one of that class, and a description will suffice to show the reader how far they influence the social life of the people, and the freedom there is between rich and poor. In this hotel there are nearly two hundred rooms, and the tariff is three or three and a half dollars, per day, which covers everything. It is the house that most of the members put up at during the meeting of Parliament, and many of them bring their wives and families. In the front there is a luggage room and an office, around which there are chairs and sofas, the apartment being large and commodious. Those chairs, sofas and rooms are of an evening full of men without any distinction, whether they are staying at the house or not. Any person may come in, sit down, and open a conversation with his friend or the man nearest him. Senators, members of the Government, and of the House of Commons, indiscriminately mixing up with civil servants, newspaper reporters, mechanics, or anyone that likes to walk in, or has an idle half hour to spare, but when dinner is announced it is only customers that walk into the dinner room, simply because it is a question of paying twelve or fourteen shillings per day. The moral I wish to point is this, that here there is an equality and fraternisation between the people, the rich man enjoying the luxury that his money alone can purchase, but not looking down on the man less fortunate, while he looks upon himself to be just as good a man as the one that has money, and does not in the last feel it would be his duty to take a back seat if he can pay for a front one."

HORRORS OF YELLOW JACK.

STORIES TOLD BY THE CREW OF THE STEAM-SHIP GLEN SANNOX.

Yellow fever was at its height in Rio Janeiro when the British steamship Glen Sannox, which arrived in New York on Tuesday, left Brazil's capital a month ago. Three of the crew of the Sannox died there, and Capt. Mardon and the chief engineer were sick with the disease, and were taken ashore, the former to the private hospital in Botafogo, eight miles from the city, and latter to the Santa Theresa Hospital. Thomas Patterson died on board ship. The disease is almost sure, said the steward of the steamship yesterday, to attack foreigners. For sick seamen the Government has two hospitals, the Misericordi and the Lazette. J. W. Burrell, an Englishman, but a resident of New York city, was taken to the Misericordi, and he died there. Robert Prout, of Brooklyn, was the third of the crew who died. He was taken, while sick, to the Labarette Hospital. On shore the mortality was frightfully large, and yet continued the steward, the streets were not deserted nor did business languish. Men did not drop down and die in the streets, as they did three years ago, but they went home and died the next day. Old residents, even, were dying with the epidemic. The dry weather and heat continued longer than usual. A Brazilian newspaper said that in the last thirty days of February the mortality of the city alone was 162 from yellow fever. The newspapers, however, account for only the deaths recorded. Water was so scarce in the city that official notice was given that anyone having a fountain playing would be entirely deprived of water. The Cunkense newspaper of the Province of Sao Paulo tells the story that, in consequence of the extreme drought, the parish priest organized a procession to carry the municipal miraculous images from Boa Vista to Cunha, and that on Feb. 17 the prayers were begun, and such were the faith and fervor with which the litanies were intoned that rain began at once to fall.

The city of Rio Janeiro is surrounded by mountains, and in the sickly season there is scarcely any breeze until afternoon, when the wind arises seaward. In the morning it is dead calm, and a miasma vapor lies on the city. A sailor then never goes ashore without his coffee and brandy. The first thing on rising in the morning he is given a glass of quinine and rum, then coffee and brandy, and then breakfast. The decks are carefully sprinkled with carbolic acid. The first thing the officers do when going on deck in the morning is to count how many flags are flying as signals of sickness in the shipping about them. Every morning from 12 to 15 signals could be counted. There were, when the Glen Sannox was there, nearly a hundred vessels in the harbor. Some had been there for six months, the Captain and many of the crew were dead, and unable to procure a new master, or to fill out the crew. The Captain of the British brig Agnes, while sick with yellow fever, attempted to place the second mate in command. The first mate resisted, and the crew took sides and fought. Three seamen were hurt in the fray, two seriously. Another British brig could get no one to replace the Captain, who had died of yellow fever, and a new master came from England to take the position. The Captain, mates and entire crew of the British schooner Princess were in the Lazarette Hospital. The Captain of the Albion, a Liverpool three-masted schooner, died of fever, and the mate of the Glen Sannox took his post and left the port with the vessel. A passenger on the Glen Sannox was W. Hayden Edwards, Secretary of the United States Legation. Many of his friends died there, and he became alarmed for his life, saying that he would not remain for the whole empire, if it were offered to him. So he put an open bottle of carbolic acid at each end of his berth, and shut himself up in his narrow stateroom. During the voyage of thirty-three days he scarcely put his nose outside of the door. He arrived in New York safely.

DANIEL O'LEARY.

We take the following extract from a letter received, through the late mails, by Mr. Bryan G. McSwyny, of this city, who has the honor of having furnished the shoes (McSwyny's Champion Walking Shoes) in which Daniel O'Leary "walked away" with the championship of the world in the recent international contest in London. The letter was written by a gentleman who accompanied the Irish-American pedestrian; and it was characterizedly directed to "Bryan G. McSwyny, Esq., champion shoemaker of the world, corner of Broadway and Canal street, New York."

The extract is as follows:—

London, April 3, 1878.

In reference to the "walk," I have only a word or two to say, in addition to what the papers have already told you. I can say but little for "English fair play." Every effort was resorted to by the Johnny Bulls for the purpose of defeating O'Leary; but the Britishers evidently forgot two or three things,—namely,—first, that "Dan" was determined to win; secondly, that he had good, sound legs on which to stand; and, thirdly,—though last not least,—that he had McSwyny shoes to carry him through. Having won "the belt" fairly, they endeavored to make him walk another match in this city for it; but he positively declined doing so; and the result is that, it is not two hours ago, since he received the champion's belt, notwithstanding the "dickering" they had to swindle him out of it. When we return to the "Empire City," the belt will go with us; and, when you see it, you will say it is a "darling." To you and Mr. Cummings, and also to his many kind friends in New York, O'Leary desires to return his grateful thanks for their kind good wishes and congratulatory messages by cable. They came in good time; and when they were read on the track for O'Leary, you can "bet your bottom dollar" he put on a lively "spurt," much to the astonishment and not a little to the discomfiture of his Saxon opponents. Ten minutes later another message came from Cincinnati, followed by one from Paris, and several from Dublin, Cork and various other places in the "Emerald Isle," under the inspiration of which the English were amazed to see O'Leary stepping out in such style as though he was beginning, not ending, the greatest walking match over known in the world.

We shall visit "the fair hills of Ireland" in a few days. O'Leary is all right again; but what he intends doing for the next three or four weeks I am unable to say at present. We are disgusted with this infernal country and its people; and our daily prayer is that Russia may "knock spots" out of them before this note reaches you. Things look war-like here now; but you know England was always afraid of Russia, even when she had allies to back her; and if she has to do the work single-handed this time, "where, oh where" will the British lion be heard to roar in the future?

Yours, &c.,

MORE WALKING MATCHES PROPOSED.
SIR JOHN ASTLEY SAID TO HAVE OFFERED ANOTHER CHAMPION BELT.

Advices from London England, state that Sir John Astley has decided to offer another champion belt for a six day's pedestrian contest, and £800 in prize money to be divided as follows: £500 to first, £200 to the second, £75 to the third, and £25 to the fourth.

The same conditions which governed the recent match in which O'Leary won will govern this one, except that the winner of the belt will have to walk all continents for the trophy in the United Kingdom. It is the intention of Weston, Howre, Vaughan, Lewis and Brown to enter, and it was hoped that O'Leary would agree to compete.

The International Thirty-Six-Hour Pedestrian tournament, which is to take place in this city on May 10 and 11, promises to be an interesting affair. Already pedestrians from all parts of the United States and Canada have entered. The first prize is a champion belt, with \$200, to the winner, and an additional \$200 is also offered for second and third.

On this (Sunday) night Harry Hill's "Unknown," John Hughes, is announced to begin his attempt to beat the time made by O'Leary in the recent international Pedestrian Tournament at London. O'Leary covered 223 miles in 139 hours and 10 minutes.

Hughes the new aspirant for pedestrian fame, is a native of the County Tipperary, Ireland, is 29 years of age, stands about 5 feet 7 inches, and will weigh about 135 pounds. He looks wiry, tough and gritty. He came to this country in 1869, and has run several races, the most noted being in 1861, on the Fashion Course, when he beat an opponent named Martin, by a mile and a half in ten. He beat John Wiley, a professional, in a similar race on Harlem lane the following year. Mr. Hill has put up \$1,000 that Hughes can beat O'Leary; Hughes expresses every confidence in his ability to do it. The track on which he is to walk, or run, has been measured by City Surveyor James E. Serrill, and is stated to measure 338 feet 4 inches, and Hughes will have to make 8,140 complete circuits to cover 521 miles. He can run or walk, suit himself. No attendants will be allowed on the track. The judges are to be chosen by *Willard's Spirit of the Times*. They are to have full control of the race, and their decisions on all questions are to be final.

THE PRESS OF INDIA.

Last week we printed some of those extracts from the Indian press which have been put forward as specimens of the treasonable and seditious writing for the suppression of which the new Indian press law has been framed. We pointed out that for the most part they were only complaints and murmurs relating to the impoverished condition of the country under British rule—mere statements of facts unaccompanied by anything in the way of threat, sadly, and somewhat bitterly, but by no means passionately expressed—and we remarked that stranger things concerning the condition of India had appeared scores of times in English newspapers. Not one of the extracts relied on by the Anglo-Indian Council as justification for their gagging Act can compare in pith and point with some of the statements basing on the same subject which we find in the fashionable London journal, *Mayfair*, of Tuesday last. The following are specimen passages:—

"A Government that in twenty years has brought its subjects so near rebellion as to justify the application of the press-gag must on the face of it be adjudged a failure. . . . In every case we have carefully avoided taxing the rich (of India) and made the incidence of impost press most cruelly on the poor. We have largely increased her debt. We have cooked her budgets after the manner of a fraudulent joint-stock company. . . . When money ran short, we increased the taxation of the masses. . . . When we increased taxation to such a pitch that the people became so poor as to be plunged into famine by a single bad harvest, we had to give them back, in the form of State charity, some of the money wrung from them. . . . The excessive cost of government and 'public improvements' caused debt and increased taxation. The latter brought on famine; famine caused more debt and more taxation; and so the vicious circle was completed. . . . Nothing increases in India but debt and a starving population. Verily here are 'treason and sedition' enough to cause the suspension of a score of native journals, and of their editors also,—Nation.

LATEST NEWS.

Prince Gortschakoff is indisposed.
The Grand Duke Nicholas is to return to St. Petersburg in ten days.
It is estimated that the Cuban sugar crop will fall short 100,000 tons.

The 11th Russian Army Corps is within an hour's march of Bucharest.

The conviction gains ground in St. Petersburg that England has determined on war.

London City Police are to be armed with revolvers.

Belleville exported over 4,000 dozen of eggs last week.

A terrific thunder storm at London, Ont., on Monday, did great damage.

St. George's Day was very generally celebrated yesterday, throughout the Dominion.

There are likely to be rival steamboats running between Quebec and the Saguenay this season.

Montreux electors complain of their being disfranchised, owing to some informal law proceedings.

London City Councillors call each other liars over the table, and dare each other to reprisals.

Fearing British occupation of forts on the Bosphorus, in the event of war, Russia has asked Germany to guarantee the line of demarcation.

General Shields has been granted a pension of \$50 per month. He would have done better at blacking boots.

Quebec politicians are actively interesting themselves in the forthcoming election. A large number left the city on Monday night for the surrounding counties.

Two of the principal actors in the Florida election frauds, through which Mr. Hayes was "counted in" for that state, has just made written confessions at Jacksonville.

The strike at Preston, England, has collapsed, and the spinners at Burnley and other large towns are ready to resume work when the weavers come to terms.

Quebec merchants want an Exchange, and it is reported that the Federal Government is to be asked for a location on some of their property adjoining the Custom House.

"Miss" Edith O'Gorman gave three lectures at Kingston, Ont., last week. They were all poorly attended, and "Miss" O'Gorman left Kingston in disgust. Her occupation appears to be going.

Mr. Ewart, the moderate Conservative, was elected for Belfast by a majority of over three thousand over Mr. Seeds, the Orange candidate. The election passed off quietly.

The Russians are making great war preparations in Asia. General Milutine has been appointed to command the Army of the Caucasus, and it is stated that an expedition is being organized to march on Tashkend.

Berlin St. Petersburg advices do not denote any change in the situation. Peace is not hoped for, and Russia's willingness to treat for a withdrawal from Constantinople is regarded as indicating a wish to temporize.

Instead of having the usual dinner, the members of the St. George's Society at Halifax, yesterday, donated the amount which would have accrued therefrom to the Frederick annuity fund—young Frederick, recently killed at a fire, having been a member of their body.

COMING TO CANADA.—It is stated that Mr. Archibald Forbes, the world-famous war correspondent of the London News, intends visiting Canada this summer, when he will deliver a series of lectures upon his experiences as war correspondent, in the leading towns and cities.

IT IS REMOVED in Ottawa that General Burke is to be invited to deliver a lecture in that city. If the rumour is true we are sure that General Burke will be well received, although he is a man of what is called "advanced opinions"—yet he is neither a demagogue nor a grab-all.

LONDON ADVICES say the Musulman insurrection in Bulgaria is exceedingly formidable. A battle has been fought, in which the Russians lost 500 killed. The cause is stated to be the oppression of the Russo-Bulgarian regime and the abduction of Turkish women by Bulgarians.

BISHOP McCLOSKEY.—A Protestant bishop of about 70 years of age has been charged with improper intimacy with a young woman in Chicago. Bishop McCloskey left suddenly for Europe, and has by telegram given the rumour an unqualified denial. Every friend of religion will hope that the bishops deny it true.

THE OFFICIAL recognition of the Mexican Government by the United States is regarded as a diplomatic triumph obtained by the shrewdness and tact of the Mexican Minister at Washington. A review of Mexican troops took place in the Capital in honour of Jefferson Davis, who was mounted and in full uniform.

IT IS STATED that Lieutenant Patrick McMahon, son of the Marquis of Parnell, will arrive in Dublin early next month for the purpose of making a tour through the country. Though his visit is to be private, we have no doubt that wherever he is recognized he will receive a right royal greeting at the hands of the people whose ancestry, in common with them, it delights his distinguished father to own.—*Irishman*, April 13th.

POPE LEO XIII. has sanctioned a plan for the conversion of Central Africa, which was prepared by Cardinal Franchi while Prefect of the Propaganda. The missionary work has been entrusted to a congregation established some ten years ago by M. Lavergier at Algiers. Twelve missionaries have already left for Zanzibar, and it is expected that they will be able to move into the interior during the present month. The missionaries have been instructed in the use of scientific instruments.

We take the following paragraph from this week's *Irish World*:—"A reader wants us to reply to an article that recently appeared in a Canadian paper severely censuring an individual who at one time seemed to be active in Irish affairs. We will do nothing of the sort.—[News Ep. I. W.] The 'Canadian paper' is no doubt the TRUE WITNESS, and the 'individual' is Dr. Mulcahy. The *Irish World* knows too much about Dr. Mulcahy to take up the cudgels for him.

The London *Daily News* says precautionary measures are manifestly tending to war; that the bringing of native troops to Europe revolutionises Indian military policy; that the place of their landing is a sinister secret, but they may possibly land at some Turkish port, and that a resolute hand is guiding a mystified people to an appointed end. All of which probably means that Lord Beaconsfield is intent on solving the Asian mystery, and that the Indian troops are destined to help in driving the Russians out of Asia Minor.

AN IRISH PEER in this Divorce Court.—A sensational scandal, in which an Irish nobleman and his wife are prominent figures, was for a short time before the Divorce Court on Tuesday. The petitioner is the Earl of Desart, on whose behalf application was made for dissolution of his marriage with Lady Desart, on the ground of her adultery with the respondent, Mr. Suggen, an actor well known in the theatrical world. The hearing of the case was fixed for the Easter sitting. Lord Desart, it will be remembered, has made more than one literary appearance.