

MONTHLY RECORD OF CURRENT EVENTS.

—The Easter Monday Volunteer review in England is this year to be held at Portsmouth.

—Steps are being taken in the Diocese of Huron to provide some memorial to the memory of the late Lord Bishop of Toronto.

—An Imperial ukase has been promulgated which completes the absorption of Poland into Russia as an integral portion of the Empire.

—Mr. Ward Hunt, Chancellor of the Exchequer, has brought in a bill for the purchase of all lines of telegraphs in the Kingdom.

—Hon. Mr. Gray, of New Brunswick, has been appointed by the Dominion Government, arbitrator for the arrangement of the assets and liabilities of the Provinces of Ontario and Quebec.

—We understand that an effort will be made this year to send a Canadian "team" of riflemen to Wimbledon, and that Government will do what they can to further the movement.

—The Prince of Wales will visit Ireland during the Easter holidays. It is intimated the occasion will be signalised by a Royal proclamation granting partial amnesty to political offenders in Ireland.

—The English Government intend to try the experiment of open competition for the carrying of the Ocean Mails, the subsidy to the Cunard Steamers to be withdrawn for that purpose.

—A drover named Sykes was murdered on the Grand Trunk on March 14th. He was induced to leave the car to enter the smoking car, and when passing between them was pounced upon by three ruffians, who first robbed him, and then threw him off the train.

—Fenian attacks upon private residences appear to be getting common in Ireland. In almost every case, however, the ruffians have met with a stout resistance and have been compelled to seek safety in flight.

—The late severe weather was unfortunately attended with considerable suffering and loss of life in Newfoundland. It is stated by the *Newfoundlander* that as many as thirteen persons perished in the snow.

—Among the pensioners who received their pay at Ottawa recently was a man named John Morris, 97 years of age, and so feeble that he had to be helped into the room by his son and daughter. He had, in 1812, served with the old 100th Regiment, at Chippewa, Luudy's Lane, Detroit, Stoney Creek and Queenston Heights.

—A terrible hurricane occurred on the 10th ult., which extended over the greater part of this continent, travelling in a south westerly direction. Our American exchanges contain long accounts of the damage done, more especially in the south west and along the Mississippi. Houses were blown down, cattle destroyed and several persons killed and seriously injured by the fall of buildings.

—Mr. Disraeli's government has been defeated in the House of Commons, on the Irish Church question, by a majority of 60. The following resolutions moved by Mr. Gladstone having been carried:

First,—That in the opinion of this House the Irish Church shall cease to exist as an establishment, due regard being had however for personal interests and the right of property.

Second,—That no personal rights should be created, and that the Commission on the Irish Church should limit its operations to matters of immediate necessity, pending the final action of Parliament upon the whole question.

Third,—That a petition should be presented to the Queen, praying that the church patronage of Ireland be placed at the disposal of Parliament.

—An Imperial pamphlet made its appearance in Paris. The writer after giving a lengthy history of the early popular votes in France, proves from that that the French constitution is based upon the will of the people only, and is changeable only by the vote of the people. He then goes on to review the course of the Emperor toward the people, and contends that in the decrees of 1860 and 1867 wherein certain liberal reforms were guaranteed by the Emperor, it is manifest that he seeks to adopt a policy of progress and liberty. It is said Certe the secretary of the Emperor's cabinet is the author.

ASSASSINATION OF THE HON. THOS. D'ARCY MCGEE.

—At half-past two o'clock on the morning of the 7th April, Hon. Thos. D'Arcy McGee was shot dead by an unknown assassin just as he was entering the door of his lodging house, Thomas Trotter's on Spark street, Ottawa.

The ball entered the neck behind, just at the base of the brain, and a little to the right. It passed through the head, out of the mouth, and lodged in the door—the conical end outwards, knocking two or three of the teeth out in its passage. The hair at the place where the ball entered is singed, showing that the assassin must have been quite close when he committed the deed. Mr. McGee was in the act of opening the door when he was shot. His latch key was in the door from which he fell backwards on the sidewalk. A daughter of Mr. Trotter's was still up, and on going to the door when she heard the shot, found a body lying on the ground. The door was bespattered with blood. The page, her brother, at that moment, arrived. He at once gave the alarm and in about a minute the news was heard at the Russell House, 500 yards distant. The page on going from the Parliament House to his home passed from Wellington to Sparks streets by way of O'Connor street, while Mr. McGee apparently passed down Metcalf street west, to Mrs. Trotter's, which is only a few doors east of O'Connor street, on the south side. The page, when he heard the shot, was at the corner of Wellington and O'Connor street, where the Victoria Hotel stands. He walked down to Sparks street, less than a hundred yards, turned the corner to the east, and when he approached his mother's door saw the body on the sidewalk. He saw no one whatever on the street, although the moon was shining brightly, and he is positive no person ran to the west along Sparks street from the moment the shot was fired.

The glove of the right hand was off, and the walking-stick was under him as he lay on his back. Blood had flowed profusely from the wound and found its way in a wide stream across the sidewalk, which is about fifteen feet wide. His hat, a white one, was stained with blood, but bore no mark of a bullet. Mr. McGee's head must have been inclined slightly towards the door when he was shot, for the mark of the ball is low down on his neck near the collar of his undercoat. The ball carried the cigar which he was smoking into the recess of the doorway and when the girl opened the door it fell at her feet.

Mr. McGee had only finished an admirable speech upon the Nova Scotia question two hours before. In that speech he expressed the loftiest sentiments of loyalty to the crown and devotion to the country. He was earnest in his wish to extend the Olive Branch to the Sister Province in the East, and to consolidate in the bonds of Love and Harmony the Union of these Colonies. He had concluded by expressing his belief that the deep sense of loyalty which exists in Nova Scotia would induce its people to forget their present hostility, and to unite with us in building up on this continent a new nationality, whose future he pictured in the most bright and glowing colors. After the utterance of these hopeful, nay, almost inspired words, the reflection of which only do I now remember, he sat out the remainder of the debate, lingered in the House a few minutes after most of the other members had gone, and then went homeward on his way alone. It would appear as if his assassin must have loitered about the House till his departure, and followed him till he found an opportunity for his hellish deed without fear of observation.

Several persons were arrested on suspicion, but the Coroner's inquest has failed to elicit anything pointing directly to the murderer. On Tuesday, on the meeting of the House, eloquent tributes were paid to the memory of the deceased orator, poet and statesman, and the House adjourned as a mark of respect to him.

Among the parties arrested is a man by the name of Whalen, a tailor by trade, and recently from Montreal. A pistol, corresponding with that from which the shot was evidently fired, was found upon him, and although all the barrels were loaded, one of them bore evidences of having been recently discharged, and reloaded. He almost fainted when arrested, but has since assumed an air of bravado. A funeral service was performed in Ottawa on the remains of the deceased, the funeral cortege being a most imposing one. The body was removed to Montreal on Wednesday by special train.