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THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 7, 1878.

AGENTS.

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THE WEEK.

NEW discoveries in relation to the electric light continue to be made, and a more extensive application of it to useful and practical purposes. A few nights ago, by the help of this wonderful light, a foot ball match was played by two teams belonging to the Sheffield Football Association, in the presence of about thirty thousand people. The spacious grounds on which the match came off were illuminated by four lamps of great brilliancy, thirty feet in height. The whole of the vast space occupied in the game was lighted so that the players could be seen nearly as well as at noonday. Such is the rapid advance made in the application of the electric light that the gas companies have taken the alarm in reference to the permanent security of their property, and gas shares are rapidly going down in the market.

A few days ago alarming reports were in circulation of the disappearance of the celebrated lighthouse on the Eddystone Rock, which is situated about fourteen miles south-west of Plymouth Sound, and which should be, under ordinary circumstances, visible from Plymouth Hoe. The rumor was especially circulated at Plymouth during one particular night, but was afterwards happily discovered to be incorrect. It has however been made known from a careful official examination, that the rock on which the tower is built does actually betray symptoms of being undermined by the force of the waves, and the Trinity House Corporation have already begun the construction of a new lighthouse upon a neighbouring group of rocks, which are twenty-three in number, to supersede the admirable structure of dove-tailed stone masonry, erected with so much skill by Smeaton a hundred and twenty years ago.

King Alfonso desires to save his intended assassin from the death he so justly merits, and which he will doubtless receive. The culprit is twenty-three years of age, and appears to have been weak and silly enough to imagine that had he killed the king, monarchy would have been at an end in that country. A great number of secret societies of the International character are spread throughout Spain; and, like Chartism in Wales and England, Socialism in Germany, Communism in France, and Nihilism in Russia, their object is to uproot monarchy and every other established government, to redistribute territorial possessions and to introduce and spread over the face of the earth a social anarchy, as disastrous to the moral and religious as to the political prosperity of its inhabitants.

The Convention of the Diocese of Michigan have granted an annuity of \$1,500 to their late

Bishop McCoskry. The annuity is to be continued for his life unless some future convention should interfere with it. The bishop is over eighty years of age, with a shattered constitution, and was physically unable to stand his ground. Otherwise his perfect innocence was by no means difficult of proof.

English business troubles appear to be slightly on the increase. The directors of the Colonial Trust Corporation having been charged with publishing misstatements respecting the Company's position, the charges have been investigated, and the Lord Mayor has decided that there was no ground for issuing a summons against these officers.

From Edinburgh we learn that the Lord Advocate has accepted bail in \$75,000 for John Stewart, one of the directors of the City of Glasgow Bank. \$150,000 was subscribed at a private meeting in Glasgow yesterday, for the relief of the shareholders of the City of Glasgow Bank. Five firms gave each \$15,000.

The negotiations between the Vatican and Germany are progressing slowly. Both sides are anxious to arrive at a prompt settlement concerning the dioceses of Alsace and Lorraine, which are still administered as when they belonged to France.

Mount Vesuvius continues spasmodic eruptions. There was an increased discharge of lava on Thursday night, but on Friday the volcano was again quiet.

English operatives are still impressed with the idea that the great remedy for all the ills they suffer and for those which are threatened is—a strike. The Oldham cotton operatives on Saturday unanimously resolved to resist the proposed reduction of ten per cent. in their wages. Twenty thousand hands and eight million spindles will be affected by this action.

It is said that Great Britain has purchased from Portugal, Delagoa Bay, on the eastern coast of Africa, for six hundred thousand pounds.

The fact will be universally gratifying that the epidemic in the Southern States is pretty nearly at an end. The quarantine restrictions at Mobile have been removed. The Board of health at Memphis has passed a resolution to the effect that, the epidemic being at an end, the President be requested to call upon the Governor to withdraw the proclamation of the 15th of May, establishing the quarantine. People are not advised, however, to return to Memphis, as it is not considered safe to do so as yet. At Vicksburg there was one death on the 3rd, and two in the country, with several new cases in the city.

The present state of the Afghanistan question is to the effect that England's ultimatum to the Ameer demands that a reply should be received at Peshawur by the 20th November, or otherwise the British forces will immediately invade Afghanistan.

All political difficulties in the way of the marriage of the Duke of Cumberland with the Princess Thyra, have been removed, and their betrothal is

now an accomplished fact. It is also stated that if the Duke shall retract the manifesto issued after his father's death, in which he asserts his right to the crown of Hanover, Prussia will surrender to him the Guelph moneys.

An Electro-dynamic Light Company has been organized in New York for the purpose of introducing an electric lamp for dwellings. It is said to be of simple construction and to cost about one-fourth the price of gas.

James Gordon Bennett left Paris on Friday night for St. Petersburg en route for Afghanistan, taking with him Van Woistyne, who is to become correspondent for the *Herald* in the event of war.

The Delaware, Lakawanna, and Western Railway, U.S., intends to reduce the laborers' wages from 90 to 75 cents a day, and other wages proportionately.

At the request of Mr. Layard, the British Ambassador, the Porte has telegraphed Ahmet Kaisarli Pasha to evacuate Varna definitively, and to bring the troops and war material to Constantinople.

The London *Observer* semi-officially says it understands that the statement that the British Government have applied to the other Powers for assistance in enforcing the Treaty of Berlin is unfounded.

The appointment of Lord Lorne as Governor of Canada is officially notified in the London *Gazette* of the 15th inst.

It is confidently stated that the port of Alexandria will pass virtually into the hands of England. This is a result, and it is an all-important one, of the Egyptian negotiations. By this arrangement we acquire complete control of the Suez Canal, and the practical effect of recent policy will be that Egypt is transferred from the Khedive to England and France.

The determination of Russia to remain under the walls of Constantinople, the strain she is exerting in Roumelia, the boastful tone of the St. Petersburg press, the hopelessly disorganized state of Turkey, the jealousy of Russia towards Austria, and the scantiness of the news from India, causes the greatest apprehensions in England at the present moment. Foreign politics and British relationship with them, never appear to have stood upon a more uncertain or precarious footing. Every one is looking forward with great anxiety to the next few weeks, for some turn in the state of affairs to take place. Nor is the home prospect either in politics or in commerce considered very bright; but on the contrary, in both respects, it is felt to be unusually depressing.

The Centre Huron election has come off, and Mr. Cartwright has been elected by a majority of 417. It is curiously remarked that there is nothing very surprising in the fact that the Reform constituency should elect a Reform candidate. And Mr. Horton's friends boasted they could have trebled his majority if they had liked. It is an election by a larger majority than was expected; especially after the all but universal condemnation of the late government by the verdict of the