

ference at Fort Walsh, and, alas! for the pride of our neighbors, has been abruptly and disdainfully dismissed. The march of the commissioners was anything but a pleasant one, as they were a couple of days without water. At the border they were met by Col. McLeod and his Canadian escort, and having been cordially received were conducted to Fort Walsh. Sitting Bull had previously expressed very strong objections to meet the commissioners and it was with great difficulty he could be prevailed upon to have anything to say to them, on the ground that he had been so often deceived by the United States authorities and had been told so many lies by them that he had no confidence in them whatever. The conference took place, however, in a large room in the post. Commissioner Terry's address was first read and translated, sentence by sentence, by an interpreter. As might be expected the commissioner expressed the warmest regard for the Indian people, said the President and people of the United States entertained the greatest desire for peace, referred to the kindness that had been extended to the Indians who had given up their arms, said that Sitting Bull's band was the only one of all that were at war a year ago, which had not surrendered, and promised a free pardon if the Sioux would return unarmed, refrain from depredations and war, and go to Agencies. Sitting Bull and his band were not however to be smoothed down with honied words and offers of unlimited immunity. They vowed they would never again return to the United States, whatever might be the nature or the amount of the offers made by the government. They said "there was no blood in the country of the White Mother, and under her protection they wished to remain." Their presence on Canadian territory will be a source of considerable anxiety, until they shall have settled down in quiet and shown by their conduct that they really mean never to return to their former homes, at least with any hostile intention against the government of the United States.

The general issue of the French elections is pretty well known although the official returns have not yet been made. It is pretty certain, however, that of the 533 members now composing the new Chamber of Deputies considerably more than 300 will be opposed to the present government, while the President will be able to count upon the support of more than 200. It turns out, therefore, that each of the rival parties has failed to secure its point. The Duc de Broglie will not have the small majority of fifteen or twenty which his friends predicted for him; nor will M. Gambetta's anticipations be realized, to the effect that the old number of 363 would return to the Chamber augmented to 400. On a division, the present cabinet will doubtless find itself in a minority of at least 100. In the struggle, the Marshall and his friends have employed, to the full extent, all the powers of the Administration, which has had the control of the ballot boxes and of those in whose charge they were placed.

A later account represents the number of

Republicans as 320 and the Conservatives 210; and that the Conservative minority contains 112 Bonapartists and 96 Monarchists. It is understood to be settled that the Cabinet will retire about the 7th of November.

The case of the abduction of Miss Carr by Frederic Sturdy from Guelph to Hamilton has ended by Frederic Sturdy being sentenced to ten years in the penitentiary, and his daughter two years for aiding and abetting in the same. The case is the first of the kind in this country and it has several remarkable features in connection with it. The craziness with which the middle aged widower pursued his object is not more remarkable than the ease with which Miss Carr fell a victim to as clumsy a forgery as ever deceived a woman. It is very remarkable, too, that she should have been silent during the performance of what she represents as a marriage ceremony in which she was forced to be the bride. At the same time the close imprisonment to which she was confined for thirty-six hours, in an empty house, serves to corroborate her statement, and, in our estimation, it fixes upon the prisoners the crime in all its depth and blackness of which the jury found them guilty.

Not much change appears to have taken place in the two principal seats of war. Kars is said to be completely invested. The Russians are also said to have carried the Turkish position of Telische, west of Plevna. A pasha, several officers, seven companies of Turks, and three cannons were captured. The Russians are reported to be at Slatitza, south of the Balkans, in rear of Orchanie. The Porte has issued an order prohibiting the exportation of grain. It is also stated that Lord Derby has instructed the British Ambassador at St. Petersburg to confer with Prince Gortschakoff on the subject of mediation. It seems extremely doubtful, however, whether the time has yet come for anything to be accomplished in that direction. Russia cannot afford to retire half beaten, and Turkey will not yield when half victorious.

THE TWENTY-THIRD SUNDAY AFTER TRINITY.

CHRIST or Cæsar? The question is answered as well in the Epistle as in the Gospel. Our conversation, the whole of our department, is in Heaven, from whence also we look for the Saviour. Even while on earth we conduct ourselves as citizens of the Jerusalem which is above, eternal in the Heavens; showing that the claims of Cæsar when they clash with the demands made upon us by Christ and His Church are to be held in abeyance. The facts that the religion of Christ is spiritual, most of its objects, future and all of them endless in their nature, would lead us to expect that Christianity and civil governments could never come into collision with each other. For the governments of earth are solely concerned with things present, things of the world; although instances have been abundant enough, especially in former days, in which the kings of the

earth and their emissaries have set themselves up as the controllers of things to come as well as of things present. The Church in England and the constitution of the country have in general shown a tolerably just consideration of the respective duties which are owing to Cæsar and to God. Instances will however be found in which it is sufficiently evident that such a union of Church and State as would make the two identical in theory, while in practice it is impossible to recognize the principle, has a tendency to make the Church more worldly than Her Great Head intended her to be, it admits of an interference with the Church's system by men who only regard her as an engine of State policy, and it tends to cramp the operations of the Church within the narrow limits of the action of a nationality. All these evils have at different periods of the history of the Church shown themselves in England. We in Canada have been disestablished, and sacrilegious hands have rapaciously seized and misappropriated property which had been given to God; and how far the free and legitimate action of the Church is still to be interfered with by a government which has made use of every opportunity that has come in its way to proclaim its godlessness has not yet been determined. We await the decision of one or two cases now before the Courts before we can determine this matter. Should the decisions be against us, should it be decided that the civil power still claims the right to dictate our mode of procedure in our internal management, it will clearly be our duty to oppose claims so thoroughly arrogant; and to render unto God the things that are God's, while Cæsar is nevertheless not despoiled of his just rights.

We gather both from the teaching of St. Paul and from the example of Christ that the Church has little to do with politics or questions of secular government. Christianity has flourished in the courts of despotic Cæsars as well as in the hearts of republics; and to him whose citizenship is that belonging to another state of existence, the politics of earth, having an extraordinarily and an unnecessarily ephemeral character, have a value accordingly. Give him security for life and property, freedom in religious worship and in the pursuit of his worldly calling, and one form of government will generally answer his purpose pretty nearly as well as another, unless indeed it be notoriously and incorrigibly corrupt. And yet we shall make a serious mistake if we imagine that Scripture requires anything but unreserved obedience to the powers that be, in all civil matters. Even if a Nero sways the sceptre of an extended dominion, the command is: "Let every soul be subject unto the higher powers, for there is no power but of God; the powers that be are ordained of God"; in exact conformity with which is the Lord's own reply, by which He silenced His enemies when they sought occasion to accuse Him, either to the civil power or to the people: "Render therefore unto Cæsar the things that are Cæsar's, and unto God the things that are God's."