

Russia.

The Tartar nature which underlies the Russian character is not content unless striving for new possessions. Alexander III., who walked in the foar of the shadow of death, who in youth had some taste of the horrors of war, has been credited with resisting the importunities of his warlike advisers. He beheld the power of the alliance between Germany, Austria and Italy, which was a menace and a humiliation to France, and for the sake of peace, the most powerful of autocrats joined hands with the republic. He was a stubborn giant. But now his hand has been withdrawn by death and his son, a weakling in body and intellect, must attempt to take his place.

But though Czar Nicholas becomes the first personage in Russia, there is another position held by the late Czar to which he does not succeed. Alexander III. occupied the first position among the crowned heads of Europe. To this not his son succeeds but William of Germany who patronized the young man, put his hand on the other's shoulder when they stood for a photograph, and chose a wife for him. The new Czar has issued a proclamation in which he makes a solemn vow that he will always make his sole aim the peaceful development of the power and glory of Russia. But the power and glory of Russia demand the occupation of Constantinople. That is the Russian view of it. Ever since Peter the Great Russia's difficulty has been there, and it is probable that before long the weak young Czar, the opposite of what "Nicholas" has heretofore signified, will be forced willy-nilly into breaking his good resolution.

Ulster Wavering.

A recent press cablegram said: "The split among the Irish Unionists over the Land bills is decisive. Mr. Thomas W. Russell, who represents the South Division of Tyrone in the House of Commons, leads the Protestant farmers of Ulster in their adherence to and support of the proposals made by Mr. John Morley. The result is that the Unionist party in Ulster is breaking to pieces, and the landlord party is fighting the farmers. This rupture, it is believed, will enable the Nationalists to secure five of the seats for Ulster at the next general election."

The Orange and coercionist journals in England and Canada are panic-stricken over the split in the Ulster Unionist ranks. The Sentinel declares that "unless the loyal Orangemen are united and strong enough to beat all comers in the next elections, Home Rule will be once more within measurable distance of being carried. It is time the Sentinel, Warder and other lip-loyal bigots should understand that Home Rule and ownership of land are convertible terms in Ireland, and that Orangemen are just as anxious to secure quiet homes with little or no rents to pay as are Catholics.

If the Protestant farmers of Ulster did not see their own interests advanced a big stage in supporting John Morley and his government they would still hold on to their old war cries of

"no surrender" and "keep your powder dry, my boys." Securing one's farm and holding it peaceably, while enjoying all the fruit of one's hard toil—gives more satisfaction and well-being to mind and body, than provoking riots and raiding Catholic houses.

Elections.

In the Northwest Territories the Government has been sustained. The issues involved were not very definite and very often it was simply a choice between the personal qualities of the candidates. The School question does not appear to have figured in any of the campaign addresses. Water and whiskey played their parts though. In one place an irrigation scheme was depended upon for favor, in others prohibition was the dominating topic.

In Belgium the returns show the Catholic party to be returned by a large majority. The Freemason Liberal party has almost passed from existence. The grand master of the order was defeated in Brussels. The political camp is now therefore virtually divided as between the Catholic party and the Socialists. With the policy advocated by Leo XIII. in social matters there should be no difficulty in maintaining good and at the same time progressive government. The Catholics of Belgium have had a steady uphill fight ever since 1867 when the House of Deputies consisted of 108 members only 38 of whom were of the Catholic party. In 1870 the numbers returned were equal. Since then the tide has set toward the Catholics and now the Liberal Freemason party is practically wiped out.

The elections of Tuesday in the United States were a clean sweep for the Republicans. In New York the hitherto invincible Hill succumbed to Morton for Governor and Grant, the Tammany candidate for Mayor was beaten by a combination of Republicans and the advocates of purity in civic government. For the mayoralty the adverse majority in the city was 25,000 while it went only 3,000 against Hill. All over the country there is the same story to be told. In fact the Republicans may be said to have recovered from the set-back received in the elections of 1890 and 1892.

So far the press reports do not indicate the probable influence of the A. P. A. in attaining the result. It is likely that they will take unto themselves much of the credit for Republican victory in many of the states, more particularly where the Catholic press was so vigorous in exposing their transactions. There can be no doubt that they made alliances with not only the Republicans but even in one or two states with the Democrats. The persistence of the Catholic press in demanding from the leaders of both parties assurances that all citizens will be treated alike were to great degree successful. Morton and Saxton for instance made explicit statements of the character required. With the exception of the Catholic Union and Times of Buffalo, the Catholic papers of Republican leaning did not abandon their party, the declarations from the candidates being considered sufficient.

Whatever may have been the share of the under-ground organization in

the Republican success, they are not likely to get public credit for it as the party prefer to accept the victory as an indication of the triumph in 1896 when the presidential election comes on. Even W. L. Wilson the author of the low tariff bill has been left at home. Mr. Cleveland and his party will need to enter at once upon the biggest educative campaign ever known and will in addition require two years of good times before they can hope to retain the reins of power.

Editorial Notes.

The Dundas Banner wants a statue to William Lyon Mackenzie. When Mr. Pirio sees the McGee project progressing nicely he cannot rest easy until the little terror of Tories has been recognized.

The other day at Amsterdam Father De Groot, the first occupant of the new Chair of Thomistic philosophy in the University, was escorted to his position by a Catholic Archbishop and Bishop, together with the entire Council of the University, the burgomaster and nobility of the capital, and the Minister of Education—all Protestants—in official robes.

According to the London Universe Mr. Elliott Lees, the Conservative candidate for Birkenhead, was nicely had during the recent contest. He read a poem sent to him anonymously which he thought very fine, and for which he publicly thanked the unknown author. He then started reading:

Then sail on, O ship of State!
Sail on, O Union, strong and great!
Humanity, with all its fears,
With all its hopes of future years,
Is hanging breathless on thy fate.

Mr. Lees, M.P., is a university graduate, but he is no flyer on the hill of Parnassus. The unknown author is Longfellow, and the lines are to be found at the close of "The Building of the Ships" in the collection known as "The Seaside and the Fireside." The Union referred to is not the parchment union between Great Britain and Ireland, but that entered into honestly and fairly among the States of the Western Republic.

Poor old Li Hung Chang has lived out his reputation. If he had died years ago his reputation would have lasted, but now he is not only hopelessly unable to meet the Japs but is superceded and proclaimed an incompetent rascal.

The Tammany tiger trailing through tough times tumbled terribly and pretty plainly proved a prey to Parkhurst and protection.

China has according to press cablegrams formally admitted to the representatives of the European powers her inability to cope with Japan and has offered to abandon the suzerainty over Corea and to pay a war indemnity. Japan modestly asks the island of Formosa, thirty or forty million pounds sterling and the creation of a buffer state between China and Corea. Organization is working wonders over there.

Labouche's Truth says the Queen is arranging for funeral service at Windsor on the day of the Czar's funeral in St. Petersburg. She will return to Windsor next week.

The Eviction.

Ab, sparo that ould cabin, I first saw the light in it,
Though poor, we were happy by day and by night in it.
Our wants they were small, but the pratie crop sal'ed us,
'Twas thin that the landlord and hunger assailed us,
Ab, don't drive us out while the snow it is fallin',
Whiat, that's the voice of my dyling child callin'.

Out ye go, in the cowlid and snow, his lordship wants his rint,
There's money in cows to pay his carouse, that's the word he sint—
"Out ye go."

Thin wait till my darlin', growin' waker and waker,
Leaves the landlord his land; goes home to her Makor,
The hunger that's on her won't sparo her much longer,
Her pulse it grows wako as the hunger grows stronger.
Av you have a heart, don't turo down the sheolin',
While the mother and child there for moroy are kneelin'.

Out ye go, in the cowlid and snow, his lordship wants his rint,
There's money in cows to pay his carouse, that's the word he sint—
"Out ye go."

Thin I hear by the sound of the winter wind sighin',
I swear by the moans of my darlin' that's dyin',
That a life for a life I'll claim from the villain,
He that won't sparo a child there's a virtue in killin'.
Though my jury ye'll pack, in my death there'll be glory,
When my dead baby's lips will tell God the whole story.

Out ye go, in the cowlid and snow, his lordship wants the rint,
There's money in cows to pay his carouse, that's the word he sint.

—James Connor Roach, in the Pilot.

Efrum.

Whar's Efrum? Whar's Efrum? W'y, do Lawd kin ou'y tell.
I sent him to do woodpile mo'n twenty yeah ergo.
Wherever he's a blin', I hopes he's doin' well,
But he oughter brung dat wood back to he mammy. Yes, dat's so.
An' you knowed him? You knowed him? Well, hit's comfortin' to fin' somebody ez war 'quainted wid my hafrum scary boy;
Hit kinder brings him back into hees pore old mammy's min',
An' makes her t'ink he'll come ergin to bring her olo heart joy.

He allus war a mischief, but dar warn't nuthin' bad
Erbout dat chilo, jist 'captain w'en he'd git some devilment
Into hees haid, an' den he'd up an, make me mon's us mad.
I'ntwell I'd say I'd skin him; but he nebbber cared a cent.
He allus minded mammy, an' he'd do jist w'at she say,
'Captin' 'pon some 'casions he war kinder eortor slow,
An' he do jist w'at she'd wantor ef she let him liab he way;
But he oughter brung dat wood back to he mammy long ergo.

An' so you knowed my Efrum? Lawd bress us! You doan't say!
Hit's twenty long, long yeahs I's been a grieben fur dat boy.
I nebbber kin forget hees prans an' hee rape-kallion way;
I's prayed for him an' weeped fur him, an, ain't hab much ob joy
Senco he went off. Ef I could ketch him now I'd skin him shoah
Fur nebbber bringin' back dat wood.
An' you dat rascal knowed!
He pore ole mammy nebbber will lay eyes on him no moah.
W'at? You is—Sho! You Efrum?
Hush! Lawd bress us, how you's growed!

—Harry J. Shellman, in Harper's Magazine for October.

For half a century a liquor store has existed under a Presbyterian church in Loith, Scotland.

An attempt was made to wreck a Grand Trunk train on Sunday night by piling ties on the track near Belle River.

The people of the States of Oaxaca and Chiapas, Mexico, are anxious for war between Mexico and Guatemala, and volunteer military organizations are being formed throughout these two States in anticipation of the impending war.