

fixed what proved a fatal brand when he dubbed it Orthodox Atheism. Perhaps his clearest title to reverence is that which is mentioned last in Mill's description. It is a sufficient proof of the gratitude due to the originator of Christian socialism that he should have numbered among his devoted adherents such a man as Thomas Hughes. Whether he was right in his special schemes for dispensing with the aid of the capitalist and substituting co-operation for competition is more than doubtful; the result seemed to show that he was not: but there can be no doubt that in his own person and those of his followers he vividly presented at a most critical juncture of the social movement, in opposition to the Communism of envy and hatred, of confiscation and of the guillotine, that other kind which has its place in the heart of every one who has received the teaching of Christ.

A BYSTANDER.

HERE AND THERE.

THE proclamation requesting that June 28th be set aside for the observance of Her Majesty's birthday is causing much dissatisfaction. It would be almost safe to say that had the Queen known this change of date would cause one tithe of the inconvenience actually attending it, she would never have commanded the alteration. Many persons had already made arrangements before the substituted date was announced, and in some towns municipal preparations are too far advanced to permit of their being changed. The celebration is also thrown forward to, and will be lost in, the semi-centennial festivities. The more utilitarian and less loyal citizens are inclined to protest against the declaration as inconsiderate and sentimental. Certainly it is unfortunate.

DESPITE the proclamation just made with regard to the official holiday to be observed as commemorative of the Queen's birthday, there will be no alteration of the original dates fixed for the holding of the Annual Race Meeting of the Ontario Jockey Club, at The Woodbine, namely, Saturday and Monday, the 24th and 26th instant. Nothing is now wanting to ensure the meeting an unqualified success. The number of entries is extremely large, far in excess of former years, and though the proportionate number of acceptances has not been so large as was expected, still the fields will be sufficiently big to guarantee good contests. Reports from the various owners and trainers of the horses likely to be seen on the Woodbine track are satisfactory, and most interesting racing is sure of being witnessed. Five events are set down for decision in the programme of each day. On the first, the Trial Stakes, a three-quarter mile dash, sets the ball a-rolling, with but five entries; but as "Disturbance" and "Lloyd Daly" are both starters, a good race may be expected, which should result in the victory of the aged son of "Terror." The Queen's Plate, which comes second on the list, has the large entry of twenty-two, for which the three-year old "Willie W," own brother to "Princess," is much fancied. The distance is a mile and a half for maidens. The Woodbine Steeplechase, of two and a-half miles, has eleven entries, for which "Gilt Edge" should prove a good thing. The Open Cash Handicap, of one and a-quarter miles, closed with fifteen entries, "Boatman" being top weight; but as he is likely to be an absentee, and as "Springfield" is amongst the non-contents, while "Fanny Wiser" has broken down, the issue should be left between "Scalper" and "Blanton." The Welton Cup, one and a-quarter miles, at present has eight entries, for which "Charlie Weir" looks a good thing. The racing on the second day starts with the Ladies' Purse, of three-quarters of a mile, for which thirteen are nominated. The Queen's Hotel Stakes, of mile heats, has six entries, three of which are entered for the preceding race. The Dominion Handicap, of one and a-quarter miles, has the large entry of twenty-two, with the old rivals "Disturbance" and "Bonnie Bird" at the head of the list, the stallion conceding two pounds to the mare. The Railway Steeplechase, of two and a-half miles, has thirteen entries, of which "Rienzi" and "Chancellor" look well in. The Consolation Selling Stakes brings the meeting to a close. The judges at the race meeting will be Mr. William Hendrie, of Hamilton, Captain Campbell, of Montreal, and Lord Melgund, all gentlemen thoroughly experienced in racing details. His Lordship is no mean performer between the flags himself, for under the name of "Mr. Raleigh," he has carried the well known and popular colours of the white, blue sleeves and cap, to many a well earned victory. *Apropos* of His Lordship's family, several erroneous statements as to whose son he is have lately appeared in Canadian locals. It may here be stated that his father bears the time-honoured title of Earl Minto.

WHATEVER the date of the Toronto Semi-Centennial celebrations, it is the interest of every citizen to see them carried out thoroughly. It is

therefore satisfactory to see that the various committees are now hard at work elaborating the programme of the fêtes, though the announcement that there is considerable difficulty in getting sufficient funds is ominous. Everyone must hope the executive are justified in anticipating the festivities will pass off with *éclat*, but one would naturally suppose that if there were a large amount of popular interest in the matter, the necessary funds would be forthcoming without repeated appeals to the citizens.

THE Adelaide street Skating-rink, Toronto, is in course of transformation, an American firm having rented the premises for roller-skating. A new floor is being put in the covered portion, and it will be surrounded by a raised platform for spectators. The alteration will, it is expected, be completed by about the middle of June, by which time there will be accommodation for several hundred skaters. The proprietors have been very successful in establishing rinks in many of the principal American cities, and promise to provide for Torontonians first class facilities for practising this fascinating recreation. It is asserted that the majority of ladies and gentlemen who try roller skating prefer that amusement to ice-skating, and that it is daily becoming more popular in the States and in England.

A CORRESPONDENT of an English Journal reports that at Vienna the traditional washing of the feet of old people took place at Easter in the great hall of the Burg. The Empress not being in Vienna, the washing of the feet of the twelve old women did not take place, but each of those selected had the dress, the dishes, and the thirty silver coins sent to her house. The twelve old men, several of whom were over ninety years of age, were led to the Emperor and his Court, dressed in old German costume, and seated at the table prepared for them. Headed by Count Kinsky, Chief of the Kitchen Department, pages brought in the four courses, which his Majesty, the Crown Prince and Archdukes set before the old men. The Emperor afterwards performed the ceremony of washing the feet, after which he gave to every old man a bag containing thirty silver coins, and then they were sent home in state carriages.

THE following incidents, copied from Old Country contemporaries, give an idea of the true inwardness of the Beaconsfield-primrose mania in England: A British Museum reader, on the memorable "Primrose Day," on handing his umbrella to the official appointed to take charge of such property, was invited by him to accept a bunch of primroses. Surprised at this civility, the reader asked the reason for it. "Well, sir," answered the custodian, "a gentleman sent up two large basketsful, and asked me to give a bunch to everyone who came in." Another gentleman, thirsting for something besides book-learning, called at one of our large "bars" for a glass of beer, and when paying for it he also was surprised by the Hebe who had served him offering to place a dainty little bunch in his button-hole with her own dainty little hands. "Why this kindness?" he asked. "Oh, you see," was the reply, "an old customer brought us a lot of these bunches, and asked us to give them away to our friends." It is the very irony of fate, surely, that in this apotheosis of the great master of Jingoism and tinsel, his worshippers should be made to offer a crown of pure and simple primroses!

THE Philadelphia *Progress* writes with a breadth of view which is a reproach to many of its older contemporaries as follows:—"This grand Republic of ours, is sometimes called upon to do extraordinary things. After declaring that peoples of all nations were welcome here, we, at the bidding of the Pacific coast, went squarely back upon our principles and shut out the Chinese. Now there are nervous souls who demand that 'there should be an act of Congress, perhaps a constitutional amendment might be necessary, to prevent aliens from holding lands and making the fact of citizenship the prerequisite to the privilege of land tenure' (*Virginia (Nev.) Chronicle*). To the same purport the *Chicago Farm Journal*: 'Why Lord This, and Duke That, and Earl The Other should be permitted to send their ill-gotten pounds over here, and absorb from 100,000 to 2,000,000 acres apiece of our land, through the agency of the land-grabbing monopolies, represented by Huntington and his ilk, hold it for a rise, though contributing nothing toward the improvements which cause that rise, is beyond our comprehension. Let Congress make all haste to pass such laws as will cut this off short.' And *Omaha Bee*: 'If something is not done to check this movement, there will grow up in this country a system of landlordism similar to that existing in the countries of the old world. The landlords will live luxuriously in London and Paris, while the farmers will simply be tenants.' What are we anyhow? What may and may not the foreigner do on our shores? We are mighty particular in recognizing his rights in one respect. He can stand up and publicly preach