

OUR GERMAN LETTER.

LEIPSIK, Nov. 17.

SINCE the last letter which I had the pleasure of sending to THE CHURCH GUARDIAN, the affairs of the German Empire have undergone a great change in every department. A revolution has taken place in our internal as well as external policy, the results of which are at present impossible to foresee. I am not alluding so much to the visible alienation of the Prusso-German policy from that of Russia, and its consequent inclination towards Austria, and even France, as to the change in the conduct of internal affairs. Falk, who was so vaunted by the Liberals, has been obliged to give place to a man of the old-Prussian Conservative school, Herr von Puttkamer. Camphausen and Hobrecht have been succeeded by Ritter, as Finance Minister, a man who, in contrast to his predecessors, tells our Legislative body the truth. No one of our Ministerial offices has remained in the same hands, and we Prussians may say that this is to our advantage. With regard to our late Minister Falk, earnest as were his aims, and such as public education in Prussia owes to his self-sacrificing energy, it cannot be denied that his victories over the Ultramontanes have done some injury to the religious life in the best sense of the word, among Romanists as among Protestants. That portion of the people who loudly applaud every victory, and are practically outside all religious movement, lauded the measures of the energetic Minister to the skies, and saw in him the agent by whose means the gigantic opposition between Romanism and Protestantism was to be reconciled. But they were mistaken; the Romish population remains ungrateful for such benefits, and the Protestants have justly complained that their convictions have been ignored. In consequence, Falk's successor has been urged to abolish the existing so-called "mixed" schools, and to return to the old-tried system of denominational schools. This has already taken place in several instances, to the great indignation of the ultra-liberal speakers in the Reichstag, and the writers for the public journals. Herr von Puttkamer, however, has in these measures as great a majority of national votes on his side, as Prince Bismarck had in his customs-reform. The strong sympathy of the "Prussian" people with the Conservative direction which affairs have taken, and which is condemned as reactionary by the Liberals, is proved by the fact that Conservative representatives form the majority of our Parliament. The General Synod of the Prussian Branch of the Evangelical Church held a Session for a number of weeks at Berlin. Various weighty questions gave it special importance. The melancholy fact of a widespread demoralization, testified by our criminal statistics, which some call a characteristic of our time, furnished matter for important debates and conclusions. I shall return to this subject.

PETER HOBING.

The Watch.

An alarming sickness, said to be the black fever, is reported prevalent at Sillery Cove, Quebec, which seems to deal very summarily with its victims. Two people—Mrs. Jack Hagens and her servant girl—are reported to have died from it within an hour after taking ill, and was buried on Thursday at the church of St. Columba. The Queen, on Monday, at Windsor Castle, received the officers and men who distinguished themselves in the Zulu war, and conferred the Victoria Cross and other decorations on one corporal and three privates of Rorke's Drift garrison. Generals Newdigate, Crealock, Pearson, and other South Africa comrades attended the ceremony. BARRINGTON, N.S., Dec. 8.—Mr. Michael Wrayton, of Emerald Isle, his daughter Cassie, and his son Lovell, and a man named Jacob Sears, of Wood's Harbor, left Shag Harbor for Argyle yesterday morning in a small shallop. The vessel foundered while entering Argyle Sound. The bodies of Mr. Wrayton and his daughter have been recovered. One of the sneak thieves who robbed the office of Assistant Receiver General Fraser, in Toronto, in July of last year, has been arrested by the German police in Frankfurt-on-the-Main, and the stolen notes and bonds found on him will be returned. The German authorities will, it is said, attend to his punishment, so that his extradition will not be necessary.

The French Atlantic cable was landed at Big Lorraine, C. B., at 12 o'clock Saturday last.

His Excellency the Governor of Newfoundland, Sir John H. Glover, and lady, arrived in Halifax in the steamer Caspian from St. John's Nfld., on Friday last.

The Daily News correspondent at Fort Webber, South Africa, reports that the Boers still talk of resistance and that Secocoeni shows no wish to make peace.

Members of the Quebec Government, in town, want to sell the North Shore Railway to the Dominion Government as a link of the Pacific and Intercolonial.

The Liverpool Advance says the Episcopal Church in that town was broken into on Monday last and a quantity of oil and the pall and altar clothes stolen.

We understand that the underwriters of this town have about decided to charge 1 per cent. extra premium on vessels where the masters have their wives on board.—Yarmouth Tribune.

James Hennigar, Upper Kennetcook, last week slaughtered a Grade Durham Heifer, which when dressed weighed 520 lbs. She was two and a half years old and had not been staid fed.—Hr. Herald.

Sir S. L. Tilley left Ottawa for Quebec on Monday, and after inspecting the manufacturing industries of that city, will proceed to New Brunswick. He will also visit Nova Scotia before returning to the Capital.

The Dominion Government has awarded the contract for carrying the mails from Shelburne to Bridgewater (daily) for four years, commencing January 1st, 1880, to the present contractor, Mr. Henry Kilenp.

On Sunday last a serious fire occurred in Troy, N. Y. The losses aggregate \$350,000. 1800 employees, 1500 of whom are girls, are thrown out of employment. It was the largest fire in Troy since 1862.

It is rumored that the committee of the internal economy of the House of Commons, which meets on Monday, will make several changes in the officials. Mr. Patrick, Clerk of the House, will, it is said, be succeeded by J. G. Bourinot.

The Charlottetown New Era says: "We are informed that the portion of the criminals in Queen's County jail destined for safe keeping in Dorchester Penitentiary, are to be removed immediately to Halifax, partly in consequence of the insecurity of their present quarters."

The N. Y. Herald's Dublin correspondent says: Do not be deceived by the reports of intense excitement in Dublin and elsewhere. Save in the West excitement prevails only in limited circles of agitators. The general public merely have taken ordinary interest in the event.

Mr. A. J. Tait, who has already shipped this season 5,000 barrels of potatoes and 20 horses to the West Indies, is now loading a cargo of potatoes in cars, for shipment to Demerara, via Halifax. Mr. Tait is the pioneer in this business in this section of the country, and deserves great credit for the enterprise.—Sackville Post.

The Deputy Minister of the Interior says there is no truth in the sensational despatches sent from Winnipeg in reference to the killing of cattle, and the prospects of an Indian uprising. An official letter was read to-day from Lieut. Governor Laird, in which he states that the Indians are peacefully disposed and that the reports of trouble with the Sioux are unfounded.

A Cairo despatch says information from Massowah represents King John marching forward with the main body of the Abyssinian army and forty guns. It is said he has determined to occupy the districts of Senarr and Galabat, in the Blue territory. He declared that European intervention will not prevent him from enforcing his just claims, including indemnity for past aggressions.

On Monday, the 24th ult., a tornado, accompanied by hail, swept over part of Sydney Mines, carrying everything before it; trees were uprooted, fences destroyed and large stones carried a considerable distance, while a hay stack was lifted completely over a fence. Some children were knocked down and men found it impossible to keep their feet. The water in a pond was raised several feet and dashed to and fro with great violence. The storm came with a terrific noise, as of distant thunder. The oldest inhabitant never beheld such a storm before. Terror fell upon all who witnessed it. On the following morning lightning was experienced in the same locality.—C. B. Times.

Weekly Markets.

Table with columns for Fish, Mackerel, Flour, Cornmeal, Oatmeal, Onions, Beans, Peas, Provisions, SALT from store, Tea, Soap, Candles, &c., and Country Produce. Lists prices for various goods like Large Cod, Small Shore, Flour, etc.

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