

England, France, Russia, Austria and Germany mutually agreed to see carried into effect—certain changes were to be made with regard to Turkish territory. Among others, Dulcigno, which was part of the Albanian sanjak of Scutari, a town of about 8,000 inhabitants, and occupying a bold promontory on the Adriatic, was to be taken from Albania and joined to Montenegro. The Powers have lately informed the Porte that the Treaty must be respected and acted upon. But the people of Dulcigno say they will not change hands; the Montenegrins say they can take forcible possession of Dulcigno, the Albanian army of six thousand men notwithstanding, if only the Turks are kept from interfering. The combined Powers declare that the Turks shall not interfere—or if they do they will find that they have got more than the Montenegrins to deal with—whereupon the Sublime Sickness at Constantinople plucks up the courage of despair, and shakes his fist in the face of the five Powers with a sort of “come-on”-ishness. He sees that he can secure the alliance of the Albanians now, but that if he yields this point, a little later on when the cession of territory to Greece is made he will lose even that little help.

What next? The Turks may as well consider that war is declared, if they have made up their minds to maintain their present resolute attitude. To expect that England and Russia will draw back on account of this senile defiance is to expect what England and Russia will not do. The Turks cannot defend Turkey in Europe for many weeks. It is quite true that if the fleet confined itself to a bombardment of Constantinople it would have a difficult and dangerous task on its hands, for the only approaches to it are by the Bosphorus from the Black sea, and by the Dardanelles from the Mediterranean through the Archipelago. These are narrow straits and easily guarded in these days of great guns and torpedoes; but Austria and Russia will find no difficulty in reaching it by land. To suppose that Turkey can withstand the combined forces of Europe is to suppose the absurd, and it is a consummation devoutly to be desired that the “Sick Man” will maintain his present attitude until his “bag and baggage” and himself have been “checked” for Asia, and a return ticket refused.

The policy of Gambetta is anti-clerical, and the new French Ministry will, as they are doubtless under his control, carry out the anti-Jesuit and other religious decrees. That the expulsion of the Jesuits is not new historically, is to be seen in the case of their expulsion [in 1507 from Venice; in 1708 from Holland; in 1764 from France; in 1767 from Spain; in 1820 from Russia; in 1829 from England; in 1872 from Germany, and in 1873 from Italy. They have also been expelled from several of the South American Republics, and are now outlawed in France. That they have given cause for these expulsions is not to be doubted, and their political intriguing character is well known—for chicanery and double dealing the name of Jesuit has stood as a synonym since the days of Ignatius de Loyola.

It is interesting to read the letters in the New York *Herald* from its correspondent, who is with Lieut. Schwatka's Franklin Search Expedition. On the 26th May, 1845, the “Erebus” and “Terror,” under the command of Franklin, set sail from England. In 1848 the first search expedition set out and others followed, but it was not until 1854 any information was obtained of Sir John Franklin and his 137 companions. In 1857 Capt. McClintock was sent at the expense of Lady Franklin and the information obtained by him was important—particulars of which may be learnt in his very interesting work, “The Voyage of the Fox.” The recent expedition of Lieut. Schwatka, which set sail in 1878 has confirmed the information brought by Vice-Admiral McClintock, and there are now no hopes of any records of the Franklin expedition being recovered. Lieut. Schwatka performed a feat unparalleled in the history of Arctic exploration—namely, he made the longest sledge journey on record, setting out with only a month's provisions, and for nearly a year lived the life of an Esquimaux. He succeeded in recovering the remains of Lieut. Irving of the “Terror,” and has proved himself an explorer, if rash, of high courage and mettle.

EDITOR.

TORONTO AND ABOUT.

I am not by any means vindictive; I have no desire therefore to say anything to hurt the feelings of the proprietors of the *Orange Sentinel*, but in self defence I must allude to the uncalled-for comments of that highly reputable journal upon my article in a recent issue of the SPECTATOR. The *Orange Sentinel* would have it appear that the reporters of our daily papers only, are competent to obtain information and therefore that what comes from any other source than the dailies must necessarily be untrue—I suspect the *Orange Sentinel* publishes very little news that is untrue. I would like to inform the *Orange Sentinel* that it is very possible to obtain reliable information without the aid of reporters, and that there is a bare possibility of important events happening without ever coming under the notice of reporters, numerous as that body of intelligent representatives are. I must reiterate my statement that there was a very serious disturbance upon one of our wharves, and that the stones from the hands of the Y. B's flew pretty freely at one of the steam boats. I would like as amicably as possible to inform the sceptical *Sentinel* that two policemen were very seriously hurt during the scuffles arising out of O. Y. B. trouble, one being pretty well damaged with a chain hurled at him, the other more seriously in another way, so much so as to be unable at present to attend to his duties,—one was bruised at the Queen's wharf, the other on Queen Street. With respect to my giving the names of the boys referred to, or their especial lodges, of course that is out of the question. Having said so much I would politely call the attention of the *Sentinel* to the gentlemanly way in which allusion was made to my article, stopping little short of calling me a liar. But perhaps the least said the better, for I presume the writer was annoyed at the time, still courtesy should always obtain in journalism, and I would advise Mr. Clark to take the hint as he certainly frequently lacks the quality. I would like to call attention to the fact that individually the Orangemen in Toronto are, as a rule, a fine set of men, but as an Order they do not rank by any means so high. Some of Toronto's best men are Orangemen, yet notwithstanding this fact, the Order is occasionally held in contempt, and for the reasons which I have occasionally attempted to show, the *Orange Sentinel* to the contrary notwithstanding. I must confess I was astonished at the *Sentinel's* wrath, the more so as a short time ago I brought down the ire of the Catholic portion of the community on my head. May I ask the proprietors of the *Sentinel* if there is not a possibility of that journal assisting to make the Orange body as bigoted as their Romanist enemies?

Some one kindly called to my remembrance in last week's SPECTATOR a fact which I had apparently forgotten, viz., that Canada is a young country and cannot be expected to make such rapid strides towards perfection as the more advanced countries of the Old World. I had not forgotten it, but I am afraid a great many people have. What is the use of cramming our children with the belief that they are being educated a hundred times better than the children of other countries? What good end can be gained by praising our young students up to the skies, and telling them that their labour gives results equal to the best endeavours of the more proficient scholars and students of the Continent? I do not forget that this is a new country, but I think the officers of the Educational Department, and the patrons of such Societies as the Ontario Society of Artists and the Canadian Academy, are much to blame in not impressing the fact more thoroughly upon the youth of the country that though we have unquestionably made rapid strides, yet we are still far behind the countries of the Old World both in Arts and Sciences. If a healthy spirit of emulation was aroused, no doubt it would greatly tend to encourage the closer study of the Sciences and the higher branches of Art. It is out of reason to suppose that either the Arts or Sciences can be brought to such a degree of excellence with a sparse population of four million souls as with a collected population of thirty or forty millions. Money is power, but we have not got the money in Canada, hence it is folly to suppose we can do, without that all-powerful necessary, what centuries of time and labour have accomplished with its assistance in the Old World.