

Dominion Churchman.

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 29, 1877.

THE WEEK.

THE Duke of Norfolk's marriage with Lady Flora Hastings is an event which has excited considerable attention. It is not alone the rank of the parties immediately concerned, but a number of events and circumstances connected with the history of the families from which they have sprung which causes so much interest to be felt in the matrimonial alliance. The lady is not to be confounded, as a contemporary seems to have imagined, with the Lady Flora Hastings whose premature, lamented death was connected with one of the most unpopular acts of the present Sovereign. At the death of the late Marquis of Hastings, whereby the marquise became extinct, the earldom came to Lady Edith Hastings, who had married Mr. Clifton. From this marriage sprang the Lady Flora Hastings, married last week, who is about twenty years of age. From the persuasion of her cousin, the Marquis of Bute, she turned Romanist, her father objecting to which, she sought sympathy from the Dowager Duchess of Norfolk. Hence the present marriage. The bride is also descended from the Marquis of Hastings, who, as Francis Rawdon, fought at Bunker Hill. The Duke of Norfolk, as Earl Marshal and Hereditary Marshal of England, occupies one of the most prominent positions at the coronation of the Sovereign. The Dukedom dates from the reign of Richard the Third, and is the oldest but one in England. With one exception the Dukedom has always been held by a member of the Roman Catholic Church. The grandfather of the present Duke was so much opposed to the Pope's partitioning England into Roman Catholic dioceses, and to his son's zealous participation in the "Papal aggression," that he left the Roman Church and conformed to the Church of England. The present Duke is quiet and simple, but as staunch a devotee of the Roman heresy as his father. His income is supposed to be a million and a half dollars a year, which is one-fourth less than that of one or two other members of the nobility.

The Fishery Commission has closed its proceedings, after sitting five months at Halifax. The Commissioners were appointed under the Treaty of Washington of the 8th of May, 1871, in order to determine the amount of any compensation which should be given by the Government of the United States to the Government of Great Britain in return for certain privileges granted to the citizens of the United States. On the demand of the United States agent the Commissioners decided that no compensation was to be given for the advantages of procuring bait and supplies and of transshipments. This part of the decision was unanimous. The final award was that five millions and a half of dollars should be given by the United States Government solely for the privilege of fishing within three

miles of our shores for a period of twelve years, five of which have passed. Or rather this sum is found to be due for the balance of the advantage to the United States for the free use of the Canadian waters for fishing, over and above any advantage we may gain in the right of access to the United States coasts, or in the arrangement for reciprocal free markets. From this award the United States Commissioner, E. H. Kellogg, dissents, and he further considers it questionable whether it is competent for the Board to make an award under the Treaty except with the unanimous consent of its members. It is well known that Canadians do not fish in United States waters, nor is the United States our market for fish. Our market is almost wholly a foreign one. And therefore it is contended that whatever we receive should be pure and simple for the value of the in-shore waters to the United States fishing fleet.

Great damage has been done by floods in Western Virginia. Forty-eight hours' incessant rain has washed away railway tracks, bridges, telegraph lines, and a large amount of other property. Some of the rivers are reported twenty-five feet above low water mark, and two feet above the celebrated flood of 1870. At Richmond, Va., the flood rose in the streets at the rate of two feet an hour. Everything bordering on the Dan and Big and Little Sandy Rivers has been washed away. In Danville, the gas works were all submerged, the town in darkness, houses washed away, incalculable damage done, and by the last accounts, the river was still rising. The Potomac and Shenandoah were rising as rapidly as any. The flood of 1870 caused a loss of a hundred thousand dollars to the Canal Company between Lynchburg and Richmond, and an equal disaster with the consequent suspension of traffic threatens to be repeated. It is indeed impossible to estimate the damage. The Amherst bridge, nine hundred feet long, was swept away on Saturday, also two new iron bridges, which cost seventy thousand dollars. The loss of private property in Richmond, Va., is estimated at near half a million dollars.

The death is announced of the late Bishop of Gibraltar, the Right Reverend Walter J. Trower, D. D., at the age of 78 years. He was educated at Eton and Christ Church, Oxford, where he was first-class in Mathematics and second-class in Classics in 1826. He was ordained Deacon in 1829, and Priest in 1832, was afterwards Rector of St. Giles in the Fields, and subsequently of Wiston, Sussex. He was Bishop of Glasgow in 1848, resigned the See in 1859, and was translated to the Bishopric of Gibraltar 1863, this he resigned in 1868, and three years afterwards became Rector of Ashington, Sussex. He was author of several volumes of sermons, "Expositions of the Gospels and Epistles,"

"Similitudes of Holy Scripture," and a "Metrical Psalter."

A United States war vessel, the "Huron," is reported lost. She was a third rate screw steamer of 541 tons, and a displacement of 1,020 tons, having an armament of four guns. She was engaged on a voyage to the south side of Cuba, to determine the latitude and longitude of disputed points, whence she was to return in June. She was comparatively a new vessel, and set sail from New York on the 17th, and went to Hampton Roads, whence she again started, disregarding the storm signals. A fierce storm arose along the coast, the wind blowing at the rate of twenty miles an hour. She appears to have been caught in the height of the gale, and while trying to hold head to wind, her machinery probably gave way, and her sails being useless with such a wind, she drifted ashore. The sea was tremendously high, and being an iron vessel, the Huron soon became a total wreck. Attempts were made to lower the boats, but without avail. The sea made a clear breach over her hull, sweeping her crew into the breakers. In the darkness and the storm, escape was nearly impossible, and only thirty persons out of a total of one hundred and thirty-nine reached the shore alive, and these were in a terribly bruised condition. The surf was full of dead bodies that could not be reached, and the only ones recovered were a few that happened to be washed ashore during the day.

The new ministry in France has been gazetted; the Republicans regard it as short-lived, and say they cannot accept it. Grimaudet de Rochebault is the new President of the Council and Minister of War. He stated in the Senate, that Mac Mahon has entrusted the Ministry to men outside the political struggle, who would faithfully observe the laws and afford the Marshal the support he requires. He said they purpose to respect and require respect for the Republican laws by which they are ruled, and that the constitution will pass intact from them to their successors. Jules Ferry, in the Chamber of Deputies, moved, on behalf of the Left, "That the Chamber considers that the Ministry, by its composition, is a denial of the national rights of Parliamentary law and can only aggravate the crisis, and that the Chamber cannot enter into relations with the Ministry." This adverse motion was carried by 323 against 208. It is believed that the Senate may be summoned to decide whether this vote was constitutional, and it is also anticipated that the Government will call on the Senate to declare positively for or against it. It is likewise said that reliable information leaves no doubt that Mac Mahon intends to ask leave of the Senate to dissolve the Chamber of Deputies, and it is believed the Senate will assent. A dissolution will not be proposed until the Deputies refuse to vote the four direct taxes. It is stated that the

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