

The trade between Great Britain and her Colonies is developing considerably faster than that with foreign countries. The gain in favor of the former is, indeed, three times as great as in the latter during the first quarter of the current year.

It is said that Lord Salisbury's remark, when it was first suggested that Lord Randolph might come back to the Cabinet was: "When you've got a boil on your neck and it has burst, are you likely to be particularly anxious to raise a new one?"

Jerusalem is rapidly becoming again the city of the Jews. In 1880 there were, probably, not more than 5,000 Jews there; now there are more than 30,000. The recent persecutions in Russia have led thousands of them to seek a home in their ancient city.

Two lively fights are on the Irish political programme. That on the Parnell enquiry commission bill, and that on the death of Mandeville in Tullamore jail. It is quite useless to discuss the ins and outs of these questions until the results of enquiry are manifest.

There are rumors of anticipated trouble again in South Africa. The Zulus are aggressive, and the Boers are supposed to be prompting them. If trouble does arise, it will be an utter disgrace to England if she does not deal with it in a manner to put it down once for all, no matter what the cost.

Our late popular Commander in Chief Sir John Edmund Commerell, V.C., G.C.B., has hoisted his flag at Portsmouth, the first of Naval Commands; and Vice Admiral Lethbridge has assumed command at Sheerness. Mr. Herbert Roe, Sir Edmund's Secretary on this station, takes the same position at Portsmouth.

The town of Port au Prince, Hayti, has been almost destroyed by fire. It is a horrible hole at the best, and the fires have very likely been incendiary. By all accounts Hayti is fast relapsing into savagery, as is also the Republic of Liberia on the West coast of Africa. The negro can scarcely be left to himself.

The forthcoming marriage of the youthful Emperor of China will, it is stated, cost not less than 4,000,000 taels. This little bill will, of course, have to be paid by his subjects somehow. Probably the provincial viceroys will be requested to make extraordinary contributions to the Imperial Treasury for the purpose.

One hundred and forty Bishops met at the Pan Anglican Council. The Metropolitan of Canada, the venerable Bishop of Fredericton, was the second senior Prelate present. It is presumed the senior must have been the Rt. Revd. Dr. Austin, Bishop (Metropolitan of the West Indies) of Guiana, whose consecration dates as far back as 1842, Dr. Medley's dating from 1845.

A new departure in steam launches has recently been patented in England. The fuel is kerosene, and the motive power spirit—methylated we believe—which can be heated over and over again. The advantages are: great economy, an almost immediate getting up of steam, freedom from smoke and dirt, and the most compact stowage of the requisites for the motive power.

An English medical expert in electrical science sounds a note of warning about the proposal to execute criminals by that means. He asserts that the appearance of death by electric shock may be illusory, and urges the necessity of subsequent post-mortem examinations, which would certainly be advisable, though there has been no room for doubt in the cases of men killed by the current from electric light wires.

So far as can be gathered from current condensed reports, the visit of the Emperor William to the Czar seems to be promissive of peace. Russia, it is said, even promised to let Bulgaria alone. It would not be at all surprising if the Emperor, at Prince Bismarck's suggestion, should have guaranteed Russia immunity in some of her projects, so that France may remain isolated, and if so, it is much better that it should be so.

A Canadian militia officer, Capt. C. Greivle Harston, of the 10th Royal Grenadiers, Toronto, had the exceptional honor of appointment to the staff of this year's camp at Wimbledon. His duties were especially in connection with the quick firing competitions. The honor was no doubt conferred in recognition of Capt. Harston's services in connection with his magazine attachment invention, as well as out of compliment to the Canadian militia, of which he is a worthy representative.

The Floquet-Boulanger duel has had the effect of pretty well extinguishing the latter mischievous intriguer. That a tried soldier should have been worsted with the sword by a civilian is in reality nothing, especially in France, the land of the rapier, but there is often "much ado about nothing," and the General's reputation is gone. The failure of soldiers, as in Marshal Bazaine's case, when they take to political intrigue, is almost certain. Even the great Duke was not a successful politician, though his wisdom and moderation left their decided mark, especially in curbing the pretensions of the House of Lords.

London *Ironmongery* is responsible for the statement that "The Canadian Government expects to profit from the withdrawal from service of the Australian and New Zealand steamship line trading with San Francisco, which is to take place in November 1888, when the present contract expires. An agent of the Dominion Government is said to have been working up a feeling in favor of abandoning the San Francisco railway route, and taking up the Canadian Pacific route instead. Inducements are held out to the Australian Colonies to adopt this plan. The programme is to run a fortnightly line of fast steamers between Vancouver and Brisbane, Queensland. These steamers would touch at Fiji and transfer New Zealand mails and passengers to a steamer in waiting to receive them. A subsidy of £100,000 is asked for by the Canadian Pacific for this service, to which all the Australian Colonies are expected to contribute."

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