

Dominion Churchman.

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AGENTS.

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THE WEEK.

THE Emperor William has suggested an alliance of European sovereigns for the suppression of revolutionary movements. The proposal appears to have been made when he sent a letter to the Czar congratulating him on his narrow escape from assassination; and he called his attention to the absence of a thorough understanding and united action among the crowned heads of Europe. He said the petty jealousies and antagonisms which subsist between sovereigns had two evil effects: They cause them to maintain armies for the purpose of making war upon each other which causes popular discontent; and they enable criminals who have attempted the lives of sovereigns to escape into other kingdoms and there live in security. It is understood that the Russian Emperor sent copies of the letter to the Emperor Francis of Austria, to the Queen of England, the King of Italy, the King of Belgium, the Sultan, and other sovereigns, and that he has more recently followed it up by proposing an international Holy Alliance of sovereigns against the socialists.

In the Imperial House of Commons, the resolution censuring the Government for increased national expenditure was rejected on Monday night. The numbers were 303 to 230.

The quarter master and commissary departments of the Khyber column are reported as quite broken down at Jellalabad, owing to lack of transportation, and the column is said to be incapacitated for offensive operations. The garrison of Candahar is said to be in a similar position. Every one, from the general down, is said to be tired of a war which brings endless discomforts and little renown.

The Japanese have taken possession of Loo-Choo Island. The Chinese Ambassador has protested and threatened to withdraw his mission.

At the end of last month, preparations were made for the immediate relief of Ekowe. Signals had been made from that place certifying that the breadstuffs were quite exhausted. At any cost, therefore, it was resolved to reopen communication without delay. The advance of the first division had already commenced at the date of the last despatches. The entire force is more than six thousand strong, with two Gatling guns, two 9-pounders, and a number of rocket tubes. The men will have two hundred rounds of ammunition each. Lord Chelmsford himself accompanies the column.

South American affairs are occupying the attention of British statesmen. In the House of Com-

mons Sir Stafford Northcote stated that the Government had been considering the advisability of issuing a proclamation of neutrality in the wars that are raging there or are likely to be so. He said 292 cases of cartridges from America had been landed at Glasgow on the way to Liverpool, addressed to parties in Valparaiso. He said he believed the seizure of these munitions of war was not in his power. He should, perhaps, have remembered the case of the Alabama.

The tariff question is not to be entertained this session in the United States Congress.

The Guano traffic on the Western coast of South America is sadly impeded by the belligerent proceedings of the States in which it is found.

The uprising of the Nihilists in Russia, and the extent to which they have lowered Russian society, continue to be among the most important topics discussed in Europe. The Emperor has proclaimed martial law in six great centres of population, including the cities of Moscow, Kieff, Warsaw, St. Petersburg, Charkoff and Odessa. It is believed that widespread disloyalty exists throughout the empire. Some eight or nine thousand persons suspected of treasonable practices are now in custody.

The entire village of Zerend, in Hungary, has been swept away by a flood in the River Maros, and four other towns are threatened with the same fate. The water at Szegedin has again risen so high that the inhabitants have been obliged to vacate the city.

It is intended to increase the Russian army by 150 battalions. In St. Petersburg one house after another is searched at night, and everyone whose passport is irregular is arrested. The Russian Ambassador at Constantinople is believed to have asked permission to open all letters sent from Constantinople to Russia.

On the "Eastern question" Russia has consented that Eastern Roumelia may call for the assistance of the Ottoman troops if she has the sanction of a bare majority of the International Commission. Russia, however, persists that in the determination of the frontier the Boundary Commission must be unanimous on all questions of principle.

Russian Nihilism, it is claimed, is not so serious a disorder as Communism, for it is understood to mean revolt against political oppression and cruelty. In the United States, where one might suppose there could be no necessity for any such display, Communism is making so much headway that on the 24th eleven hundred communists paraded the streets of Chicago, carrying inflammatory banners. They made a great deal of noise, incurred a considerable amount of ridicule, and went home. Nobody interfered with them, no other disturbance occurred, and all the ardor they felt in pursuit of their visionary scheme evaporated in words and shouts. Our neighbors claim that a free government can afford to permit such parades, as they act as safety valves; and that had the Russian mode of treating Nihilism by sending near ten thousand suspected people to Siberia—been adopted, instead of mere vaporing, there

would have been something which would strike at the foundation of the political system, as is the case in Russia.

The fire by which Clumber House, the seat of the Duke of Newcastle, was nearly destroyed, was disastrous. The beautiful Ionic colonnade has been entirely destroyed, with the breakfast-room and the whole centre of the building. In the small breakfast-room, which was burnt, were paintings by Claude Lorraine, Ruysdael, Jan Mostaert, Vandyke, Teniers, and many others of the old masters; and most of these are saved. Unfortunately, on the previous evening fifteen valuable paintings which have been on exhibition at Burlington House arrived from London, and were placed in the entrance hall to be hung the next morning. Amongst them were four large pictures of poultry, fruit and fish, by Snyders. One of these was burnt, and another almost entirely destroyed, with two landscapes by Zaccarelli, and one by Weenix; these were valued at £25,000. Twenty-four beautiful paintings were fortunately away at the time, having been lent to the Nottingham Art Museum.

On Saturday last President Grevy signed the pardons of three hundred and seven Communists. A pastoral issued by the Archbishop of Aix, which has caused trouble with the Government, declares the object of the war against Christian teaching is to root out religion, unchristianize the world, and win over the youth to the cause of impiety. To prevent this he exhorts Christians to prayer and to every legal mode of resistance. His pastoral is an attack upon Mr. Ferry's Educational Bill. A demand is made for the prosecution of the Archbishop.

From information recently received it would appear that Yakoob Khan is expected to receive Major Cavagnari, and that a peaceful settlement, rendering an advance on Cabul unnecessary, will be the result. Others imagine that Yakoob Khan is protracting the negotiations in order to gain time.

Dr. Wiede, of Zurich, has been arrested on a charge of engaging in a plot to assassinate Queen Victoria and the King and Queen of Italy.

It appears that the English and French agents in Egypt have been instructed to represent that their Governments regard the proper administration of Egypt as indispensable to their interests; and they therefore invite the Khedive to comply as promptly as possible with their demand, and give the portfolios of finance and public works to English and French ministers. The communication does not forbid the Khedive changing his European ministers without the consent of the two Governments. The English and French Government have also notified the Khedive that they have reserved liberty of action on the Sultan's offer to depose him on account of his violation of his engagements. It is expected the Khedive will yield.

We are told by our neighbors across the border that the nationality of that respected gentleman known as "Sitting Bull," has occupied much of their attention, and that the U. S. Secretaries