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# Dominion Churchman.

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 7, 1878.

## THE WEEK.

THE excitement in England in reference to the Eastern question appears to have increased very considerably during the past week. Meetings have been held in various parts of the country with the object of eliciting or expressing public opinion; some on the side of Turkey and Lord Beaconsfield; others on the side of Russia and Lord Carnarvon. We read of none in the sole interest of the Christians of Turkey. When party feeling runs high, the main interests at stake are almost entirely lost sight of; nor is it easy to enlist in the cause of truth and right the same depth of feeling and the same amount of excitement which the leaders of a party can command. Practical as the English mind may be, quiet and staid as may be the usual character of her population, yet after a succession of exciting influences, let the popular feeling once become thoroughly aroused, and its fury spreads over the country like an epidemic, so that no power on earth can restrain it. In reference to the meetings which have recently been held in England, their character is sufficiently indicated by one of the latest telegrams, which states that *no non-partisan meeting has yet been attempted*. An open air meeting of more than 200,000 persons, which was held at Sheffield to oppose the Government, was turned into an anti-Russian demonstration. An amendment to the original resolution was carried by a large majority, declaring that the interests of the empire will be best supported by supporting the foreign policy of the Government. A meeting was also held at the City Terminus Hotel, London, to protest against a supplementary vote. Long before the advertised hour all the adjacent streets and open spaces were filled with crowds which held impromptu meetings in support of the Government. The police were unable to restrain the rioters, who took possession of the Hotel and gutted several of the rooms,—altogether affording a sufficient idea of the weight which ought to be attached to such a movement in so important a matter.

The "three aggrieved parishioners" who complained some time ago of the mode of conducting Divine Service at Christ Church, Wolverhampton, have received the decision of the Archbishop of Canterbury thereupon. His Grace states that having considered the whole circumstances connected with the case including the representations of the aggrieved parishioners, and also having had an interview with the Reverend Edward Glover, Priest, the incumbent of Christ Church, in pursuance of the provisions of the Public Worship Regulation Act of 1874, he is of opinion that proceedings should not be taken against him. In the interview which took place, the Archbishop states that the Rev. Edw. Glover in the clearest manner assured His Grace that he is ready in accordance with the direction contained in the Preface to the

Book of Common Prayer, loyally to submit himself to the decision and order of the Bishop of the Diocese in regard to the matters complained of as to his mode of conducting Divine Service. Therefore his Grace decides that the complainants should, if they care to do so, call upon the Bishop of the Diocese under the general Episcopal powers vested in him as set forth in the Act of Uniformity, enforcing the provisions of the Preface to the Prayer Book, to take order for the quieting and appeasing of all diversity and for the resolution of all doubts concerning the manner how to understand, do, and execute the things contained in the Book of Common Prayer as regards the conduct of Divine Service in Christ Church, Wolverhampton, so that the same order be not contrary to anything contained in the said book.

The recent death of J. W. Bosanquet, late Treasurer of the Society of Biblical Archaeology, has occasioned that valuable Society to sustain a loss almost irreparable, when the abilities, the personal characteristics and the essential aid of that estimable gentleman are taken into consideration. To him the society was indebted for payment of nearly one-half the cost of the *Transactions*, besides liberal assistance in many other ways. Assyriology lost in him one who was, in the words of his rival, Dr. Oppert, "the Mæcenas of Assyriology;" which indeed has not sustained so great a loss since the death of George Smith, who was urged into publicity by his generosity. To his patronage also several of the rising school of Assyriologists owe their introduction to literary notice. Up to the moment of his death, his anxieties were directed towards his favorite pursuit, and on his deathbed he took measures to hasten the publication of the new part of the Society's half-yearly *Transactions*, the pages of which will bear increased testimony to his rare talents as a chronologist, as well as to his extraordinary discretion and courtesy.

The "outlook" on the Eastern question is upon the whole tolerably satisfactory. It is not always safe to attempt to foretell future events; and yet we think it pretty certain that the war is ended. An armistice has been signed by the belligerent powers; and although considerable dissatisfaction appears to be felt among all parties and in all directions, it does not at present appear likely to require any stronger expression than a certain amount of grumbling in order to settle down into a state of quietude. The Russians complain that the Conference is a mere device of the European powers to deprive Russia of all she has gained after a heavy expenditure of blood and treasure, without themselves spending a cent or losing a man. It is also expected that Roumania will refuse to cede Bessarabia to Russia. And further, the general opinion appears to be that Russia's main difficulty after all, in settling the terms of peace, will be with Austria rather than with

England. The Austrians complain that Russia's possession of Bessarabia will give her entire control of the mouths of the Danube. They also contend that the Russian conditions of peace will destroy the Ottoman power in Europe without substituting any thing possessing the requisite guarantees of stability. The smaller States would receive just enough to make them wish for more, while Bulgaria, the largest one, would be merely a Russian dependency. The armistice is generally believed to be for an indefinite time, until peace can be concluded.

It seems pretty certain that a European Conference is to be held but where it is to take place is not so clear. A despatch from the Austrian capital states that formal invitations have been sent to the signatory powers to assemble there; while a telegram from Berlin announces that the Conference is to be held in Brussels.

In the British House of Commons, Mr. Gladstone proposes that instead of a vote of credit being passed an address should be presented to the Crown from both Houses assuring Her Majesty of support in the Conference. In his opinion the armistice removed all apprehension of Turkey's being encouraged by the hope of English aid as it likewise removed the reason for persevering in the vote. He said now there was no apprehension of a Russian occupation of Constantinople, the Government by the menacing attitude they proposed to assume were taking an altogether retrograde step. He admitted the necessity of the House showing some kind of support to the Government before entering the Conference. He would also support the Government in using its influence to induce Russia to relinquish her claim for the retrocession of Bessarabia; also in everything relating to the free navigation of the Danube and in obtaining liberal terms for Turkey as far as is consistent with the interests of Turkey's subjects. The Secretary for War, Mr. Gathorne Hardy, pointed out that the Government were ignorant of the conditions of the armistice, and the Russian armies had reached a point which, if the negotiations failed, might be dangerous for Europe. He reminded the House too that of late years, wars have been sudden and unforeseen. The Russian bases of peace were exceedingly vague, and although the Government had been told the condition relative to the Straits was withdrawn, it still remained. The object of the Government was to secure a permanent and solid peace. Grudging six million pounds now might involve a future expenditure of six hundred millions. Other powers are armed to the teeth, and a single spark might light a fire threatening the best interests of the country. The debate, by the last advices is still going on.

The recent death of Canon Mozley, to which we have already alluded, has drawn attention to the principles involved and set forth in