

appearance and treatment is that they were exposed to a glaring sun and intense heat without ordinary caution being taken to prevent blistering.

THE Electoral Bill which we fully explained last week, and which has been passed by large majorities in both Houses of Congress, was given to President GRANT on Monday last. He signed it and accompanied the notification of its approval with a special message.

GREAT excitement continues in the Basque Provinces concerning conscription, especially in the mining districts of Somorostro and Goldames. Several war steamers have arrived at Bilbao, and been placed at the disposal of the military authorities.

THE loss to the Grand Trunk Railway by the engineers' strike is estimated at half a million dollars. And what is the loss to the country through the stoppage of the mails and the interruption of business?

DISTRESSING accounts are received of scarcity in Pondicherry. A famine is considered imminent. Government will demand a credit of the Chamber for the necessary relief.

THE Powers have agreed not to interfere with the negotiations between Turkey and Servia, unless Turkey's conditions infringe on Servia's rights, as established by treaty.

Efforts are being made to secure the continuance of the subsidies to Nova Scotia and New Brunswick. Yes, and much political capital will be staked on the issue.

MEAT in Canada cannot be called dear when quarters of beef are selling in the Ottawa markets at 3½ cents a pound, and 11 pound turkeys for 60 cents.

#### REV. ALFRED JAMES BRAY.

The Rev. Mr. Bray, whose portrait we give this week, has already, although he has been but a comparatively short time in the country, achieved a reputation as a preacher second to that of no clergyman in the Dominion. Zion Church, with which he has become connected, one of the oldest and the most influential in the Congregational body in Canada, has done an important work in the religious history of Montreal, under the long and able ministry of the Rev. Dr. Wilkes, its loved and now honorary pastor. Its future, under the pastorate of Mr. Bray, promises to be even more remarkable in religious influence, and the congregation, as well as the city of Montreal, are to be congratulated upon his acceptance of the call extended to him. Mr. Bray was born in Cornwall, England, in 1846, and possesses all the characteristics of his native country: the Cornish men, like the old Celts, akin to the Irish and Welsh, being strongly imaginative, poetic and fiery. Early in life, when about sixteen years of age, he was brought under religious influences by the Wesleyan Methodists, and about a year after, began to preach as a local preacher in that body. Strongly impressed with the conviction that he was called to the Divine Ministry, feeling with all its force, like the old Apostle, "Woe is me if I preach not the Gospel," he resolved to become a Wesleyan minister. This resolution was, however, frustrated by disagreements which arose between himself and some of the laity and clergy of that denomination, and he left the body in consequence and joined that of the Congregational. There is little doubt that this step was a fortunate one for himself, as with his peculiar temperament and independence of thought in all matters of faith, he would have found it difficult to submit to the discipline of so conservative a body as the Wesleyans. Unflinching in his conviction of duty to devote himself to the Christian ministry, he went to the Theological College at Bristol, under the presidency of the Rev. Professor Hartland, whose beautiful and amiable daughter he afterwards married. She accompanied him to Canada, and had already installed herself in the affection of all who formed her acquaintance, when the announcement recently of her death created so profound a feeling of sorrow among all classes of our citizens. At Bristol, Mr. Bray achieved remarkable success both as a student and preacher, so much so that at the end of the first term, the Professors strongly recommended him to go to Cheshunt College, London, which is perhaps the foremost among Congregational Colleges. Before his college course was quite completed, he was sent to preach, as a supply, at Cavendish Chapel, Manchester. This church is one of the first Congregational Churches in

England. It is a handsome Gothic edifice, capable of seating two thousand persons, and its congregation comprises many of the wealthiest and most influential families in the city. At the close of the evening service, Mr. Bray was invited to preach again on probation, an invitation which he accepted, and in a short time he received a hearty and unanimous call from the congregation to assume the pastorate of the church. He accepted the call, with a full sense of the responsibility of that acceptance. His predecessors in the pastorate had been Dr. McAll, one of the most eminent of English preachers; Dr. Halley, who left Cavendish Church to become Principal of Highbury College, London, and Dr. Parker, who is the well-known pastor of the City Temple, London. It was no small undertaking to maintain the standard of preaching which such men as these had raised, but for nearly six years Mr. Bray was successful in doing it. He maintained the prestige of the church and the confidence of the congregation, and when at last failing health, the result of overwork, compelled him to sever his connection, he carried with him, in his retirement, the earnest and hearty good wishes of those to whom he had ministered in holy things. He came to Montreal, for a holiday, to recruit his health, and, as our readers are aware, supplied the pulpit of Zion Church for a few weeks with so much acceptance, that he was called to the pastorate and entered upon it during last fall.

As we have said, Mr. Bray has already achieved a remarkable success in this country as a preacher. His inaugural address to his new congregation, which the daily papers published in full, was characterised by a boldness which was almost startling, and attracted universal attention. It gave evidence that whatever he honestly felt, that he would say, whether it quite accorded with orthodox shibboleths or not. His reference to the Eastern question and the Bulgarian atrocities in a subsequent sermon, again attracted attention outside of his own congregation, and his views became the subject of editorial comment in the newspapers throughout the Dominion. In theology Mr. Bray belongs to the advanced liberal school, represented by such men as Maurice and Robertson, and in some respects his views approach those of Beecher. In Manchester he had his battle to fight on this ground, the so-called orthodox thinkers attacking him with great earnestness; but he held his own, and won the respect of the community by his bold outspoken truthfulness. He has at once taken first rank among the preachers of this city, and his efforts to liberalise the theological thought of the Dominion, are likely to be crowned with remarkable success. His style is impassioned and dramatic, his sentences are terse and direct. There is no extravagance of expression. His dialect, which belongs to his native country, adds a charm to his utterances, and he carries his hearers with him by the enthusiasm of conviction which invests his every thought. If his health is preserved, he has undoubtedly a career of great brilliancy and usefulness before him.

#### OUR ILLUSTRATIONS.

THE REV. MR. BRAY.—A memoir of this gentleman will be found in a separate article.

THE LATE MR. MATHEWSON.—A sketch of Mr. Mathewson is printed alongside of his portrait.

FANCY DRESS ENTERTAINMENT AT THE VICTORIA RINK.—For our views on this subject, we refer the reader to the editorial page.

RUSSIAN ARMY IN WINTER QUARTERS.—The sketch represents the winter uniforms of the principal officers of the Russian Army of the South in camp at Kichineff. It is possible—we shall not say probable—that we may hear of this army should hostilities break out between Russia and Turkey.

REVIEW OF THE ROMANIAN ARMY.—In a late number, we gave a series of Roumanian types and uniforms, which we supplement to-day by a view of the army itself passing in review before Prince Charles in the square, at Bucharest, known as the Academy. The equestrian statue to the left of the picture is that of Michael the Brave, one of the heroes of early Roumanian history.

BREAKING THE ICE IN THE DELAWARE.—Our experience in Canada with the *Progress* and the *Northern Light* has accustomed us to the hardships of ice-travel, and we can therefore appreciate the difficulties encountered by people of milder climates when a severe season unexpectedly comes upon them. Our sketch represents an ice-boat clearing the blocks in order to make a passage for an inward-bound oceanic steamer.

THE EASTERN CONFERENCE IN SESSION.—This is a view of this historical body sitting in consultation in the grand chamber of the Admiralty Palace. As we have already published the portraits of the several representatives, our readers will have no difficulty in identifying them. The Admiralty Palace is situated on the left bank of the inner Golden Horn, and ranks high among the finest edifices of its kind in Europe.

THE SNOW BLOCKADE ON LONG ISLAND.—The snow-storm which followed so closely the advent of the New Year was one of the heaviest that have been known for a generation in New York. The road of the Long Island Railway, east of Riverhead, was entirely blocked for nearly a

week, during which time there were six engines and about one hundred men constantly at work clearing the track. As the snow drifted in behind them it was impossible to go back. This retarded the work very greatly, water for the boilers having to be carried in buckets from the nearest dwellings.

THE CARTOON.—On our last page will be found a small cartoon, representing the hostility of Senator Brown and his paper against the Protection policy of the Dominion Board of Trade. At its last annual meeting, just closed, that influential body passed a resolution proposed by Mr. Thomas White, Jr., in favor of protection to native manufactures and industries. That resolution was adopted by the large majority of 24 to 14. A day or two after, the *Toronto Globe* published a slashing article ridiculing the Board, and abusing the resolution in most merciless fashion. Our cartoon depicts this little bit of warfare.

ENTRY OF MOHAMMED II. IN CONSTANTINOPLE.—The determined attitude of the Turks gives a timely significance to this grand picture by Benjamin Constant which attracted an unusual amount of attention in the Paris Salon or Exhibition of 1876. The historical legend is briefly this:—Mohammed II., having learned that Constantinople was in the power of his troops, made his triumphal entry therein, through the Gate of St. Romanus, at noon, on the 29th of May, in the year 1453. He was surrounded by his viziers, his pachas and his guards. And from that event dates one of the most brilliant pages in the annals of Islamism.

EMERSON, MANITOBA.—This is as yet but a small place, but it is only two years old, having been laid out in 1874, and bids fair to become a post of commercial importance. It lies on the eastern bank of the Red River, half a mile from the boundary line, and owes its existence to Fairbanks and Carney who first made a settlement there. It is connected with the St. Vincent Branch of the Union Pacific Railway. Over 3,600,000 feet of lumber passed through there last year. The Mennonites deal largely with its merchants, and there is every reason to believe that, within a very brief period, this little settlement will be the business centre of South Manitoba. Mr. J. E. Tétu, who furnishes us these particulars, is enthusiastic about the resources of the country, predicting for it a great future.

DUFFERIN, MANITOBA.—Our view is only of the Immigration Buildings, but as the town of Dufferin consists of not much else, the designation is not inappropriate. The buildings were erected in 1872, by the Imperial and Dominion Governments jointly, to be used as the general headquarters of the North American Boundary Commission for the determination of the dividing parallel between the United States and Canada. In the winter of 1874, the North-West Mounted Police were stationed there. At that time, also, the buildings were bought from the Imperial Government. They are used by the Immigration agency on the frontier. Connected with the agency is the Government Farm. The agent is Mr. J. E. Tétu, who stands high in the department for his zeal, fidelity and intelligence, and to whom we are indebted for the photographs from which this and the sketch of Emerson were made.

THE GRAND DUKE ALEXIS ON THE SVETLANA.—The frigate *Svetlana*, the flagship of which the Grand Duke Alexis is captain, and his cousin, the Grand Duke Constantine, a midshipman, arrived in Hampton Roads on January 12th, with Admiral Bontajoff, commander of the squadron, on board. It was first thought that the fleet would rendezvous at Port Royal, but the Grand Duke Alexis telegraphed from Madrid that he would sail directly for Norfolk in the *Svetlana*; and in obedience to this dispatch, the steam corvette *Bokator*, of the Imperial Navy, which had arrived at Charleston, was ordered to sail for Hampton Roads, and the Russian Minister and Rear Admiral A. Crawn immediately proceeded there. She immediately saluted Admiral Trenchard, of the United States squadron, stationed there, with fifteen guns, to which the United States steamer *Parthian* responded in the afternoon. The Grand Duke Alexis looks about the same as when previously here, excepting that he wears his whiskers somewhat longer. The Grand Duke Constantine, who is a midshipman on the *Svetlana*, is the son of the Grand Duke Constantine, brother of the Czar and General Admiral of the Russian Navy. He is about sixteen or seventeen years of age.

THE BRITISH CABINET IN COUNCIL.—Our readers will thank us for this engraving which gives a correct view of the Council Chamber in Downing street, and authentic portraits of the Ministers as they sit in Council on the Eastern question. The only absentee is the Marquis of Salisbury, who was doing good work at the Conference of Constantinople. The British Council Room is of good dimensions and absolutely free from luxury of any kind. Every care is taken, of course, to ensure secrecy. Thus, there are double doors and double windows, the latter looking upon St. James Park. A quiet tone pervades the room. The Brussels carpet is neither too new nor too old. The walls are painted a light tint of green, and the two pairs of pillars, with Corinthian capitals, at the further end are white. On the marble mantel-piece are a clock in a plain frame and a date-recorder. Facing each seat at the green, baize-covered table, is a large blotting pad, with pens and ink, for every Minister; and at each end is a stationery-case, well supplied with note-paper and

envelopes. The figures will be easily recognised. On the right hand side sits the Earl of Beaconsfield, having to his left the Earl of Derby, and to his right, Lord Cairns; next to whom is the Duke of Richmond. The chair, at the end of the table nearest the reader, is filled by the Earl of Carnarvon, who is faced by the Right Hon. R. A. Cross; the Ministers on the left hand side of the table being respectively Lord John Manners, the Right Hon. Ward Hunt, Sir Stafford Northcote, and the Right Honorable Gathorne Hardy.

#### THE FREE LANCE.

The average Russian lives on black bread and garlic, and is very strong. And so is the garlic.

Don Luis I., King of Portugal, is engaged in translating "Hamlet" into Portuguese. His Majesty will be careful not to leave out Hamlet.

Vennor talks about a couple of "cold dips" between this and the 15th inst. There is a limit to public magnanimity. Vennor must be careful, or he will get a cold dip himself before long.

Captain Hobbs, alias Comanche Jim, who claims to be a great-grandson of Tecumseh, is lecturing in Kentucky. If old Tecumseh were alive, he would scalp his undutiful grandson.

A paper noticing a late lecture of Mr. Charlton, M. P., says that he is one of the ablest "private members" of the Dominion Parliament. What is a private member of Parliament? Instead of M. P., it should be P. M.

A paper of this city, referring to the visit of Mr. Bird to the Chess Club of Montreal, is generous enough to say that "Mr. Bird is a player of considerable note." Let us be thankful for small favors.

A few years ago, Australia imported a cargo of rabbits for the purpose of freeing the pastures from noxious weeds and fright-nerving mischievous animals from the grain fields. It is now importing weasels for the destruction of the rabbits. What will it next import to destroy the weasels?

Cauchon's velvet cap has got back to the right ear. The papers are congratulating the Government on Pelletier's accession. That is proper enough. But it is forgotten that the appointment is a triumph for the Cauchon wing of the party. Cauchon stock is rising, and no wonder the red tassel sways gracefully forth and back.

Two ladies are conversing on the qualities and demerits of their own fair sex.

Said one, with a twinkle in her beautiful blue eyes:

"I have never known but two women who were really perfect."

"Who was the other?" asked her companion with a smile on her fine thin lip.

LACÉDÉ.

#### PERSONAL.

MR. FLEMING, M. P. for South Waterloo, died at Galt, last week.

BISHOP KELLY, of Newfoundland has resigned his See, owing to ill-health.

MR. MARSHALL has been elected to the New Brunswick Assembly for St. John.

THE Pope's health is again becoming a subject of concern.

MR. PELLETIER has been made Senator, and Minister of Agriculture.

It is reported that Bishop Power, of St. John's Newfoundland, has been appointed to the Archbishopric of Halifax.

JUDGE WILFRED DORION has been appointed to the Superior Court of Quebec in the place of the late Judge Mondelet.

MR. SEWELL writes to Quebec that the winter steamer "Northern Light" is a perfect success, and that her performances have given the utmost satisfaction in Prince Edward Island.

BLANCHET, who has been on trial at St. Hyacinthe, charged with setting fire to that city, has been found guilty, and sentenced to seven years in penitentiary.

#### FASHION NOTES.

BALL dresses are all made to lace in the back.

VEILS with gilt dots some distance apart are fashionable.

OLD-FASHIONED linked sleeve buttons are in vogue again.

TWO large, thick curls are worn on the neck when the hair is dressed high.

THE driest hair is said to be kept glossy if it receives fifty strokes from the brush every night.

"Montague curls" is the name given to the hair scattered about over the forehead in little half moons.

SILK stockings striped with lace insertion are the latest novelties of the Parisian toilette, while many fashionable ladies have their stockings powdered with gold dust, or made of a mixture of silk woven with silver. Lace mittens are taking the place of gloves for balls, and are worn reaching to the elbow, sewn with seed-pearls or ornamented with ribbons and flowers.