

THE LAND WE LIVE IN.

D. THOMAS & CO.,
EDITORS AND PROPRIETORS,
SHERBROOKE, P. Q.

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By the withdrawal of Minister Phelps from the Court of St. James, both countries are now without diplomatic representation. This appears at first sight a question of serious importance. But as the heaviest duties of these Plenipotentiaries Extraordinaries are their attendance at Court and State dinners, their services can be dispensed with, with very little inconvenience on either side.

The death of the Crown Prince of



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(FROM "ADVENTURES OF A CHINAMAN.")

Austria by his own hands, to escape the consequences of some indiscretions on his part, must open the eyes of all to the world's improvements, socially, morally and otherwise. A hundred years ago such acts as led to the Prince's death, were considered the natural concomitants of Court life, and would attract but little attention. It is different to-day.

By the recent elections in Paris, Gen. Boulanger has been elected by a large majority. This man of destiny, has appeared among the people of France as many have done before him, for his country's good or for its destruction. Such men are, however, usually a source of danger to the welfare of their own country, and the peace of nations generally. That

Gen. Boulanger has done nothing special to warrant the confidence now placed upon him by the people, is unquestioned. But then, France cannot exist without her hero, real or imaginary, to look upon as a source of confidence in her coming struggle with Germany, which all admit is but a question of time.

The shooting of a prominent official of the Canadian Pacific Railway, by a discharged employee, caused considerable excitement in railway circles at the time. The culprit, it seems, had frequently threatened the lives of different officials of the road, but no notice was taken of it, as he was supposed to be a little cranky on the subject of shooting, &c., but otherwise considered a harmless individual. Threats of this nature are usually treated too lightly with us.

According to Western etiquette the party threatened is acknowledged the right of shooting his opponent at sight. Though this is scarcely

season be one of unusual weather, as during the present winter, and where are the correctness of their forecasts. If the key of the weather is really discovered as claimed by some of these people, then why in every case is the weather look of the future not opened? We will not dispute the fact of the key being in the hands of the weather prophet, but more or less doubt arises as regards the exact location of the keyhole, and until that is found, we will have to accept the weather as it comes to us in its usual daily instalments.

It seems by recent reports from New York that an airship or balloon has been constructed that can be safely propelled through the air regardless of the wind's direction. At the last trial a high rate of speed was attained against a fourteen knot breeze. Hitherto very little attention has been paid to aerial navigation, which has so far been confined to exhibitions in connection with circuses and such like; though the world may yet see in this respect, one of its greatest inventions. The world of our forefathers with its limited people, was satisfied with its horses, coaches and sails. To-day with its increased population, we have recourse to railways and steamships. In years, or rather centuries to come with its congested population, according to the law of adaptation, further improvements must necessarily follow. Engineers are agreed in the opinion that the speed of the railway train has about reached its maximum, for with friction, only limited speed can be attained. Thus to aerial navigation must we then turn for that increased speed necessary for the requirements of a twenty or twenty-fifth century. An air vessel propelled by electricity, boring its way through space, at the rate of several miles per minute is one of the possible events of the future; inconceivable as the idea may seem at present.

Judgment in the famous Morissette case, which has created so much feeling among the Roman Catholic population of the community, has been lately rendered by the decision of Judge Charland, in favor of the girl's father. The girl Morissette it seems was taken in charge, voluntarily it is claimed, by the Grand Ligne Mission, a French Protestant mission, near St. John's, Que., where she had embraced the Protestant faith. Being a minor, the father, a Catholic, claimed her from the mission, which refused to give her up, the girl also expressing a wish to remain. By the judgment referred to she has to return home with her lawful parent. It is unfortunate that such cases should arise in our mixed community. The feelings of Marisette and his co-religionists can be very well imagined in the matter. The fact of the girl refusing to return, stands for very little. How soon, in a reversed case, would we Protestants attribute undue influence on the part of the girl's advisers. It would have been more advisable for the Mission to have given up the girl, rather than have engendered all this bitterness of feeling, especially as she would soon have reached the age of majority, when she could have returned to the exercise of her adopted faith,

applicable in our law-abiding country still it indicates the seriousness of the matter, which should in every case be severely dealt with by the proper authorities.

The unusual weather experienced since early autumn up to the beginning of the present month, must have put the weather prophets to their wits' end. It is surprising with all their signs and indications from whatever source they are drawn, that the unreasonable weather has, so far, never been correctly foretold. The average almanac, if carefully perused, is found to contain for each season, its ordinary weather. Thus, summer is foretold its heat and storms, autumn its rains and gales, winter its snows and cold, but let