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Dominion Churchman.

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 11, 1877.

In answer to numerous inquiries in reference to our Premium Photograph, we beg to state that subscribers who have already paid a part of their subscription for next year will have to pay for the remaining part of the year 1878, and fifty cents additional, in order to entitle them to the photograph. The price of the photograph, if ordered separately, is Two Dollars.

THE WEEK.

THE Special Correspondents of the English newspapers have done good work and have earned a well merited reputation during the present war. No doubt, a few of them see matters through the colour of their employers' glasses, but, as a rule, they are singularly impartial and accurate, whilst their graphic delineations of events as they pass in quick succession before them is only equalled by the ingenious and expensive rapidity with which descriptions, written often under fire or, at least, in the extremest discomfort, are flashed across the Continent for the benefit of English readers. An account of the recent attacks on Plevna is a master-piece of graphic description. We seem to hear on the right of the Russian lines the cannonade that thundered incessantly for two hours as a prelude to the advance of the storming party. Then, as the fog lifts, we see a mass of Russian soldiers suddenly rising from a field of Indian corn, and rushing forward with a shout; for a moment the Turkish entrenchments are silent, then they are alive with a flame from thousands of rifles. Onward through the leaden hail presses the attacking force; just to view is a slight depression, soon again struggling up the opposite bank. The faint column almost annihilated is followed by another. If wave follows wave, the prize must be won; but at the critical moment no reserves are forthcoming; the survivors struggle back to the cornfield, leaving the slope literally covered with bodies. Then when it is too late, two more regiments are pushed forward. We see them go, singing cheerily to the music of their bands, up the sheltered hill side; but after crossing the crest, exactly the same programme is repeated, the same useless slaughter follows, ending in the same repulse.

On the left of the line, General Skobelev profits by the lesson of General Kriloff's failure. He hurls his men, regiment after regiment, wave after wave, against the entrenchments, and at last, by putting himself at the head of his last reserves, he wins the much-coveted earthwork. But, once gained, it is found to be untenable. Skobelev appeals in

vain for reinforcements. All next day he holds his position against immense odds, but towards evening, aid being withheld, he is compelled to relinquish it, and when night falls the two armies are in the same relative position as before the attack commenced. In this fruitless fighting, Skobelev lost 2000 men in attacking and 3000 in defending the redoubts. The loss in Kriloff's attack is not given, but it, with the loss on the Turkish side, would bring up the total to above 8000 killed and wounded. It is said that Sulieman Pasha lost 10,000 men in his attack on Fort Nicholas in the Shipka Pass, a position which he did take but which he had immediately to evacuate. When we consider that these are merely incidents in the campaign, that day by day attacks are made and repulsed, that the slaughter, if not daily, on this frightful scale, is yet incessant, surely it is not too soon that the Bishop of Winchester has drawn up, and the Archbishop of Canterbury has sanctioned the use of, a form of prayer having special reference to this fearful war and to the famine in India.

That the Governor General has left pleasant memories behind him in Manitoba is only to say that Lord Dufferin has proved himself as genial, shrewd, and clever there as in other parts of the Dominion. His Excellency's farewell speech at Winnipeg is on a par with his other utterances on similar occasions. But it is not only for wit, for jocose references to Colorado beetles and grasshoppers, that his after-dinner speeches are remarkable. Throughout them there is an undercurrent of strong sense and breadth of view, there is a genial sarcasm at the comparatively trifling matters out of which we laboriously concoct our great political questions, there is an incitement to Canadians to love and appreciate their country, and to sink their petty differences in an honest ambition to labour for that country's good. It is in the attrition of parties, the rubbing off of the sharp prickles of religious and political animosities which necessarily results from the commingling of antagonistic forces on neutral ground that the chief good lies of visits paid by a Governor to different sections of his kingdom. Of the useful opportunities thus afforded no one knows better than the Governor General how to make the best account, and it may safely be asserted that wherever he has been—and he has now been everywhere in the Dominion except to Mount Laird and the North Pole—words of encouragement have been dropped, higher aspirations have been fostered, bitterness has been sweetened, roughness has been smoothed, and everywhere His Excellency has left men more charitable than before towards their opponents, satisfied with their lot,

enthusiastic about their country and—Lord Dufferin.

There may be differences of opinion as to the peculiar fitness of Bishop Piers Claughton for the post of Chaplain-General to the Army, for an army chaplain, still more a chaplain-general, requires some very peculiar qualifications for the fit discharge of his duties; but it is a clear gain that the religious superintendence of the army should be placed in Episcopal hands. An effort is now being made to obtain a similar advantage for the navy. A naval chaplain is under enormous disadvantages. Individual chaplains and individual captains have done much for particular ship's crews, only to make it more conspicuous how dull and deadly quiet is the repose of the religion provided by officialism. There is absolutely no excuse for the apathy shown by the Admiralty in providing churches and attractive services ashore at all the large naval stations. When it is seen what has been done for the soldiers by the enthusiastic labors of such men as Mr. Edghill at Halifax, and, on a larger scale at Aldershot, it cannot be doubted that similar effects would be produced by similar means among sailors, if only "My Lords" would themselves get up a little enthusiasm on the subject, or at least entrust the task of awakening religious life in the navy to competent hands. It is not possible always to command the services of a Selwyn or a Venables, but many Colonial Bishops become sailors for the necessity of their venturesome lives, and some such men could readily be found for the position which it is now proposed to establish.

Men's attention has been so monopolized of late by war, their talk has been so exclusively of Plevna and the Balkans, that social matters have to a great extent been lost sight of. Had the time been one of peace, the strike and labor trouble would have commanded more attention than has been bestowed upon it. The voice of Socialism, which has been silent or ignored for some time, has again made itself heard in congresses of the two parties into which the professions of that creed are divided, held at Ghent and Venice respectively. The policy advocated by those meeting at the latter place is thus summarized by "a member:" the expropriation of the owners of all capital and the abolition of individual property; all soil, buildings, capital, fabrics, &c., having to be made collective property of groups of laborers. Each kind of State, each kind of representative Government, must be abolished; society must be a net of federations of laborers, united together for their special needs and the special purposes they propose to reach. To attain an ideal Kosmos these