

the Suez Canal shares which belonged to the Khedive of Egypt. The representations addressed to the Chinese Government as to an attack made last year on an expedition sent from Burmah to the Western Provinces of China, are mentioned as having been received in a friendly spirit, and the lamentable outrage in now the subject of inquiry. Her Majesty expresses great satisfaction at the uninterrupted good health of the Prince of Wales, and at the hearty affection with which he has been received by all classes, conveying the assurance that they are happy under her rule, and loyal to her Throne. When the direct Government of the Indian Empire was transferred to the Crown, no formal addition was made to the style and title of the Sovereign. A bill is to be introduced on the subject. A Royal Commission is also to be issued to inquire into all treaty engagements and other obligations, so that steps may be taken that British national ships may act in harmony with the policy pursued by England in putting an end to slavery. A Bill is to be introduced to punish slave traders who are subjects of native Indian princes. Papers are to be introduced in reference to the conference of the South African Colonies and States. Her Majesty also states that she trusts order is restored in Malacca, since the interference of her troops, consequent upon the murder of a high officer in the Straits Settlements.

Bills are to be introduced regulating an ultimate tribunal of appeal, and for the amendment of the merchant shipping laws. Her Majesty also stated that Acts would be introduced relating to the Universities and primary education, the economical management of prisoners so as to relieve local burdens, and other important matters.

TURKEY.

The British Government has resolved to give a general support to the Austrian Note from Count Andrassy, which had already obtained the approval of Russia and Prussia. In this the Government undertakes only the moral obligation to aid the other powers in giving effect to the principle of the Note, which is, to restore tranquillity to the disturbed districts, and to obtain and perpetuate the proposed reforms. But with regard to the measures which it may be deemed advisable to adopt, England reserves to herself complete liberty of judgment. The integrity of the Ottoman empire appears to be as much a point of fundamental importance as ever. It is evident that England could not possibly stand aloof in any attempt made for the regeneration of Turkey, even though her right of way through Egypt appears to be secured. A decided position ought however to be assumed, and that speedily. Some of the fairest lands beneath the sun have long been given up to Moslem rapacity and oppression, and the time has surely come when the Christian inhabitants should be able to claim some security for life and liberty. To be satisfied with merely giving a

moral sanction to a harmless note will leave the matter just where it has been for many years past. We are therefore unable to acquiesce entirely in the remarks of the *London Times* when it says:—"We may be content for the present to know that our Government has neither declined its responsibilities nor committed itself to any objectionable principle or enterprise. We may hope that its influence, opportunely exerted, may remove the difficulties which beset the task of pacification." Two provinces, Herzegovina and Bosnia, are already in open revolt, and the others are ready to break out as soon as the opportune moment shall arrive; and it is said, probably with as much truth as any thing that has been said on the subject, that we may at once lay down the principle that, should experiment prove the necessity of constructing an independent administration, the precedent of Servia should be borne in mind, and the new Province should be assimilated to that principality in its political relations. It is supposed that in this case, entering upon its course under the protection of Europe, it would have at least as good a chance of improvement, social and political, as if it had been brought within the pale of any military monarchy, or placed under a special protectorate. It appears that the decision of the English Government was awaited with intense anxiety.

By a PRIVATE LETTER, we are happy to hear from our old friend, the Rev. Richard Harrison, who is known to many of our readers as the energetic Incumbent of St. Matthias, Toronto, of which parish he was the founder. Mr. Harrison was obliged to leave his post some months ago, from ill health; and being advised to try a change of climate, he went to England. We are glad to learn that the experiment has resulted in a decided improvement in his health. Having obtained temporary employment there, he may not return to Canada for some months. While regretting his absence, (and our Church can ill spare such men at this time,) it is satisfactory to hope we may soon again have the benefit of his labors among us. In the meantime, we wish him all happiness and success in his new field of duty. Mr. Harrison's present address is:—Cozycot, Upper Stratton, Swindon, Wilts, England.

THE BURIAL question, which is agitating the mind of the public in England in reference to the use of the Churchyard by others than clergymen of the Church, may receive some illustration from one or two historical facts, which have been brought prominently forward in the present controversy. The freehold of the churchyard is very well known to be vested in the rector just as well as the Church, including the nave, chancel, and all. It is likewise a fact that churchyards were assigned by their donor as precincts of the Church, intended to be kept sacred from all

secular uses, and were not intended to be used as burial places for the parishioners. For a long time burial in churchyards in England was illegal, being contrary to ecclesiastical law, although sometimes permitted as a special privilege. In the course of time, however, such burials became customary, on the payment of fees to the incumbent as owner of the freehold; but it is very certain that burial of the parishioners formed no part of the use to which churchyards were originally intended to be applied. In a considerable number of populous parishes, burials have again become illegal by special acts of parliament, public cemeteries being provided for that purpose, and having certain portions set off and consecrated for the special use of the Church of England.

A NEW RECIPROCITY TREATY, we regret to find, is one of the subjects now agitated by the Dominion Board of Trade. We believe that our relations with the United States are quite close enough, whether politically, commercially, ecclesiastically, religiously, or, as some recent cases have forced their baneful character upon our attention—we would add morally. We have the testimony of those who are intimately acquainted with the subject, that any closer commercial relations with the United States during the last two or three years would have been most disastrous to Canada; and we may be very certain that no reciprocity treaty will be agreed to by our neighbours which is not far more advantageous to them than to us. We called attention a short time ago to the West India trade, and since that time we have obtained information upon the subject from residents of those islands which shows that we did not speak strongly enough about it, that it is almost impossible to overrate its importance to the whole of Canada, and that to cultivate that trade will be infinitely more serviceable to us than the best reciprocity treaty we can ever expect from the United States. There is not an article raised, or that can be produced in Canada, that would not find a ready market in the West Indies at highly remunerative prices. The West India Trade, we are informed, is a source of enormous profit to the United States; and we are sure that the merchants of Montreal and the shipping interest of the Maritime Provinces cannot do better than turn their attention to the subject at once.

REVERDY JOHNSON, the distinguished jurist and statesman in the United States, was found dead, Feb. 10th, in the yard of the Executive Mansion, at Annapolis, Ind., he being that evening the guest of Governor Carroll.

THE Right Hon. Sir John Taylor Coleridge, nephew of Samuel Taylor Coleridge, died Feb. 11th, at the age of eighty-six. His abilities were unusually great; he edited at one time, the *Quarterly Review*, published an edition of "Blackstone's Commentaries," and was for some time one of the Judges of the Court of Queen's Bench. He was uncle of Bishop Patteson, who was murdered in the Melanesian Archipelago.