

and M. Dulac, a police commissary, duly presented themselves at the door and requested admittance in the name of the law. The outer door was opened, and the two officials found themselves in the lobby before the porter's little glass retreat, where the Superior of the convent, Père Pitot, was sitting, with one or two of his friends. The police agents read the decree ordering the closing of the convent, and requested the inner doors to be opened. This was refused both by Père Pitot and Baron de Ravignan, the latter as director of the lay society owning the premises, who protested against the action of the police as an illegal violation of that right of domicile enjoyed by all Frenchmen, and declared that they would only yield to compulsion. M. Clement accordingly sent for a locksmith, who broke open the inner door, and then M. de Ravignan, calling attention to the fact that force had been employed, said that it was useless to waste any more time, and volunteered to guide the police to the various cells. At each cell the police halted, and summoned its inmate to quit the building; and as one and all refused to comply, the police took each brother gently by the shoulders in turn; and this being regarded as sufficient compulsion, he then shouldered his packet of clothing and left, being generally accompanied by some Deputy or Senator of the Right, of whom several were present during the proceedings. The scene in the street outside was exceedingly animated, though in no way disorderly. A great crowd had congregated to see the Jesuits leave the building, and as each brother passed out, many of the bystanders knelt and asked for a blessing.

LORD DUFFERIN AT ST. PETERSBURG.

The other day Lord Dufferin, the English ambassador, called on his French confrere, Gen. Chanzy, and coldly put to him this question: "How on earth do you manage to kill time here?" From this simple anecdote you may gather some idea of the present state of the Russian capital. The English ambassador is boring himself to death here, and that is saying a good deal, for never in my life did I meet a man who knew how to wile away a dreary day better than Lord Dufferin. To begin with, the ex-governor of Canada is an unwearying worker. He has under him two or three young gentlemen who do nothing but run after each other—in other words, who do nothing. His excellency employs no one but his private secretary, who sleeps in his neighbourhood, and whom he calls up pitilessly at all hours of the night whenever he has an idea which he thinks needs jotting down on paper. From the moment they arrived Lord and Lady Dufferin assumed a prominent place in society here. While the other ambassadors in St. Petersburg have contented themselves with very mixed society, Lord and Lady Dufferin have entertained none but the most aristocratic and select. So exclusive are his receptions that even some members of the diplomatic corps are not admitted to the more private ones. The Dufferin receptions have been much talked of naturally, especially in connection with the charades that are acted at them. The host himself is the central figure of these entertainments. He throws himself into the thing with the greatest ardor. One day, for instance, he welcomed his guests in the costume of a cupid—pink tights, wings and quiver, all complete. On another occasion he donned a Scotch costume and appeared bare-legged. In some charade or other it was one night necessary to work in the word "river." Lord Dufferin calmly piled up two heaps of chairs climbed to the top of one of them, took off his dress coat, waistcoat, and white necktie, threw himself flat on the floor, and began moving his arms and legs about frantically, like a swimmer in distress. He then got up and beckoning to the band to strike up opened the ball in a waltz with Lady Dufferin. The originality of these entertainments and the systematic exclusion of all outside the pale of the most aristocratic society in the empire made a great sensation. But singular accidents happen even in the most aristocratic Russian circles. One day Lady Manclair, the wife of one of Lord Dufferin's secretaries, dropped a jewel worth about \$5,000, at an embassy reception. It was never found. You may imagine what satisfaction the non-elect got out of this story. A very similar affair took place during the transfer of the body of the Empress to the fortress. A court dignitary who was present in the little cathedral suddenly missed his gold watch and chain. None but the highest court personages were in the church, and yet, curiously enough, the missing trinkets never reappeared any more than Lady Manclair's jewel. I should not have heard any more about them had I not been casually informed one day by a weary soldier who asked me to pay the cost of the ferry across the river for him that he was the bearer of a warrant for the arrest of an officer in the guards for this very theft.

TO PREVENT DROWNING.

A Wesleyan minister, the Rev. W. Cowell Brown, has patented, says the Sheffield (Eng.) Telegraph, an invention which appears to be a simple and practical means of lessening the number of deaths by drowning. A chemical preparation is inserted in a portion of the coat, waistcoat, or dress. It does not add to the weight or in any way alter the appearance of the garment. The preparation is inserted between the lining and the cloth; in the case of a coat, it is placed on each side of the breast and up the back. The moment a man falls into the water the

coat inflates, and he cannot keep his head under the waves. The invention was practically tested at the swimming bath of the Sheffield Bath Company. First, two small pieces of linen, with part of the preparation inserted between the folds, were thrown into the water. The linen instantly inflated so as to form a miniature cushion and floated about the bath. An attendant of the company then put on a coat with the preparation inserted in it. He first went under a shower-bath, where he was thoroughly drenched, to show that inflation would not take place under the ordinary circumstances of a shower. Under the shower-bath the coat did not alter its proportions in any way whatever. The attendant then took a "header" into the water. He reappeared at the surface almost immediately, and the coat promptly inflated. Entering a part of the bath deep enough to take him up to the eyes, he could not touch bottom at all, and the water scarcely reached his chin. By a struggle he dived partly beneath the surface, but came up again instantly. Divesting himself of the garment, it floated about the bath till it was taken out. The inventor then attached a piece of lead weighing three pounds to his appliance, which presents the appearance of a short, light sleeve, or lining, and threw it into the water. The sleeve on touching the water instantly expanded like a small bolster, and floated about the bath well out of the water, sustaining the lead weight till both were fished out. The experiments were as interesting as they were successful. The inventor states that his apparatus, which would simply form an additional lining inserted in a portion of the garment, would sustain a person in the water as long as he could possibly endure the exposure. For 45 or 50 hours it would be effective for its purpose. In the event of a person losing consciousness, the lining in the back would form a kind of bed, and that in the breast a pair of pillows, against which his head would rest.

GENERAL SHERMAN AND THE NORTH-WEST.

The story may be freely reproduced as follows: Proceeding to St. Paul via Chicago, General Sherman and party reached St. Cloud, or old Sauk Rapids, over the St. Paul and Manitoba Railroad, and continuing west and north-westwardly till they reached the railroad running due north, down and along the Red River of the North to Winnipeg in the British possessions. Winnipeg is the capital and contains a population of 12,000. And is the centre of the newly developed region, the Province of Manitoba. On arriving there Governor Cauchon received the General with military and civil honours, taking him to his house, where he remained as his civil and military guest about three days. Governor Cauchon is about 64 years of age, a French-Canadian, and a man long associated with public life in Canada. He is exactly similar in appearance, the General said, to the Creoles of St. Louis and New Orleans. He is a man of intelligence and undoubted merit. He is just as familiar with our customs, manners and institutions as any citizen of the United States. So far as being under any control by the British Home Government, he is as independent as the Governor of Missouri. He is an appointee of the Governor-General at Ottawa, holds his office for five years, and has his advisers, or civil cabinet, just like the Governors of our States. All his cabinet are men of intelligence and natives of the Province of Manitoba. He looks forward to the time when he will retire and be relieved from the cares of office, as he is the owner of large landed estates, and is living with his third wife, a young lady of Ottawa.

The Government is a good one, economically and honestly conducted, and apparently as free as this country. All the officials are elective except the Governor-General and the Governors of the Provinces, and perhaps the judiciary, which the General was not certain about. As to any talk of annexation, there is none. There is no more talk of annexation to the United States than there is of the annexation of the United States to Canada.

Sitting Bull is out in the Wood mountains, about 800 miles west of Winnipeg. The people there have no more faith in him than we have on this side of the line. The military police have charge of the Indians. Col. McCloud and Major Walsh of the military police have the right to try and punish Indians for individual crimes, the same as the courts do, and the consequence is they can punish the very Indians who commit any offence, instead of punishing a tribe as we do.

ECHOES FROM PARIS.

MR. JAMES GORDON BENNETT, the proprietor of the New York Herald, is preparing for a very curious match. He has offered to shoot pigeons against M. Dorlodot, a Belgian, in the Bois de Boulogne, for £1,000. The betting at present is on the Belgian.

M. MOLIER, a wealthy young gentleman who moves in fashionable French society, and who is known as the possessor of a private circus gave a fête in that establishment. There was a large attendance of *gens du monde*, sportsmen and actresses, and the performances of the amateur troupe brought together by M. Moliere, passed off very successfully, the night ending at a rather advanced hour in the next morning by a dance and a rather curious collation, composed

of *soup aux choux* (cabbage soup) and unlimited champagne.

AMONG the Jesuits of Paris dispersed was one named Forbes; this is also the name of the pastor of the church of the English Embassy, and who has just been presented with some silver souvenirs on his leaving for England. The subscribers indignantly inform a French journal, which made a confusion in the names, that their Forbes had no connection with the house over the way. Jesuit Forbes was once an officer in the Indian Army, who during a serious illness promised his mother, a Catholic, to become a Jesuit if he recovered.

A MR. GASTALDONI, of Vincenza, has invented a new pianoforte, which can make the sound of each key last as long as the player wishes, just like a violin, flute, or any other instrument, violin or not. And yet it is not an organ, but only a pianoforte. Liszt, Rubinstein, and other great pianists, are quite enthusiastic over this invention, and say that quite a new era in pianoforte playing begins with it. The Government, also, and the Royal Family are encouraging the inventor, though he will probably have to go to England and America with it if he wishes to make any profit by it during his life. There would be plenty of inventors in Italy if there were more encouragement for them.

AN enterprise of a novel kind. M. Dignat, evidently a practical manager, has left Paris for Brussels, with a Theatre, all ready constructed and ingeniously packed in boxes, comprising lustres and seats, which can be put together and taken asunder in forty-eight hours. It was constructed by M. Godin, and the decorations are by M. Robecchi, who has also painted for it five panoramas each, nearly a mile and a quarter long, representing "Nordenskjöld's Voyage," "The Coal and Iron Age," "20,000 Leagues Under the Sea" (from Jules Verne's book), and "Paris by Day and by Night." Now that panoramas are becoming all the rage, this idea might be taken up and improved on.

DURING the siege of Paris, Sarah Bernhardt and Marie Roze were foremost among the heroic women, who devoted their means and energies in organizing relief for the sick and wounded. On one occasion, when Marie Roze had rendered the ambulance, under Sarah Bernhardt's charge, a particular service, she received a most characteristic letter from Bernhardt of which the following is a translation:—"L'Ambulance de l'Odeon. Dear charming artiste,—Thanks in the name of my wounded! If ever you have need of me, count on my true gratitude.—your admirer, Sarah Bernhardt." After the peace was declared, both Sarah Bernhardt and Marie Roze received the bronze medal and diploma of thanks from the Geneva Convention; and, in addition, a medal from the City of Paris for distinguished services.

AN extraordinary statement appears in the *Journal de Tribunaux*. A train arrived at Metz had for one of its passengers a *quasi courrier* from the Emperor of Russia. One of the officials of the French Custom House noticed that the traveller's baggage was very extensive for an imperial courier, and insisted on a search. Couriers from the Sovereigns of Europe, it should be stated are free from being thus "visited" provided that their luggage is marked with the diplomatic seal, but this official had heard that one of these seals had been stolen from the Imperial Court of Russia, and hence his insisting on making a search. He was rewarded by finding in the luggage of this sham courier 24,000 cigars, and the trapped traveller was at once lodged in prison. The next day another "courier" arrived from Russia; his baggage too was visited, and in it were found 25,000 cigars. It is said that this little 'game' has been very frequently played of late, till at last the officials of the French *douane* were determined to stop it.

ECHOES FROM LONDON.

THE Princess Amazulu, first cousin to King Cetewayo, has rapidly progressed in English civilization; she was last heard of, clothed, and in her right mind, selling cigars at the "annual grand barmaid contest" in London. *Sic transit, &c.*

It is a pleasant thing on the part of Americans to help in decorating our ancient churches. Not very long ago they gave windows to Westminster Abbey, one commemorating the genius of Cowper, the other the quaint poetry of Herbert. Now they are putting a window into St. Margaret's, Westminster. It is to commemorate Raleigh's many visits to America, where he discovered the potato and tobacco.

ONE of the London papers is already sending out a man to China in anticipation of a row. He is under orders to go to Kuldja. How he proposes to go to Kuldja is, however, not so clear. The journey through China would take a man something like five months, if he travels very quickly, but if he is at all slow in his movements he might arrive on the border some time after the war is over and has been forgotten.

LORD GRANVILLE was sixty-five years of age on May 11 last. The birth of a son to him, therefore, is a matter for special congratulation. This is the fourth child by his present countess, his second wife, a daughter of the Campbells of Islay—the fourth child and the second son. Upon the Liberal leaders it would seem that age produces youth. Here is Mr. Gladstone at seventy sitting up all night and seeing the Speaker home, and then going to his room and writing a long letter to the Queen; while the leader of the Upper House, as he verges towards the seventies, can vary the monotony of his struggle with the Peers by fondling his own son of a day or two old.

MR. GLADSTONE's words—that he should never sit in another Tory Parliament—are differently interpreted by different people. The melancholy interpretation is, that he believes his physical strength may shortly fail him. Another belief is that he is so out of patience with Parliamentary life as it exists in the present House of Commons, that he is determined, come what will, to fight shy of Parliament after the present Government has ended its lease. It has been painfully apparent to Mr. Gladstone's friends that the last few weeks has made a perceptible difference in his appearance, and very much exhausted him. Unlike Earl Beaconsfield, Mr. Gladstone feels all that he does and says, and therefore the strain upon him is proportionately great.

THE latest fashionable folly is flowers. To do a "great" thing, to be talked about for two days "in society," and to be laughed at by all the rest of the world, an entertainer must now fill his house from the doorway to the ceiling of the drawing-room with a multitude of flowers, including the most splendid exotics. One hostess, giving a ball the other night, spent hundreds of pounds over flowers, which began to fade before the dancing was finished. Flowers were banked and twined everywhere, and they were very lovely. But their chief charm lay in their cost. Some of them which lay about in profusion were a guinea apiece, and that made the hostess proud at the astonishment of her guests. Never, we are told, were landlords nearer ruin; yet for years we have not had such a season as the present, and its extravagant conclusion is worthy of its beginning.

HISTORY OF THE WEEK.

MONDAY, July 26.—Lord Rosebery has accepted the nomination to the Lord Rectorship of Edinburgh University.—The Irish compensation bill was passed in the House of Commons last night by a vote of 303 to 237.—A small steamer, with an excursion party on board, was capsized on Lake Bielan, near Berne, and seventeen persons were drowned.—The Chinese Ambassador to Russia has reached Berlin, where he will have a conference with Prince Hohenlohe before proceeding to St. Petersburg.—The Queen is said to have sent an autograph letter to the Sultan, urging his compliance with the demands of the Powers. An ultimatum from the Powers is said to be impending.—Latest advices from China say British and Russian men-of-war which visited the Corea were prevented by the Coreans from effecting a landing. The export of grain from the Corea has been forbidden. There is no further news of the Kuldja question.

TUESDAY, July 27.—"Reveller" won the Goodwood stakes yesterday.—The eruption of Mount Vesuvius is increasing in extent.—Trickett, the Australian sculler, arrived in London on Monday.—The Porte's reply to the collective note of the Powers was handed to the foreign ambassadors yesterday.—The Irish compensation bill was introduced in the House of Lords last night. Second reading is fixed for Monday.—Cheering reports of the Irish harvest prospects were given at a meeting of the Land League in Dublin yesterday.—Mr. Dillon considered that further donations of money to relieve the distress were not necessary.

WEDNESDAY, July 28.—Servia is mobilizing her army.—Greece has obtained a loan of 30,000,000 francs.—A Fenian revival is taking place in Manchester.—Russian engineers are in great request by the Russian Government.

THURSDAY, July 29.—Important reforms in the direction of abolishing army sinecures are being inaugurated in England.—It is said that Sir Fitzroy Kelly is about to retire. Sir Henry James, it is also stated, will be raised to the Bench.—The Legislature of Victoria has passed a vote of want of confidence in the Ministry, who, it is said, will at once resign.—News from Basatoland is more encouraging, and it is hoped the rebellion will be suppressed without the interference of the whites.

FRIDAY, July 30.—An Order-in-Council has been promulgated by the Imperial authorities, making entry to royal naval cadetships without distinction of parentage.—A Montenegrin-Servian alliance is said to have been effected against the Albanians. The latter have repulsed another attack of the Montenegrins, compelling them to retreat.—The British barquentine *Girl of Devon*, from Plymouth, which arrived at St. John's, Nfld., on Thursday, brought into port with her a figure-head supposed to have belonged to the missing training-ship *Albatross*.—Despatches with regard to affairs in Afghanistan say reinforcements are being forwarded as rapidly as possible. General Phayre is waiting for additional forces, being unwilling to undertake the responsibility of relieving Candahar with the present numbers under his command. There are 20,000 British troops in Cabul, where all is reported quiet. Between 4,000 and 5,000 troops leave England for Afghanistan in a few days.

SATURDAY, July 31.—A new Roumanian Cabinet has been formed.—Mr. Gladstone is confined to his bed with congestion of the lungs.—General Burrows and the remnant of his forces have arrived at Candahar.—The conference of German finance ministers has adjourned without coming to any decision.—Greece intends sending a circular to the Powers in reply to the Porte's answer to the collective note.—Indian papers strenuously urge the appointment of Sir Garnet Wolseley to the chief command in Afghanistan.—The Powers have decided that England shall command the naval demonstration against Turkey.