

so, the conclusion is plain that beet-root sugar would command an easy market, and at prices beyond any foreign competition. The whole question is interesting from an economical point of view, as well as important in its practical aspects, and it is to be hoped that the attempts spoken of will result in something tangible. As affecting more directly the agricultural classes, this industry deserves at least as much encouragement as other branches of manufacture.

OUR ILLUSTRATIONS.

STOCK GILL FORCE.—The residents in the neighbourhood of Ambleside, at the head of Windermere, have made a laudable effort to secure this beautiful piece of romantic scenery for the public enjoyment. It is situated but ten minutes walk out of the village of Ambleside, in a cove bearing the name of Nelly Close, on the side of Wansfell, a mountain rising to the height of 1,500 feet. Stock Gill or Ghyll is a stream flowing down from Kirkstone, north-east of Ambleside, to join the Rothay before it enters Lake Windermere. The "force," or waterfall, descends 70 feet in three successive cascades, the two highest divided by projecting rocks from each other; below stands a picturesque old mill, which has been a favourite for artists.

A GERMAN CORDED POODLE.—We give an illustration of the famous blood poodle Nero, which was distinguished with the first prize of this class at the Berlin International Dog Show. It is drawn from life by L. Beckmann, of Düsseldorf, who acted also as judge of this class. Nero is, perhaps, the finest and most perfect specimen of the German corded coated poodle that was ever bred. The ringlets of his woolly and glossy coat form long pendulous strings or cords, which are twisted as regularly as if done by aid of artificial means. On the shoulders these ringlets are of the length of more than twenty-six inches, and when the dog is moving about his long, waving coat gives him the appearance of walking under a black mourning drapery. The shaven parts of the body show that the frame of a good poodle of this breed is beautiful and well made, like that of a high-bred sporting-dog.

RAFT IN PERIL.—On Monday week a general smash of ten cribs of timber took place in the Lachine Rapids. It appears that at the tug towing the raft from St. Anne's, on nearing Lachine, attempted to get into the canal, but being too far out in the stream, at the time of turning, the rafts were caught by the strong current, and had to be cut adrift to save the tug. Onward went the rafts toward the boiling, turbulent rapids. The spectators on the banks with horror saw one poor Indian standing on the pile, appealing for help. Instantly a boat was got out, and volunteers manned it and started at a good pace on their noble mission to save the poor Indian's life. They were only just successful. The Indian was hardly off the raft before it entered upon the first low rapids and began to break very quickly, eventually going to pieces altogether when well in the rapids. The timber was floating past the city all day, and boats were out at all points picking it up.

BLOWN AWAY.—Considerable alarm was felt in Toronto police circles one night last week on account of the non-appearance for duty, at eight o'clock, of two constables connected with No. 1 police station, who, it was ascertained, had gone off for a sail in a yacht about two o'clock in the afternoon. Morrison's boat-house, from which the men had departed, was visited at a later hour, but the yacht had not been returned, and consequently the fears for the safety of the preservers of the peace was increased on the part of their companions. About eleven o'clock, however, a brick-maker's waggon rattled up to the side entrance at police headquarters, and two hungry-looking, weather-beaten, and dejected-looking individuals crawled off the vehicle, and reported themselves as the missing men. The officer in charge of the station, after a careful examination, identified them, and took them in and heard their pitiful story, which was to the effect that they had been blown away almost as far east as Bowmanville, and that by the most heroic efforts they had succeeded in running their craft ashore at Victoria Park, where they left her, and, striking for the Kingston road, hired the waggon upon which they had reached home.

INSPECTION OF THE MONTREAL FIELD BATTERY.—The very satisfactory progress made by Col. Stevenson's fine command during their annual camp drill has been most gratifying, and the inspection on Saturday week was a most successful one. It was notable, too, as being the first turn out in the Fifth District, if not of the whole force, at which the new Commander-in-Chief of the Militia was present. The General and staff arrived at the camp at half-past ten, and, roll having been called, the inspection was proceeded with, Lieut. Col. Irwin being the inspecting officer. After the salute the Battery went through the marches past, independent firing and various field movements, the latter being performed on Fletcher's Field, owing to the limited size of the Exhibition grounds. The inspection over, the Battery was drawn up and addressed by Lieut. Col. Irwin, who noticed, he said, a great improvement in the field move-

ments, and he was gratified at the answers received to his questions about gun drill, ammunition, etc., but on future occasions he would ask them many questions, and if they would study their manual they would find no difficulty in answering. He expressed a wish to see all non-commissioned officers come to Quebec in the winter for a two or three months' course in the school of instruction, they would then be able to properly instruct their men. He closed by expressing his pleasure to Col. Stevenson and Battery at the presence of General Liard. Subsequently the General and inspecting officers were entertained in the officers' mess tent by Colonel Stevenson and the officers of the Battery. The camp was broken up shortly afterwards.

THE MCKAY-CONLEY MATCH.—The rowing contest between John McKay of Dartmouth, N. S., and P. H. Conley of Portland, Me., took place at Dartmouth, on the 18th inst. The representatives of the two men tossed for choice of position, and the toss was won by McKay's representative, who chose the inside course. The Dartmouth man was the first to respond to the signal. When he arrived at the starting-place there was a very general expression of wonder that he would attempt to row in the condition he was in. His face was badly swollen and few men would have cared even to go out of the house, let alone venture upon the water, in the same condition. Conley soon arrived, and both men were got into position the water being almost without a ripple. The referee gave the word "go," and the two men started. Conley at once took the lead, and, hearing some shouts from the shore "Go it, McKay," remarked "Yes, pull up, my boy," but seemed little inclined to let him do so. McKay rowed at the rate of 33 strokes to the minute, while Conley rowed 34, but seemed to put more force into his stroke. They maintained their respective positions, Conley three or four lengths ahead, till the Four Mile House was passed, where McKay lost a length or two by getting too far out. Conley was steering splendidly, and turned his stakeboat in 11 minutes from the start. McKay got around ten seconds later and tried hard to catch his opponent, but in vain—the Nova Scotian was evidently overmatched. At the Four Mile House on the return both men spurred in response to the cheers from those on shore, but without changing their relative positions very much, and Conley crossed the line about four or five lengths ahead and rowed up to the referee's boat where he was received with cheers. A moment later McKay came up and was cheered with equal heartiness for a more plucky race had never been rowed, and none but those who saw him at the finish can form an idea of what endurance he must have had to push his opponent so closely around the course and make his beating so small. The Dartmouth man looked out of condition when he started, but at the finish more than one felt that he should not have rowed at all, whatever the cost. The ulceration which caused the swelling in his face had broken and was running down his chin, so that his giving up the race long before the finish would have been quite excusable. The time was about 22.50, as taken by several persons on shore and on the steamer.

CANDAHAR.—In the history of Afghanistan, published only two years ago, Colonel Malletson gives a description of the city which is of interest at this moment. He says:—"This town of Candahar, situated at the foot of the Tarnah Valley, is separated from the river of that name by a short range of hills which divide the lower part of the valley and run parallel with the river for about twenty miles. Candahar is encompassed on three sides by high, sharp-pointed, rocky mountains, rising abruptly from the plain. The open side is that leading along the valley of the Tarnah. A considerable portion of the valley of Candahar is, in an ordinary way, fertile and well cultivated. It can boast of rich meadows, gardens, orchards filled with fruit-trees, fields of corn, barley, lucern, clover, and watered by numerous canals, fed through the break in the hills by the waters of the Argandab, one of the tributaries of the Helmand. These cultivated lands are chiefly on the south-western and western sides of the town. Three or four miles to the east the traveller encounters a portion of a cheerless plain, covered with stones, and scantily supplied with water. The town of Candahar is large and populous. Its form is that of an oblong square, 2,000 by 1,600 yards (about a mile square.) Situated on the north side of the extensive plain called after the town, about two miles from the lofty mountain called Bala Wali, it is surrounded by a high but thin and weak wall, with several bastions. Its walls are 30 feet high. The four principal bazaars, or streets, lead from the gateways and meet nearly in the centre of the town in a large circular building, covered with a dome about 120 feet in diameter, called the *charku*. This place is surrounded by shops, and it is regarded as a public market-place. The streets which converge in it divide the town into four nearly equal districts. The other streets in the town are mere lanes, formed by the narrow space between the high houses—houses far more lofty than those of the principal streets. The climate of Candahar is very dry, and in every respect superior to that of Hindostan. . . . Corn and most of the necessities of life are dear at Candahar. Firewood is also very scarce. It is difficult to fix the number of inhabitants. Mountstuart Elphinstone declines to make the attempt. It seems to be acknowledged, however, that the population is

in excess of that of Herat. If the Heratis may be estimated, as they have been, at 45,000, the Candaharis may possibly number 60,000.

ECHOES FROM LONDON.

MEASURES are about to be taken by means of which reproductions of the principal works of art in the metropolitan collection will be distributed to all schools of design and local art institutes. Especial grants will be given to such schools as carry out some definite course of art study either in connection with the Classical or Renaissance periods—those schools of Eastern and Western art which have done so much to form our taste and to guide it.

SOME days ago there was a whisper that the great Gainsborough picture of the Duchess of Devonshire had been recovered. A well-known city solicitor to whom Messrs. Agnew have given full powers for prosecuting inquiries as to anything that may turn up in this case discovered, or thought he had discovered, a trace of its whereabouts. But alas, though the thread for a time looked promising, it disappeared, and one of the greatest mysteries of modern times still remains unsolved.

PRIVATE telegrams state that Sir Bartle Frere is in high Gudgeon at his recall, the collapse of the South African confederation scheme being only a pretext for that step taken by the Government under pressure of their Radical supporters. Sir Bartle will hasten home, and he will probably seek for a seat in Parliament. Should he succeed some lively scenes would be witnessed next session, for as a debater Sir Bartle Frere is quite capable of holding his own against all the Lawsons and Courtneys who have so bitterly assailed him.

FRANCE is borrowing her fashions from England, and improving on them with her usual ingenuity. After copying the new visiting cards of the aristocracy, which show the name in gold letters on a black, blue, or other novel ground, they have added to them the coat of arms in one corner, and made the suggestion that *élégantes* who are not so fortunate as to have inherited armorial bearings from their forefathers, can easily substitute for them some distinguishing emblem that will pass muster with that large section of society which is not acquainted with the science of heraldry.

THE white waistcoat movement in the House of Commons seems to have attained unusual proportions this year. It has influenced even the staid Mr. Forster, who, laying aside the red velvet garment which he affects in common with O'Gorman Mahon, figured recently in one of a tint which, on the person of an Irish official, seemed a dangerous approach to orange. Mr. Bigger still remains true to the perennial sealskin, which has been his faithful companion all through his Obstructive career, but, with the solitary exception of the hon. member for Cavan, every one seems to have made some concession to the weather, from the leader of the House downwards.

THE cuirass, which is now only retained in the armies of four European countries, viz., France, Germany, Russia, and England, seems likely to disappear altogether. In France the cuirass has recently been laid aside in six out of the twelve regiments which formerly wore it, and it is believed that before long it will be abolished altogether in the German army. Unless, however, it becomes absolutely necessary, owing to the paucity of cavalry in the British army, to employ the Household Brigade on active service, it is probable that the three regiments will continue to gladden the eyes of Her Majesty's lieges in London and Windsor with their present brilliant equipment, and the British Army will be the last in which the cuirass will survive.

THE reporters have been admitted to the side galleries of the House of Lords. Formerly they looked down an oblong building from its extreme end. The Lord Chancellor is at the other extreme end; Ministers and leaders of the Opposition are so far away that if they turn their backs on the press gallery nothing can be heard. Only the independent members of either party are certain that their remarks reach the reporters' ears. If they are placed in the side galleries they will be close to the political leaders and will be equi-distant from the Lord Chancellor and the cross benches. Orators will be able henceforth to address the Lord Chancellor instead of turning their backs upon him; and the reports in the papers will be something more than a compilation of uncertain sounds caught with difficulty and recorded with hesitation.

ARTISTIC.

THE Spinoza monument at The Hague is to be unveiled on September 14.

MR. GUSTAVE DORE is painting a colossal picture in illustration of the text "Come unto Me, all ye that labour and are heavy laden."

A GRAND monument to Pius IX., in the form of his statue, little less than twice the size of life, has been by private subscription erected in Milan Cathedral.

M. ADOLPHE YVON, the eminent artist, is engaged on a painting of the Battle of Ulundi. It is intended for a panorama on the same principle as that of the Siege of Paris which has proved so attractive.

THE late French sculptor Lemaire was known chiefly by the present pellicament of the Madeleine in Paris, which he executed in 1836, and which brought him the cross of an officer of the Legion of Honour and a seat in the Académie des Beaux Arts.

A CERTAIN number of French painters, sculptors, and men of letters have recently formed a society, with the object of founding an "artists' home" for elderly or impoverished authors, scientists, artists, &c., under the name of "Société des Artistes de l'Art." Among the subscribers are Melsanier, Charles Paul Duboué, Gérôme, De Neuville, Nitti, Alexandre Dumas, Victor Hugo, Laboulaye, Detaille, Ducloux, Broglie, &c.

IN Mr. Holman Hunt's picture of "The Flight into Egypt," the donkey from which he painted is stated to be an animal of purest breed, boasting a genealogy of two centuries; while the Virgin is taken from a lovely Jewish maiden living in the neighbourhood of Bethlehem. One original feature in the picture will be a procession of infant spirits—those of the murdered innocents. Mr. Hunt has been engaged upon this picture for four years and it will take six months to finish it.

MUSICAL AND DRAMATIC.

A RECENT concert at Albert Hall, London, realized \$6,000.

MISS CLARA LOUISE KELLOGG has left Paris for Aix-les-Bains.

SALVINI will speak Italian during his tour next winter through the United States, while the subordinate parts in Shakespeare's tragedies will be in English.

ADELAIDE NEILSON frequently complained of a pain at the heart after playing Juliet. Her physicians advised her not to play the part night after night.

THEODORE THOMAS, who has just returned from Europe, says that the musical taste of New York is far in advance of that of London. They must have mighty poor taste in London.

HISTORY OF THE WEEK.

MONDAY, August 23.—General Roberts is expected to reach Candahar by the 23rd instant. Cardinal Nina is reported to be much worse; he is suffering from typhoid fever. The European Powers have declined the proposal of the Porte to re-open negotiations. Russia proposes modifying the amount of territory to be ceded to Montenegro by Turkey. Rumanian troops in the Dobruja have gained another victory over the Bulgarian insurgents. The report of the *sicote* made by the British from Candahar is confirmed. The casualties were heavy on both sides. The public prosecutor has refused Count Von Arnim a re-hearing of his case, which will now be appealed to the State Court. Mr. Gladstone has returned to London much improved in health. He embarks to-day for a series of trips around the north of Ireland and Scottish coast.

TUESDAY, August 24.—General Brooke was among those killed at the recent *sicote* from Candahar. A conference for the reform of the laws of nations has commenced at Bern, Switzerland. The order for the Russian naval squadron to proceed to Ragusa has been countermanded. A desperate conflict between the Rumanian police and Bulgarian rioters has occurred in Arabadja. The Imperial Government apprehend further disturbances in Ireland, but are determined to enforce order at any sacrifice. Bismarck proposes the commencement of Government relief works in West Prussia, as a means of lessening the distress prevailing there. A disturbance is reported to have broken out at Lagos, and the natives all along the west coast of Africa are said to be on the eve of an open revolt.

WEDNESDAY, August 25.—DeHaas, the well-known marine painter, is dead. A Paris paper denounces Dr. Tauner's fast as a fraud. An unsuccessful attempt has been made to assassinate the King of Burmah. A Candahar telegram states that Nana Sahib has been captured by native cavalry. The collective vote on the Greek boundary question was delivered to the Porte yesterday. H. R. H. the Duke of Connaught has applied for employment on active service in India.

THURSDAY, August 26.—Preparations are being continued for the prevention of further anticipated trouble in the west of Ireland. The vote for the Irish constabulary was again under discussion in the House of Commons last night, and provoked a warm debate. The sitting was to continue through to-day. The Spanish Government, finding more Cuban rebels are arriving than can be disposed of in the African penal settlements, intends to re-ship some of them to the Marianas Islands, near the Philippines, said to be unhealthy, inhabited by savages and overrun with rats. The news from Afghanistan is of a very serious and alarming nature. The siege of Candahar is being vigorously and effectively prosecuted under the direction of Russian officers, and Ayoub Khan is said to have gathered as many as 10,000 men around the city. Besides this, General Roberts, who has yet some three or four weeks' marching to reach Candahar, is greatly harassed by the Afghans, who have also burned the grass along the line of the British advance, thus destroying the only means of obtaining provender for the animals. This is said to have disheartened and discouraged the troops, and altogether the outlook is anything but encouraging. A later despatch says General Stewart has been ordered to remain at Jellalabad, mutiny having broken out among the Ameer's troops.

FRIDAY, August 27.—A Bombay telegram says cholera is raging at Peshawar. Herr Hoffman, German Minister of Commerce and Trade, has resigned. The ex-Khan of Khokand has been liberated by the Russian Government. Negotiations with China are said to be proceeding favourably. Major Munroe, commanding the marine detachments at present stationed in Ireland, reports all quiet in the districts where his men are quartered. A Bombay despatch states that Ayoub Khan has retired his forces to a point some eight miles east of Candahar, probably with a view of meeting General Phayrs on the open plains. A council of Turkish Ministers held yesterday to consider the second collective note of the Powers relative to the Greek boundary question, came to the conclusion, after mature deliberation on the subject, that Turkey could not commit self mutilation. A later despatch from Constantinople, however, says the Porte has issued a circular to the Powers promising the immediate cession of Duloigno and the introduction of reforms in Asia Minor.

SATURDAY, August 28.—General Roberts' difficulties according to latest despatches, are increasing. A member of the Irish Land League has been expelled from that body for offering to give evidence before the Land Commission. All districts of Albania show a desire to settle the Montenegro question at once, so as to be clear to deal with affairs in Epirus. Bombay despatches report threatened trouble with the Belooches and on the Scinde frontier. A Detroit despatch says the steamer *Marine City* was burned on Lake Huron yesterday. There are said to be from ten to sixty lives lost by the disaster.