

peoples, that is the rôle assigned to him by CARLYLE, who mistakes phantasmagoria of the imagination for historical entities. Much better may he be known as the oppressor of those, who of all men are most regardful of law and order, the faithful members of the Catholic Church.

BAD FOR THE PACIFIC PROSPECT.

In event of the long threatened war in Europe taking place, which can hardly any longer seem doubtful, and for which we have all along looked, the interesting question arises, as to whether it can possibly conclude without other powers than those beginning the contest becoming involved. Our opinion is that such is most unlikely to be the case. Too many and too great interests, opposed to one another, are concerned, to allow of matters easily settling down again when once they have been thus violently disturbed, even were there a sincere desire, on the part of all those who profess such sentiments, for the isolation of the war, and that its results should be alone the amelioration of the provinces governed by Turkey.

But we do not believe that in one most important instance, at least, this desire is sincere, for we cannot see how it is possible that Germany can be supposed willing to endure, for any lengthened period, the position in which she now finds herself. The *London Times*, in its issue of 14th February last, has a leader inquiring into what might be the course of action likely to be pursued by this country "if Russia should pass the confines of diplomacy." And, according to the opinion put forward in the journal alluded to, the answer may be read in a summary of an address, lately delivered by Emperor WILLIAM to his grandson on the occasion of the Prince's entry into active service.

The *Times* having pursued the Emperor's speech, and shown how—so far as regards the German empire—great results have followed "minute attention to seemingly small details," and that the perfection of the organisation, now arrived at in the country referred to, is owing to the "docility, plodding, and intelligence" of its people, thus concludes the article from which we quote. "Trade must suffer from the loss of the physical strength and brain which are drawn to the barrack-room. Literature and science must suffer from the diversion of the rarest mental qualities to the purposes of war. Political freedom must suffer in order that discipline may be perfect. The most thoughtful statesmen of Germany would not deny these facts; but they would reply that wealth, and culture, and liberty must have a second place in their minds, so long as Europe is an armed camp, and Germany must guard the unity she has won."

What, then, has Germany gained, so far, by this unity? The right only, it seems, to deteriorate uninterfered with from without. The results of her patient labor, her attention to "small details," the reward of her "docility, plodding, and intelligence," are this alone. But is it at all likely that her statesmen—above all, her most astute statesman of statesmen, Prince VON BISMARCK—can, in their hearts, be content with this, or other than most anxious to seize the first opportunity that may offer to put an end to so unsatisfactory a state of affairs? Most certainly it is not probable, for otherwise they would lose their claim to the quality of intelligence, with which the *Times* justly accredits the whole people to which they belong. Nor can we believe that the "plodding and docility" of the masses could go to such a length as, for any prolonged space of years, to submit to such a condition of matters.

We may, then, naturally conclude that Germany is desirous, perhaps above all other nations, of seeing this affair of the general European camp come to an end; and, since this cannot be brought about in times of peace, that she is only anxious for such a war to take place as may secure for her, once for all, a position of security, where "wealth, culture, and liberty," may resume the first place in the minds of her statesmen, as it was credibly reported to be the case before her boasted unity was accomplished; a unity, indeed, more to be deplored, if it be rightly considered, than applauded, since it appears to have become the prison-house of the mind of that nation which it thus rather overwhelms than advances.

NEWS OF THE WEEK.

THE Church of the Sacred Heart, at Tinker's Gully, was dedicated on Sunday last, by the Most Rev. the Bishop of the Diocese, assisted by the Rev. Fathers Walsh, Royer, Larkin, Kehoe, and Sheehan. High Mass was celebrated on the occasion, being finely rendered by the choir of priests, and a sermon was preached by the Bishop. The sacrament of confirmation was also administered to

thirty-two recipients; his Lordship delivering afterwards a suitable address. We understand that the church is quite clear of debt. The day was fine, and a congregation considered large for the locality were assembled.

His Excellency the Governor is expected to arrive in Dunedin this morning. He comes by the *Hinemoa*, and will probably land at the Rattray-street wharf. An attempt was made to get up a political agitation so as to prevent any public recognition of the Governor's arrival; but, fortunately for the reputation of Dunedin, the matter fell to the ground, and the City Council will present his Excellency with an address of welcome.

THE Very Rev. Monsignor Kirby, Rector of the Irish College at Rome, and one of the Pope's chamberlains, recently presented his Holiness with a supplementary sum of money on the part of the Catholics of Otago; thus raising the Peter's Pence contributed by the Diocese of Dunedin to a considerable amount.

A discovery of gold has been made at West Taieri, in the neighbourhood of Outram, but nothing as yet has shown that would justify a rush.

It seems by no means certain that Russia will find in the Turks a contemptible adversary, capable only of yielding an easy victory; it is not outside the range of possibilities that the combatants may be found pretty fairly matched, and the contest prolonged much beyond anything generally expected. For our own part, while we have no sympathy whatever for the Turks, and not the least desire, apart from other considerations, that they should continue to reign at Constantinople, we shall see with alarm any successes that will serve to advance the power of Russia.

ONE of the signs which we have marked of late that presage the success of Home Rule, is a spiritless article in a recent number of the *Saturday Review*, in which the writer, while he makes an attempt at strongly condemning and ridiculing the measure, plainly betrays that he knows himself to be but the opponent of a cause surely gaining ground. When the biting "Reviler" grows insipid, it may easily be foreseen that some good issue is about to become apparent.

THE very respectable sum of £37 was netted at a concert recently given at Hamilton East, in aid of the Catholic Church, which is now being built there. Judging from the report of the entertainment given in the *Waikato Times*, we should say the district in question must contain a considerable amount of talent. Several songs, readings, and instrumental performances were given in first-class style, and the appreciation of the audience, shown by a demand for encores, prolonged the affair until midnight.

We would call the attention of all persons holding tickets for the late auction at Christchurch to the list of winning numbers given in another column.

The concert and exhibition, in aid of the Pope family, held this week in the University Hall, Dunedin, were attended with much success; the music was extremely good, and the works of art collected well worthy of a visit. Amongst the most beautiful pictures shown, we noticed certain of those intended for prizes in the forthcoming art union, in aid of the Dominican Convent building fund. Of these latter, the three principal were hung between the windows of the side room, at the bottom of the hall to the left. They were those sent from Rome—namely, Guido Remi's "Aurora," "An Italian Woman and Child," and "A Sybil." No doubt their beauty attracted many admirers for it is striking in the extreme, and could not be hidden even by the unfavorable position in which the paintings were placed. They were, however, well situated for the purpose of ornamenting the wall of the room, which, otherwise, would have had a rather bare appearance. The Lady Superior of the Dominican Convent also lent two exquisite tables of mosaic.

THE net amount, received as the result of the lecture delivered by the Rev. W. Kelly, S.J., in aid of the Port Chalmers Church fund, was £33 17s 6d.

TELEGRAMS.

(From our Daily Contemporaries.)

London, April 14.

The Earl of Derby, in the House of Lords last night, expressed his regret that the circular just issued by the Porte was against peace. Lord Hartington, in moving for the production of additional papers, asked how the Government reconciled the protocol with the integrity and independence of Turkey. The Hon. Gathorne Hardy, Secretary for War, in refusing the production of the papers, said England's last word was in favor of peace, and strong objections were uttered against war being made with Turkey. England had signed the protocol to afford Russia a chance to disarm. The motion of Lord Hartington was withdrawn.

Montenegro's demands have been finally rejected by the Porte and hostilities renewed.

The Russians are advancing on Jassy. All Russian reserves on furlough have been ordered to rejoin their regiments. A declaration of war by Russia is considered to be imminent.

The reserve of the Roumanian permanent army has been called out.

There was a war panic during the week on the Stock Exchange. Consols fell one-half per cent., and are now at 96. Russian stock fell 5 per cent., and Turkish 1 per cent. Money is easy; minimum rate of discount unchanged. Australian securities unchanged.

The third emigrant ship, with 350 souls aboard, is leaving New York to-day for Sydney.

The Chancellor of the Exchequer's Budget estimates the surplus revenue at the end of the year at £445,000. The estimated revenue of the United Kingdom for 1877-8 is £79,000,000; the estimated expenditure, £78,790,000. No increase or remission of taxation is proposed.

The wool market is depressed, owing to the prospect of war and heavy arrivals. The wheat market is excited, and prices are advancing. New Zealand is at 57s to 58s.