

News of the Week.

WE have to acknowledge, with thanks, the regular receipt from the Government Printer of Parliamentary papers throughout the course of the present Session.

A MOST interesting ceremony took place on Rosary Sunday in the Church of the Jesuit Fathers at Richmond, Victoria, where a picture of Our Lady of Lourdes was unveiled. His Grace the Archbishop of Melbourne officiated. The painting has been executed by Herr Tannert, a German artist, who has lately arrived in the colony. It is said to be very beautiful.

AN open-air collection in aid of the Indian Famine Relief Fund was made in the Octagon, Dunedin, on last Saturday afternoon and evening. The sum collected amounted to £31 5s. 8d.

WE understand that instructions from the proper authorities at Wellington have been received by the Public Works Department, Dunedin, to the effect that the survey for the railway to the interior *via* Strath-Taieri, is to be undertaken forthwith.

WE have had an opportunity of seeing a handsome testimonial, presented to Mr. Thomas Gartland, a late employe of the firm of Messrs. W. & G. Turnbull, Dunedin, who is about to return to the old country, by Mr. and Mrs. G. Turnbull. The kindness of heart shown by the lady and gentleman in question, and which seems to have been inherited by their children, who also made their presentation, accompanied by a charming letter, speaks volumes in their favour, and displays a striking example of the spirit that it would be desirable to see largely prevail between the employer and the employe.

MANY of our readers will be glad to learn that Mr. A. E. Bridger has successfully passed his second professional examination at the University of Edinburgh. We understand that one more examination only has to be gone through prior to his graduating.

THE COUNT DE ZABA, a Polish Nobleman, who is making a tour of these Colonies, and who takes a special interest in educational matters, which we understand he is investigating with a view to the improvement of the system established in his native country, is at present visiting Dunedin. The Count is an accomplished lecturer, and we believe it is his intention to favour the public of this city with an opportunity of profiting by his talent.

THE day appointed for the drawing in connection with the Dominican Convent Art Union, is the Prince of Wales' Birthday, Nov. 9th next; when the event will come off in St. Joseph's School-room. The drawing will be conducted on the usual Art Union principle, the blocks with the number of the tickets and the names of the holders being placed in one box, and cards with blanks and prizes in another, both to be drawn from simultaneously. It is requested that all persons who have disposed of tickets will make sure that the blocks are sent in good time to the Convent, in Dowling Street, Dunedin. It will be well if those who are interested in the good work will also recollect that, as a few days only now remain for them to exert themselves in its advancement, to insure a complete success it is advisable for them to redouble their efforts.

VIGOROUS measures are being promoted for the purpose of starting a new morning paper in Dunedin. The paper is to be named the *Morning Herald*, and its price will be one penny. It is believed that the undertaking will prove a striking success. A large support has already been promised, and the names of the provisional directors, as well as the known ability of the intended staff, afford an unrivalled guarantee of the manner in which the enterprise will be carried out. The first issue will appear when a thousand shares have been taken up by the public.

Telegrams.

BOMBAY (no date), 1.36.

The *Daily News's* Special with the Czarewitch's army says one week's rain converted the camp into a lake of mud. The road is impassable, except between Beila and Laskhuk. The troops are unprepared for winter, having lost their great coats and tents on their retreat from the Lom.

BOMBAY, October 12.

MacMahon denies that the Republic is imperilled by clerical influences, and charges the electors to return the candidates nominated by the Government. He says that duty forbids him to desert his post.

BOMBAY (no date).

Inverary Castle has been destroyed by fire.

LONDON, October 19.

The Agent-General telegraphs as follows:—

The Russians have gained a great victory in Asia. The column of General Dazaraff outflanked the Turks, and General Heimma attacked them and captured Mount Olya, cutting Mukhtar Pasha's army in two. Mukhtar retreated towards Kars, but was pursued and routed, losing an enormous number in killed and 1,000 prisoners, including seven

Pashas. Of the other portion of the Turkish army three entire divisions were surrounded and surrendered, with 32 guns and immense quantities of war material. The Russian losses were not large.

LONDON, October 14.

All newspaper correspondents have been ordered to leave the Russian position at Plevna.

Chefket Pasha entered Plevna with further reinforcements.

General Gourka with the Imperial Guards has been sent to the Turkish rear.

It is reported 15,000 Roumanians have died of disease during the last twenty days.

Fighting has been renewed in Armenia. The Turks, while concentrating at Aladzadab, were hotly attacked by the Russians. After a five hours' battle darkness stopped the fighting.

October 15.

The Russians are bombarding Sulina, and the population has fled.

Chefket Pasha defeated a number of foragers.

A Russian official despatch states that Mukhtar Pasha attacked the Russian position at Yabgnie, and was repulsed after severe fighting.

October 16.

A Russian official says Gourka had a complete victory over Mukhtar at Aladzadagh. He took many prisoners and guns.

A Turkish official despatch states that the Russians captured the heights of Arlock, compelling the defenders to retreat upon Kars. They attacked Mukhtar, and carried Arolias, cutting the Turkish army in two, and when retreating the Turks were defeated with enormous loss. The other part of Mukhtar's army was surrounded, and surrendered, with a loss of seven pashas, 32 guns, and an immense quantity of material. Mukhtar fled from Kars.

October 17.

Mukhtar, for the most part, confirms the report.

The bridge at Nicopolis has been carried away by a rising in the Danube.

The positions at Plevna and at the Schipka pass are unchanged.

LONDON, October 14.

MacMahon has issued another manifesto, urging the electors to vote for the Ministerial candidates. There is great excitement.

A Berlin Press writer telegraphs to the London *Daily News* that a clerical victory in France will be answered by a formal alliance between Germany and Italy.

The Marquis of Salisbury stated at Bradford that the result of the war had been to dispel illusions with regard to Russia as an aggressive Power. He saw no prospect of peace.

The Indian famine has passed through its worst stage.

October 17.

The French elections have been completed. The returns, exclusive of the Colonies, show 314 Republican and 201 Conservatives. The Government gain is 43.

Sydney Morning Herald's Special Cablegram.

LONDON, October 18.

General Todleben proposes to starve the army at Plevna, which is reported to be thoroughly emaciated. Turkish prisoners declare the condition of the garrison as deplorable. Many officers are willing to surrender, but Osman Pasha resists.

The Russians are gradually closing on the western outlets.

It is reported at Bucharest that the Turks have withdrawn their artillery from Gravitza redoubt, under suspicion that the place is undermined.

Egyptian troops have been sent to Varna.

A portion of Zimmerman's army is moving towards Upper Danube.

Suleiman Pasha's positions have been bombarded from Russian floating batteries.

A Turkish gunboat exploded.

Cannonading Fort Nicholas, Schipka Pass, has been resumed.

The Russians in Hankoi defile have been reinforced by two additional corps of the Seventeenth.

The alleged invasion of Roumania originated in the reports of peasants, who mistook the militia for the Hungarian raiders.

A Russian decree places military rank within the reach of every soldier who distinguishes himself by valour.

October 16.

Two thousand one hundred and fifty tons military stores for Turkey have left America.

Rumours of mediation between the belligerents by European Powers have been revived. Austria and England are credited with having taken the initiative. Confirmation of the rumours is found in the Sultan's pacific assurances to Northcote, and of Salisbury's speeches, and Von Beust's visit to Lord Derby.

The Press considers inferences fallacious.

A Berlin paper says peace proposals submitted to the German Government by Layard were rejected.

LONDON, October 17.

Violent gales have swept the United Kingdom, and inflicted enormous damage and loss of life.

October 18.

The Senatorial Left give the results of the French elections as out of 533 deputies, 335 are Republican, and 198 Government nominees. The latter consist of Bonapartists, 40; Legitimists, 68; Conservatives, 90. Many of the official candidates are expected to be unseated by the election committees, probably raising the Republican majority to 140.

The Prefects have been summoned to Paris to receive instructions respecting the second balloting. There is no indication that Ministers intend to resign.

WELLINGTON, October 23rd.

A fire, with sad loss of life, occurred here this morning at about 4 o'clock. The fire broke out in a house close to the Princess Hotel and occupied by Mrs Johnson (whose husband died a short time ago) and her five children—three boys and two girls. It must have originated either in the room they slept in or close to it, for when the fire was discovered only the upper part of the house was in flames. The