fternoon. a refer to the good dy been produced by Major-General Ivor ct of the local militia. how outspoken and port was. General he truth, but he told rought home to offi. their responsibilities ly the interests of the copardized if they n to ignore them, nothing to be desirseems to be at last bsolute necessity for is doing so in a way produce the nechas been so long de-

e annual revenue of Double Duchy will r at least. There is -Gotha, his income rom surpluses yieldnd hitherto this has Cobourg and £25,600 Duke has to reside apitals, the expenses court are very con-Inglish allowance of ess will thus, howof about £40,000 a to this he has in her the estates of his ne shooting grounds. Marylebone Cricket mmitted themselves en the side taking ighty runs less than ers shall have the ith the second innsending the other This seems to be a for the slight evils of following on and means of great inenormous advantage here is no sufficient nat advantage. An behind on the first ness of the elements. misfortune be made ther advantage to

rease of the French g with unqualified he best position for nent on the matter that the country so much money on if war comes, it ne army, and the a long time before t how little their he last great war. ficant and its cost ant. The naval estits to 266,000,000

he late Sir William blished in the spring prove an extremely nen have en joyed a of life than Sir Wilame time a sports-,a fine judge of art, ernor and a man of mirable reconteur. t of interesting and cords should be en-

to the Paris Jockey but there are not ong the long list of likely that many t to the ballot, as officially announced ply, excepting for ship extended to inerants in considption. During the o noble lords and have been victims

INDIANS. Self-Laceration

mahas. ng at the obsequies o has been greatly Jpon the death of rime of early manar the lodge of the lves of all clothing ke two incisions in the loop of flesh so anch, having on it the blood dripping

hanging from their

es, the men move he lodge where the g themselves in a der, and marking beating together they sing in unison trast between the vocal utterances. strains suggests dure, and has a Vevertheless, there mony between the . Music, the In-

to reach the unof the dead man aves the body, and cheer him as he ve been dear to only, he cannot im; the bleeding are expressions of s of the dead; his f the manifested re for them.

eme--" This paper says Paris." y, that's the bright. A man don't care on him after he is

w can insomnia be the patient should itative manner 500 hat's all very well. 't count."

he don't and if he

GREAT BRITAIN

AMERICA.

The Gilbert Islands the Latest Acquisi-

An American Views With Alarm Encroachments of England on This Continent.

England last year declared a protectorate over the Gilbert Islands in the South Pacific Archipelago and recently has completed their annexation by taking full possession. The Gilberts are wanted as a coaling and cable station between for the vast commerce now being rapidly developed from British Columbia to Australia. It now only requires the capture of the Hawaiian islands, to which the Gilberts are contiguous, to complete the last link in the vast chain of possessions and fortresses by Thich Great Britain has circled the globe, to the East via the Suez Canal and the Cape of Good Hope to Australia, from Australia to Vancouver via the Hawaiian Islands, and from thence across Canada and the Atlantic back to England. The Hawaiian Islands are the most important link in this

WORLD ENCIRCLING CHAIN,

not only to the commerce and dominion Great Britain on the Pacific Ocean, but for child had disappeared. the protection and commerce of the United States as well on the Pacific coast and ocean. If the infamous policy of Cleveland and Gresham prevails England and not America will possess Hawaii. The Gilbert Islands, sixteen in number, cover an area of 170 square miles, are near the equator and between the Hawaiian and Fiji Islands. Great tecting and developing her commerce on the Pacific ocean, as she does everywhere to Vancouver, making stations at the Gil-Americans, from which they will now be child. driven. The King previously offered these islands to the United States. On the same day that England declared a protectorate over the Gilberts she also proclaimed a pro-Nassau Islands in the Western Pacific ocean, to the Northeast of the Samoan Islands, intending to use the harbor of Pagopago

AS A COALING STATION.

sion of the Johnston islands, to the north- riving at the place he found his aunt, who house, and bumped their heads up against west of Hawaii, proposing to use them as is now a widow named McMann, in possesa cable station. Hawaiian missionaries sion of the property. At Osgoode Hall yesunder American superintendence have la- terday suit was entered against mother and bored at the Gilberts since 1857. The daughter for the recovery of the same. Americans will now lose their trade and influence in the Gilberts. The natives have already received orders not to sell copra

ALL THE TERRITORY

of North America from the Gulf of Mexico to the Arctic Ocean should rightfully be controlled by the United States. In this opinion William H. Seward concurred. Mr. Henry B. Atherton, of Nashua, N.H., in a recent address holds that the manifest destiny of this country is to control this continent. He points out the mighty chain of armament with which Great Britain has

"She has a military railway from Halifax on the Atlantic to Port Moody on the Pacific, intended to be used in military operations against this country, and on that account built in a great measure from the imperial treasury. She has free entry for her fleets to the St. Lawrence, through which A Phenomenon that is Slowly Changing flow the waters of the great lakes. From

FORTRESS AT HALIFAX

seacoast under contribution. She has a mud and rock, but very few have been so carry them off similar coign of vantage on the Pacific at fortunate as to see them. Mr. M.W. Con-Esquimault. English dominion is exerted over the Bermudas, the Bahamas, Jamaica, has given a description of one of these fallthe Belize, British Guiana, Trinidad, Bar- ing avalanches to the Royal Geographical badoes, St. Locia, and the Leeward Islands. | Society of London. Bermuda, three days out from Charleston and New York, is equipped with fortifica- | Valley adjoining the Himalayas, in the extions which are described in the Colonial treme northern part of India. Suddenly Book as the 'most perfect and formidable | they heard a noise as of continuous thunder. in the world.' A submarine cable connects | They saw a huge mud avalanche sweeping the fortress at Bermuda with Halifax. It down a steep gully between two mountains was laid only two years ago and cost \$1,- opposite them. The on-rush and weight of 500,000 a sum ten times greater than the the mud tore from the sides of the gully exchanges between the group and Canada. masses of rock and rolled them over like so In the reef-enclosed harbor at Bermuda, many pebbles. Each of the big rocks that Great Britain has a shipbuilding plant, a formed the vanguard of the avalanche dry dock that will lift her heaviest

SEAGOING BATTLE SHIPS,

a coaling station, and a vast system of hour. In a few minutes the mass of stuff earth-works, mounted with the heaviest became shallower. The mixture was then guns. Since 1867 Great Britain has im- half mud and half rocks and flowed faster. mensely strengthened the garrison at King- Now and then one of the larger rocks barharbor of Castries, St. Lucia.

and Castries together, a chain of offensive from its sides was constantly falling in the fortification is constituted within three mud river and being swept as a part of it. days' reach of every American Atlantic seaboard city. Each is mounted with guns of gorge through which the river runs. It did the most effective modern type. Each is not reach the river, but spread out and capable of equipping vessels for sea at an piled up on one side of it. Conway says instant's notice. A cable connects them that this accumulation of debris has piled all with each other and with London.

spreads over immense oceans and holds in a sort of canon built up by this accumu- tary of State, who was clad in a magnificent almost every dot of land that rises above lation. If the valley were filled up in this sealskin coat, "Your Excellency, allow me them. On one of the Falkland Islands, way to a depth of 2,000 or 3,000 feet more to introduce you to the keeper of the Great just north and east of Cape Horn, there is it would resemble the Pamirs, and all the Seal." another. There is a third, recently built deeply filled valleys that are characteristic and equipped and splendidly armed, at of the Central Asian plateau. Conway says Fiji Islands; and there are the great de- that mud avalanches have done all this fences at Esquimault, from which at an work of filling up the valleys, and have hour's notice Seattle and Tacoma could be done it with great rapidity. laid waste."

Surprised.

A school teacher, who had been telling the story of David, ended with "And all this happened over 3,000 years ago.

A little cherub, its blue eyes opening wide with wonder, said, after a moment's have get 1"

WHO IS THE HEIR?

A Claimant Turns up After Thirty Years An interesting story in real life was brought to light the other day by a suit instituted at Osgoode Hall, Toronto, by Joseph Miller of Rochester, N. Y., against Mrs. McMann of the township of Ops, Victoria County, and her daughter, Mrs. says a writer in Harper's Weekly, that

Wm. Robertson was a farmer in the town- will sooner or later have to submit to the ship of Ops, Victoria, and in 1847 he died British forces. And it will prohably occur William, and two daughters, Margaret and monarch was a student of history he would tion of the Toronto Grenadiers. willed to William for his life, and upon his decease was to revert to his sister Margaret. To Catherine he left another farm.

THE BIRTH OF THE HEIR. Shortly after her father's death Margaret went to Rochester, where she married a man named Miller and subsequently gave birth to a child, a boy. Her husband died and she kerself followed him to the grave in 1866, when the boy was only about 4 years old. While she was sick, and just previous to her death, her brother William went to Rochester to see her and also saw the boy. At that time she was not seriously ill and William returned to Canada, leaving her and the boy at Rochester. Some time afterwards William returned to Rochester but found that his sister was dead, and the

THE FIRST CLUE.

In the meantime the child had grown to manhood and anxious to learn something about his parentage he returned to Rochester and began a search for his relatives. While engaged in this search he accidentally met a man who was acquainted wish Britain, in pursuance of her policy of pro- his mother's relatives in Canada. From this man he learned of their whereabouts, and came over to Canada to visit them. else, is about to lay a cable from Australia Although they received him into the house and allowed him to remain for a short time, berts and at the Hawaiias. The Gilberts they would not altogether recognize him as have a population of 50,000 and there is a relative. They very properly said that considerable trade with them in copra and he was a total stranger to them, and they cocoanuts heretofore mainly in the hands of had no proof that he was their sister's

Miller remained at William's place for a short time, when he returned to the States. Shortly after his departure William Robertson, the deaf mute, died, and Catharine tectorate over the Gardnerr, Danger and took possession of the farm and deeded it to her daughter, Mrs. Cole.

After returning to the States Miller kept himself posted as to his relatives in Canada, and on hearing of his uncle's death he came to Canada to claim the farm, which, if he is Margaret's son, as he contends, would be The same month Great Britain took posses- his by descent through his mother. On ar-

CALL HIM AN IMPOSTOR.

that Miller is the one.

was married, that she had a child, and that | must be considerable. Joseph Miller, the plaintiff, is that child, and beyond a doubt.

MUD AVALANOHES.

the Features of the Himalayas.

way had that good fortune awhile ago, and

His party were travelling up the Gilgit weighed many tons. The mass of mud had a width of forty feet and was fifteen feet deep and moved at the rate of five miles an ston and created an entirely new one in the red the way, and mud filled up behind it and finally swept it on. Looking up the "Taking Halifax, Bermuda, Kingston gully, Mr. Conway could see that earth

> All this material poured over into the up all along the valley to a depth of 500 to

These avalanches show how rapidly, under the influence of moisture, cold and heat, the denudation, or crumbling of these stupendous rock masses of the Himalayas is vides the material for mud avalanches. The levelling processes of nature are in continual operation and millions of tons of rock dust and fragments of rock are taken away thought, "On dear, what a memory you from the upper portion of the mountains and deposited in the valleys.

LIVING IN SOUTH AFRICA.

Nervous American Recounts Some of the Little Drawbacks of Life in the Tropics-Leopards Meowing on the Back Fence, and Ostriches Cackling

It may be regarded as absolutely certain, Sole, of the same place, for the recovery of the South African colored individual a farm. The story told by Miller is sub- known as King Lo Bengula, notwithstanding his experience at managing sixty wives, sooner rather than later. If the colored of his brief history he speaks with admiraknow that the chief recreation of John Bull for a century has been found in taking his fowling-piece and game-bag and going out after a mess of colored potentates. He recognizes no close season in this variety of sport, and he invariably comes back with the game on the inside of the bag and a smile on the face of J. B. The best thing Lo Bengula can do is to compromise, save as many wives as he can out of the wreck, give up his title of King, and take some such unobtrusive title as governor, deputy marshal, justice of the peace, or whatever the British see fit to allow him.

we observe considerable speculation in the who was executed in Toronto in 1838. newspapers as to the prospects for settlers along with Peter Matthews. from this country. The region is said to abound in gold mines,

DIAMOND QUARRIES,

and other desirable terrestrial openings. These are good and seemly things in their way, but the prudent emigrant will be apt to inquire if there is anything to eat in the

But supposing the question of food supply were settled satisfactorily, there remain many other grave problems confronting the expectant emigrant to South Africa. Chief of these, we should say, would be the nightly fighting and meowing of tigers on the back fence. Indeed, it seems probable that in the exaggerated and ridiculous animals of South Africa is to be found the real reason for giving the prospectice settler pause. The tiger idea just put forward, we presume, will cause many to give up the move. Who that hath listened to the common domestic cat-and who hath not?-

ON THE BACK FENCE

of a night would care to encounter the same thing intensified fiftyfold? It would be maddening, especially if they got under the the floor as they fought. This, with leopards and-but the subject is too harrowing.

We presume that the lion would scarcely condescend to roost lengthwise of a rear fence at three o'clock in the morning, with the hair on his back standing up while he On the other hand Mrs. McMann claims | yowled defiance at another lion, as we have ing for a new diamond mine, or for a tend- rises at six, winter and summer. Reeve & Day, 18 King-street east, who er foot to whom an old diamond mine can be are handling the case for the plaintiff, and old, the danger of being knocked over by the will have to prove that Margaret Robertson | impetuous sweep of an enraged lion's tail

But of course these absurd overgrown will probably have a lot of trouble before cats are not the only wild animals which managed to surround our present territory | they do so, for it is no easy matter to trace | infest South Africa. It is a warm country, by every link establish his identity clearly easy to get accustomed to having elephants reach in at the dining-room windows and Or the mineral-water can be kept down cellar, though the monkeys will be apt to get it wherever it is stored. But privacy Explorers are discovering that mud aval- unduly apprehensive, but it seems to us anches are a powerful element in determin- that the hippopotami are going to be someshe could let slip a swarm of armored ing the physical features of the Himalayan what rough on the gardens; and the way cruisers that in forty-eight hours might ruin regions. A number of travellers have ob- in which a rhinoceros will be able to walk our coasting trade, and lay our unprotected served the results of these great rushes of along down a line of drying clothes and

IMPALED ON HIS HORN

will be calculated to drive a housewife mad. uncut diamonds could scarcely compensate. Frenc's nobleman who assisted Washington | ministered in order to give it greater force It might be possible to fence out many of | in the War of Independence. When Count | and sanctity. but in this case there would be the constant | ter county and settled. The Canadian danger of the ostriches picking off the barbs | descendants of this De Grasse, forty in for breakfast. And speaking of ostriches number, expect to succeed to the count's Central Asia has recently been carried out calls up another possible terror for the ner- estate, which, it appears, has been lookvous man. We refer to the cackle of the female ostrich as she flies off the nest. This must be deafening if she cackles in proportion to her size, something, however, which she may not do. African travellers are so much taken up with slashing the tails of their lions about in the air that they wholly neglect to tell us of the habits of the ostrich in this respect. But it is going to be noisy enough anyhow, without the ostrich cackle. South Atrica may be an excellent place for residence, but it can do no harm to look into certain points before rushing off to it

Sir John Macdonald.

The late Premier of Canada, Sir John A. Macdonald, owed much of his success as a political leader to judicious strokes of humor, which he knew so well how to apply. When introducing the several members of his Cabinet to the Marquis of Lorne, then just arrived in Canada to take the "In the South seas British empire 1000 feet, and that the Gilgit River flows speaking of Mr. Chapleau, the new Secre-

> Meeting upon one occasion a learned Canadian judge of a very rubicund countenance he said :- "I am delighted to see you, my deeply read (red) old friend."-Youth's Companion.

> > A Literal Interpretation.

"Well, young man," said old Mr. Breezys going on. It is this denudation that pro- while you are at my house I hope you'l, Separate system. feel just like one of the family. "Thank you. I'm sure I have every

reason to." "What do you mean ?"

be a sister to me.

WELL KNOWN PEOPLE.

Premier Peters, of Prince Edward Island, is a grandson of Sir Samuel Cunard, who founded the Cunard Line.

Mayor Stewart, of Hamilton, is the chief game warden for Ontario-a provincial ap-

Professor Goldwin Smith and Mrs. Goldwin Smith are spending the winter at Ventnor, Isle of Wight.

General Middleton is writing a personal Lord Aberdeen has been elected an hon-

orary member of the Canadian Society of Civil Engineers. If it cannot be said that he is an engineer it cannot be denied that he On the very day that Lieutenant-Governor Boyd, of New Brunswick, died the Marquis of Lorne wrote him, congratulating him

Boyd has just received the letter. Dr. Hawke, of Stratford, has in his pos session an interesting relic of one of the The stilling of Lo Bengula promises to patrons of '37. It is a pair of fire tongs open a large territory to settlers, and already made by Samuel Lount, the blacksmith,

> Mr. Gladstone has presented the Rev. Frederick Cecil Alderson, Canon of Peters- the right hand on the open evangelists. borough, and brother-in-law of Lord Salisbury, to the important vicarage of Lutterworth, famous in connection with the labors of the Reformer Wycliffe.

The model of L. P. Hebert has been country. Diamonds in the rough cannot be selected out of about forty others for the looked upon as an article of diet, except, Macdonald monument which is to be built perhaps, for the domestic hen; and we fail in Parliament square, Ottawa. Hebert is to see any reason for entertaining the belief now in Paris. The statue of Sir John will that a diamond-fattened hen would be any be of bronze, uniform in size with that of Catholic, after kissing the cross, is frequent-Sir George Cartier.

Ottawa, left \$400 to the "Poor Saint of the president of the court to the judge of India or the Poor labourers, whichever is the court and the witnesses that are called most deserving, to be distributed as the Lord | before it to give testimony, are often writmay direct." The instructions as to the ten out on paper and pasted on one distribution of the money are so indefinite of the covers of the Bible, so as to that the courts have been called upon to de- be at hand to refresh the memory of him termine who are the heirs.

A despatch from Yarmouth announces the death of W. D. Lovitt of pneumonia, are customarily sworn by the five books after a few days' illness. The deceased was of Moses and the Great God of Israel, that the wealthiest man in Nova Scotia and in- the evidence they give shall be the truth, wooden sailing ships afloat.

occupation to do his Master's work.

Brantford has its "Grand Old Man" in and pearl shells to any except English that Miller is an impostor who has by some just shown that the lion is wont to do; but the person of its veteran city treasurer, Mr. dealers. Heretofore the Americans have means heard the story and is trying to obtain the lion, nevertheless, is not a desirable James Wilkes, who is 85 years old, with eye a farm without paying for it. She admits neighbor. A close perusal of hunting as bright and signature as firm as a man's of When Russia sold Alaska to the United that her brother William told her when he stories, extending over a term of years, 25. He discontinued the use of tobacco States it was not merely for the seven mil- returned from his first visit to Rochester has led us to believe that the African lion sixty years ago, and he has been a moderate lion dollars paid, but to serve notice by the that he had seen their sister Margaret and spends his entire time lashing his sides with drinker of spirituous liquors and drank ale Czar on the rest of the world that in his a child. She says that she did not know his tail. The sharp "swish" of the lion's at dinner, but the latter he discontinued whether the child was her sister's or not. tail as it cuts the air, together with the five years ago. He attributes his hearty old She did not even know whether her sister hollow thump as it beats his royal ribs, age with its upright figure and keen intelwas married or not, and even if she was | will also be found annoying to those not | lect partly to heredity and partly to regular married and had a child she does not believe accustomed to it. Besides, while prospect- habits-he goes to bed at ten o'clock and

It is recorded by the Hamilton Spectator that after the resignation of Sir John Macdonald in 1873, Sir John wanted to withdraw from the leadership of the party. caucus, Mr. H. B. Witton rose and pointed out that it would be a serious mistake to set aside the chieftain who had so frequenta man's history up from the time of his and necessarily houses must be more or less ly led the Conservatives to victory. When birth until he becomes 30 years of age, and open; but no doubt it will be comparatively he sat down Mr. Alonzo Wright followed in a speech which carried conviction to the caucus. At its conclusion the tendered steal the mineral water off the sideboard. resignation was declined and the old leader was asked to retain his position.

with giraffes looking in the second-story functions a coronet the distinguishing as the saucer if the testimony he was all windows will be impossible. We may be be the largest in the moral of the distinguishing as the saucer if the testimony he was all to give should not be the entire truth. be the largest in the world. These precious | As a general thing in courts-martial held stones were presented to her Excellency by in foreign waters where native witnesses are the people of Ireland as an expression of required to give evidence, and particularly love and gratitude to her for her interest in | where such persons are not of the Christheir welfare during the period of Lord tian faith, care is taken to ascertain and Aberdeen's Lord-Lieutenancy.

The possession of a gravel-walk made of head of which was Count de Grasse, the witnesses be present when the oath is adthese obnoxious beasts with barbed wire, de Grasse died, his brother came to Glouces-

Mr. Hugh Taylor, of Montreal, whose death is announced from London, England, was probably the oldest living member of the Colonial Bar, his admission as an advocate of Lower Canada, now the Province of Quebec, dating from 1829. Among other "Fathers of the Bar "who are still with us may be mentioned Clark Gamble, of Toronto Sir N. F. Belleau, of Quebec, and G. W. Wicksteed, of Ottawa, all of whom were called in the year 1832. Another old member of the Canadian Bar is Senator R. B. Dickey, who was called to the Bar of Nova Scotia in 1834 and to that of New Brunswick in 1835.

Archbishop Walsh, of Toronto, spent his early years in the priesthood in the backwoods of the County of Simcoe. Much of Foreign Office at St. Petersburg, Mr. Conhis extensive reading was done by the light | ingham simply wrote a letter to the Russian of the log fire and the tallow candle. As a bishop, one of his exploits was the removal he wished to see him and study the within three years, of a debt of \$30,000 resting upon the diocese of London when he less famous for amiability than for capacity, took charge.

Brunswick, was, prior to 1867, an anti- he at once gave him the requisite leave, and Confederate. He was a colleague of Sir ordered one of his staff to see that all Albert Smith, and went out of office with | necessary facilities were placed at Mr. Conhim when Mr. Tilley and Mr. Mitchell were | ingham's disposal. successful on the union cry. Later Mr. Frazer became a strong supporter of the all political questions, including his famous Public school system of New Brunswick, scheme for the invasion of India, Mr. Conand with the present Justice King, of the ingham's narrative of his conversations at Supreme Court, defended the schools when the Russian headquarters in Central Asia they were attacked in the interests of the should be specially interesting, more espe-

Mabel-"What an interesting talker Mr. and Russia could alone become friends in Gusher is? He always holds one when he Asia. speaks." Mrs. Gusher-" Does he? That "Your daughter has just said she would accounts for the hair I found on his should- will be permitted to publish his tager hied er last night.

新约4000 A A A A A

TAKING AN OATE.

Various Forms Used in Binding Witnesses.

Ever since there have courts martial particular stress has been placed upon the matter of administering the oath to the witnesses. In order that it may be binding and the loophole of informality may be, as far as possible, reduced it has been the custom to swear witnesses in the manner considered the most binding in their native lands. The march of civilization has, in this instance, tended toward accepting the methods for Protestants and Roman Catholics employed in this country as those best suited to impress upon a witness the solemnity and significance of the oath, though there are occasions when it became necessary to resort to other methods.

PROTESTANT WITNESSES

before a court-martial are sworn by laying their right hand, ungloved, on the Bible, closed or open, while the oath is recited. upon his appointment to the Governorship, Kissing the book is frequently required in addition to the laying on of the hand. and wishing him A Happy New Year. Mrs. Raising the right hand and keeping it raised during the recital of the oath is also a form adopted by a number. There are many who prefer to affirm rather than to swear and those are accommodated by saying: "You do solemnly affirm," instead of "solemnly swear," the right hand being raised or placed on the Bible as before. Formerly it was required to place

IN SWEARING CATHOLICS

the Bible is closed and has marked on the outer cover a cross, generally cut out of white paper and pasted on. Sometimes a crucifix is placed upon it, which the witness, after the oath is recited, kisses when there is any suspicion in the mind of the president or the court martial or in that of ly directed to cross himself. For con-Miss Eliza White, who recently died in venience, the oaths to be administered by whose duty it is to administer the oaths.

terested in all the leading enterprises in the whole truth and nothing but the truth. Yarmouth. He owned among other vessels | Frequently, however, there is no departure the County of Yarmouth, one of the largest | in the methods used with this race from that which ordinarily obtains. The stat-Rev. Isaac Constantine, who died recent- utes in the time of George IV., King of ly at Exeter, England, was until last England, contain several sections in relation autumn a clergyman in the Eastern Town- to the administration of the oath in various ships. During the epidemic of ship fever, | cases, and among them are one or two referwhen many of the colonial clergy succumbed | ring to the Quakers as well as to the Morwhile visiting immigrants, Mr. Constantine avians. These statutes have been embraced voluntarily abandoned his more lucrative in our own methods of precedure, and they allow people of the sects named solemnly, sincerely and truly to declare and affirm that the evidence which they give shall be the truth, the whole truth, and so forth. Mohammedans think the oath only positively binding when they are sworn upon the koran while the Hindu prefers to swear by touching with his hand the foot of a Brah-

THE CHINESE.

In this country the Chinese do not insist upon the same methods that were once in force. Very likely the chinaware dealers wish they did, as they are so much more numerous than when the following was their custom: In England, at the old Bailey prison, a Chinaman was presented as a witness in an important case, and for some time the nature of an oath and all that it implied sould not be impressed upon him. Neither could the authorities quite make out just what the Mongolian did consider binding. Finally, through the aid of an interpreter, it was decided to break a saucer over the head of the proposed witness. When this was done the Chinaman appealed to the supreme being whom he worshiped, praying that his own The Countess of Aberdeen wears at State | body might be broken into as many pieces functions a coronet the distinguishing as the saucer if the testimony he was about

adopt the ceremony of the religious De Grasse is a very common name in of the witnesses respectively. It is also Gloucester county, New Brunswick. All considered a wise plan, e-pecially in imporwho bear it belong to the family at the tant cases, that a priest of the creed of the

- Journey in Central Asia.

A remarkable tour of exploration into by a young English officer in a private ing for proprietors during the past century. | capacity, and without any official support or credentials. The tour was remarkable, not so much for the region traversed as tor the exceptional facilities placed in the English officer's way by the Russian authorities, with the result that he acquired a better knowledge of Russia's present position in Central Asia than any traveller of recent times. Mr. H. J. Coningham, a lieutenant it the Leinster Regiment, is the officer in question, and he spent the last eighteen months in a visit to Persia and Central Asia.

In the former country he explored sever al districts never previously visited by European, but the real interest of his journey began when he crossed the Russian frontier into Trans-Caspia.

As he had no letters or permits from the Governor, General Kuropatkin, stating that country. The Russian commander, who is seems to have been favourably impressed by Lieutenant-Governor Frazer, of New the young officer's candour and courage, for

As General Kuropatkin freely discusses cially as General Kuropatkin is said to have unfolded to him the plan by which England

It is to be hoped that Mr. Coningham account of all he saw and heard