

RELIGIOUS INTELLIGENCER.

"THAT GOD IN ALL THINGS MAY BE GLORIFIED THROUGH JESUS CHRIST." -Peter.

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Editorial Outlook

NO RACE PREJUDICE.

There is less race prejudice in England than in any other part of the world. Recently a Baptist church at Twickenham called a negro as pastor. He is a well-educated man. The other denominations in the town were represented at his installation. Where is there a church of white people in America that would have a colored man, however good and cultured, for pastor.

THE LORD'S DAY.

Sunday observance is gaining ground in France. It is told that recently something very like a riot occurred in Nice because some of the stores were kept open. About 500 salesmen made a demonstration against the open stores. The chief of police was summoned to disperse the protesting crowd, but instead of doing that he went from store to store begging the shopkeepers to close. It is significant that in godless France there is a growing feeling in favour of Lord's day observance.

POLITICAL NEWS.

It is said that Dr. Kendall, M. P. for Cape Breton, will be Post Office Inspector for Nova Scotia in place of Mr. Mc Donald, deceased.

Mr. Fraser, M.P., is mentioned in connection with the vacancy on the Supreme Court bench of Nova Scotia, caused by the resignation of Judge Henry.

Dr. McKay has been chosen as the Conservative candidate for Parliament in Cape Breton, north.

It is said that Mr. Emmerson is to become a member of the Dominion Government very soon.

THREE MONARCHS.

Within a short time three monarchs—King Edward, the German Emperor and the Czar, have visited Vienna. The first drove through the streets and went everywhere as though he were an ordinary mortal. The second, loving military pomp, but not fearing his foes, had no desire to be protected. The third, the Czar, stepped hastily and timidly from his carefully-disguised saloon-carriage and drove between thousands of soldiers and policemen, who hardly left room for a thin line of spectators, to Schonbrunn, where he strengthened himself at luncheon for his departure. The Viennese paper which comments on this spectacle concludes: "Three receptions, three systems; a ruler enjoys the freedom and lives the life he bestows upon his people."

DOWIE.

Dowie has been stirring up New York—is at it yet. The newspaper reports of his sayings and doings are, perhaps,

exaggerated. But, even making large allowance for the colouring the average New York reporter may put into his work, the exhibition the self-styled "Elijah" is making of himself is, to put it mildly, not pleasant. He has a most extraordinary faculty and fondness for abuse, and everybody who does not suit him, which includes everybody who does not endorse him and his pretensions, is called every unlovely thing he can lay his tongue to—and his tongue has a wide range in this department. Whether he has gathered many followers is not announced. It will be surprising if he does not get some. It is difficult, though, to understand how any people of ordinary judgment can put themselves under such leadership.

PRISON REFORM.

France has a new penitentiary, located just outside Paris, which is said to be in many respects an ideal prison. It provides for 2,000 prisoners. A description of it says "it is situated in a healthy district, has large windows freely admitting the air and sun, has hot baths, and is heated and lighted by electricity. The food is abundant. The inmates go to school, and are allowed to work at trades and with the money so earned to purchase many luxuries, tobacco being one of the prohibited things; everything is done to develop the better instincts of the prisoners. The prisoners are kept entirely separate from one another, can hold no communications, and are unable to recognize one another when they meet after release. Lectures on the evils of drunkenness are frequently given by lecturers supplied by a society in Paris which devotes its attention to work in prisons. It is practically a reformatory.

SINCE THE WAR.

Some letters in the London Times on the work of the Repatriation Department in South Africa gives interesting information as to the carrying out of the programme of reconciliation upon which the future of that country so much depends. The task of returning 70,000 persons with their belongings to their homes was completed by the end of last year, but it remained to provide them with the means of obtaining food from their ruined farms. How this was effected, by a scheme for practically driving the country with ploughing columns, thus bringing about 30,000 acres under cultivation that would otherwise have remained barren, is told. One happy result was that "a great change came over the Boers; their light-heartedness returned and I imagine (says the officer) that at no time was a feeling of gratitude to their new government nearer than during the time they were watching their lands being ploughed up for them." Even the lands of prisoners of war who had not yet returned were included in the government ploughing,

nor were the wives and children of those who refused to recognize the new government left unprovided for.

MOVING FORWARD.

In many European countries the temperance question is engaging increasing attention, and the reform is making progress. A review by the *Christian Intelligencer* tells that "in Sweden and Norway the reform is well advanced and measures for the restraint of the evil are in force. In Germany a law is proposed which will require saloon-keepers to keep for sale at all times food and non-intoxicating drinks, specifically lemonade, milk, coffee and tea. It will forbid the sale of intoxicants for credit and limit the number of women attendants. In Russia the sale of spirits is a government monopoly, but does not seem to be a restraint on the consumption of alcohol. On the contrary excise statistics show an increase of revenue from this source. Vodka, the popular drink, causes so much intemperance that the productive power of the people is impaired and its use had much to do, observers declare, with the recent acts of violence against the Jews. The increase of alcoholism in France is engendering a temperance agitation which is gaining force and influence. Much of the increase of drunkenness in many of these countries is attributed to the extensive adulteration of the milder alcoholic beverages, as wine and beer.

RUSSIA.

Russia has no real friendship for any nation. She is selfish to the last degree, and wholly untrustworthy. Referring to the fact that there are signs that France is getting tired of the Russian alliance, the *Journal and Messenger* points out that all the benefits of the alliance have accrued to Russia, whose chief object is to borrow money. "There was a time when Russia borrowed in England, and a considerable number of Russian securities are still held there. When the English bankers concluded that there was too much risk connected with Russian loans Russia turned to Germany. The German Government aided them by its moral influence to borrow of German bankers, hoping that Germany might gain something in a political way. After a time Germany was closed as a Russian loan market. The German Government had gained nothing, and the German investors had their securities. Then came the alliance with France, and at once Russian loans were placed in that country, gathering up the savings of peasants. Lately, however, it has been difficult for Russia to borrow in France, notwithstanding the general popularity of the Russian alliance, which leads the people to believe that Russia would come to their aid with her army in a crisis. The Russian financiers now seek loans in the

United States, and this is the reason of the constant effort of Russian agents to create an idea of Russian friendship. Russia has no more love for the United States than she has for the Japanese. Nevertheless her agents have induced some of the New York insurance companies to risk their members' money in Russian loans.

THE ALASKAN AWARD.

The Alaskan award gives the United States nearly all it contended for. Canada gets Portland Canal. The award is disappointing to Canada. There is much complaint, and, in some quarters, a disposition to charge that Lord Alverstone improperly gave away Canada's rights to satisfy the United States. It is hardly conceivable that one holding the high judicial position of Lord Alverstone would do other than what he was fully persuaded was just. As a matter of fact he was the only really unbiased member of the commission. The United States members certainly were not unbiased. They had prior to their appointment expressed themselves in the strongest terms, so much so that their appointment was a surprise. Possibly the Canadian members were not wholly free from bias. The great mistake was in the character of the tribunal, which was not, in the true sense, a board of arbitration. From the beginning there was no chance for Canada, for the United States half of the commission were, as the *New York Independent* stated before the award was made, "not judges to review a case about which they are uncertain, but representatives of established American rights which they are in London to see confirmed." The question should have been left to real arbitration, in which case the award, though disappointing, would not have caused ill-feeling, for Canadians, as all Britishers, know how to take defeat with calmness. The incident makes it certain that in any future dispute with the United States in which Canada is interested the tribunal to settle it will not be of the Alaska boundary sort. Canadian territory and rights are not likely to be held as cheaply as they have seemed to be hitherto.

NOTES.

The Catholic Mutual Benefit Association, at its tri-ennial convention in Pittsburg, Pa., a few days ago, adopted a rule to exclude rumsellers from membership. Good.

Judge Henry, of the Nova Scotia Supreme Court, has resigned. He has been in poor health three or four years.

The widow of the late Rev. C. H. Spurgeon died, in London, last Thursday.

The *Canada Gazette* announces that, though the 9th of November is the King's birthday, the celebration will be on the 24th May.