

THE RELIGIOUS INTELLIGENCER

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

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Editorial Outlook

REFUSED THEM.

Some of the monks who had to leave France because they were unwilling to submit to the laws of the country, went to Venezuela, with the intention of establishing themselves there. They proposed to establish a college, etc., in Caracas, but the government refused them permission. The Venezuelan government showed more wisdom than some other governments which might be supposed to be more enlightened.

POLITICAL NEWS.

The Manitoba elections are expected about the middle of July.

In the Ontario bye-elections it is thought prohibition candidates will be placed in the field.

Mr. L. O. David, city clerk of Montreal, has been appointed to the Senate.

H. Harrison, Mungerville, S. Co., has been reappointed fishery inspector, which office he resigned to be a candidate for the N. B. Legislature.

SERVED HIM RIGHT.

For attempting to bribe a witness in a liquor selling case, D. C. Slack, of Truro, N. S., was a few days ago fined \$200 and sentenced to five days in jail. It is said to be a not uncommon thing for victims of the drink debauchery to swear falsely. It is believed that the men of the traffic frequently offer them inducements or compel them by threats, to perjure themselves. It would be a good thing, and have a good effect, if some of these fellows were brought sharply to account.

BRITISH TRADE.

Says the *Presbyterian Witness*:

Never since the great discussions of 1840 to '46 have the British people been so excited over any trade question as they have been during the present week over Chamberlain's proposal for uniting the Empire. The discussions in Parliament have been of an unusually interesting character. Even the free trade party are convinced that a crisis is at hand and that something must be done. Practically all the British people are free traders, but there is a growing conviction that some modifications must be adopted. It is rather remarkable that all the outside opinion in other nations is bitterly opposed to Chamberlain's proposal. In the United States the protectionist papers are just as clear as those advocating free trade that the scheme would never work. All protectionists think that other people should adopt free trade.

A SUCCESS.

The great Assouan reservoir, which was opened last December, has already, the *N. Y. Advocate* says, demonstrated its efficiency in the most remarkable manner, as it has doubled the Nile's summer supply of water, on which the cotton and sugar crops depend. The cost of the dam was about \$12,500,000, and it was estimated that it would increase the agricultural power of Egypt at least \$13,000,000 a year. The building of the dam at Assouan was a wonderful engineering feat and promised the additional irrigation of 1,600,000 acres. The reservoir has a storage capacity of 234,000,000 gallons.

A "ZOLLVEREIN."

Perhaps the ideas of some may be a little hazy as to just what the word "Zollverein" stands for, which is often used nowadays in the discussion of Mr. Chamberlain's scheme. It was originally applied to the trade-league, or customs union, formed by twenty-six of the States of what is now the German Empire. In this case commercial union prepared the way for political consolidation. The name has therefore come to be applied to a union of communities banding themselves together for free trade, or a preferential tariff among themselves, but with a common protective tariff on foreign imports. This, of course, is what Mr. Chamberlain's scheme of Imperial preferential trade means, and hence the appositeness of "Zollverein" at the present juncture.

STEADY COERCION.

Finland, once a free country, is more and more having the life-blood of liberty squeezed out of it by the cruel treatment of the Russian power. A new ordinance has just been issued, by which the Governor General of Finland is directed to take measures for the closing for stated periods of hotels, bookstores, and all kinds of commercial and industrial establishments; to forbid public and private assemblies of all kinds; to dissolve private associations and their branches; and to forbid to live in Finland persons whose presence the Governor General may consider injurious to public tranquility. This, as is expressly stated, is part of the policy of Russification, to bring Finland 'into uniform connection with the original parts of the Empire.' Already a number of distinguished Finns have been exiled under this latest order.

THE CUBAN LOTTERY.

Under Spanish rule the lottery evil flourished in Cuba. The government constantly utilized it, and a few were enriched at the expense of the people. Various lottery schemes were authorized, and the people were swindled wholesale. Lotteries are not so flourishing since Cuba secured independence. Of course, it would scarcely be expected that the taste for the gambling should disappear at once. Lately the Cuba Senate passed a bill providing for a national lottery. The House has not yet passed the bill, and may not. Meantime the changed feeling concerning lotteries is voiced in the earnest protest of General Gomez against legalizing any lottery. He says: The patriot who esteems himself and has a conscience of his own, will prefer not to collect one cent rather than to have his reward come from the profits of a gaming house; the lottery would be the shame of the republic.

A WIND-BAG.

Bourke Cochrane is an Irish-Yankee blatherskite. He does his fighting and everything else with his mouth. He is in London just now. The Irish party in Parliament gave a dinner in his honor. He made a speech of the bombastic kind, in which he prophesied a great future for Ireland. All such as he has ever done for Ireland is to head processions, make frothy speeches and take up collections. But not satisfied with the usual frothy talk about Ireland, he was moved to attack Colonial Secretary Chamberlain for his plan of preferential trade within the Empire. Of course, anything that might make stronger the bonds of British unity is hateful to such as he. No country but Britain would permit such fellows to talk their hate in its Parliament House.

THE KING'S PHYSICIAN.

Sir Thomas Barlow, King Edward's physician, has declared himself strongly about the use of intoxicants and the great evils of drink. His utterances, so strong and uncompromising, are regarded as marking an era in the progress of scientific temperance truth. One of the chief values of Sir Thomas Barlow's testimony is that in which he contends for effective treatment as against the dallying measures too frequently resorted to, and the excuses which are made to cover the evils. Sir Thomas said: "No half measures would do." He said that in some cases nurses and even doc-

tors asked, "Why do you not give these people a little alcohol, just to stimulate them when they have this dreadful weakness, heart failure and pain?" "And it is just this damnable thing," said Sir Thomas Barlow, "that you have to stop." His sage advice is: "If you have any cases of alcoholic diseases among your own friends, I beseech you to get doctors and nurses who are teetotalers." Then, he added, "Don't let them fall into the hands of a doctor who orders stimulants for them." This weighty testimony has led to much comment in the daily press of the country, and the danger which threatens the country cannot, in view of such authoritative statements, be longer ignored.

FARTHEST NORTH.

It is claimed that the most northern railway in the world is the Ofoten railroad, opened for through traffic in November last between Lulea, on the Gulf of Bothnia, and Victoria Haven at the head of Ofoten Fiord, on the Atlantic Ocean. The road penetrates about one hundred miles north of the Arctic circle. Its total length is about two hundred and fifty miles. The eastern part, between Lulea and the famous iron mines at Gellivare, forty-four miles north of the Arctic circle, has been in operation for over fifteen years. It has now been extended to the Atlantic, to facilitate shipments of iron ore. Lulea on the narrow arm of the Baltic, is closed by ice for seven or eight months every year. At Victoria Haven, however, there is not only deep water for the largest vessels, but like all the Atlantic ports of Norway, it is ice-free the year round, so that ore may be forwarded in every month to the blast furnaces of England and Germany. The mines at Gellivare yielded 800,000 tons of ore in 1899, 1,000,000 tons in 1900, and the quantity is expected to be largely augmented now that there are better facilities for getting the mineral out of the country. These Swedish ores are regarded as among the best steel ores in the world; but they are difficult to reduce, on account of the phosphorus in them, and, as Sweden has no coal with which to smelt them, she sells most of the ore to England and Germany.

THE ENGLISH CENSUS.

A summary of the English census returns for 1901, just issued, shows many interesting facts. While the population of England and Wales has risen from 8,892,536 in 1801 to

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