

THE RELIGIOUS INTELLIGENCER

Board of Works dec02

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

VOLUME LI.

ST. JOHN AND FREDERICTON, N. B., MARCH 25, 1903.

No. 12.

Editorial Outlook

POLITICAL NEWS.

The New Brunswick legislature is to meet Thursday of this week.

Governor Jette, of Quebec, and Judge Armour, of the Supreme court, have been appointed members of the Alaskan Boundary Commission.

The Manitoba legislature was prorogued Thursday.

It is thought there may be another general election in Ontario very soon.

ONTARIO.

The Ontario government has announced that Judges Falconbridge and Boyd will be the commission to investigate the charge of corruption made against Provincial Secretary Stratton. The resolution referring the matter to the commission is still under discussion in the legislature. Other charges have been made against the government, and they, as well as the Gamey charge, demand investigation.

"FALLING OFF!"

Reading some United States papers one would be sure that Great Britain's trade was slipping away from her at a rapid rate, and that the United States and Germany were about becoming the world's business leaders. But Britain's balance sheet for 1902 does not bear out the doleful stories of "falling off" business. Last year's British trade returns show an increase of ten million pounds over the previous year. It was a record year. But the stories about falling off are not likely to stop.

LAND PURCHASE PLAN.

Of the proposal to purchase lands in Ireland owned by English landlords, the *Canadian Baptist* says: "There is not likely to be any measure submitted to the Imperial Parliament during its present session of greater practical interest. Should this bill become law, not only will there at once be created in Ireland a better feeling towards England, but it may be expected that much of the Anglophobia which a certain class of United States citizens now unreasonably cherish, will be considerably modified. In fact, we believe that a very general feeling of relief will be experienced upon the passage of that measure."

THE COAL COMMISSION.

The commission appointed by President Roosevelt to examine into difference between the mine owners and their employes, has made a report. In brief, the commission recommends a general increase of wages, amounting in most instances to ten per cent.; some decrease of time; the settlement of all disputes by arbitration; fixes a minimum wage and a sliding scale; provides against discrimination of persons by either the mine owners or the miners on account of membership or non-membership in a labor union, and provides that the awards made shall continue in force until March 31st, 1906. The commission discussed to some extent the matter of recognition or non-recognition of the miners' union, but declined to make any award on this matter.

TWO TO ONE.

There has been much newspaper talk about the feeling in Maine having turned against the prohibitory liquor law. Those who do not understand that this kind of talk is part of the rum traffic's campaign, paid for at so much per inch, would be given the impression that the people of the State had really become disgusted with prohibition. The other day the rum men's representatives in the legislature ventured to move to submit the question of prohibition or license to a vote of the State. The proposal was thrown out by a vote of more than two to one. The people who have been living under the law know its merits in spite of all the unfaithfulness of officials, and have no intention of permitting its repeal. But the talk about "the failure of prohibition in Maine" will go on as before, and some people who ought to be too sensible to be deceived will believe the lie.

WHY THIS APPOINTMENT?

Among a lot of appointments by the New Brunswick government, announced last week, is the following:

Sunbury.—John Shehan to be a vendor of liquors under the Canada Temperance Act for the parish of Gladstone.

It is a most extraordinary appointment. Shehan keeps a hotel at Fredericton Junction, and for years has been an illegal rumseller. It is only the other day he was convicted of violation of the Canada Temperance Act. And now he has been made a vendor of liquors under the very Act he has been persistently violating. If the government

knew the man and his record the appointment is wholly inexcusable. If they were deceived as to the man they should resent the deception by immediately cancelling the appointment. It is for the friends of temperance and decency in Gladstone, many of whom are warm supporters of the government, to make such representations to the government as will cause the reproach and evil of Shehan's appointment to be removed at once.

LEGISLATIVE RUMSHOPS.

The sale of liquors in the Capitol buildings at Washington has been prohibited by a law of Congress. Even the *New York Sun* admits that the passage of this law is another evidence of the power of persistent agitation by the prohibitionists of the country. The liquor traffic people do not like the outlook. Temperance people are correspondingly glad.

When will the parliament of Canada pass a law prohibiting liquor selling in the parliament buildings at Ottawa? If the temperance members on both sides of the house and in the Senate will set themselves about it, they can remove the evil thing, and at once.

The New Brunswick legislature is to meet this week. Let us hope there will not this session be "the refreshments" arrangement which is said to have existed in the legislative building during recent sessions. A large number of the members, possibly the majority, are abstainers. They owe it to themselves and to the people they represent, as well as to the sober sentiment of the province generally, to prevent liquor selling, or the providing it under any conditions, in the legislative building.

CHAMBERLAIN'S EXPECTATION.

Mr. Chamberlain's welcome home from South Africa was very hearty. His first appearance in the House of Commons was marked by a great display of enthusiasm, volleys of cheers greeting him. In one of the brief speeches made since his return, he said he was satisfied with the result of his tour, yet cautioned the people against overestimating what had been achieved. The history of South Africa, he said, had been stormy, and at times disastrous. Since the time the King of Portugal changed the name of Cape Storms to the Cape of Good Hope, storms had raged continuously and hope was constantly

deferred. Therefore the people of Great Britain could not expect in the twinkling of an eye to do away with a long record of vacillation and weakness. Although progress must necessarily be slow, it was certain. He returned to England in a spirit of hopefulness and confidence. He believed a new chapter had been opened in South African history. In the last quarter of a century two ideas had been struggling for the mastery—the Dutch for supremacy, and the British for political equality. The war, which he deplored, had settled the great issue for once and for all. He believed the present provincial feeling of the Dutch would be replaced by pride in the Empire of which they are now members. The petty differences which have hitherto divided the British and the Boers and Dutch will be lost in the wider circle of imperial interest and obligation.

NOTES.

Martineau, the fellow who stole nearly, if not quite, \$100,000 from the government at Ottawa, and was sent to the penitentiary for seven years, has been given charge of the book-keeping of that institution. They might make him cashier.

The newest member of the British parliament, Mr. Crooks, labor representative, was, when a boy of nine, driven to seek refuge in a workhouse. He is now a leading spirit in labor questions, and deserves the seat in parliament to which he has been elected.

"The United States is," etc., is now declared to be the proper form. The U. S. Supreme Court has decided the matter. It is well to have something authoritative about the matter, for many people many times were in doubt whether to use is or are.

It is stated that one of the old maps found by Joseph Pope in the Chateau Ramezay, and which dated back to the time before Alaska was ceded to the United States, shows Lynn canal to be in British North America.

Lord Dundonald is likely to retire from the command of the Canadian militia. He and the militia department cannot get along.

St. John has been made the military headquarters of New Brunswick. This was recently decided by the militia department. The city council of Fredericton and the Board of Trade are protesting against the change.