

RELIGIOUS INTELLIGENCER.

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

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Editorial Outlook

POLITICAL NEWS.

Capt. S. R. Griffin is the Conservative candidate in Guysboro, N. S. Election on the 16th inst.

The New Brunswick Legislature meets Thursday of this week.

Mr. J. L. Carleton, of St. John, has been appointed county court judge for Charlotte, Carleton and Victoria Counties, succeeding Judge Stevens, retired.

A QUARTER CENTURY.

The twenty-fifth anniversary of the introduction of the incandescent lamp by Edison was celebrated a few days ago. It was made the occasion of honoring the great inventor, whose numerous applications of electricity have been so valuable. Mr. Edison is not yet an old man, being but fifty-seven, and he may be expected to do a great deal more in discovery and application of electrical forces.

BELGIAN CRUELITIES.

A well known Baptist missionary, Rev. J. H. Weeks, gives an appalling report of slavery and murder in the Congo State under the control of Belgium. He tells of ten men, eleven women and one girl recently shot by officials for delay in paying taxes. Twenty-one persons were recently sold for one goat each in order to pay taxes. In one place the population has been reduced in six months from 700 to 500. Belgium does, or permits, these terrible things for money.

WAR NOTES.

There is but little to report of what has been done during the week.

It was announced from St. Petersburg that four Japanese war ships and two transports had been sunk while making an attack on Port Arthur, but a denial came next day.

Three Japanese were hanged by Russians in Manchuria for attempting to blow up the railroad bridge over the Sungari river. They were disguised as coolies. They were arrested just as they were about to make the attempt. They were officers of the general staff—a colonel and two lieutenants.

The Japanese have continued landing troops.

UNUSUAL, BUT RIGHT.

A Colorado member of the United States House of Representatives, Mr. John F. Shafroth, astonished his fellow members, and many others, by announcing his relinquishment of his seat in favor of his opponent, who was contesting the election. The retiring member announced in the House that after an investigation he had come to the realization that his election was in part the

result of violations of the law. And though he had no part in the wrongdoing, he did not feel he could retain his seat in Congress. Mr. Shafroth's procedure is said to be the first of its kind on record. His colleagues were not slow to express their appreciation of the simple honesty of his conduct.

CANADA'S WHEAT.

Replying to a United States writer's statement, that Canada could not supply wheat for Great Britain because she could not build up her railway system fast enough to transport it, Mr. George Johnson, Dominion Statistician, showed that if, at the present time, Manitoba alone took a strip of land five miles on each side of her existing railways, it would give an area of 14,000,000 acres, which, at the average yield of 18.65 bushels per acre, would yield 260,000,000 bushels of wheat, which is more than Great Britain ever imported in one year. He added that if we took the 2,100 miles of railway in the Northwest, beyond Manitoba, there would be another 14,000,000 acres, which would give in all 260,000,000 bushels of a surplus.

Mr. Johnson also points out that, taking actual results, in 1902 the yield of 2,000,000 acres was 53,000,000 bushels of wheat. Four times that acreage would give all that Great Britain required, and 20,000,000 bushels over; and that Manitoba contains 48,000,000 acres from which to select the 8,000,000 acres required.

Our railway building capacity is shown by the fact that in 1886-7, Canada built 1,000 miles of railway, and Mr. Johnson contends that the Canadian Pacific Railway alone could be herring-boned in the West so as to put enough land under cultivation within easy access to the railway to give England all the wheat she wanted in one year.

WEAKLINGS.

President Andrews, of Nebraska University, is represented as advocating that the weaklings of society be put out of the way. He is not the only one who holds some such view, and those who hold it claim that the number who agree with them is increasing rapidly.

We need hardly say, comments the *Baptist Commonwealth*, that "the spirit of Christianity is wholly opposed to this method of treating our weaklings, those dependent upon our helpfulness and tenderness. That was a pagan thought. Might had the right of way in those days and the weak must go to the wall. So the Spartans would expose their weakly children that the strong only might survive. Rome carried her decrepit slaves to an island in the Tiber and left them there to perish because they had outlived their usefulness. Paganism was devoid of hospitals and homes as they exist to-day, in which the sick may be helped and the infirm cared

for. Christianity thus throws her protecting tenderness over those to whom Christ's healing touch came, and in his name his people are going forth on every hand to minister to them to-day.

And what the world would have lost if during the past centuries it had put out of the way in this heartless fashion those that might be termed weaklings! Robert Louis Stevenson for years was dying with consumption and yet he has left us rare specimens of matchless English. Robert Hall oftentimes stretched himself on the floor in almost indescribable agony before going to preach sermons that are models to-day. Herbert Spencer was a weakling, an invalid all his life, and yet he did a work that puts to the blush almost the strongest efforts of our most stalwart men. Helen Keller, according to the thought said to be expressed by President Andrews, would years ago have been put out of the way as a weakling, but in her awakening she has shown something of the sublimity of the human soul and has again reminded us that in weakness may be strength. No, our weaklings are here to be cared for and to make us strong in their service. The poor of all classes have we with us always, and to them, as to us, comes the glad message of God's grace."

BRIEF MENTION.

The Canadian Pacific Railway is continuing to give ministers and missionaries in the West the same reduced rates as before the announcement of the withdrawal of the special privileges.

Nova Scotia has a school attendance of 98,768 pupils. The expenditure last year was \$934,458.

We shall probably hear nothing more for several years of the "change in the seasons since I was a boy."

The British Prime Minister announced recently that his government would fulfill its treaty obligations with Japan to the very letter. By these "treaty obligations" Great Britain is to make common cause with Japan in the event that a third power attacks the latter.

It is reported that three thousand families will come into Southern Alberta from Utah this spring. Let us hope the report is unfounded. Canada has more than enough Mormons now.

SEND THEM PROMPTLY.—The *Wesleyan* says: "Marriage notices are of special interest to the parties concerned, and they are of little use to anybody one month after the wedding. A post card or a two cent stamp will send the notice. There is no excuse for sending and no reason for publishing a notice two or three months after the ceremony. We believe in fresh news. We have been compelled in the interests of our readers to refuse to publish old marriage notices."

So say we all. Death notices, too, should be sent promptly, and reports of church work.

What Others Say.

CAN DRIVE HIM.

When the church enters heartily into the anti-liquor agitation, the devil will have to make tracks.—*Nat. Advocate*.

MORE MODESTY.

Probably all the European powers are now friendly to the United States; they hardly dare to be otherwise.—*N. Y. Sun*.

WHICH?

If you cared as much about what Christ thinks as of what your neighbor thinks of you, what effect would it have on your life?—*Free Baptist*.

WHITEWASH.

Reformation without the regenerating grace of God is like whitewash on a tar barrel. It may look white, but it is a tar barrel still. The first rain will wash it off. Regeneration means a new barrel.—*United Presbyterian*.

AS NOWHERE ELSE.

There is a scope under our flag for the largest development of local self-government, of religious liberty, of material progress, of commercial freedom and enterprise. Liberty and autonomy, with law and order, have not been developed under any government so freely, so successfully, as within the British Empire.—*Presbyterian Witness*.

ROCKEFELLER.

The reported retirement of John D. Rockefeller from active business is a topic of the day. Such an occasion, one would think, should produce something complimentary in the shape of an obituary, but the very best thing anyone can say of Mr. Rockefeller is that he is the richest man in the world, that he has indigestion, and that he is almost as bald as he is as wealthy. His money and influence should have commanded more than this.—*The Mail*.

THE INNOCENT SUFFER.

It is one of the sad things of life that the innocent must sometimes suffer with the guilty. An engineer fails to observe the signal and a score of lives are lost and many homes plunged into sorrow. Some one blunders and 600 lives are lost in a burning theater. A ruler is ambitious and nations are plunged into war, and countless thousands mourn. It seems that "each iniquity must be paid for out of the resources of the race." But God will adjust all inequalities. He will punish the guilty and to the innocent will give full recompense for all grief and heartache. Men may blunder, but the Judge of all the earth will do right.—*United Presbyterian*.

—William Quarrier, of Weir, in Scotland, was a philanthropist of the noblest type. To shelter the helpless and the infirm was practically his life ideal and work. He established homes for orphans, and had no fewer than 1,300 of these under his protection when he died. And he not only aimed to give them a home, but to train them for useful work in life.