

# RELIGIOUS INTELLIGENCER.

Board of Works dec04

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

VOLUME LII.

ST. JOHN AND FREDERICTON, N. B., AUGUST 3, 1904.

No. 31.

## Editorial Outlook

### KRUGER'S FORTUNE.

The late ex-President Kruger left a fortune of \$5,000,000 or more. He got away with this when he fled from Pretoria. It does not appear that he devoted any of his money to the war which he caused, and in which his countrymen suffered so much. Nor does it appear when he had to leave it, he gave any of it to help the widows and orphans of the men whose lives were sacrificed in his war. He was regarded by his people as a patriot, but he seems to have been chiefly concerned for himself.

### RUSSIA AND BRITAIN.

The sinking of a British steamer, the Knight Commander, by the Russian Vladivostok squadron, revived the feeling caused by the seizure of the Malacca, and which was being relievied by Russia's acknowledgment of wrong and assurance that no like incident should occur. The claim of Russian commanders was that the Knight Commander had on board contraband of war for the Japanese. The British government took prompt and decisive action against what it regards as an intolerable breach of international law.

### LICENSES EXTENDED.

As was expected, the St. John License Commissioners have again extended the licenses of those who were at the beginning of the year denied license but given three months to get ready to go out of business. The Commissioners at that time declared that the number of licenses would be kept within the limit provided for in the law. But, having in mind previous action of the Commissioners, few, if any, believed they would do as they said. They may have intended to, but if so, the pressure of those who do not want to antagonize the traffic is more than they can resist. The fact is that the rum men do pretty nearly as they please in St. John, and for some reason those whose duty it is to enforce the law are either unwilling or not strong enough to interfere with them.

### ANOTHER ASSASSINATION.

Russia's internal troubles are neither few nor small. The country is honey-combed with the spirit of anarchy. The methods of government are such that the lives of the men who administer the government are constantly threatened. It is only a few weeks ago that the Governor General of Finland was murdered. Last Thursday Von Plehve, Minister of the Interior, was assassinated while on his way to visit the Czar. A bomb was thrown under his carriage, and he was killed instantly, being horribly mangled. The assassin was also

wounded; he is under arrest. The murdered minister's immediate predecessor in office was, also, the victim of an assassin. Von Plehve was a most unpopular man, and his assassination was regarded as sure to come sooner or later. He was able, but unprincipled and tyrannical. As he succeeded one of his own kind, so his successor will probably be like him and use power in the same heartless way. Some day Russia will learn the better way. She is a slow learner, and the lessons are costly.

### GAMBLING ON STEAMERS.

On the trans-Atlantic steamships professional gamblers ply their trade and find many victims. More now than ever before, it appears, are they infesting the steamers, and evidently but small and ineffective attempts are made to interfere with them. They go in groups of three or four, take rooms in different parts of the ship, appear to be total strangers to each other, loll about the smoking room, and when occasion is ripe get up a game, ostentatiously are introduced to each other as strangers for the thousandth time and then proceed to work their game on the pockets of the unsuspecting amateur. There have been several scandals lately growing out of this steamer gambling. In one case, a victim resenting being swindled struck the gambler and was nearly thrown overboard. Another victim visited the room of one of the gamblers and got his money back at the point of a pistol. The managers of the steamships owe it to themselves and their passengers to take measures to stop the swindling. They could easily make a rule against all gambling on shipboard, and could enforce it.

### LOCAL OPTION.

Local option is not the ideal form of prohibition, but it is infinitely better than any form of license. Just now the local option plan is being quite widely adopted in the United States, and with excellent effect. In the southern states large sections are in this way prohibiting the liquor traffic. The whiskey men are feeling it keenly and are making vigorous war against it. As one result, the distillers of Kentucky had last year to curtail their output by at least one-third, and will, probably, have to curtail it more this year. So alarmed are the men of the traffic that they have organized and have a large fund which is used in lobbying against legislation which interferes with their vile business and in campaigning against the adoption of local prohibition. The best evidence of the effectiveness and benefits of even partial prohibitory measures is the fact that the whiskey men are so enraged by them. In Ontario the local option campaign is making encouraging progress. Everywhere temperance men

should take advantage of whatever measure of prohibition is available. Keep up the agitation. Push the fight.

### CONSUMPTION.

The Canadian Association for the Prevention of Consumption and other forms of tuberculosis is carrying on its work with a good deal of energy. It distributes information about the prevalence of the disease, and the means for lessening it; advocates the enactment of laws that will make easier its prevention; encourages the establishment of suitable accommodation for consumptives in hospitals and otherwise, and seeks to interest the people generally in preventive measures. Rev. Dr. Moore, the secretary and organizer of the association is soon to visit a number of places in the Maritime Provinces and lecture on the subject. It is hoped that he may have large audiences. It is calculated that there are in Canada today between 30,000 and 40,000 persons suffering from consumption. And the statement is made by those who have made a study of the matter, that consumption, with other forms of tuberculosis, causes one death in every eight in this country; and that of all the deaths in the Dominion between the ages of twenty-five and thirty-five nearly one half are due to consumption.

### TO BE ABOLISHED.

The question of the separation of Church and State will be brought before the legislature of France in the January session. A committee in charge of the matter has prepared a measure of a sweeping character, as is shown in its opening clauses, which declare: "The republic assures freedom of conscience, and it guarantees the free exercise of religion without restriction, except for the perversion of public order. The republic will neither protect nor pay salaries nor subventions under any form whatever to any denomination. It will not recognize any minister of religion, and will not furnish any building for the services of any denomination or for the lodging of any of its ministers." The measure will, probably, provide for the disposal of church property in the hands of the government, and also abolish the French embassy to the Vatican. The revolutionary character of the proposed changes will be understood when it is remembered that the priests and other ecclesiastics are now salaried officers of the government, and that the church is represented in the cabinet by a Minister of Public Worship.

### THE WAR.

The Japanese have continued to win. As the result of fighting which had been going on from the 21st and which culminated on the 24th, the Japanese drove the Russians from Ta Che Kiao. There

was fierce fighting. The losses of the Japanese are estimated at 800, the Russians losing many more.

New Chwang has been evacuated by the Russians, and the Japanese are in possession.

On Saturday it was reported that Port Arthur had fallen, but at this writing the report lacks confirmation.

A St. Petersburg despatch says the feeling there since the taking of New Chwang is far from hopeful. The temper of the soldiers at the front over the continued retrograde movements is shown by the statements of two Russian correspondents, who reported that "the soldiers are tired of retreating" and the statement of another Russian correspondent who says "our men retired from Ta Che Kiao with heavy hearts." The correspondent says: "We are all wonderstruck at the strategy and genius of General Kuroki. Everything he plans is executed with clockwork regularity, although he has no railroad but must march his men over mountain roads."

The rumored fall of Port Arthur is officially denied at Tokio. There is terrific fighting on land and sea around Port Arthur.

### THE G. T. P. SURVEY.

The investigation of the G. T. P. survey business has shown very clearly that the survey was being managed solely in the interests of Yankee engineers. Mr. Hays, the Grand Trunk manager, and Mr. Stephens, the chief of the surveying staff, both United States citizens, were evidently bound to fill all the positions of any importance with their fellow countrymen. Canadian engineers of the highest standing were refused positions. Among the men of the management's choice was one fellow who had a fondness for saying offensive things about the King, but he was to get Canadian money for doing work that Canadian engineers could do better than he. Mr. Collingwood Schreiber, an engineer of the highest standing, stated in his evidence that there is no position on the survey that could not be filled as well, or better, by Canadians than by outsiders, and he named several, any of whom could easily take charge of the whole work. Fortunately the conspiracy to shut out Canadians from a work to be carried on in their own country, and to be paid for by the people of the country, was discovered. It appears, however, that so far only four of the aliens reported by the commissioner conducting the investigation have been discharged. And in their latest evidence Mr. Hays and Mr. Stephens would give no assurance that those whose services had been dispensed with will not be re-engaged later.

The latest and coolest thing in this connection is the statement that the United States government is going to

(Continued on page 12)