

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 10, 1904.

No. 32.

Editorial Outlook

WHAT IT SUGGESTED.

A young woman drunk on the streets of St. John, and so violent that it required four policemen to carry her to the lockup, moved two of the daily papers to remark that the incident was "another strong plea for a patrol wagon."

Nothing else?

POLITICAL NEWS.

Mr. Sifton is credited with telling his friends in the west, during the visit from which he has just returned, that there will not be a general election this year, and perhaps not till after another session. On the other hand, there is at Ottawa a very general belief that the election will take place before the snow flies, and some think within a very few weeks.

THE LORD'S DAY BILL.

In the beginning of the session of Parliament a Lord's Day Observance Bill was promised to be passed and then submitted to the Supreme Court for judgment as to whether it came within the jurisdiction of the Dominion authorities. The Minister of Justice has, however, decided not to introduce the bill till next session, making the reference to the Supreme Court first.

BRITISH PREFERENCE.

Mr. Chamberlain, in his latest speech in Parliament, urged Premier Balfour to call a conference of colonial representatives to consider the Imperial preference policy which he is so vigorously and successfully advocating. The inter-British commercial idea has made remarkable progress, and is, evidently steadily and rapidly gaining supporters in every part of the Empire. Such a conference as Mr. Chamberlain proposes will, doubtless, be held before very long, probably next year. And there can be little doubt that it will result in an understanding which will take form in a system of reciprocal trade of great advantage to every part of the Empire.

BENEFITS OF PROHIBITION.

When, a few months ago, Toronto Junction came under the operations of local prohibition, and the grog shops were closed, there was a great outcry about it. The hotels could not be supported, it was said; the farmers would not come to such a place with their produce; and the business men would be forced to move out. But already there comes news of a most cheering kind. One merchant tells that since the rum business was prohibited he has gained forty new customers, people who were before unable to buy his goods because their money was spent in the grog shops. Other merchants declare that many accounts are settled with a

promptness before unknown. The same would be true everywhere if the miserable rum business was closed up. The rum traffic is a pirate among honorable businesses.

THE PRESIDENCY.

The Democrats have much more hope of winning in the presidential election than before they chose their candidate. Judge Parker not only has the hearty support of his own party, but he has, also, the respect of his opponents. The electoral college will have four hundred and seventy-six members. The Republicans feel certain of one hundred and eighty-three of them, and the Democrats of one hundred and sixty-two. Of the remaining one hundred and thirty-one, the Republicans must get fifty-six to win; while the Democrats to win must secure seventy-seven. The states regarded as doubtful are Colorado, Connecticut, Illinois, Indiana, Montana, New York, New Jersey, West Virginia, Utah and Wisconsin, and in these the battle will be raged. New York, with thirty-nine electoral votes, will be fiercely fought for. Both candidates are from New York.

THE WAR.

It is not easy to keep the run of the war. The reports are often repeated in part, and it is sometimes difficult to tell just how much is new. There has been much and severe fighting during the week and with heavy losses on both sides. The Japanese have made gains steadily. At Port Arthur they have gained several positions, and may succeed in taking that fortress almost any day. It is estimated that there are 100,000 Japanese before Port Arthur.

The Japanese have been successfully pressing towards Liao Yang, an important point. General Keller (Russian), was killed in an engagement east of Liao Yang. He was regarded as an able commander.

A late despatch says: General Kuroki, with one hundred thousand men is now behind the Russian forces; General Oku, with an army of 50,000 men is on their front, while flanking them on the left is General Nodseu with his division of 50,000 men. If General Kuropatkin is defeated in this battle he must either move westward or surrender.

THE DYNOGRAF.

The *World's Work* tells of an apparatus, invented by Dr. P. H. Dudley, by means of which a railroad official can sit in his private car and see recorded on paper before him every imperfection of the rails over which he is travelling. The machine is said to be forty-two inches high and to look like a hand printing press. The records are made on a roll of paper unrolled by a shaft attached to the axle of the car. Over it

are suspended fine hollow glass tubes, containing red ink, that make a continuous mark on the paper. There is one needle for each track, one for the gauge of the rails and another to measure the distance the car is traveling. These glass needles are connected by a shaft attached to the axle, and by delicate mechanism attached to the shaft. A straight line on the paper means a perfectly level track, a deviation of a fraction of an inch is shown by a broken line. An undulation of an eighth of an inch or more opens a hose attached to a can of blue paint, and makes a mark on the track for the section men to see, that the defect may be rectified. At the end of a test trip a permanent record of the roll is made and printed for the mechanical department of the road.

THE CZAR.

The Czar is generally believed to be a not very strong man, who is wholly in the hands of the strong men of the administration. An article in the *Quarterly Review* gives quite another picture, saying he is a veritable autocrat, extremely self-willed and stubborn, and an implacable religious bigot. He is said to be bitterly opposed to all toleration of dissent from the orthodox faith, and will not accept any suggestions of reform. If this picture of Nicholas II be true (we quote the *Witness*) his portraits, which bear singularly close resemblance to the Prince of Wales (whose cousin he is), do not confirm the impression:

Possibly the terrible secret vendetta, ceaselessly waged against his house and government, has changed his nature. Terrorism will make the most gentle and timid madly ferocious. Perhaps there is no man living more deserving of pity than this nominal autocrat of a hundred and thirty million subjects. If he could read the comments of the European and American press on the murder of de Plehve, he might see himself as others see him, and, perhaps, find a way out of his embarrassments. He would learn that, in the opinion of the world, the only salvation for his throne and government is to be gained by abandoning the policy of merciless suppression which de Plehve carried out with cold severity. Five ministers and governors of provinces have been assassinated in Russia within the last three years, and two have barely escaped the same fate on more than one occasion. The pages of Russian history are black with the same story. It cannot go on forever, and the longer it continues the more terrible may be the final crash.

RUM SHOP DEDICATION.

The "dedication" of a saloon is the newest thing. It occurred in New York last week, and Bishop Potter, of the Protestant Episcopal Church, officiated. The bishop made an address, and the ceremony was concluded by the singing of the doxology. What was between the address and the doxology is not stated—probably drinks, as to serve

drinks is the business of the concern. The groggery is well named, the Subway Tavern. It is nearly as appropriate as "Hell's Kitchen," the name of an old-time grog shop. The "dedicated" tavern, which is to furnish liquid refreshments for both men and women, is one of several that are to be established by a company. The promoters seem to believe that the whiskey sold by their employes will not cause drunkenness, nor any of the evils that result from drinking. They, also, seem to think it is a great thing to have a rule that no drink shall be sold to one after he shows signs of being drunk. It is, of course, most virtuous to sell him enough to make him drunk. Special provision is made in the tavern for women. According to the bishop this is right. In his dedication address he said, "The man who lives in two rooms with his family of five children" must have the tavern. His wife surely has the same need and right. The bishop seems to have forgotten about the children—who will care for them while their parents are spending their evenings in the groggery. To complete the institution, it ought to have a nursery department, so that the children may receive the benefits of the sweet atmosphere and all the pure and tender influences that pervade a grogshop—a "dedicated" one.

The latest reports tell of a rushing business in the "Subway." There were ten times as many customers the second day as the first. And the customers were not taking iced tea to any extent; whiskey straight, and the like, were having the call. The number of drinks is not reported. The police court records have not been diminished, nor the comforts of the "two-rooms" homes increased. The bishop is a great success as a tavern boomer.

BRIEF MENTION.

Prof. John Campbell, for many years professor of Church History and Apologetics in the Montreal Presbyterian College, died suddenly a few days ago. He resigned his professorship during the meeting of the General Assembly in St. John in June.

Russia's secret police service costs three-quarters of a million dollars a year. Other methods would make the lives of the controllers of government more secure.

The Romish press in the United States is in sympathy with Russia. This is because Great Britain sympathizes with Japan.

The Archbishop of Canterbury is expected in Canada Sept. 3rd.

It is stated that Russia has assured Great Britain that she will not send ships through the Dardanelles during the present war, but wishes to discuss the question of right when the war is over.