

# RELIGIOUS INTELLIGENCER.

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

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## Editorial Outlook

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### THE WAR.

The Japanese captured another fort at Port Arthur on the 19th. They have also captured important positions in Pigeon Bay.

Advices from St. Petersburg tell of further mobilizations which will add 200,000 to Kuropatkin's army. And yet a German military critic, General Meckel, is reported as saying that "the result of the war is irrevocably decided." That "the Russians have not now the faintest chance of winning."

### BELGIANS.

We see it stated that among the immigrants expected in Canada next year are many Belgians. Their drinking habits make them undesirable. There are, according to a recent official statement, 3,000 liquor selling shops in Belgium, one to every 36 persons. This means that there is one grog shop for every twelve men above 17 years of age. In the last fifty years the drink houses have increased 258 per cent. Public libraries are almost unknown.

### TEACHERS' ASSOCIATION.

The New Brunswick Teachers' Association is pushing the organization of county associations, and will soon be established in every county in the province. The principal objects of the association are to improve the character and efficiency, to secure better salaries, and so make the profession more attractive and permanent. Members sign an agreement not to underbid other teachers, and not to accept lower salaries than those of a schedule adopted by the association. Teachers in unorganized parts of the province are now being appealed to to fall into line with the association.

### POLITICAL NEWS.

Dr. Thompson, the Conservative candidate, has been elected member of Parliament for the Yukon by a majority of 350 over Congdon, the Liberal candidate. Mr. Congdon was Governor of the territory and resigned to run for Parliament.

The official declaration in Kings Co., P. E. I., showed Premier Peters and his opponent to have an equal number of votes. There may be a scrutiny of the votes to determine who shall have the seat.

Solicitor General Sweeny was elected

in Westmorland Co., by acclamation on Tuesday of last week.

The election in Northumberland Co., to fill the seat in the Local Legislature, resigned by Mr. W. S. Loggie, is expected in January.

There is talk of a new Liberal paper in Chatham.

The Temperance and Prohibition Association of St. John has endorsed the candidature of Mr. Maxwell because of the assurances he gave of his readiness to support prohibition and all other advanced temperance legislation.

The leaders of the parties in St. John city have agreed to conduct the election next week free from the improper use of money.

### THE WORSHIP OF MARY.

Rome has been celebrating the fiftieth anniversary of the proclamation of the dogma of the Immaculate Conception of the Virgin Mary. The ceremonies, in which the Pope was the central figure, were of the most elaborate and imposing kind. A statue of the Virgin was unveiled. Recognizing Mary as worthy of Divine honors began many centuries ago. She has for long been called "the Mother of God," and prayers are offered to her. Pope Pius IX made a declaration concerning her which contained this statement:

"Ye know full well, venerable brethren, that the whole ground of our confidence is placed in the holy Virgin. God hath vested in her the plenitude of all good, so that henceforth, if there be in us any hope, if there be any grace, if there be any salvation, we must receive it solely from her, according to the will of him who would have us possess all things through Mary."

The bishops to whom he addressed this statement, concurring, he promulgated the immaculate conception dogma in the following terms, Dec. 8, 1854:

"That the most Blessed Virgin Mary, in the first instant of her conception, by a singular grace and privilege of Almighty God, by the intuitive perception of the merits of Christ Jesus, the Saviour of the human race, was kept immune from any contamination of original sin."

This, it was declared, had been "revealed by God and therefore must be firmly and constantly believed by all the faithful."

### THE JEWISH COLONY.

The offer of the British Government to give a tract of five thousand square miles in Uganda for the establishment of a Jewish colony is being considered with increasing favor. There is, of course, opposition to the plan among those Jews who cannot easily bring themselves to accept any place as a substitute for Zion, even temporarily. The advocacy of the plan by Mr. Israel Zangwill, the famous Jewish writer, is having effect. He is now in the United States urging his people to accept the British offer. In an address to a great

audience in Philadelphia he described with marked effect the deplorable condition of the Jews in the congested regions of Europe, the oppressive laws, persecutions and massacres they are enduring and pointed out that the Uganda project offered the only present practical solution to intolerable conditions. He presented it as a definite humanitarian movement, which offered a refuge for the oppressed in a land of rare fertility, literally teeming with milk and honey, and having the most salubrious climate in Africa. Whether the Jews can live and prosper anywhere as a people by themselves remains to be proven. But the experiment is worth trying. And the Uganda colony scheme is deserving of encouragement. It will be a great thing if the race so long without a country can be successfully colonized.

### ST. JOHN'S RUM TRAFFIC.

If matters in St. John are as stated by Mr. Eben Perkins in a recent temperance address they are bad enough to demand prompt and vigorous action. He charges the License Commissioners with persistent violation of the law as to the number of licenses to be issued for the city, and in extending the selling right to those whose licenses had expired. He suggests that they are either without mental balance, or get paid for their crime. He declared, too, that the liquor sellers disregard the law under which they get their authority to sell. Speaking of the provision of the law which requires the bars to close at seven o'clock Saturday nights, he said that long after that hour one Saturday night he counted 35 people going into one hotel bar in thirty minutes. They were men of all classes, including a church member and an alderman. Nor is Sunday closing observed. The grog-selling law breakers are not interfered with, he says, because they have "a pull" with those in authority. The beer shops were strongly condemned by him. They sell intoxicating liquors, and are much patronized by boys. He had attempted to close them, and was able to secure a conviction in one case. But, he said, the manufacturer of the beverage sold in the place, who paid the fine, "went to the Attorney General and complained to him that the beverage in question was a waste product that he could not sell in ordinary bar rooms, and if he were not allowed to sell it in these beer shops it would go to the sewers. To save the waste he asked the privilege of substituting our boys for the public sewer, and the Attorney General immediately raised the percentage of alcohol allowable in non-intoxicating beverages, to allow its sale as requested." There are rumsellers in the city, he said, "who would sell a man liquor till he dropped down, and then rob him. The officials know well who these parties are. Still these bars were allowed

to go on unchecked simply because they contributed to election funds."

These and like statements were made with the utmost plainness, Mr. Perkins apparently being quite sure of his ground. Nothing that can be said about the lawlessness of the rumsellers is hard to believe. The traffic is notoriously a law-breaker. But if the charges against the officials who have to do with making and administering the law are correct the seriousness of the situation is greatly increased. If the accused officials are not guilty as charged they will call their accuser to account.

A licensed rumseller, John Rhea, who says that he observes the law, supports the charges against the license officials, declaring that all the licensees are not treated alike, and that "many of them are wilfully and continuously breaking the law." And he more than intimates that this is done with the knowledge of the officers of the law. It is not necessary to read very closely between the lines to learn that the licensees are required to contribute to election funds. It is a nice state of affairs, surely. And yet no one who gives any consideration to the character of the rum traffic, the men engaged in it, and those who favor it, will be surprised at any kind of corruption that is found connected with it.

### BRIEF MENTION.

The Chicago University has fifty Canadians on its teaching staff.

It is proposed to stipulate that prohibition of the liquor traffic shall for ten years be the law of the new state which is about to be constituted of the Oklahoma and Indian territories. This is done in the interests of the Indian population, which is large. The white population will get quite as much benefit from it.

The Legislature of Minnesota is about to make a determined effort to check emigration from that state to Canada.

THE POWER OF RADIUM.—The extraordinary influence of even very minute quantities of radium upon the human system, unless handled with the greatest care, is well known. M. Curie, one of the discoverers, puts that fact very forcibly: "I have no doubt," said he, "that a kilogram (about 2¼ pounds) of radium would be sufficient to destroy the population of Paris, granting that they came within its influence. They would feel nothing during their exposure to the radium nor realize that they were in any danger. And weeks would pass after their exposure before anything would happen. Then gradually the skin would begin to peel off, and their bodies would become one great sore. Then they would become blind. Then they would die from paralysis and congestion of the spinal cord."