

# RELIGIOUS INTELLIGENCER.

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

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## Editorial Outlook

### THE WAR.

In the vicinity of Mukden there has been some skirmishing, but nothing of special importance has occurred.

At Port Arthur the Japanese have sunk two Russian battleships. Except some torpedo boats, about every Russian vessel at Port Arthur seems to have been destroyed.

### POLITICAL NEWS.

Mr. Sweeney, M.P.U., for Westmorland Co., has been appointed Solicitor General in the New Brunswick government. The election in Westmorland made necessary by his appointment will take place Dec. 20th.

The general election in P. E. Island, Wednesday, resulted in the return of the Liberal government—21 to 9.

The Ontario elections are to be held January 24th.

### IMPROVING.

Mr. John Burns, M. P., who is a real representative in the British Parliament, of the laboring classes, says the condition of the wage earners in London is steadily improving. He makes it his business to know the great city thoroughly. Every season he investigates it, going from end to end of it on trains, by bus and on foot, collecting facts for his speeches in Parliament and for his contributions to the papers. He says the condition of the people is greatly improved, and steadily improves. They drink less, dress better, have more and better food, and are more comfortably housed.

### ROSEBERY'S VIEW.

Lord Rosebery, though a strong Churchman, condemns the English Education Act in no doubtful terms. He says: "In my opinion, few circumstances have been so injurious to the Church Establishment as the Education Act of 1902. It has raised a bitterness which will long survive the act. It has raised questions which with regard to the Establishment which were dormant since 1869, when Mr. Gladstone's Irish Disestablishment measure was passed. He expresses a view held by many of his co-religionists. The wonder is that such men as the Archbishop of Canterbury have permitted the injustice of the act."

### ROME'S AGGRESSIVENESS.

Dr. Robertson, author of "The Roman Catholic Church in Italy," says the present Pope's election was brought about by Jesuit intrigue, with the conquest of England as their definite aim. Dr. Robertson's long residence in Italy, and his close study of conditions and movements, give weight to his state-

ments. European nations, beginning to realize what they have suffered from the aggressions of Rome, are endeavoring to free themselves from the burdensome yoke. But England and the United States, as the *Christian Observer* points out, are making the mistake of closing their eyes to the schemes of Rome for political aggrandizement and throwing open their doors to its representatives. Protestant churches, forgetting the lessons that history teaches as to the true character of the Romish hierarchy, are too much inclined to recognize it as a co-worker in propagating religion. The Romish Church working insidiously has almost gotten possession of New England, and is quietly moving to take possession of the south and west. There is danger that in another generation some of the battles of the Reformation will have to be fought over again in Britain and the United States. And in Canada the danger is even greater than in either the mother land or the neighboring republic.

### A VALUABLE DISCOVERY.

The latest is the purifying water by the use of copper. The discovery is likely to be of great value to the public health when in the hands of experts. The *December Century* deals quite fully with the subject. After long experiment, Dr. G. T. Moore, of the Agricultural Department at Washington, discovered that an almost infinitesimal solution of sulphate of copper (blue vitriol) would kill all the algae, and purify the water, often within twenty-four hours. Blue vitriol is a most dangerous poison, but in treating a reservoir it is necessary to use no more than one part in a million; sometimes one in ten million. When properly used, this method is perfectly safe. Dr. Moore has successfully treated reservoirs at a cost of \$300, where thousands, and even millions of dollars had been expended in attempting to free them of this vegetable pest without a success. This is the first great discovery. The second is that a somewhat stronger solution of sulphate of copper will kill the germs of typhoid fever and other diseases. Dr. Moore sometimes uses as much as one to one hundred thousand. This, too, is perfectly safe to use in drinking water; but because it more closely approaches the limit of danger, must be handled with still greater care. The saving of human life, and also of long illness from disease produced by water contamination will be one of the greatest blessings conferred by any discovery of recent years.

### SOUTH AFRICA.

There is no doubt about South Africa's rich resources. But many and serious difficulties are being encountered in their development. Not the least

of these is the labor problem. An article in *The Nineteenth Century and After* deals with it. The writer says:

It seems as if our economic principles must be reversed in dealing with the native. Unlike the European, he has no sort of notion of the value of labor for its own sake; he has no ambition and few needs. What he really likes is to sit in the sun and watch his wives work. He will only work for so many months as are necessary to earn for himself sufficient money to remain idle for the rest of the year, and therefore the greater the increase of pay, the shorter the period of work, and the more does the supply of labor contract—and this in the face of a continually growing demand. The situation has been further complicated by the abnormal conditions induced by the war, which filled the pockets of the blacks, and inflated them with an idea of importance and affluence beyond their status, and the natives, who are absolved from all the responsibilities of citizenship, were actually placed, at a considerable advantage over the laborers of England. Native labor is the raw material on which the whole system of life in South Africa depends, and as in the manufacturing world the cheap supply of raw material regulates the whole economic existence of the community, so in South Africa the supply of unskilled labor affects every class in the community and not the mining industry alone.

These circumstances caused the proposal to permit the introduction of Chinese or other aliens from the Far East, who have, at least, the merit of being industrious, steady and obedient, and an ambition to accumulate and improve their condition. It seems that only by the introduction of such labor as the Chinese can supply can low grade mines be worked advantageously. Those who have closely studied the problem say this is the solution. If Chinamen do go to South Africa in large numbers, they should be treated as men, not chattels; nothing else is likely to be permitted by the British authorities.

### BRIEF MENTION.

The new Governor General, Earl Grey, arrived at Halifax Saturday.

Gen. Lew Wallace, the widely known author, is starving to death, a disease of the stomach preventing nutrition.

**SAMPLE SEEDS.**—The Department of Agriculture announces that a distribution of samples of the most productive sorts of grain will be made to Canadian farmers. The samples will be of oats, wheat, barley, Indian corn and potatoes. The quantity of oats to be sent will be four pounds, and of wheat or barley five pounds. The samples of Indian corn and potatoes will weigh three pounds. Every farmer may apply, but only one sample can be sent to each applicant. The samples will be sent free of charge through the mail. Applications should be addressed to the Director of Experimental Farms, Ottawa, and may be sent in any time before the first of March.

## What Others Say.

### THE GROGMAN'S TURN.

Since Bishop Potter has helped to open a dramshop, the rum power can certainly do nothing less than delegate a saloonkeeper to assist in the dedication of the next church in the bishop's diocese.—*Kansas City Star*.

### AMERICA MINOR.

If the United States people choose to call themselves Americans, and if others so designate them, there is no great harm done. Asia once meant only Asia Minor. Why should not America Minor be called America?—*St. John Sun*.

### THE LORD'S ACCOUNT.

Some years ago Dr. W. S. Apsey, of Cambridge, Mass., recently deceased, preached a sermon, in the course of which he asked the question: "Why should not a Christian man open an account with the Lord on his ledger, and treat it with all the sanctity and promptness that he would his account with any business firm?" Hon. C. W. Kingsley was one of Dr. Apsey's hearers, and at once responded: "I will do it," and immediately began to carry out his purpose. Years afterwards when Dr. Apsey was in poor health, Mr. Kingsley, wishing to cheer and encourage his beloved pastor, told him about the sermon and its effect upon him, adding: "I want you to know that more than half a million dollars have passed through my personal account with the Lord, and your sermon inspired me to keep the account."—*Messenger and Visitor*.

### COWARDICE A SIN.

It is a noble trait to have "the courage of one's convictions." The majority of men are prone to be cowards in the face of public opinion, and great wrongs often go unrebuked and scatheless because no one has the spirit to attack them. There are times when timidity is a crime, and reticence a sin. It is the duty of men not only to hate evil, but with all their might to seek to suppress it. The liquor traffic, for example, is an evil concerning which no good man should be silent. Its awful ravages call for constant and aggressive action to minimize and ultimately, and as soon as possible, abolish it. Cowardice here is a sin against God and man.—*The Examiner*.

**THE PROSPECTOR.**—Ralph Connor's latest book will be eagerly read by those who have read "The Sky Pilot," and other productions of his pen. It not only informs and interests, but is the kind of book that does the reader good. It is a story of the Canadian West. The reader not only sees clearly the character and needs of that great region, but feels that he wants to do something towards making it the good country it ought to be. The author of "The Prospector" is a man with a message, which he tells with effect. The Westminster Co., Toronto, are the publishers. The price is \$1.25. A good Christmas present for anybody.