

RELIGIOUS INTELLIGENCER.

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

VOLUME LII.

ST. JOHN AND FREDERICTON, N. B., SEPTEMBER 14, 1904.

No. 37.

Editorial Outlook

THE MEGAPHONE.

The newest thing in election campaigning is the megaphone. It is stated that two huge megaphones are being prepared for use in the Presidential election campaign. They will enable a speaker to make himself heard by a concourse of 30,000 people. Back seats, or standing places, will be at a premium.

THE JESUITS.

When the Jesuits are driven out of one stronghold they straightway go about establishing themselves in another. Expelled from France, they are multiplying monasteries and nunneries in England, Scotland and Ireland. Protestant Britain would do well to be on its guard against such ecclesiastical intriguers.

INDIA.

The India 1901 census reports are just now being published. The task of enumerating the people was an enormous one. The census shows that in 1901 the 1,254,612 square miles of the Indian Empire had a population of 117,459,193. Of these the Christians number 2,923,241, of whom 2,664,313 are natives. Of these latter two-fifths are Roman Catholics. In 1872 the Christians numbered 1,506,098, of whom 1,248,288 were natives. So the growth of Christianity is far more rapid than that of the general population.

ELECTRICITY IN WAR.

The Japanese claim to be the first to use wireless telegraphy in war. And the wireless has done them fine service. Their field telegraph and telephone equipment is excellent. The telegraph section of their engineering corps not only establishes and maintains communication for their own army, but has done some excellent work in destroying the wires of the Russians. It is reported that during the battle of Vafangow the Japanese batteries, stretching over a front of some fifteen or twenty miles, were all connected by telephone.

PORT ARTHUR.

There are three Port Arthurs. Long ago the name was given to the remote spot in Tasmania where a famous convict prison was built. The neighborhood is one of great natural beauty, but the very narrow and easily guarded neck of land which connects the peninsula with the mainland made it an ideal place for a convict settlement. There is a Canadian Port Arthur. The Manchurian Port Arthur, which is now the centre of so much interest, took its name from Lieutenant Arthur, who, in 1860, was in command of the British

gunboat *Algerine* and towed the disabled flagship *Actæon* into the then nameless harbor.

THE BISHOP'S RUMSHOP.

The New York *Independent* sent a representative to investigate things in the Sub-way Tavern, now better known as "Bishop Potter's rum shop." While there the reporter saw liquor sold to four boys under fourteen years of age. The bishop's "dedication" of the place does not seem to have made it better than any other rum shop. The destruction of the boys will not be less sure because he "blessed" the place. The heartache of their mothers will not be soothed by the fact that they were debauched under churchly auspices. The whole thing is abominable.

OFFICIAL CORRUPTION.

An incident in Bismarck's life when he was German Ambassador to Russia, throws light on bureaucratic methods in Russia. The story, as told in a Berlin paper, is that Bismarck bought the house in St. Petersburg in which he resided. But all efforts to get the necessary papers failed. In answer to his complaints, he finally received a hint that it was customary to pay the officials. Too proud to do this, he complained to the Czar. Alexander II promised to come to the rescue, and matters were soon adjusted. The next time Bismarck met the Czar he thanked him for his kindness. The Emperor smiled, tapped him on the shoulder, and said: "I paid the fees to the officials myself!"

SCHOOLS IN FRANCE.

The new schools law of France will ultimately close all the schools controlled by the religious orders (Roman Catholic). The duty of the education of the children of the country will be undertaken by the state itself. Some schools are to be given a few years to run, but nearly all will be closed as quickly as possible—2,398 at once, and on the first of October those in charge of the Christian Brothers, and also over a thousand girls' schools and about six hundred schools attached to orphanages and refuges. By this radical move the standing and influence of the Roman Catholic church in France will be greatly reduced. If the system of state schools which takes the places of these schools provides for thorough and enlightened teaching the country will greatly benefit by the change.

POLITICAL NEWS.

John Brown (Liberal) member of the Ontario Legislature for North Perth, has been unseated for bribery.

M. K. Cowan, M. P. for South Essex, Ont. has announced that he will not run again for Parliament. It is

understood that he is to become the solicitor of the G. T. P.

The Minister of Finance was in St. John and Fredericton and Marysville, last week.

Hon. R. L. Borden, leader of the federal opposition, Hon. Geo. E. Foster and Dr. Daniel addressed a large meeting in St. John Thursday evening.

The protest against A. A. Mahaffy (Conservative) member of the Ontario Legislature for Muskoka, was dismissed last week for want of evidence.

Mr. Borden has gone to address several political meetings in Ontario.

MARRIAGE LAWS.

Ohio has a new marriage law. It provides that marriage license can be granted only after both parties have given satisfactory answers to the following questions: Is either party a habitual drunkard? Is either an epileptic? Is either insane? Is either under the influence of an intoxicating liquor or drug? It has been suggested that it might be well to add: Do you believe in God and have you ever indulged in scandalous gossip?

In the Georgia legislature a bill has been introduced which is designed to encourage matrimony and home-making. It has not yet become law. It provides that all fathers be relieved of poll tax; fathers of six children are to be given the title of colonel, and fathers of ten or more are to be members of the governor's staff; every mother will be entitled to vote in state elections, and the mother of six children will be given the title of Grand Dame. The bill disfranchises all bachelors of thirty years of age and over. The rewards are peculiarly Southern. To be a colonel, have a Grand Dame for a wife, and be free from a tax are advantages dear to every man in the South. France and Quebec have done something in the way of encouraging large families, but the proposed Georgia law is ahead of anything yet ventured.

THE WHEAT CROP.

The total yield of wheat, outside of Canada is likely to be one hundred million bushels short of last year's crop. The United States returns so far, says the Guardian, are contradictory, but the weight of evidence seems to be that, though the corn crop will be unusually heavy the republic will have very little more wheat than she will want for herself. The Austria-Hungary and Roumania crop is almost a total failure. The prospects in India, Australia and Argentina are good, but the harvest is still several months off, and the chances for a large oversupply to make up for shortages in other lands are small. Reports from our own west are decidedly more favorable, and it is quite possible that earlier statements as to danger from rust were overdrawn. Nearly

one-half of the wheat has been cut, and splendid harvest weather is reported. Whatever may be the total product of the Canadian fields, there is very little prospect that the price here will be much below what it is at present. Even if the most pessimistic accounts are true, the western farmer will not be badly off.

THE BRITISH EMPIRE.

In one of his Toronto speeches, the Archbishop of Canterbury, referring to the position of the Empire said, "There has been apportioned to us (the British) a power that other nationalities are not possessed of—he would not say of governing or ruling—but of holding for the general betterment of the world large tracts of the world's surface."

India, Egypt and Africa abundantly prove the correctness of the statement. Under British rule they have benefited in every way. India, says the *Witness*, was torn with internal discord and cruel war before the British came. Egypt was under the heel of the Turk. And the permanence of Britain's relations with these nations will depend upon the fidelity with which the British people live up to the duty hinted at by the Archbishop. That is, the moment it ceases to be for the general betterment of the world that these large tracts of its surface shall be under British control, the hour will have struck which will see the beginning of the disintegration of that power. And the striking of that hour can be permanently postponed if the British people are to themselves but true.

THE WAR.

After the battle of Liao Yang the Japanese kept the Russians on the run. Kuropatkin hurrying towards Mukden, St. Petersburg's only comfort was that he was making a great retreat and would probably save his army from capture or annihilation. How long, or whether at all, Kuropatkin will make a stand at Mukden is a matter of conjecture. The signs point to his making his way farther northward.

There is quiet at Mukden just now. The Japanese have crossed the Shakhi, and resting. Thousands of wounded Russians are being sent north.

The Japanese captured large stores and ammunition at Liao Yang.

The Russian Minister of Finance says the war up to date has cost Russia 272,000,000 roubles and by January next it will have cost 300,000,000 roubles more, or in round figures 600,000,000 roubles. A rouble is the equivalent of 77 cents in Canadian currency, making the sum \$462,000,000.

News received from the Manchurian theatre of war indicates the almost entire suspension of active operations by

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