

RELIGIOUS INTELLIGENCER.

Board of Works dec03

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

VOLUME LI.

ST. JOHN AND FREDERICTON, N. B., DECEMBER 16, 1903.

No. 50.

Editorial Outlook

FROM "THE STATES."

In October and November 1494 persons left North Dakota and settled in the Canadian Northwest. They brought with them 189 cars of settlers' effects, valued at \$250,000, exclusive of the cash they probably had. The arrivals from other states have been large.

NOT WANTED.

Nearly a million immigrants entered the United States last year. About one-fifth of them, between the ages of fourteen and forty-five, can neither read nor write. These are very undesirable people. Besides, a considerable proportion of the million are from priest-ruled countries. Their allegiance to the papacy is not changed by their coming to America. They do not make good citizens. Canada needs to guard against these two things—illiterate and priest-ridden immigrants. We want population, but discrimination will pay.

THEY DON'T LIKE IT.

One of the best signs of the wisdom of Mr. Joseph Chamberlain's tariff reform scheme is the disfavor with which it is regarded by Germany and the United States. They are greatly disturbed by it, and evidently fear it will carry. Our near neighbors were never so anxious for reciprocity with Canada, and are not able to quite conceal the reason for their anxiety. Carnegie has contributed a large sum to the organization which is fighting Mr. Chamberlain's policy. This he does because the Empire trade policy will strike a blow at his interests and like concerns in the United States.

A GOOD LAW.

One of the difficulties with which state prohibitory laws have to contend is the issue of licenses by the internal revenue department of the Federal Government. Violators of state liquor laws secure the federal license to protect themselves against the severe internal revenue penalties. A bill has been introduced in the United States Senate which is designed to prevent the issue of internal revenue license to anyone not holding a license under the state law. If this bill becomes law it will help in the enforcement of prohibitory laws. It is to be hoped it will pass.

ENDORING CHAMBERLAIN.

The agriculturists of Great Britain are declaring themselves in sympathy with Chamberlain's reciprocal trade scheme. A London despatch tells that on Wednesday last the central and associated chambers of agriculture of the United Kingdom endorsed Joseph

Chamberlain's fiscal proposals at a meeting held in London that day. The chambers are thoroughly representative of the agricultural interests. An amendment proposing that the question be referred to a royal commission was defeated, and the consensus of the speeches dissented from Premier Balfour's scheme and declared that the farmers, in their own interests, must whole heartedly support Mr. Chamberlain.

POLITICAL NEWS.

Sir Chas. Hibbert Tupper, M. P. for Pictou, N. S., but now resident in Vancouver, B. C., has announced that he will not be a candidate for Parliament in the coming election.

The Toronto Liberal Club voted down a resolution declaring in favor of the reciprocal preferential trade.

Attorney General Pugsley, of New Brunswick, was in consultation with Sir Wilfrid Laurier, in Montreal, Wednesday.

Mr. R. L. Borden was some time ago asked to be the candidate for Parliament in South Ontario. He has declined, Halifax, which he now represents, desiring him to be a candidate there.

A Winnipeg despatch says the Manitoba Legislature will probably meet on January 7.

The N. S. Legislature adjourned Friday, to meet again January 7th.

THE GERMAN ARMY.

A recent article in a Paris paper declares that the German army is in a condition of decadence. It seems to have been written by one who knows, though it may be well to discount its statements somewhat. It is stated that in both officers and men there is a marked decline in spirit and enthusiasm. The spread of revolt and discontent among the rank and file is attributed, not improbably, to the young workmen who come in to the army from the towns. Dissatisfaction with social conditions, almost amounting to rebellion, is widespread among the youth of the working centres. They have heard about barrack life before they join the ranks, and have learnt to curse militarism. They give the tone to the barracks and so infect the peasant recruits, who carry revolutionary ideas back to the villages.

THE LATEST.

A Vancouver despatch to the Toronto *Globe* says: "It has been discovered that the two small islands outlying Wales and Pearce, which the United States receives by the terms of the Alaskan boundary award, do not after all command Port Simpson harbor. The despatch continues: Instead of lying respectively two and three miles distant, these islands of Sitklan and Kannaghunut, according to surveyors who have just returned from Port Simpson and who are engaged

in the railway exploration work, are twenty and thirty-five miles distant, and therefore would not command the new Pacific port. It is stated here that the error of distance arose through a mistake in typing, the words in the memoranda 20 and 30 miles being copied 2 and 3 miles." The despatch adds that Lord Dundonald, the General commanding the Canadian militia, who is now on the Pacific coast, will report as to the military value of Sitklan and Kannaghunut, as well as the strategic qualities from the British standpoint of Port Simpson.

HOW IT WORKS

Prohibition poorly enforced is greatly better than any license system. Vermont had prohibition. Officials, not in sympathy with the law, did not properly enforce it. Instead of putting in better officers, the people blamed the law for being violated. They allowed themselves to be persuaded that a license law would be better. The license law has been in operation less than a year. Reports from various sections of the state tell of the great increase in drunkenness, crime and the other accompaniments of the open saloon. Commenting on conditions in Rutland, under the license law, the chief exponent of license, the *Rutland Herald*, has confessed that kitchen bars were in full blast, and that drunkenness had increased there was no doubt; that Burlington's intoxication cases have increased eight fold; that those of St. Albans have increased 51 per cent.; that those of Montpelier have increased over 400 per cent.; and that those of Rutland have increased over 500 per cent.

POOR FINLAND.

In Finland matters go from bad to worse. Russia is determined to crush the life out of the people. The latest reports, says the *Guardian*, show that "all independent newspapers have been stamped out, and those which exist only give foreign news. A paper, secretly printed on very thin paper, and circulated from hand to hand with the utmost care and privacy, keeps the people informed as to Russia's moves, and government officials are doing their best to discover its printers and writers. Government spies are everywhere, and people do not know whom to trust even in their own homes, for their very domesticities may traitorously betray them. Arrest and imprisonment await any one guilty of uttering remarks that may be construed as hostile to Russia, and people live in terror lest some hasty expression may be told of against them, or some personal enemy trump up a charge. The high standards of education and morality which have prevailed in the country are being lowered, and the distressful state of affairs that prevails through Russia's deliberate policy of

"Russianizing" the unfortunate country is everywhere apparent. The people are depressed and sick at heart. Emigration is about the only door of hope open to those who writhe under the despotism which is seeking to crush out the national life of Finland."

NOTES.

Remembering that his father, the Emperor Frederick, died of cancer, there is much fear in Germany that the throat trouble from which the Emperor William is suffering may be more serious than has been stated.

Forty years ago the farmers of the United States owned 55 per cent. of the wealth of the country; now they own only 21 per cent. of it.

An authoritative denial is given to the report circulated that negotiations are in progress for the sale of the colony of St. Pierre and Miquelon, off the coast of Newfoundland, by France to the United States.

Dowie has made an arrangement with his creditors, by which the affairs of Zion City are to go on.

Herbert Spencer, the famous author and philosopher, died Tuesday. His health had been failing for some months. He was 83 years old.

What Others Say.

EVER MEET ONE?

Some people are never content in any company where they do not occupy the centre of the stage. So long as they are merely listeners, they are uneasy.—*Chris. Register*.

A COWARDLY WAY.

The man who goes about with slanderous, venomous tongue against his brother, even if he seems to have documentary evidence and proof of sin and wrong doing, is probably as bad as the one at whom he aims his poisonous and cowardly arrows. There is a Christian way to deal with an erring one.—*Baptist Commonwealth*.

CANADA NEEDS THEM.

The Montreal Board of Trade is showing no undue alarm in attempting to awaken the Canadian government—and through it the British government—to the danger which undoubtedly threatens us in the possibility that France might sell the islands of St. Pierre and Miquelon to the United States. A strong, unmistakable utterance against such a step by even the Canadian government, would probably put a stop to it. For if Britain were once convinced that Canada regarded this point as vital, she would never permit the sale to take place.

As to the peril which would threaten us if the Americans once got hold of these islands, we surely know our neighbors well enough to appreciate. There may be a treaty forbidding their fortification; but when did Washington develop any very profound respect for treaty obligations?—*Montreal Star*.