

RELIGIOUS INTELLIGENCER.

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

VOLUME III.

ST. JOHN AND FREDERICTON, N. B., MARCH 16, 1904.

No. 11.

Editorial Outlook

POLITICAL NEWS.

Four bye-elections for the Quebec Legislature were held on Thursday. Two Liberals and two Conservatives were returned. The seats were all held by Liberals before.

Dr. Wilson, an Ontario ex-M. P., has been appointed to the Senate in place of the late Dr. Landerkin.

WAR NOTES.

News of the war is scarce. Of gossip about it there is plenty. The Japanese bombarded Port Arthur again on Thursday. The shore batteries returned the fire. Just how much damage was done is not known. . . . The whereabouts of the Russian Vladivostok fleet is still in doubt. . . . There have been reports of small engagements between Japanese and Russians in Korea and Manchuria, but there is some uncertainty about the statements.

JAPAN'S PROGRESS.

The progress of Japan in the last quarter of a century is most remarkable. Twenty-five years ago there was not a mile of railway in the country; now it has more than 3,000 miles of railway and 1,500 miles of telegraph lines. It can make everything relating to railroads except locomotives. Its railroads employ native labor exclusively. Japan has an apparently inexhaustible supply of coal. It mines nearly 1,000,000 tons yearly, or considerably over 2,000 tons per day. Twenty-five years ago it produced only 300 tons a day. It has plenty of iron and a great deal of gold, silver, copper, lead, tin and mercury.

EDUCATION IN AUSTRALIA.

For twenty years and more the colonies of Victoria and New South Wales have pursued different policies on the question of religious education in the public elementary schools. In Victoria a system of stringently secular education has been established; the teachers give "moral" lessons, but the Bible is not read and no religious instruction is given. In New South Wales the Bible has been used in the schools. The Victoria system has not been satisfactory, and there is now a movement to make it like the North Wales system, at least so far as to introduce Bible lessons into the schools. The action of the Roman Catholic bishops is characteristic. They are bitterly opposing the proposed change, which they tell their people is an attempt to convert the public schools into "Protestant Sunday schools."

THE "NATIONAL LEAGUE."

The so-called National League is

simply an organization to encourage the race feeling amongst French Canadians. Mr. Bourassa is the chief agitator, and he loses no opportunity of fanning the flame of sectionalism. Anything that may strengthen the unity of the British Empire is vigorously opposed. Mr. Chamberlain's scheme of preferential trade within the Empire is particularly objectionable to Mr. Bourassa and his National Leagues. He tells the people of Quebec that Chamberlain and other British statesmen are planning to rob Canada and endanger her liberty. He attacks Lord Strathcona, the Governor General and everybody else who is known to favor Imperial unity, and suggests a revolt by French Canadians if certain things are done—declaring his readiness to "make a rupture." He will, probably, air his views and feelings in Parliament. If he does, it is to be hoped he will not go unrebuked by those in authority, lest the impression go abroad that he is really voicing Canadian feeling.

ORANGEMEN MEET.

The Grand Lodge of the Orange order of New Brunswick met in annual session at St. Stephen last week. The reports showed a year of progress. Twelve new lodges were organized, and the net gain of membership was 705. Among the resolutions adopted were one endorsing the Imperial fiscal policy, one expressing sympathy with "the little Britain of the Orient in the struggle with despotic Russia," and the following:

"That Canada is becoming the dumping ground of the Jesuits and other bigoted Roman Catholic orders that have been expelled from France and other Roman Catholic countries is a matter that closely touches this order. Loving freedom as we do there comes the chance that we go to the length of allowing these orders insidiously to place their talons in the dearest institutions of the country. It is the business of this order to see to it that this great wrong be checked before it be too late. We must do this through the medium of fearless speech and act."

The next annual session is to be held in Sussex.

TEMPERANCE LEGISLATION.

Whether the Ontario government will introduce advanced temperance legislation this session is now uncertain. The Premier had announced that a bill would be introduced, but a meeting of his supporters in the house failed to agree on a measure, and the matter has been delayed. Premier Ross proposed in a party caucus a measure of government control, which they promptly rejected. He then suggested a scheme for taking a referendum at the next municipal elections as to whether the abolition of the hotel bar or the shop license, or both, was desired, each municipality to

have what it votes in favor of. This, also, was objected to. Further consideration of the matter was deferred. The temperance people will be greatly disappointed if a strong measure is not introduced and passed.

A committee of the Sons of Temperance of New Brunswick Province will ask the Legislature for several amendments to the license law during the present session. They are to interview the government, and have asked the Premier to name a day when he will receive them.

TURKEY'S ATTITUDE.

A disturbing factor in European politics, says the Montreal *Witness*, is the almost defiant attitude lately assumed by the Sultan of Turkey towards the powers, in rejecting their memorandum and refusing to concede the demands of the Commission, established by their intervention. This bold assertion of independence of outside dictation would not have been made did not the Sultan believe that the war in the far east, and resultant complications in Europe, gave him the opportunity of repairing his somewhat damaged prestige with his own subjects, and of strengthening his military position towards Bulgaria and the Macedonian insurgents. It may also be that the Sultan has been encouraged in this course by some one of the powers. The openly expressed distrust of Russia, common throughout the Balkan states, and most strongly accentuated among the people whose one grand object is the expulsion of the Turks from Macedonia, shows the new turn the revolutionary movement has taken. The Christians appear to be as well pleased as the Sultan over the fact that the war with Japan has lessened the power of Russia to meddle in Balkan affairs.

BRIEF MENTION.

There are 50,000 blind persons in Japan.

The King's interest in temperance work was shown recently by a gift of one hundred dollars towards building Good Templar's Hall in Berkshire.

Less than ten years ago Japan had not a single battleship; now she seems to be easily putting the big navy of big Russia out of business.

Archbishop Machray, of the Canadian Episcopal church, died at Winnipeg last Wednesday.

Rev. Dr. Lormier, formerly of Tremont Temple, Boston, now of New York, has been seriously ill of inflammatory rheumatism. He is reported slowly recovering.

The members of a Methodist church in a Kansas town having moved to another place, 42 miles away, moved their church building too, not a pane of glass being broken in the eight days' journey.

What Others Say.

WHEN HE SCORES.

The devil always scores a point whenever a good man opposes a good cause. —*National Advocate*.

THEY OUGHT TO BE.

Christians of the same family name especially ought to be one, and they will be eventually. —*Morning Star*.

LAUGHING AT IT.

Nowadays we hear a good deal about ballot-stuffing, and the subject is too often treated lightly; but is the man who laughs at ballot-stuffing any better than the stuffer? The man who defends the crime is probably worse than either! —*Dom. Presbyterian*.

THE GREAT CIVILIZER.

The history of civilization has run along parallel with the history of the church. The church has invented more ways of increasing human happiness, devised more plans for mutual benefit, and founded more institutions for the general good than all the other institutions put together. —*Chris. Register*.

How To Do It.

Pastors do you wish to know how to pile up trouble on your hands? If so, do as a Pennsylvania paper, in the following, says certain pastors do: "They dictate to the trustees, direct the deacons, superintend the superintendent of the Sunday school, control the Society of Christian Endeavor, meddle with the choir, fuss with the organist, order the janitor around, and even dare to lord it over the women in their missionary and aid societies. This meddlesome and dictatorial disposition betrays a lamentable lack of common sense, and nearly always gets a pastor into trouble." —*The Telescope*.

NOT ACQUAINTED.

Some people are actually not acquainted with the members of their own church—members of the same household, sitting at the same table and not acquainted! If all the members of some churches are fortunate enough to get to heaven, they will give the attending angels a three weeks' job introducing them to one another. Some will hang around after service—waiting for an introduction and never speak to any one. If we miss some of our members in heaven, we know where to find them—standing grimly by a golden pillar waiting for an introduction. Introduction to the members of your own family! Get more love and you will not need to be introduced to your fellow communicant. —*N. W. Baptist*.

—Of the 300,000,000 of people in India, 207,000,000 belong to the Hindu or Brahmin faith, 63,000,000 are Mohammedans, 10,000,000 are Buddhists, 3,000,000 are Christians, and 2,000,000 are Sikhs. Besides these are a number of minor sects, the most important of which are the parsees.