

RELIGIOUS INTELLIGENCER.

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

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Editorial Outlook

FRANCE AND THE VATICAN.

The breach between France and the Vatican is nearly as complete as it can be. France has practically abolished the post of Ambassador to the Vatican, by the action of the budget committee of the Chamber of Deputies in suppressing the appropriation for the embassy. The Papal authorities are much perturbed, as the final rupture is almost inevitable.

THE CORONATION OATH.

The House of Lords has been discussing the proposal to alter the coronation oath. A resolution to change the oath was defeated by an amendment which set forth that while the House was desirous that no expressions unnecessarily offensive to any of his Majesty's subjects should be required of the Sovereign, nothing should be done to weaken the security of the Protestant succession.

POLITICAL NEWS.

It is stated that Hon. A. R. McClellan, ex-Lieutenant Governor of this Province, has been offered the chairmanship of the commission for building the eastern section of the G. T. P.

Hon. S. N. Parent, who was talked of as a member of the G. T. P. commission, will, it is said, remain Premier of Quebec.

It was rumoured last week that Senator Scott, Secretary of State, had resigned, but the rumour was promptly contradicted.

The salaries of the Quebec judges have been increased.

It is rumored that Hon. C. Sifton will succeed Lord Strathcona as High Commissioner, and that Lieutenant Governor McMillan, of Manitoba, will become Minister of the Interior.

RUMSELLERS FINED.

Several licensed rum-sellers in St. John have been fined lately for selling in prohibited hours. The evidence was secured by volunteer detectives. It is probable that there is not a licensed grogshop in the city that does not violate the license law every week in the year, and probably every day. When liquor is sold in violation of a prohibitory law, there is a great ado about it, and the beauties and benefits of license are set forth. Yet there is no law so persistently violated as a license law. Police and other officers, whose business it is to see to the enforcement of law, know of the violations, but very rarely do they make any attempt to bring the violators to account. The reasons known to themselves—and, perhaps, to the law-breakers. No class of men for this neglect of their duty are best as such persistent law-breakers as rum-sellers, and none are so much let alone in their lawlessness. It is well

that once in a while some citizen, weary of the license law humbug, takes steps to bring some of the creatures to justice.

A CANAL TO ROME.

By the constructing a canal from the coast, the King of Italy desires to make Rome a seaport. The length of the proposed canal would be about forty miles. In ancient times the small vessels of the Mediterranean navigated the Tiber, and thus gave Rome some of the advantages of a seaport. The shifting sands have closed the Tiber even to boats which could ascend it in ancient times. It is a small river, and it is said that no dredging could make it navigable for modern ships from the sea. But ship canals are very costly. They never pay except where they connect two large bodies of water, thus making possible continuous navigation for great distances. An argument for the expenditure, however, is the fact that a canal would drain a considerable portion of the Roman Campagna, portions of which are now almost uninhabitable on account of malaria.

THEY ARE ANGRY.

The rum men are quite enraged over the amendment of the Canada Temperance Act, which authorizes a magistrate to sentence a convicted rum-seller to hard labor during his imprisonment. The *Wine and Spirit Journal*, Toronto, waxes wrathily in denunciation of what it calls "the rankest kind of persecution." It says:

That the magistrate should have power to impose hard labor is intolerable. It seems almost incredible that a Parliament composed of men in their right senses can have passed such a bill, and it is equally hard to conceive of its receiving ratification when it comes before the Senate. It is an outrage on the British sense of justice.

What a pity that the dear innocents of the rum traffic should have not only to go to jail, but work while there! Why, it is their particular privilege to prepare other people for jail and stone-breaking. To interfere with them is cruel. Horrible!

A GREAT CABLEWAY.

From the *Electrical Review* it is learned that a cableway, which will be the longest in the world, and will have the highest engine station in existence, is to be installed on the Argentine side of the Andes. The cableway will extend from Chiletio station, on the Argentine Northern Railroad, which is 3,430 feet above sea-level, for a distance of twenty-two miles, to a point 14,933 feet above sea-level, or 1,300 feet higher than the summit of the Jungfrau. It will cross a chain of rocks and precipices, spanning, in some places, chasms nearly 300 feet wide and 600 feet deep, while at other points it will be support-

ed by iron towers 130 feet high. All the material will have to be taken to its destination on the backs of mules. The length of the cable-rope is eighty-seven miles. The line is intended to have a carrying capacity of forty-four tons of ore per hour, a car load of 1,100 pounds being despatched every forty-five seconds.

THE WAR.

It is reported that a naval engagement took place on the 5th inst. north of Gensau between the Russian Vladivostok and Japanese squadrons, resulting favorably to the Russians. The heavy rains in Manchuria seem to promise General Kuropatkin's army a respite. A Liao Lang despatch says the Taitse River has been converted into a torrent, making it a defence against the Japanese. Several bridges have been carried away, and the movement of large bodies of troops has been stopped. Both armies seem to be floundering in the mud too deeply to take much interest in each other. The St. Petersburg reports say that serious military operations in Southern Manchuria are over until the rainy season is ended. The Japs will probably concentrate their attention in the meantime on Port Arthur. General Oku's army is already retiring southward, evidently to take part in the attack on Port Arthur.

After three days hard fighting the Japanese under Gen. Oku, occupied Rai Ping, Friday, driving the Russians northward. The Russians had strongly fortified Kai Ping, and their forces consisted of over 30,000 men. They made a determined resistance, but the Japs overpowered them.

A DESERVED TRIBUTE.

At a banquet in honor of Hon. Joseph Chamberlain in London a few days ago, Premier Balfour paid him a very high tribute. He said that Mr. Chamberlain was the only man who has ever been able to command the respect, affection and admiration of every British colony. He had made them feel with full intensity, for the first time, how close the relation should be between all parts of the Empire. His personality and intense appreciation of the meaning of British citizenship had had an electrical effect throughout the Colonial Empire which would never die out as long as the British Empire remained.

And this is not a mere complimentary utterance; it is absolute truth, spoken as a man of Mr. Balfour's kind can speak. No other man in any time has achieved just what Mr. Chamberlain has. He is in the minds of the people of the whole Empire the embodiment of a great idea—the unity of British citizenship. To Britons beyond the seas he is the imperial leader. "He voices British aspirations and he champions the British cause. He has faith in the destiny of the Empire; a

destiny that calls upon all parts of it to co-operate for the welfare of the whole. Great Britain has produced statesmen whose grasp of foreign policy has made them truly great. But when did she have a statesman who exercised the power of drawing together and strengthening the scattered fragments of the Empire? That this is the mission of Mr. Chamberlain is freely conceded in the colonies."

BRIEF MENTION.

The Japanese train all blind boys for one of two professions—music and massage, both of which seem peculiarly adapted to them.

The breaking up of great estates in New Zealand to give everybody a chance to own a farm is working well.

In the medical colleges of five Swiss universities, there are more women than men—891 to 763.

Dr. Herzt, the great leader of the Zionist movement—the movement to re-establish the Jewish people in Palestine—is dead. His death is considered a very serious loss to the Hebrew race.

A party of members of the British parliament, numbering eighty to one hundred, will visit the United States and Canada in the fall.

The Archbishop of Canterbury is to visit Canada and the United States next month.

Dr. Davidson has written the president of the university, saying that he cannot withdraw his resignation. A meeting of the Senate is called for the 12th inst. to take action.

Oil portraits of the King and Queen will be placed in the commons chambers at Ottawa soon.

Judge Parker, of New York, received the nomination of the Democratic party for the Presidency. Davis, of West Virginia, is the candidate for Vice-President.

—The Moravian Station at Kailang in Lahoul, has a "Rest House," which is a refuge for Tibetan, Mohammedan, and other travellers in the Himalayas. The work is an benevolent and as disinterested as that of the old hospices in the Alps. Some true converts have won through this gospel of deeds of love.

—The only mission to Islam in all the world is the Presbyterian mission in Persia. Even the Roman Catholic church, which is afraid of nothing, has not dared to touch Islam! Yet, in seventy years there has been no martyr in that mission until Benjamin Labaree was killed by brigands, with no eye but that of God upon the cruel act, treacherously, atrociously, as he was coming home from an errand of mercy. There was hardly a dry eye in the assembly when Mr. Speer, in his great foreign missionary address read two letters from Mrs. Labaree after her husband's death, and no applause was given when the pathetic and impressive address closed, for all bowed together in silent prayer.