

RELIGIOUS INTELLIGENCER.

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

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Editorial Outlook

VERY DOUBTFUL.

It is reported that Dowie has lost many of his followers because they do not approve of his new uniform.

We can hardly credit this. The people who could accept Dowie's previous claims about himself and submit to his rule, will not find it difficult to believe his latest claim and be delighted to obey him in anything.

IN BAD COMPANY.

A Pennsylvania rum-sellers' convention had Bishop Potter's portrait on the programme with a lot of prominent members of the fraternity. It is a pity that a bishop's picture could be put in such a setting. But he has nobody to blame but himself. He gave their business the sanction of his presence and benediction, and now they use his face and name as a certificate of character and an advertisement.

WANT SABBATH REST.

It is a sign of promise that in France, where the Lord's Day has been flagrantly disregarded, there is a growing movement in favour of making the Sabbath a day of rest. The toilers in various departments are demanding a day from labour. They are tired and want rest. The religious character of the Sabbath will appeal to them later, let us hope. Meantime, we trust, the agitation for a Sunday closing law will succeed.

TAXING VICE.

Betting is taxed in France, and a half million dollars annually is obtained in this way. The tax is simply, in effect, a license fee. There is a proposal that the same thing be done in England. If revenue is all that is to be thought about, all other forms of vice might also be taxed. No community with moral sense would put the stamp of its authority and approval on any form of vice for a consideration.

IN GERMANY.

Germany is coming to a better mind as to the evil of the drink habit. The temperance movement is making marked headway. The consumption of lager has decreased much. The manufacturers are encouraging temperance, and are actively participating in the movement. They are reformers for business reasons, having found that beer-drinking workmen are less valuable than abstainers.

COMPULSORY INSURANCE.

They have a law of compulsory insurance of workmen in Germany. And it has proved greatly beneficial. The in-

surance is chiefly against accident, sickness and the infirmities of old age. In 1902 there were 17,582,000 wage-earners thus protected, over 2,000,000 of whom were women. It is assumed that there are at present over 20,000,000 interested in the workmen's insurance fund. The total income in 1901 was \$131,648,430. To the income the employers contributed 45.20 per cent., the employees 37.64 per cent. and the government 6.43 per cent. The remainder, 10.73 per cent., was derived from interest and earnings. More than \$250,000 per day was paid out that year in benefits to those insured. The law has proved such a blessing and is now so popular that skilled workmen and many professional men are now asking for the aid of similar legislation in their behalf.

THE WAR.

Military operations in Manchuria are awaiting the drying of the roads and plains, rendered impassable for artillery and even for infantry, by the recent heavy rains. The London Times' Tokio correspondent says that despatches from Oyama's headquarters seem to indicate the Shakhe river as the immediate objective of the original advance, and that appearances suggest that another great battle is imminent, in which the Japanese will assume the offensive.

POLITICAL NEWS.

Tomorrow (Thursday) is nomination day. Candidates have been selected by both parties in all the constituencies. The candidates in this province are as follows:

Victoria—Costigan (G.) Manzer (O.)
Carleton—Carnell (G.) Hale (O.)
York—Gibson (G.) Crockett (O.)
Queens—Sunb'y—Hay (G.) Wilmot (O.)
Charlotte—Gilmour (G.) Ganong (O.)
St. John City—O'Brien (G.) Daniel (O.)
St. John Co.—McKeown (G.) Stockton (O.)
Kings—Albert—White (G.) Fowler (O.)
Westmorland—Emerson (G.) Powell (O.)
Kent—LeBlanc (G.) McInerney (O.)
Gloucester—Turgeon (G.) Blanchard (O.)
Northumberland—Loggie (G.) Robinson (O.)
Restigouche—Reid (G.) Mott (O.)

Mr. J. I. Tarte has announced that he will not be a candidate for Parliament in the coming election.

The political sensation of the week was Mr. Blair's resignation of the Chairmanship of the Railway Commission. He says he will not now re-enter public life, but will reaffirm his opposition to the G. T. P. scheme.

Hon. E. J. Davis has announced that he will soon retire from the Ontario Government. It is reported that Mr. Stratton and one or two others will, also, retire. It is thought a general election in Ontario will be on soon after the Dominion election.

"BAD WHISKEY."

Several deaths recently in and about New York, caused by whiskey drinking, have moved the papers to cry out against "bad whiskey." Something of the same kind occurred a few weeks ago in Moncton. Very severe things are said about the particular brand of grog consumed by these latest victims. Perhaps it differs in some respects from the kind in general use, though that is open to question. The probability is that the victims have merely paid the penalty of regular and possibly excessive consumption of drink not very different from what is being used every day by the thousands of tipplers all over the country. But if there was a peculiarly deadly quality in the whiskey these unfortunates drank, it must not be forgotten that they were made ready and eager to drink it by long addiction to ordinary whiskey. Slaves to drink, their long indulged appetites made them reckless of any consequences of drinking. They were simply the product of the drink traffic, and their tragic taking off is chargeable to that traffic. Then, while there are now and again such instances of apparently sudden death attributed to alleged "bad whiskey," what of the thousand times as many deaths due to whiskey that is not called "bad?" Thousands will be ruined in body and mind and fortune by the liquors sold in the Bishop Potter kind of saloon and other licensed groggeries, and no cry of horror nor even word of protest be heard. When will men learn that the great danger is not in the stuff called "bad whiskey," but in the drink shops which have the authority of law and the sanction of the people.

LIBERIA'S PROGRESS.

Those who have a daily trial of their neighbor's piano, pounded by the latest learner, may be thankful they do not live in Liberia. A recent visitor says the present mark of social standing there is the possession of a gramophone. No native with any pretensions to respectability will be without one. Whenever a steamer arrives at the coast one of the first questions to be asked is, "Has she brought out my new records?" The result when the various new tunes are tried on all the instruments simultaneously is pleasanter to imagine than to experience. The zeal for gramophone music is, however, only a characteristic by-product of advancing civilization in Liberia. There is marked progress in this negro Republic attributable in a good degree to the immigration of West Indian negro families, who are of a rather superior stock. One of them is the Hon. Arthur Barclay, now the President of the Republic, who was born in Barbados. The State has a promising commercial future, for besides an abundant production of rubber and the famous Liberian coffee (which grows

wild), other products—the oil palm, cacao, cotton, etc.—grow well. The one present danger to the prosperity of the Republic appears to be encroachment on the part of France.

JAPAN IN FORMOSA.

The improvements Japan has made in Formosa since that island came into her possession show how well she understands and applies the principles of present day civilization. It is only some years since Formosa came under Japan's control. The population, estimated at two and a half millions, was then largely at the mercy of a horde of marauders infesting the highlands of the interior, and priests that devastated their coasts. The Japanese began at once the work of establishing order and securing safety for the people. It was no small undertaking, and there was many a stiff conflict with the lawless bands that had had their own way so long. But they succeeded. Public works, sanitation, education, industries, and agriculture were given attention, and with excellent results. The island has now, a recent report says, 1,000 miles of good roads, 95 miles of railway, 125 miles more of light railway. A post office system has been introduced. In the year 1903, 13,000,000 letters were handled and 330,000 money orders issued and paid. Sanitary measures have resulted in a great improvement in the health of the island, the deaths from plague having fallen from 2,619 in 1900 to 606 in 1903. The population has increased about 20 per cent. The currency has been re-organized and savings banks have been established in which already there are deposits to the amount of about \$400,000. This is a good example of doing things.

THE PEOPLE'S PRAYER.

God gave us men!
A time like this demands
Strong minds, great hearts, true faith
and ready hands;
Men whom the lust of office does not
kill;
Men whom the spoils of office cannot
buy;
Men who possess opinions and a will;
Men who have honor; men who will not
lie;
Men who can stand before a demagogue
And scorn his treacherous flatteries with-
out winking;
Tall men, sun-crowned, who live above
the fog
In public duty and in private thinking;
For while the rabble with their thumb-
worn creeds,
Their large profession and their little
deeds;
Mingle in selfish strife, lo! Freedom
weeps,
Wrong rules the land, and waiting jus-
tice sleeps.

—J. G. Holland.

The number of communicants in the churches of the Presbyterian Alliance is 5,137,328, as against 4,852,000 five years ago.