

Evolution and Imperial Federation.

The Rev. Joseph Wild, in a sermon recently, at London, Ont., said:

More than twenty years ago I said the larger colonies would begin to appoint representative ministers at the Court of St. James; that our interests would begin to be so great, that it would be essential to have a man on the spot, who should be there to explain our real interest to the Imperial Parliament.

The following year Sir Alexander Galt was sent. I took notice of his mission, and said this, which is printed: "There goes John the Baptist, the fore-runner, who is temporarily sent there; he will be succeeded by a permanent representative."

Such is the result for Canada to-day, also from Australia and the other Colonies. What does this mean? It means that we are drawing closer together; it means that we are becoming more careful to be posted in regard to the interest of each other, that we may less likely offend one the other.

Since then, delegates from Canada, Australia, India, Africa, and from Island Colonies have met in London. What for? To discuss this question. It was a wise move. Britain's sons are counselling together—they are canvassing the question—they have taken the sure and just step in a great reform; and others will be taken in due time.

The proper way to accomplish a great radical change is, first to discuss it, canvass it pro and con, until you ascertain which is best, and that is only ascertained by mind meeting mind, and comparing notes. Then resolutions will be formed, then petition for legislation, then it will be crystallized into law and practice.

That is the safest method of agitating any question, to bring about any reform, without dynamite or any other mite, except the right. This conference is ominous, as is also the 1894 Conference at Ottawa—just like the cloud the size of a man's hand, which the servant of Elijah saw rising out of the sea from Mount Carmel; it spread along the sky, and poured down its shower of rain to the thirsty, needy earth. So will the influence of this conference spread until it will encompass the whole Empire.

And as the storm of that cloud and the rain falling upon the earth scattered the false prophets of Abah and Jezebel, so will this conference, by its influence, scatter some of the minor false prophets, and make the way a little easy. A man has not as good eye-sight as he ought to have, nor has he as good hearing as he should have, nor has he as strong national instincts as he ought to have, who does not know the great national storms that are now almost ready to burst, and that will ere long burst upon the millions of Europe; and woe be to the nation or people who are small and alone at that time.

In that storm many a throne will be demolished, many of the minor nations will disappear; many of the governments will be extinguished. When the storm is past we will want a new geography for our schools to define the governments, and give us the outline of the new forms of nations and empires.

DO YOU THINK SO?

It takes money to run a paper, whether it be religious, secular or fraternal. It takes money to run the ANGLO-SAXON, and unless members of the Order step up to the mark and pay what they actually owe, and renew subscriptions when they run out, the paper can only do the good which it is doing to the Order, at the expense of one individual. Is it fair to expect this?

Queen Victoria signs about 50,000 documents a year.

Most of the telegrams sent by Queen Victoria are in cipher.

Lady Somerset wants the Queen to confer orders of nobility upon women just as she does upon men.

The South African British colonies had in 1840 a population of 140,000; at present it is 1,800,000, with a business of \$17,000,000, and 1,800 miles of railway.

The manufactured product of Great Britain amounts to \$4,000,000,000 a year.

A gold-weighing machine in the Bank of England is so sensitive that a postage stamp dropped on the scale will turn the index on the dial a distance of six inches.

A national collection of figure-heads of old warships is to be made by the British Admiralty. Figure-heads will be taken from all old ships sold out of service in future and efforts made to reclaim all such relics from junk shops and scrap piles.

The London and North-western Railway receives over £175,000 a year for carrying mails.

The Predominant Language

TESTIMONY OF A FRENCHMAN.

The relative rate of progress of the English, French, and German languages has been made the subject of study by M. Leale, according to whom French was spoken by 19 per cent. of the population of the world in 1801, but by not more than 12.7 per cent. in 1800. This proportion was that of the English language (12.7 per cent.) in 1801, but in 1890 it had increased to 27.7 per cent. Thus French was spoken by far greater numbers than the English at the beginning of the century, and French at the end of the century is spoken by exactly the same proportion as English was at the beginning. German does not exhibit these fluctuations, although it shows a slight diminution. It was spoken by 18.8 per cent. of the world's population in 1801, and by 18.7 per cent. in 1890. Thus it considerably exceeded English at the beginning of the century, and now falls far below it. It does not look much as if German were going to become the language of North America in another hundred years, as the lips of enthusiastic Teutons. The language of Shakespeare was spoken by about five million people—somewhat less than the population of London. Now it is spoken by hundreds of millions of people who live in every quarter of the globe.—The Echo.

TESTIMONY OF A GERMAN.

The advocates of English as the universal language have received a condutor from an unexpected quarter. There recently appeared in the Preussische Jahrbucher an article from Dr. Schroer, advocating making the study of English obligatory in the schools. The reasons for this are more interesting than the proposition itself. The need of a universal language has long been felt. The effort to introduce Volapuk was a recognition of this, but Dr. Schroer condemns any attempt to construct an artificial world-speech. A language, he says, without historical development, literature, or linguistic relations, will not be studied by any considerable number of people until it becomes universal, and hence it cannot become universal at all. This, if we are to have a universal language, it must be chosen from existing languages, and of course from the number of those that are widely diffused and spoken by great civilized nations. Attempts to introduce artificial languages are not only hopeless, but they are unnecessary, for, says Dr. Schroer, there is already a universal language, and that is English. But in what sense is English a universal language? It is, says Dr. Schroer, one which, by its spread over the whole earth and by the ease with which it may be learned, has reached a position so far in advance of all others that neither natural nor artificial means can deprive it of its assured position as the future means of international intercourse. He therefore concludes that "the English language is the world speech, and will, to all appearance, become more and more so every year." This tribute to the English language is the more impressive because it emanates from one who has no bias in its favour from its being his mother tongue. The statements which he makes are fully borne out by facts. The language is spoken by the richest and most powerful commercial nation of Europe, in the greater part of North America, in the Sandwich Islands, India, South Africa, and Australia. Since the beginning of the nineteenth century the number of English-speaking people has grown from 25,000,000 to 125,000,000. There is no prospect of any check to the progress of this triumphant tongue. It may be added that the study of English gives access to incomparably the richest literature in the world. Its claims to the primacy are so eminent and evident, that even foreigners acknowledge them. It affords a practical and easy way to the attainment of the great desideratum of a universal language.—Louisville Courier-Journal.

DAUGHTERS AND MAIDS OF ENGLAND B. S.

AIMS AND OBJECTS.

The Daughters of England Benevolent Society is formed and composed of honourable and true Protestant Englishwomen who are in good bodily health and between the ages of 16 and 50 years, in association for mutual aid; to educate our members in true principles of womanhood, whereby they learn to be charitable; to practice true benevolence, and to keep alive those dear memories of our native land; to care for each other in sickness and adversity, and when death strikes down one of our members to follow her remains to its last resting place.

EXTRACTS FROM CONSTITUTION.

Rule 33.—Each Lodge shall, at its institution, consist of not less than twelve members, who must be daughters of Englishmen; but at no time shall have more than eight male financial members, who must be members of the Sons of England Benevolent Society, and every lodge can admit an unlimited number of male honorary members, who must be members of the S.O.E.B.S. Rule 79.—The Initiation Fees into this Order shall be paid in every case before the candidate is initiated, less 50 cents paid on application to the undermentioned graduated scale. (Charter members excepted), should they desire to join as financial members:

Table with 2 columns: Age range and Fee. 15 to 25 years: \$2.00; 25 to 35: 2.50; 35 to 45: 3.00; 45 to 50: 3.50.

Charter Members' Initiation Fees shall not be less than one dollar and twenty-five cents (provided they join within one month), but dispensations may be granted to remain open longer.

The benefits are medical attendance and medicine on joining. New members are entitled to half sick and funeral benefits at the expiration of six months. Full benefits after being a member for twelve months. In case of sickness the benefits are three dollars per week for 13 weeks and one dollar and fifty cents per week for the next 13 weeks; fifty dollars to be paid in case of death of a benefit member to their nominee from the Grand Lodge Funeral Fund.

We are anxious to have a lodge of the Society in every town in the Dominion. Any information respecting the formation of new lodges will be cheerfully given by the following Grand Executive officers:—

- FRANK H. REVELL HAMILTON, GRAND PRESIDENT. MRS. C. F. SMITH, Box 405, Whitby, GRAND VICE-PRESIDENT. LEONARD G. CROSS, TORONTO, Address, 604 Gerrard St. E., GRAND SECRETARY. JOSEPH SHONE, TORONTO, GRAND TREASURER. ALD. J. NUTKINS, LONDON, GRAND PAST-PRESIDENT.

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