

Church Work.

Established 1876. Enlarged 1899.

Published monthly in the interests of the Church of England in Canada.

Subscription 35 cents per annum. For quantities of 10 and below 20, 30 cents; of 20 and over 25 cents. A liberal discount will be given to agents. Special terms for localizing.

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All subscriptions are payable in advance.

Remittances may be made by P. O. Order, Postal Note, Cheque, or Registered Letter, and not (unless unavoidable) in Postage Stamps.

Halifax and Dartmouth subscribers may pay their subscriptions at the Printing Office of J. R. Findlay, 211 Brunswick St., Halifax, and at the Bookstore of C. H. Ruggles & Co., Barrington St., Halifax.

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WOLFVILLE, N. S.

HALIFAX, N. S., FEBRUARY 1900.

OUR recent reverses in South Africa, bitter and humiliating as they have been, must not be regarded as an unmixed evil. We have of late years been living too much on our reputation, and have been far too much disposed to assume our own overwhelming superiority to every other race. We have had a rude awakening, not to the fact of our own inferiority, but to the folly of overconfidence, and to the fact that we must pay the same price for success as did our ancestors.

NATIONS no more than individuals can live on their pedigree. Mingled with this widespread and most

salutary growth of imperial and patriotic sentiment that during the past few years has manifested itself in every corner of the Empire, has been a tendency to boastfulness, and self-glorification. These reverses have been a blessing in disguise. They have put us on our mettle. They have demonstrated in a most striking manner the solidarity of our widely sundered Empire, and they have reminded us that we haven't a monopoly of all the strong virile virtues.

THERE is no doubt something in the very common complaint as to the multiplicity of appeals for money, one so often hears. It is not so much the amount of money asked that constitutes the grievance, but the continual askings, and the consequent perplexity, it is claimed. And undoubtedly there is ground at present for this complaint.

INFINITELY more would be raised and infinitely easier, if we could only reduce the number of our appeals, and put the raising of money on a businesslike basis. There are far too many free lances with roving commissions, following each others heels, and crossing each others paths.

It goes without saying that all money for the Domestic Mission work of the church, should be paid through the Domestic and Foreign Missionary Society, and all "depu-