

First Baptist Church of  
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# Messenger and Visitor.

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**The Boer War.** A new feature of Lord Kitchen-er's campaign against the Boers is understood to be the organization of a fresh series of mounted cavalry columns with the lightest possible equipments and probably without guns, for the hot pursuit of the enemy's forces and the capture of the leaders—Steyn, DeWet, Botha, Delarey, etc. The system of block-houses along the railways also plays an important part in the operations of the British. There is a complete network of railway defence, for the protection of the lines of communication and also transverse barriers across the Orange River Colony from Jacobsdal to Ladybrand from Aliwal North to De Aar, and thence to Kimberly, and in the eastern and western Transvaal, with Heidelberg and Megaliesberg as centres. The efforts of the British commanders is directed, by wide-sweeping movements, to drive the scattered guerrilla bands of the Boers against the lines of blockhouses where they are forced to surrender in small groups. It is in this way principally that the surrenders of Boers reported from week to week are brought about. The Boers have however evidently changed their tactics in some measure to meet the British plan of operations, and instead of scattering their forces, they manage at times to mass them in considerable strength at certain points for attacks upon rear-guards of columns and isolated garrisons, and sometimes, as the record has shown, with quite disastrous effect.

**Fenians in the North.** A story contained in a San Francisco despatch a week or two ago, to the effect that there was a conspiracy at work to establish some sort of independent republic in the Yukon country, was generally regarded as a fake. A despatch from Victoria to the Toronto Globe, however, says that recent arrivals from the north confirm the statements of the San Francisco despatch in some measure, and adds: It appears to be generally accepted as a fact that some mischief was brewing, and it is attributed to the machinations of the Fenian centre, with its local headquarters at Skaguay, but in direct affiliation with the head centres of New York and Chicago. Leaders of this local centre are very well known to the authorities and have been watched for some time in connection with their workings among the local populace and their communications with head centres. The exceedingly mean and hostile spirit which prevails in Skaguay towards everything Canadian and British is said to be largely due to the plotting of this local centre. The recent insults to the British flag, culminating in the actual tearing of it down by a mob on one occasion, as well as certain well-carried-out plots to bring Canadian officials into disgrace, all are traceable to the same gang. The informants aver positively that the report is not all fake and buncombe, that watchful officials of the Government know it is not, and that the country now and always stands in need of great alertness and preparation. Later information confirms the truth of this statement.

**Morley on Gladstone.** The eulogy pronounced by Mr. John Morley, M. P., on the occasion of the unveiling of a bronze statue of Mr. Gladstone, in the Albert Square of Manchester, was very notable both on account of the greatness of the subject and also as illustrating the orator's remarkable powers for characterization and his command of eloquent and expressive language. Mr. Morley described the departed Statesman as "one of the men who rise from time to time in the world, a rare class of men, sometimes a great ruler, sometimes a heroic soldier, sometimes a revolutionary poet.

sometimes a mighty churchman—whether you call him a Bossuet or a Luther—who sweep like some new planet into the skies and fascinate and absorb the attention of their age." His greatness was not secured at the expense of others, as is the greatness of some, but he won renown by service, and that service and his fame extended far beyond the limits of his own country. The sense of justice was strong within him, his sympathy with the oppressed and down-trodden was acute and effective, tyranny and cruelty outraged him, and he was ever ready to strike a blow on behalf of those who struggled for liberty. The orator dwelt eloquently upon Mr. Gladstone's characteristics as a patriot and an economist. As to his personal characteristics, Mr. Morely said: "No man I have ever known was so slow to pronounce verdicts upon his fellow-creatures, and no man I have ever known had the broad rational spirit of charity so much alive. Few men can have been so true to their conception of duty, a power, as he described it, almost co-extensive with the action of our intelligence that goes with us where we will and only leaves us with the life and light." That there were some limitations in respect to Mr. Gladstone's intellectual interests the orator freely admitted. To Natural Science in all its speculation, increase of scientific truth and extension of scientific method, with their immense influence upon the intellectual activities of England and of Europe during the last forty years of Mr. Gladstone's life, to all that he was not entirely opened. The changes which were being wrought by Darwin and other leaders in science made but small impression upon him. "But the omission of scientific interest was made up for. The thought with which he rose in the morning and went to rest at night was of the universe as a sublime moral theatre on which the Omnipotent Dramaturgist used kingdoms and rulers, laws and policies, to exhibit a sovereign purpose for good, to light up what I may call the prose of politics with a ray from the Diviner Mind. This exalted his ephemeral discourses into a sort of visible relation to the counsels of all time. I came on a letter the other day where somebody wrote to him and said—and the words were true—"You have so lived and wrought that you have kept the soul alive in England." When he died Lord Salisbury said of him that he was a great Christian. Yes, and I would add that he was not a Christian for nothing. I think he must often have used to himself the language of Wordsworth:—"Earth is sick and heaven is weary of the hollow words that States and kingdoms utter when they talk of truth and justice." He, at all events, in face of all the demands of practical politics, did his best to bring those considerations of truth and justice into the minds and hearts of his countrymen. He was a great teacher. Besides being a statesman, besides being a patriot, besides being a magnificent orator, besides being a scholar, he was a great moral teacher. His language would not be mine, but I do say that Mr. Gladstone, when he saw the nations going on a wrong path, saw high in the heavens the flash of the uplifted sword and the gleam of the arm of the avenging angel."

**Canada's Liquor and Tobacco Bill.** The figures given in the report of the Inland Revenue department, for the fiscal year ended June 30, 1901, give some idea of the immense amount of wealth which is being wasted by this country—and for the most part worse than wasted—in the consumption of spirituous and malt liquors and tobacco. The statistics given show an increase in the per capita consumption of all these articles over last year or of any year since 1892. The increased consumption is especially noteworthy in the case of malt liquors, for while the

per capita consumption of spirits is considerably less than it was in the seventies and early eighties, the per capita consumption of malt liquors has increased. The consumption of beer per head of the population for the year ending June 30 ultimo, was nearly 4 1/4 gallons, a little more than 1/4 gals. of spirits and 1-10 gal. of wine. The consumption of tobacco per head for the year was about 2 2/5 lbs. Although so much more beer is drunk than spirits the revenue from the latter is much greater than from the former. The revenue per capita for the year was—from spirits a little over \$1.59; from beer a little less than 20 cents and from wine 87 1/2 cents. Ontario is the greatest consumer of ardent spirits of all the Provinces, Quebec coming next and British Columbia third. Next in order come New Brunswick, Nova Scotia, North West Territories and P. E. Island. In the matter of malt liquors, Ontario manufactures more than all the other Provinces put together. The quantity produced in Quebec is a little more than one-half of that manufactured in Ontario: Here is a comparative statement, showing the manufacture by Provinces during the last two years:—

Provinces.	Gallons malt liquor manufactured.	
	1900.	1901.
Ontario	13,255,566	14,051,570
Quebec	6,306,869	7,362,535
New Brunswick	438,820	480,700
Nova Scotia	916,843	843,066
Prince Edward Island	42,000	44,900
Manitoba	687,868	678,946
N. W. Territories	157,020	207,045
British Columbia	1,504,186	1,439,492
Totals	23,309,172	25,108,254

Quebec has the distinction of consuming more tobacco and cigarettes than any other Province, Ontario comes second and the Northwest Territories last. The total excise revenue for 1901 was \$10,497,540, as compared with \$9,931,950 for the previous year. The chief items for the two years were:—

	1900.	1901.
	Spirits	\$4,821,218
Malt Liquor	7,174	6,569
Malt	910,537	977,330
Tobacco	3,281,640	3,337,848
Cigars	825,643	837,434

The following statement shows the consumption of spirits by Provinces and the duty paid during the last fiscal year, compared with the previous twelve months:—

Provinces.	Entered for consumption.	
	1900.	Galls.
Ontario	1,176,884.45	\$2,264,990.26
Quebec	921,151.66	1,744,815.55
New Brunswick	61,254.04	116,382.82
Nova Scotia	29,801.95	56,626.02
P. E. Island	908.87	1,726.83
Manitoba	159,947.36	303,903.97
N. W. Territories	15,456.96	23,668.28
British Columbia	161,170.85	306,225.66
Total	2,523,576.14	\$4,817,639.39

1901—		
Ontario	1,281,773.48	\$2,464,142.51
Quebec	999,112.66	1,900,091.47
New Brunswick	67,841.08	128,898.30
Nova Scotia	35,576.95	67,596.32
P. E. Island	1,035.90	1,968.21
Manitoba	153,273.03	291,223.66
N. W. Territories	15,538.21	29,522.89
British Columbia	153,768.69	292,163.22
Total	2,707,919.40	\$5,175,606.58

—Rev. Charles Williams a prominent English Baptist, now on a world tour, writes the London Baptist Times from New Zealand, that the Baptist denomination in that colony dates from 1851, and that there are, so far as he can make out, some 55 congregations, though the churches number only 34. The membership is 3,594 and the number of scholars in the Sunday-schools 4,559.