

# Messenger and Visitor

THE CHRISTIAN MESSENGER,  
VOLUME LXV.

THE CHRISTIAN VISITOR,  
VOLUME LIV.

Vol. XIX.

ST. JOHN, N. B., WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 9, 1903.

No. 36

**Good Prospect for Apple Growers.** The Canadian apple crop this year is understood to be at least a fair average, and as the crop both in Great Britain and on the Continent

is said to be extremely short, Canadian apple shippers are pretty sure to secure good prices for all the fruit which they can put into the English market in good condition. A letter lately received from Bristol, England, by the Secretary of the Montreal Board of Trade says: "The crops of English tree fruits are almost a total failure this year, and only in a few localities are there small quantities of apples, which are quite inadequate to supply the demand in the cities and which will soon be exhausted. So much is this the case that the common cooking apples are now realizing four pence per pound in retail, while edible fruit is marking up to six pence. Large and continuous supplies of imported apples will be needed and the prospect is for a very remunerative trade to shippers."

**Friendly Visitors.** The British Journalists who have been in the Maritime Provinces during the past week, after having made a trip through the Canadian West, seem to have nothing but good to say of the country and its people. Doubtless these gentlemen have had some experience in wielding the critic's pen, and being keen observers, they have certainly not failed to notice many things that might justly invite adverse criticism, but evidently our visitors came not to find fault, but to see the big new country, to admire what was worthy of admiration and to enjoy what could be enjoyed. As a matter of fact they have doubtless found much to challenge their admiration in the greatness of the country and the sturdy industrious and enterprising character of its people, and much also to enjoy in the Canadian summer and scenery and the hospitable welcome which has been extended to them. And being men of knowledge and good judgment they have not been disappointed at finding much in a new country which appears crude and unfinished in comparison with conditions in the older lands across the sea. Naturally our visitors have been impressed with what they have seen in the wide west. Mr. Arthur Yarrow of the Newcastle Chronicle is reported as saying: "I have been greatly struck by the marvellous fertility and apparent inexhaustibility of the soil, not only as exhibited in the ordinary farm crops, but still more as shown in the experimental farms, where deliberate attempts have been made to exhaust the soil and have failed. To me it is clear enough that Canada can easily substantiate her claim to be considered 'the granary of the empire.' . . . I have too been profoundly impressed by the courtesy of the Canadian people and by the absence of all roughness in the so-called 'wild and woolly west.' . . . Thirdly, I have noted with great interest and some surprise the unqualified confidence expressed by every Canadian with whom I have come in contact respecting the future of the country. . . . Again I have been struck, as all must be, by the wonderful beauty of the country. It does not, so far I have been able to observe, contain a mile that is not full of the picturesque. To understand the enthusiasm of the Canadian for the land of his birth or his adoption, as the case may be, is now easy. If I were not English it is Canada I should wish to be."

Mr. Henry Alexander, jr., of the Aberdeen Free Press says: Some, to whom I have spoken, have regretted the extent to which alien immigration is growing. I think there is little cause for apprehension. The British strain is strong; it will always be the prepotent influence in the development of the country and the admixture of other races, be they Teutons or Slavs, is likely to invigorate the stock and reinforce the nation which is now entering into this great land to possess it. In the Northwest we were fortunate enough to see every stage in this vast drama of settlement and nation building, as I think we may justly call it. In Prince Albert enough remains of the old Hudson's Bay life to let the traveller realize what Canada was when men thought of it merely as a vast hunting ground. At Kildonan we saw the handiwork of the settlers whom Selkirk brought out to the Red River eighty years ago. The story of their early struggles is one of the most remarkable passages in the history of American colonization and if there be any settlers today who complain of their condition, though I doubt if the Northwest contains a single grumbler or pessimist, they might fitly enough be reminded of the hardships which the Kildonan pioneers endured. All through Manitoba we saw pleasant homes and rich farms. They represent twenty or thirty years of diligent husbandry and the smiling prospect which one sees along the shores of the Red River or along the base of Riding Mountain, is an augury of what the prairies will be a generation hence. Everywhere there is hopefulness. Every one is sanguine, from the settler who came in thirty years ago to the settler who landed this spring

and is still in a tent. This universal confidence in the country is not misplaced.

## Not a Flattering Report.

From the extracts which London despatches give from the report of the Royal Commission on the South African war, it would appear that the report, which is in the form of three blue books, is not a kind of literature adapted to minister to national pride or to a secure complacency in the invincibility of the British army. If, however, it shall lead to a remedy of the evils pointed out through an improved organization in the army, it may prevent a recurrence of so costly blunders in the future. Field Marshal Lord Roberts, Lord Kitchener, Lord Wolsley and other generals give various reasons for the failures of the war. Lord Roberts considered the initial error of strategy was practically ir retrievable. He criticised the War Office with regard to the general preparations and equipment, the first plan of campaign, the underestimating of the enemy, the ignorance of the geography and extent of the country and the lack of artillery and mounted infantry. . . . General Sir Redvers Buller said he was hampered by the refusal of the War Office to accept his plans and the failure on the part of the War Office to give him definite instructions and information. . . . Lord Kitchener said the officers in many cases were not qualified for their work, and expressed the opinion that the juniors were better than the seniors. He praised the men, but said that the chief difficulty was the lack of training on the part of reservists and volunteers. . . . Lord Wolsley in a memorandum complains that the commander-in-chief has become the fifth wheel to the coach, and that the Secretary of State for war is the actual commander-in-chief. Replying to this Lord Lansdowne, who was War Secretary during the early part of the South African war, and Mr. Bigderick, his successor, suggest that Lord Wolsley was ignorant of many of the powers of a commander-in-chief or failed to use them.

## The Alaska Commission Meets.

The Alaska Boundary Commission held its first session in London on Thursday of last week. The personnel of the Commission is as follows: On the British and Canadian side—Lord Alverstone; Sir Louis Jette; and Mr. A. B. Aylesworth. On the American side—Senator Turner; Mr. Elihu Root, and Senator Lodge. Lord Alverstone has been chosen president of the Commission; Mr. Reginald T. Power of the British diplomatic Service, Sec'y; Mr. J. R. Carter, of the United States Embassy, and Mr. Jos. Pope, a representative of the Canadian Government, Asst. Secretaries. It was agreed between the counsel of the contending parties that two weeks should be occupied in preparation of the cases to be submitted, and October 9 was fixed upon as the date when the oral arguments would be completed. The Commission decided to sit five days in the week, commencing on Sept. 15, and excluding Saturdays, and granted permission to admit a limited representation of the press. It has been arranged that three counsel for each Government shall make argument, the British opening and being followed alternately by Americans and British, the former securing the advantage of delivering the closing argument.

## Russia and Japan.

There seems to be no doubt that Russia, despite all assurance on her part to the contrary, is persistently prosecuting her purpose for the permanent occupancy of the Chinese Province of Manchuria. The western nations are not disposed to offer strenuous opposition to Russian ambition at this point, provided that Manchuria under Russia rule shall remain open to the commerce of the world. It is not probable, however, that Russia will keep her pledges in this matter any more than in the other unless she is forced to do so. But the aggressive policy of Russia in the far east is particularly annoying to Japan, and that country is not likely to submit quietly to much crowding in what she regards as her sphere of influence. While Russia has been pursuing her aggressive policy in Manchuria and the borders of Corea, Japan has not been idle. She has used her opportunity to make influence with China. The similarity between the two peoples in race, religion and language naturally makes China more susceptible to Japanese influence than to that of the European nations, and for the past two or three years Japan has been rapidly strengthening her influence in China. As a result there has been established in Pekin

a Japanese University which has the approval of the Chinese government and is said to be meeting with great success. The police force of Pekin has been reorganized under Japanese supervision and rendered efficient, and Japanese officers have succeeded European officers in the instruction of the Chinese soldiers. Japanese goods are to a considerable extent displacing European goods in Chinese markets. The Chinese government has recently placed an order for three gun boats in Japan, and of the arms which are said to have been imported into China in considerable quantities for some time past the greater part has come from Japan. It is significant in this connection that Russia should have requested that the time during which the importation of arms into China was forbidden should be extended, and that Great Britain, the United States and Japan should have refused to agree to the proposal. No doubt it would fall in with Russia's interests to have China remain unarmed and unprotected. But with China becoming modernized under Japanese influence and her army organized, armed, disciplined and led by Japanese officers, a formidable barrier may be opposed to the tide of Russian aggression in the East.

## The Rhodes

## Scholarships.

It is announced that the first election of scholars in Canada for the Rhodes scholarships will be made some time between February and May of next year, and the elected scholars will commence residence at Oxford in October 1904. A qualifying examination will be held in each Province within the period named, or at centres which can be easily reached. This examination is not competitive, but is intended to give assurance that all candidates are fully qualified to enter on a course of study at Oxford University. It will therefore be based on the requirements for respensions—that is on the first public examination exacted by the University for each candidate for a degree. The Rhodes scholars will be selected from candidates who have successfully passed this preliminary examination. One scholar will be chosen from each Province to which scholarships are assigned. The requirements of the respensions examination, as stated in the statutes of the University of Oxford, are as follows:—Candidates must offer the following:—Arithmetic, the whole; either Algebra, addition, subtraction, multiplication, division, greatest common measure, least common multiple, fractions, extraction of square root, simple equations (containing one or two unknown quantities), and problems producing such equations; or Geometry, Euclid's elements, book I, II, Euclid's axioms will be required, and no proof of any proposition will be admitted which assumes the proof of anything not proved in preceding propositions of Euclid; Greek and Latin grammar, translation from English into Latin prose, Greek and Latin authors. Candidates must offer two books, one Greek and one Latin, or unseen translation. The following portions of the under-mentioned authors will be accepted:—Demosthenes: (1) Philippos 1-3, and Olynthians 1-3, or (2) De Corona, Euripides, any two of the following plays:—Hecuba, Medea, Alcester, Iacchae, Plato, Apology and Crito; Sophocles, Antigone and Ajax; Xenophon, Anabasis 1-4, or 2-5; Caesar, De Bello Gallico 1-4; Cicero; (1) The first two Philippic orations, or (2) the four Catinian orations, and In Verrem, act I; or (3) the orations Pro Murena and Pro Lege Manilia; or (4) the treatises De Senectute and De Amicitia; Horace: (1) Odes 1-4, or (2) Satires; or (3) Epistles; Livy: Books 21 and 22. (After Michaelmas, 1903, books V, and VI; Virgil: (1) The Bucolics, with books 1-3 of the Aeneid; or (2) the Georgics; or (3) the Aeneid, books 1-5, or 2-6. Candidates for scholarships should during January, 1904, notify the Chairman of the Committee of Selection in the Province for which they apply, or the head of the university appointing to the scholarship, of their intention to present themselves for examination.

## The Yacht Race.

The international yacht race of 1903 is now a thing of the past, and has ended, as in many past years, in the victory of the American yacht. This result had been generally anticipated since the first trial of speed between the two boats. After the enthusiastic reports as to the speed shown by Shamrock III in the trial races, and her alleged great superiority over her predecessor, Shamrock I, her performance in the races with the Reliance was altogether disappointing. If Shamrock III is, as was claimed for her, a much speedier yacht than any of her predecessors, it is evident that the Reliance must be a still greater improvement on any of the former cup-defenders. The owner of the Challenger has borne the defeats of preceding years with praiseworthy equanimity, and as he is now an advanced scholar in the school of philosophical temper, he will no doubt accept the issue in a philosophical temper. It may be that Sir Thomas Lipton has been attempting the impossible in the endeavor to win the trophy with a yacht that must be built staunch and strong enough to cross the Atlantic and contend in speed with a craft in which staunchness of build is not under the circumstances, so much of a consideration. There is talk that if Sir Thomas should consider it prudent to withdraw from the contest for the cup, a Canadian yacht should enter the lists as a challenger. There would certainly be this in favor of a Canadian challenger, that she would not have to cross the ocean in order to meet her rival.