

our prayer by a little working. I suggest as a means to this end (1), a Pan-Christian Conference where thoughts might be freely exchanged by means of papers and discussion; (2), the remodelling on a more liberal basis of the various denominational Colleges. If we aim at unity it is useless to teach narrowness; (3), some attempt at agreement in the occupation of mission fields, so as to avoid overcrowding with its consequent waste of men and money, and the inevitable jealousies and heartburnings it produces. It is my firm belief that if the matter be faced in a Christian spirit, most, if not all, of the evils of division might be eliminated.

C. E. Cartwright.

The trouble is that in any such assembled "Pan" the churchianity of each would have the most conspicuous place. Archbishop Lynch is undoubtedly a Christian, and would expect to be a leading spirit in the Pan-Assembly—so is and would Bishop Sweatman—also Dr. Potts, and also the Rev. Mr. Denovan—but is there any hope that the one would tolerate the other, and all agree to respect their intellectual nature by holding on to their different issues of theology, but yield to the one great sentiment of love? Not much. Churchianity would certainly prevail, and while that prevails thoughts will not be freely exchanged, and "the remodelling of colleges on a more liberal basis" will not take place, and not even an attempt will be made at "agreement in the mission fields, so as to avoid over-crowding, with its consequent waste of men and money." Reform in this direction may some day be forced upon the general church from without, but as matters now stand it is hopeless to look for it from within.

A Quebec correspondent sends me the following:—"The case presenting the effects of the drunken brawl in which a sailor was stabbed by his comrade after they had left their ships at South Quebec, which has just been adjudicated upon by Judge Johnson, after a careful investigation of the facts, must be regarded as another sad evidence of the different treatment afforded sailors visiting this port from what they receive in the port of Montreal. The voice of the local ship-owning interest, as expressed by their best and worthiest exponents, is an outcome of what can only be deemed a sort of misapprehension on this question. The Quebec City Mission, by which a good work is being done in conducting services for the men, is even supported by two at least of the representatives of this powerful body. Its report is just issued, and may be had of the missionary, Mr. Davis. But we need something more—that is, something in the social sense as well as the religious. If rational concessions of that kind were made in Quebec, Montreal friends would perhaps come forward to aid the funds of the mission, which are at present low. To be more particular, I may say that the difficulty with our ship-owning friends is as to whether the seamen, while they remain in port, should be enabled by the efforts of those who wish them well, to sit down, like civilized beings, in a pleasant room for refreshments, where they could read books and papers, write letters to their friends, &c., as they can now do in almost every large and Christian port in the world. The plan, it may be added, would be nearly self-supporting. It is thought by some that this could do no harm, but on the contrary great good, and what they would like to say is: Let us have justice for the poor men whose severe and often dangerous labours build up so many fortunes of men in mercantile life, who may yet perhaps be induced to do the poor fellows this service. Lord Dufferin, when amongst us, expressed his approval, and the Hon. Peter Mitchell, who created the Department of Marine for Canada, gave his cordial approbation of the scheme by letter to the writer of this paragraph."

Since the above was written I am informed on the best authority that a special effort was made some months since to obtain from the Ottawa Government suitable premises near the water side for the accommodation of the seamen somewhat after the manner shadowed above, and that when the negotiations seemed at the point of success a difficulty of some kind was raised at the capital. The friends of the Quebec City Mission do not yet despair of seeing this urgently needed institution in full operation—to the comfort of the Seamen and their protection from such calamities as the one I commenced by referring to.

Mr. Goldwin Smith, in the last issue of the *Bystander*, has once more called attention to a great evil, and one that is growing,—the multiplication of universities. His remarks should be taken to heart,

for we are pursuing a course which threatens to hinder the legitimate growth of education. Ontario has already half a dozen universities for its two millions of inhabitants. If all the money spent on the half-dozen could be given toward defraying the expenses of say two, it is quite easy to see how the whole system and all the staff could be improved. And it is quite easy to understand that the degrees would be more valuable, because they would represent a better education—while honorary degrees would be dispensed with a little more dignity and discrimination.

It is much to be regretted that U. S. Politicians will persist in mud-slinging for party purposes. The election just over has been characterized by almost every possible kind of infamy. General Grant started with a mean attack upon the personal honour and courage of General Hancock. Then the old story of the 329 dollars was reshaped to tell against Garfield; and that was followed by the infamous forgery of a letter. But the New York "Boss" Mr. Kelly has outheroed Herod by his attempted moral assassination of a woman. When a man can resort to such diabolical devices and yet maintain his position in society, and be still recognised as a leader of men it is proof that political life has its basis in blackguardism, and society is wanting in the first sense of honour.

Garfield's election will be a disappointment to the English manufacturers. The Democrats were pledged to reduce the tariff which would give the English manufacturers a chance of finding a market for their goods; but the dream is over. The Americans have emphatically declared once more that they maintain faith in the protective system for trade, the efforts of the Cobden Club to teach them better things notwithstanding. This must be very depressing to the members of that club. There is no more intelligent vote given the world over than in the United States, and nowhere is the working man so strongly in the ascendant—but the vote went against even a movement in the direction of Free-trade. The masses of the people are enamoured with protection, and do not seem to think that they suffer much by it.

It is pleasant to hear that Lady Dufferin has completely recovered her health again. When she left Russia report had it that she was somewhat seriously ill; but a visit to her home in Ireland has had a most salutary effect.

There are no longer reasonable grounds for alarm as to the settlement of the Eastern question. It is fully evident now that Mr. Gladstone had a right understanding of the situation from the first, when he advocated stern and sharp coercive measures. They are being applied, and success is assured. Jingoism is dead and buried in England, and Mr. Goschen talks to the Sultan in Constantinople with a stick in his hand. Sullenly enough, but surely the Sultan yields to the just demands of the Powers. A determined demonstration settled the question of the cession of Dulcigno, and only another such demonstration is needed to compel the cession of the Greek frontier. The Sultan is afraid of the stick.

But Mr. Gladstone is hardly likely to settle matters nearer home so easily. Ireland is fairly in revolt. Very many of the leaders of the moderate party have now joined the Land League, and announced themselves ready to follow the seditious leading of Mr. Parnell. It must be confessed that this has complicated matters exceedingly; for the British Cabinet will have to do with men who are calm and dignified, and yet pledged to what practically is an attempt to lay violent hands upon the integrity of the Empire. It would be absurd to discuss the possibility of the movement resulting in success; for a rebellion can only lead to increased misery in Ireland, and if Mr. Parnell's prediction that Irishmen in America would go to the help of their friends at home should prove true, it would only intensify the misery and shame. An integral part of the British Empire Ireland must be; but every part of the Empire must have justice from every other part, and if Ireland has a just claim to legislation, legislation it will have, and that in the interests of right. For England is trying to be just, and will succeed in spite of its aristocracy.

EDITOR.