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THE CANADA SCHOOL JOURNAL.

An Educational Journal devoted to the advancement of Literature, Science, and the teaching profession in Canada.

—O—T E R M S.—O—

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CANADA SCHOOL JOURNAL PUB. CO. (Limited)

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The World.

Don't fail to read Publisher's Announcement in this issue.

✓ The Prohibitionists are making progress. The question has now reached the pamphleteering stage. When a great project of alleged reform has made sufficient headway to bring men of the highest talent into the controversial field it has got far beyond the point at which it can be frowned down, or sneered down. Whether we agree or disagree with the conclusions reached by such writers as Mr. Goldwin Smith we cannot but be glad to see them in the lists. It shows that the great question of how best to combat the terrible ravages of intemperance is engaging the attention of the best minds, a pretty safe pledge that some practical conclusion will be reached in the near future. Mr. Smith's recent pamphlet will no doubt be ably replied to. It is worth the while of every thoughtful person to read the best that is said on both sides of the prohibition controversy and draw his own conclusions.

Prince Alexander of Bulgaria has proved himself possessed of moral as well as physical courage by the protection he has accorded the Jews in his dominions. The full significance of this can be understood only when the intense anti-Jewish prejudices of the people of Central Europe is taken into the account. Prince Alexander has even accepted the military services of a battalion of Jews five hundred strong, a thing which the London *Spectator* says is without precedent in the history of Europe. The event proved the confidence well bestowed. "The battalion covered itself with honor. In the battle of Slivnitza, and the skirmishes which followed, it was literally cut in two, more than two hundred being actually killed on the field, and the number of wounded being great. Prince Alexander has publicly commended the battalion as 'worthy descendants of the Maccabees,' and has decorated the Commandant with a gold medal."

Public school education for both whites and blacks has made wonderful strides in the Southern States since the war. It is said on apparently good authority that in 1850 there were over forty thousand white men and women in Georgia over twenty-one years of age who could neither read nor write. Now every Southern State has a public School system supported by taxation, and providing education equally for blacks and whites. It is even said that industrial education is more advanced, in public interest and enthusiasm, if not in actual school equipment, in the South than in the North. The education of the rising generation of negroes will render any return to serfdom of any description for ever impossible in the "regenerated South."

"Uneasy lies the head that wears a crown," especially if it is the head of a would-be tyrant. The King of Denmark, not content with being for years at logger-heads with his people at home, is now confronted with constitutional demands from his peaceful subjects in Iceland. The Icelanders have for twelve years past had their own Legislative Assembly, but the King of Denmark has appointed twelve members of their Upper House, and retained an absolute right of veto over all their legislation. The spirit of self-government in its rapid march has now reached Iceland, and the people, through their representatives, are now demanding full responsible government, or home rule. Of course the present King and Government of Denmark would do violence to all their principles to grant such a demand, and yet the Icelanders when thoroughly aroused are not a people to be trifled with. King Oscar has made for himself a thorny pillow.

La Plata, or the Argentine Republic, long so famous even amongst South American States for chronic anarchy and perpetual intestine broils, bids fair to enter upon an era of development and progress. This hopeful condition of affairs is the result of the enterprise of a syndicate of English capitalists,