

Messenger and Visitor

THE CHRISTIAN MESSENGER
VOLUME LXVI.

THE CHRISTIAN VISITOR
VOLUME LV.

Vol. XX.

ST. JOHN, N. B., Wednesday, October 19, 1904.

No. 42

Earl Grey

and Lady Grey.

Earl Grey who is shortly to assume the honors and duties connected with the Governor Generalship of Canada, is described as being in appearance tall, big-boned and loose-jointed. He has, as his pictures show, a high, smooth-domed forehead, the baldness extending well down the back and sides of his head. The hair and moustache are sandy, the latter clipped off in a ragged line. The under lip protrudes slightly, casting a faint shadow between the full mouth and the square chin. The general appearance is that of the English north countryman, the type to be expected from Northumberland, the Earl's home. In the matter of dress the Earl is not fastidious. The long frock which so many Englishmen practically live in he wears only upon special occasions, preferring for ordinary wear a sack-coat 'business suit' of a rough Scotch weave. In fact the Earl is too fully occupied to let his mind dwell upon his clothes, but being conscientious in all things he is careful also in the matter of dress. In politics Earl Grey is a Liberal, but belongs to the Whig rather than to the Radical wing of the party. Previously to his accession to the peerage he sat three terms in Parliament as a Liberal, and since then he has been a steady supporter of the party in the House of Lords. Among his friends however, are men of all political parties. W. T. Wood is spoken of as one of his frequent companions, though on the question of the South African war, and probably many other matters, they differed sharply. During the period that the Earl was administrator of Rhodesia he saw much of the late Cecil Rhodes and they became warm friends, and Lord Grey is one of the executors of the Rhodes estate. In England Earl Grey's name has been prominently associated with a temperance reform movement, he being the prime mover in the so-called Public House Trust. The movement is patterned on the Gothenberg system so much in vogue in Sweden. . . . Lady Alice Grey is not, like her husband, of noble lineage. She is the daughter of Mr. R. S. Hilford who was for a time a member of Parliament. They were married in 1877. Their eldest son who bears the title of Lord Howick (Howick being the name of the Earl's estate in Northumberland) was formerly a Lieutenant in the First Life Guards. Lady Grey is described as a very handsome woman, with large regular features and a restful manner. She is rated as an intellectual woman though she never parades her superiority over less clever friends. She is in fullest accord with her husband in all his plans, and upon several occasions in his career, it is said, her advice and counsel have been of the utmost value to him. Lady Grey's manners are said to be simple and pleasing and her experience has been sufficiently wide to equip her fully for the difficult position of mistress of Government House at Ottawa.

Liquor and Tobacco.

The drain upon the resources of Canada for intoxicating liquors and tobacco might well be considered enormous even if all the liquors manufactured and imported were poured into the sea and all the tobacco were gathered into one large heap and burned. When the injury sustained by the manhood of the country by the drinking of the liquors and the smoking or chewing of the tobacco is taken into account the drain upon the country's resources passes computation. Official returns compiled by the Island Revenue Department seem to show, too, that the capital consumption of liquors and tobacco in Canada is on the increase. The latest figures are for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1904, and to be more exact, it should be said, that the figures given represent the manufacture and importation of liquors and tobacco for the year rather than the actual consumption of these articles. The comparison of the figures with those of other years however, are not misleading. The total consumption of spirits last fiscal year was 5,343,954 gallons, or .952 gallons per head of our population. The corresponding figure the year before was .870 gallon. It is the largest consumption on record since 1885, when the record shows 1.126 gallon per head. The consumption in some years has fallen as low as .536 gallon in 1898. Taking an average of the thirty-five years since 1869, the consumption of spirits has been .974 gallon. The consumption of beer in Canada last year was 27,608,518 gallons, an average of 4.918 gallons per capita of our population. The use of beer in the Dominion has been on the steady increase since 1869, that is to say, as far back as the departmental

records go. Last year's consumption is the largest ever recorded in our history with the single exception of 1902, when the figure was 5,102 gal'on per head. In 1903 the figure 4,712. The average since 1869 has been 3,182 gallons. The use of wines has fluctuated considerably in different years. In the year 1874 it ran as high as .288 gallon per head. Of recent years, however, the consumption of this beverage has been around .1 gallon. In 1903 it was .096 gallon. Last year it was the same. The Department reports that 537,444 gallons were taken for consumption. Fifteen million five hundred and two pounds of tobacco cigars and cigarettes were used in Canada last year, which represents 2.765 for every man, woman and child in it. This is the largest consumption in the history of the country. The average of the last thirty-five years has been 2.178 pounds. In 1902 it was 2.404 pounds; in 1903 it was 2.548 pounds.

To Prevent Railway Accidents.

An Ottawa despatch says that the railway companies of the Dominion have agreed among themselves, in response to a circular from the Railway Commission, to draft a uniform set of rules to govern the operations of trains. The members of the Commission are said to be of the opinion that the enforcement of uniform rules will prevent accidents, involving loss of life and property. It would certainly seem that a considerable number of the serious railway disasters occurring from time to time, should with more careful management, be prevented, and if the Railway Commission succeed in establishing regulations which shall lessen the frequency of these disasters it will have accomplished an important work. It is said that the roads will be directed to introduce the block system wherever the business is heavy enough to make it necessary. Automatic switch devices will be insisted upon so that the semaphore will first show the danger before a switch is opened, and the hand and light signals will be made uniform on all roads. Another proposed regulation is that no train shall work more than a specified number of hours each day whether he wants to or not. This last would seem to be an important regulation, as a recent very serious disaster in the United States is reported to have been due to the fact that the hands on a freight train, held on a siding to permit other trains to pass all went to sleep, being worn out by seventeen hours continuous work. Hon. Mr. Blair, Chairman of the Commission, when seen in reference to the alleged proposed regulations, would not say how far the statements which had appeared in the press were correct. The Board he said, however, was giving its attention to means for the prevention of railway accidents and he had no doubt that railway companies would be disposed to accept any reasonable and practical suggestions the Commission had to offer. Referring to the recent disaster in the St. Blair tunnel on the Grand Trunk by which six railway employees lost their lives by suffocation by gas owing to the breaking down of a train in the tunnel, Mr. Blair suggested that the substitution of electric motors for hauling trains through the tunnel would prevent such accidents.

The War in the East.

During the past week fierce fighting on a grand scale has been in progress between the two hostile armies. In this instance it was the Russian commander-in-chief who took the offensive. Coincident with his forward movement General Kuropatkin issued an extended address to his army which seemed to breathe a spirit of confidence and was evidently intended to inspire his soldiers with the assurance of victory. It is uncertain whether the Russian commander's southward movement was undertaken in obedience to commands from the Czar and with the forlorn hope of bringing relief to Port Arthur, or whether in his own judgment the time had arrived to strike a decisive blow. In the course of the address or manifesto above alluded to, General Kuropatkin said: "Heretofore the enemy, in operating, has relied on his great forces and, disposing his armies so as to surround us, has chosen as he deemed fit, his time for attack; but now the moment to go and to meet the enemy for which the whole army has been longing, has come, and the time has arrived for us to compel the Japanese to do our will, for the forces of the Manchurian army are strong enough to begin for-

ward movement." But the results have not justified the Russian General's confidence. The desperate courage with which the Russians fought was unable to do more than gain for them some rather unimportant preliminary successes. The resistance of the Japanese was invincible, and the Russians have been driven back all along the widely extended line of battle. The fighting has been terrible and the losses are reported to be heavier than in the battle of Liao Yang. Both sides have suffered severely, and as yet there is no trustworthy estimate of the losses sustained. But it is probable that in this instance the Russians have suffered larger loss than the Japanese, as the latter were in part fighting behind entrenchments. The Russians have been driven back twenty miles and have lost heavily in artillery as well as in men. What the ultimate results of this prolonged battle will be cannot yet be told, as the fighting is perhaps still going on, but it is evident that it will add another and perhaps the most serious yet, to the long list of disasters which the Russian arms have suffered in Manchuria.

Another Murder.

Another has been added to the unusually large number of homicidal tragedies which have occurred in the Maritime Provinces during the year. One man has been hanged in Woodstock, N. B., for the murder of a young woman, his cousin, another in Kentville, N. S., for the murder of his wife and still another is about to be tried in Woodstock on a well supported charge of murder in Sydney, C. B., a young man killed his father in a drunken row, but received no punishment, the jury, we believe, failing to find a bill against him. A man partly intoxicated and under provocation from some boys, stabbed a boy to death in Windsor, N. S., and was released after trial on a charge of murder, the jury finding him "not guilty." At Hantsport, N. S., a man who had been annoyed by some boys on Hallow e'en, shot and killed a boy, and after having been held one year in jail, was lately sentenced to another year as punishment for his homicidal act. One cannot wonder that the leniency shown by the courts in these cases of homicide should have evoked some adverse criticism. Doubtless boys, and men too, should understand that they cannot persistently annoy their neighbors with impunity, and a blow struck in a moment of sudden passion is not to be judged with the same severity as if it had been with malice pre-pense. But on the other hand, it seems plain that homicides should not be so dealt with as to encourage men to take the law into their own hands and to shoot or stab their neighbors for a comparatively trifling offense. While justice should be tempered with mercy, it should not be forgotten that a failure of justice by legal process leads naturally to a contempt of law and the usurpation by the mob of the functions of judge and jury. The murder alluded to at the beginning of this article occurred early on Thursday evening last on the streets of Charlottetown near the city hospital. The victim was a Miss Warren, a seamstress, who is said to have been returning to her home from her work when she was struck down. The axe with which the terrible deed was done was found near the body. The murder is suspected to have been the work of an insane man. Two men have been arrested on suspicion, but there is no direct evidence and apparently no strong circumstantial evidence connecting either of them with Miss Warren's murder. One of the men, named Henry Palmer has a criminal record and has been insane, and the other Michael Power, is said to have been confined for the last four years in an asylum in connection with the Massachusetts State Prison. Not long ago his sentence terminated and he came to Charlottetown where his people live.

The World's Gold Yield.

The official figures showing the world's gold supply for 1903, which will soon be made public, will show, it is said, that the principal gain in the world has been in South Africa where the output of 1903 was in the neighborhood of \$28,000,000 greater than in 1902. This ratio of increase, it is reported, is more than maintained for the past months of 1904. These figures indicate the source of the world's great gold supply. In South Africa, because of the low grade of the rock, the industry of gold mining is more like a manufacturing enterprise, but of such reliability within the limits of the field as to make it safe to spend huge sums of money in equipment to hasten its exploitation. Because of this increase largely, the world's increase for the present year will probably pass the \$350,000,000 mark. It is notable that the United States shows a falling off in gold production for the calendar year 1903, by comparison with the preceding year for the first time since the development of the Cripple Creek district. This drop from \$80,000,000 to about \$74,000,000 was due to the labor troubles in Colorado. Australia during the year shows an increase over 1902 of nearly \$8,000,000.