

moral truth of human nature, and that the narrative of the Flood rests upon a foundation of fact. Turning to the New Testament, he asserted that the evidence for the Fourth Gospel is infinitely superior to any evidence which has been produced, or can be produced, for works like those of Aristotle and Tacitus, which are accepted by every classical scholar. He hoped that he and the advanced Higher Critics were travelling to the same city, but he preferred to travel in another carriage, and if possible in another tram."

The Lay View.

Bishop Welldon's speech has attracted much attention, for the discussion of the clerical declaration on the Bible and Criticism continues with unabated zeal. The declaration has very few friends, for its studied ambiguity has made its defence difficult for those who have signed it. It is generally believed that a desire to make the Virgin Birth and physical Resurrection of our Lord open questions for ordination candidates lies behind the declaration, but, as a layman remarked when one of the signatories publicly declared his belief in those fundamental facts, "This does not interest us. We expected this of you, and if you did not believe those miracles, we should expect to see you leave the ministry." This fairly represents the temper of the ordinary layman when discussing the latest "declaration."

King Alfonso's Escape.

As the King of Spain, accompanied by President Loubet, drove away from a gala performance of the opera after midnight, we learn from a report from Paris of 1st inst., an anarchist threw a bomb in the direction of the royal carriage. The projectile struck a soldier belonging to the Cuirassier escort on the shoulder and then fell to the ground and exploded without injuring His Majesty or the President, who continued their drive to the Palais D'Orsay. Several soldiers of the escort were thrown from their horses and injured, while fragments of the bomb struck several persons in the crowd. The King and President were unharmed. A number of people were maimed or seriously injured, and property was destroyed. It is sad, indeed, that people who regard neither the law of God nor man should be able wantonly and cruelly to destroy life and inflict irreparable injury on their law-abiding fellow men.

Togo and Rojestvensky.

It was a foregone conclusion with most thinkers, who had drawn conclusions from the events which have marked the meeting of the naval forces of Japan and Russia since the beginning of the war, that when these two admirals came together the result would be unfavourable to the Russian fleet. That the Russian Admiral would be so completely outclassed in strategy and his fleet as completely put out of action in the short and decisive naval battle in the Sea of Japan, is another of the many surprises of this memorable war. Valour, as we have more than once said, in referring to the tragic strife between these two Eastern powers, is of but little avail where opposed to equal valour guided by superior skill. The marvellous intelligence, enterprise, pluck and skill of the little brown Islanders of the East have perhaps in the world's naval annals had their aptest counterpart in the work done for justice, commerce and progress by the navy of the British Isles.

Imperial Defence.

Mr. Balfour's recent speech on Imperial defence was, it has been well said, one of the most important political utterances of modern times. It showed that this great subject is at last engaging the serious attention of British statesmen, and forms an essential part of our Imperial policy. The speech, calm and courteous in tone, but deliberate and candid in its terms, made plain the fact that the British Empire realizes both the greatness and

danger of its high position, and will be ready, if and when the need should arise, to defend its integrity against the world. The Prime Minister discussed in detail two subjects of the first importance—the prospects of a possible invasion of England, and the military position of India. The accuracy of details is just now of less moment to the nation than the Premier's assurance that nothing is being left undone to strengthen and consolidate our Imperial defences. It is a tribute both to our present relations with the other great Powers and to Mr. Balfour's tact that the great Powers have received his speech without offence.

REVIVAL.

This English word of Latin and French derivation, is bulking more largely in the public mind to-day than it has for many a year. Writing on this subject in the "Church of Ireland Gazette," the Dean of St. Anne's, Belfast, indicates clearly and concisely the growing power of the solemn awakening which is stirring men's minds and arousing their interest in the Mother Country. The learned Dean says: "At the present time there is a general expectation that God may be about to grant us such a revival as we have read of in history, and it is very fitting that when men meet to take counsel together they should direct their thoughts to this great possibility and study to see how they should comport themselves if the revival comes. Two things there are that tend to foster this expectation, apart from the God-given prayer and longing of which I have already spoken. One is that even worldly people are curiously sympathetic towards any evidences of spiritual activity. I was greatly struck when in London recently by noticing how religion seemed to have taken the place of politics as a subject for dinner-table conversation, and as a striking instance of what I refer to may I ask if you have seen the leading article which appeared in the London 'Times' of Good Friday last? The article speaks with sympathy of the Torrey-Alexander Mission; with yet more earnest sympathy of the Welsh revival, and most approvingly of all of the Bishop of London's Lenten West End Mission; and the writer, contrasting the Bishop's prayers and warnings with the way in which some other clerics have lately busied themselves, concludes as follows: "On the whole, this seems a better use of a solemn season than to devote the time to the collecting of signatures to a nebulous and unnecessary declaration about the proper attitude towards 'patient, reverent, and progressive Biblical criticism.' Nor is it difficult to choose between those who deliberately consider how much of traditional detail they may have to discard as unsound, and one who remembers that life is all too short to do all that might be done with the things that cannot be shaken. I should like to grasp the hand of the man who wrote that article, and of the editor who inserted it. But just figure it to yourselves. That the 'Times,' of all journals, which until recently could not refer to spiritual religion or evangelistic effort without disparagement, should come forward as the defender of those who make it their one aim to apply the great truths that cannot be shaken to the hearts of sinful men, is almost past belief." Now to us in Canada there has come a very real, and none the less real, because sober and undemonstrative, revival. For the last year or more Churchmen throughout our Canadian missions and parishes have been roused from apathy; have begun to take a new and active interest in Church work, and their efforts have been blessed and prospered to an unthought degree. It is just at such a time that we have need of unusual caution and circumspection. The learned Dean, to whom we have referred, well says: "That a time of special grace has often proved to be a time of special danger, and that where there is a peculiar manifestation of the Holy Spirit's converting power, there also does the power of the evil spirit make itself apparent." Pride, self-sufficiency, a spirit of complacent, or exult-

ant satisfaction at the good work recently done, the satisfactory results attained, or the thought that we have done our share, and others should now come forward and do theirs, are some of the evil agencies ever ready to sap, mine and destroy the best beginning and the fairest outlook of human life. The plough unmoved turns no furrow. The stayed hand sows no seed. The clock unwound tells not the true time. The laws of life and growth are infallible and eternal. We either go from good to better, or from good to evil. Togo and his men had no time for what the world calls "a good time." Sobriety, temperance, diligence, vigilance, inflexible purpose, indomitable energy, unyielding devotion, won out in a fashion at which "all the world wondered," whilst the complacent, proud, self-sufficient, the lovers of pleasure, aye, and the brave, were scattered to the four winds of heaven, dishonoured and undone. Admiral Togo ascribes his phenomenal success to the distinguished virtue of his Emperor, and the assistance of the spirits of his heroic, departed fellow-countrymen. Oh, Christian Churchmen! how do your efforts in the holy war, in which you were pledged, demonstrate in your lives and others the virtue of the Captain of your salvation, and the assistance of the Holy Ghost, as compared with those of Admiral Togo and his men in demonstrating the virtue of his Emperor and the assistance of the spirits of the heroic departed warriors of Japan? God's arm is not shortened, nor has His Spirit been withdrawn from the sons of men. What is needed is a deep, true, thorough, heart-searching, individual revival, and then when this comes to pass, it will be again as it was in the former time when "the spirit of God moved upon the face of the waters, and God said: Let there be light; and there was light."

OUR NORTH LAND.

(Concluded.)

The Valley of the Athabasca.—"In order to speak of the Athabasca Valley, we must go back to Lesser Slave Lake, which is eighty-six miles south of Peace River Crossing. There are at Lesser Slave Lake 600 whites and half-breeds, and the country is well suited for mixed farming. It is well wooded, and has magnificent hay lands and coal deposits. The lake abounds with whitefish, lake trout and fine varieties of coarser fish. Large quantities of whitefish are shipped from here to the United States market. In the settlement there are four stores, two sawmills, two planing mills, two shingle mills, one stone flour mill and two Roman Catholic missions. This is the seat of the Roman Catholic Bishop of the diocese of Athabasca. There is also a Church of England mission, with a large and well-conducted school attached to it. Through the munificence of Lady Schultz, of Winnipeg, and the contributions of the settlement, another new frame English church was erected last summer at Treaty Point in the settlement. There is a North-West Mounted Police post, in charge of Inspector West, and there are three blacksmith shops and wagon repairing shops, two carpenters, who are also building contractors. A doctor also practises medicine here. There are large quantities of grain and vegetables grown, and horses and cattle raised. I forgot to mention that Spirit River, Dunvegan, Peace River Crossing and Lesser Slave Lake have all got postoffices. In the winter Government mails are run from Peace River Crossing to Vermilion, and in the summer months the mails are carried free by traders. The Grand Trunk Pacific will pass between eighty and ninety miles west of Lesser Slave Lake. All the intervening country is well adapted for mixed farming. In fact it is a splendid country, well wooded, with large deposits of coal, and splendid prairie openings."

Lesser Slave Lake.—The settlement is around the west end of the lake. The lake is 75 miles long, with an average width of about fifteen miles. At its eastern end there are immense hay meadows and extensive uplands suitable for cultivation, also coal, timber and everything necessary for a first-

class settlement are three tracts run out of Lesser Slave River, closely resembling West. On it fine, luxuriant from the lake Moose River prairie lands, ment, where raised. The down, has a freight and Lesser Slave Lake, a four stores, school, two stores. It is also the owned by Colesbasca River, to the Grand and into Lesser promised a Little Slave gation to the "Pelican Dominion G oil, 2,000 feet struck, and it ever since Grand Rapids portaged across way, and re down through Murray, where Water and of the bank Rapids and point. The sists of na Murray the Chipewyan Water River the Athabasca old route when he di his overl the eight posts here. a distance gation is g lop & Nag lic mission hundred n "Fort C Chipewyan gion of At stores, Pr sawmill at the Roma grown the Exhibition the east formation Woods, a Chipewyan Peace Riv Lake as miles to 5 river is t tion, and alluvial lakes of very pler "Smith ginning pass the cuts thr Landing the west age is F latitude, West of buffalo have bee to show