## A PROTESTANT WINISTER ON GREMATION

Sir William MacDonald, the great tobacco manufacturer of Montreal, who with a few other citizens, are striving to introduce the heathenish custom of Cremation in Montreal, have received a set back from a quarter that, possibly, they least sus-pected. Dean Carmichael, a leading Protestan, minister of this city, re-ently delivered a sermon on this sub-ject in St. George's Church, in which he put himself on record against such a practise. Dean Carmichael said in part.

burial.

Embalming was meant to preserve

burial. Embalming was meant to preserve bodies from putrefaction, but could never have bocome a widespread cus-tom, because it required in a connec-tion with it certain climatic condi-tions such as were found in Egypt, where embalming was the rule. Termation, or burning, was origi-nally characteristic of the ancient beathen peoples of the world, and is to-day a Hindu heathen institution, endorsed for political purposes by the British Government, as evidenced by its erection of public cinerators for the use of the Hindu poor. Burial in cave or vault or the earth was characteristic of two great an-cient peoples, the Jews and the Chi-nese, and was carried from Judaism into Christianity, and has remained a marked Christian institution from the foundation of Christianity to the present hour.

The movement to return to the an-cient heathen method of disposing of the dead by burning, or of providing a choice for Christian peoples of either burning or burying, is based on certain scientific facts associated with claimed sanitary benefits to the living.

with claimed sanitary benefits to the living. It is claimed, and with good rea-son, that if nature be left wholly to tiself to dispose of the dead the gase-ous constituents of the body (car-bonic acid, water and animonia) pass-into the air, and aid in the sustena-tion of vegetable life, whereas the mineral substances of the body (lime, phosphorous, iron, sulphur, magne-sia) are in time dissolved and wash-ed into the earth by rain, enriching it to the amount of mineral matter washed in.

water, the purification being provid-ed for by settling reservoirs and fil-ter beds, the whole supply being drawn from some pure source or sources far from the haunts of crowd-ed life and the impurities which graves or ghettos may gather about them.

graves or ghettos may gather about them. The whole sanitary question, then, really narrows itself down to rural cometeries connected mainly with suburban and farming life. With re-gard to suburban life, common sense, if not suburban law, might fairly prevent houses or cemeteries them-selves being overcrowded, being built too close to cemeteries, and sites of strictly rural cemeteries, if only selected with common care, in a farming country, might not in long ages, or indeed ever, interfere with the health of a widespread popula-tion, where acres stretch betweeen each house, and each family stands apart from another.

There are other objections which gather round the method of crema-tion. Burial unquestionably has its possible dangers in connection with forms of what might be called sus-pended life, but nevertheless gives some slight chance, very slight, for re-animation, especially in connection with vaults in which the dead are placed awaiting burial. If, however, there should be one living person counced amongst the many dead (and such cases have been known), cremation can make no pos-sible note of it, can give no possible help; there can, in the nature of the process, "be no escape in that war."

process, war.''

process, "be no escape in that war." Then, unfortunately, social life is not without its unsuspected crimes and unrealized criminals. There is such a crime as poisoning, and many a criminal has been convicted on the testimony of an opened grave. But suppose an unsuspected crimi-nal, successful in his deadly work, given the choice whether he would bury or cremate his victim, have you any doubt as to what his choice would be—the grave, which would contain the full evidence of his guilt. or cremation, which in a few hours would wipe out the evidence against hiu, as if it never existed, for there is a deeper silence than that of the tomb—the silence of the cinerator?

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## FAMINE IN INDIA.

A correspondent in the Brooklyn "Eagle," in referring to the famine in India, thus portrays the terrible scenes that he witnessed during his travels in that country. He says :--In the hospital wards the scenes night have represented all the forms of suffering depicted by Dante in the Inierno. Here was a father and son dying, side by side, with never a land to lift a cup of water to their fevered lips. Here were children passing away, alone, even unseen. Iving a heap of rags. Mothers addressed us, saying : "Give us food and the gods will give thee many children." Every now and then bearers would come with a stretcher of matting and carry off yet one more body to the burning place. Such is a poor house in the

to the British logation in Pekin. The horror is increased by the knowledge that this carnage need not have been had the Powers, whose land-grab-bing lies at the root of the whole trouble, been willing for a moment to put aside their jealousies and greed. They make no secret at the Japan-ese embassy, here of the fact that as far back as June 19 Japan announced her readiness to land within one week frpm that date a sufficient force to relieve the Europeans in Pekin and crush the head and front of the ris-ing. England promptly said "yes," but Russia, while refraining from saying "no," hesitated, and, fearing an upset of the concert of the Powers. Germany and England also hesitated to act on their own initiative. so that even now, three weeks after Japan's expression of willingness to do urgent police work, the British Foreign Office can say no more than that "negotiations are still proceed-ing."

Foreign office can say no more than that "negotiations are still proceed-ing." No one doubts why Russia hesit-ates. Japan will not again suffer such treatment as Russia, France and Germany meted out to her in 1895. England standing by when they de-prived her of all the fruits of her vic-tory over China, and then themselves proceeded to steal Chinese territory right and left. Japan requires guar-antees against the repetition of such conduct, guarantees, I and told against Russian or any foreign ag-gression in Korea, and guarantees that in future international action in China Japan shall not be shut out. Rather than rive these guarantees, Russia allows her own officials and the other Europeans in Pekin to go to a terrible death, and England and the other Europeans in Pekin to go to a terrible death, and England and the other Europeans in Pekin to go to a terrible death, and England and the other Powers timidly refrain from acting alone. That is how the situ-ation strikes many influential Eng-lishmen, and they tak without hesit-ation of "the crime of the Powers." and lay the responsibility for what-ever may have happened in Pekin at the other down be for any future effectual co-operation in China on the part of Powers who, even at the mo-ment of such a terrible emergency, cannot obliterate their own selfish in-terests?

lect powerty, rather than to become a millionaire by bartering his prin-ciples for pell, and by wielding the power of his paper for evil instead of good; for wrong instead of right; and for the devil instead of God. If all Catholic faymen who edit or con-trol the publication of newspapers or magazines, would make these Catho-lic principles the unbending rule of their conduct, what a world of evil would they not prevent, and wha an immensity of good would they not thereby accomplish for themselves, their country, and their Maker?" Our only regret is that the Catho-lic editor or publisher is generally fated to suffer exactly what has thus been described, simply on account of the apathy and often hostility of their fellow-Catholics.

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Be it spring, summer, autumn cr winter, someone in the family is "under

## OUR G DISCUSSES

Looking back own humble one, indeed that I have never di ly to win me fami riety. All of us, a ing life, are unde that the world deal justly with us; bui into the recesses of discover that, very who treat the world pecting it to overl lies and to accord sation for the very sometimes do. Whay viduals is equally to race is merely an a duals. Possibly the dint of practice, is tion. I have alway fees inclined to not of people and to du clusions from them, serving has been on benefit to me; but tradel his hobby--and The other day a object I felt inclined remarked to me the olics are not an obs first I felt inclined point; but, on grav I found that he waar is more, that we al bly in consequence. worse—by observat study—I have foun neither observant, nor original. Of exceptions; but, as truly the case.

It was otherwise generation of Irish men of half a centu who have nearly a from the scenes of 1 of thirty years since came here as emigra spects beyond those illimitable opportun land presented, and their robust constith hearts: these men n had taken place in nad taken place in population, and a they relied upon the and performed prov-igifiated methods, small settlements, th they rected schools their sons a magr which in many case ed, or squandered, or They knew the nece and of education. I hout a practical fait of any moment in them the necessity of off-spring.

oll-spring. Have we degener events of to-day we believe so. We of th ation do not appear zeal for our faith possessed; nor are w voted to the grand tion. We are conten to do our thinkim follow along driftin rent of events; we b about our strength we do practically n up an influence for Dominion. We are to Dominion. We are to terest to the Irish not one in twenty matter the benefits but nincteen in even but nineteen in ever some fault to find, s

BUSINE

tion may in time become the domin-int race of the earth. With regard 0 the sanitary objec-tion, it may fairly be replied that the age for such objections is fast passing away, if not gone. There may have been some force in the san-itary objection when burial was con-find to the old churchyards of crowded eities and towns, and the water supply of such aggregations of population was drawn from wolls and small rivers. But that day has possed, the old churchyard has be-come obsolete, and for burial pur-poses illegal, the smallest villages around the living centre of local life. Then the whole question of water supply mas changed. Cities, towns and villages as a rule possess their such the object of such works being for the collection, stor-age, purification and distribution of

FOUR GENERATIONS FOUGHT. "I don't know of any better illus-tration of the way the Boer families have gone into the field," said one of the officers of the transport Mil-bar of the officers of the transport Mil-benoerat" reporter, "than the fact have had four generations in a single group among the prisoners we took with Cronse to St. Helena. "I was a remarkable party and consisted of great-grandfather, grand-father, father and son. The boy was about 18: his father was 40 or there-abouts; the grandfather was a man of 60, and the old partiareh of the hot was nearly 80. They had all been under arms in Cronje's laager when it mede its last stand, fighting in different trenches, and after the surender they naturally drifted to-gether. They excited my interest, and I talked with them on several occa-sions during the voyage. It seemed that they had been living on one of the great cattle ranches of the north-

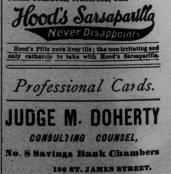
London, July 7. — All Europe has lain this week under a horror of great darkness for which a parallel must be sought as far back as the days of the Indian mutiny, says an English correspondent. Even those who most distrusted the first news of a Fekin massacre, especially see-ing that it came from that breeding-ground of Oriental fabrications, Shanghai, no longer dare hope that corporation, or combinator by the in aid of men or measures or princi-ples which his honest judgment and conscience do not endorse. The truly fatholic aditor or publisher, would

It may be safely asserted that in no Imperial palace, in no Frime Min-ister's sanctum, not even in the homes of those whose dear ones are facing death in the Far East, is so much anxiety falt in consequence of the Chinese troubles as at the Vati-can, where the venerable head of the

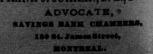
the weather" from trouble originating in impure blood or low condition of the system. All these, of whatever name, can be

An enters, or whatever name, can be cured by the great blood purifier, Hood's Sarsaparilla. *It never disappoints*. **Sola**-"I was troubled with bolls for months. Was advised to take Hood's Sar-saparilla, and after using a few bottles have not since been bothered." E. H. GLADWW, Truro, N. S.

Truro, N. S. Could Not Sleep.—"I did not have any appetite and could not sleep at night. Was so lited I could hardly walk. Read about Hood's Sarsaparilla, took four bottles and it restored me to perfect health." Miss Jessis Toussurk, Cranbrock, Ont.



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