

Editorials.

New Year Reflections:—

A Happy New Year to all our readers! May its days be linked together, for them, in a chain of usefulness, designed by our unchangeable God and everlasting Father! Continuity amid changes is a theme for our reflections, which has been suggested by a retrospective glance over the events of the past year. In France a change was wrought by the assassin's weapon. Yet, although President Carnot's wound proved fatal; the anarchistic purpose of his murderer failed. Casimir-Perier quietly succeeded him, and the Government of France moved on majestically. Fears for the peace of Europe hovered over the death-bed of the late Czar of Russia, reminding us of similar fears when the Kaiser of Germany died. Subsequent history has proved that peace did not die with these sovereigns. Again, when Sir John Thompson died even his political opponents pronounced his death a serious loss to our country, and consternation was rife among his political friends. Yet surmises and fears have ever proved unreliable. The country and party may recover from the shock all the sooner for being called upon to seek a new leader immediately and unexpectedly. When Gladstone and Bismarck withdraw from political life, when Macdonald, MacKenzie, Abbott and Thompson are called to their eternal rewards, the world moves on, and their disappearance is unnoted save by a passing ripple on the great tide of political affairs. We do not, on this account, lightly esteem their services. Rather, we thank God for the good they accomplished, and especially for the uninterrupted government of His providence by which our social fabric is preserved from jars and destructive re-

verses. Great changes are taking place in the far east. One nation is rapidly rising into power and prominence, while another seems on the verge of ruin.

It has been hinted that Japan may yet occupy the position now held by Great Britain among the nations. If so it will be in order that she may more faithfully and more successfully than our own nation contribute to the advancement of the Kingdom of Christ in Asia and in other parts of the world. "Thy kingdom come." Trusting in God, we hopefully hail the New Year, and fear not the more remote future.

Obituary:—

Knox College, Toronto, has received a severe blow in the death of one of her most popular and respected professors. R. Y. Thompson, M.A., B.D., who passed to his rest on Dec. 9th, after a severe and continued illness. We take this first opportunity to express our sympathy with the sister college and, especially, with the Professor's bereaved mother who to-day mourns the early loss of a devoted, noble and truly Christian son.

Professor Thompson was in the prime of life, being only thirty-seven years of age, and had filled the chair of Apologetics and Old Testament literature for a number of years. For several years he had suffered from an affection of the bronchial tubes, during which period his courage never failed, nor was he known to complain of the hard lot which Providence had assigned him, but labored on with an energy and zeal which not only won the esteem of his pupils but the respect and admiration of the whole Canadian Church. As a student his course was brilliant, and al-