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From Dr. Clifford, Dr. Clifford, the widely known Baptist preacher of London, is a man of large intellectual power and of deep and strong sympathies. It is not only as a man of varied learning and one of the most eminent preachers of his day that Dr. Clifford is known, but also as one who gives diligent attention to social problems, a leading citizen of the great English metropolis and a man profoundly interested in whatever pertains to the well-being of his fellowmen in this world and the world to come. His standpoint is not merely that of the student and the therorist. While he is a diligent student he is also a man of affairs, endeavoring to deal in a practical manner with the questions and difficulties which the social conditions of the time present. Dr. Clifford is about completing a tour around the world undertaken with a view to a more extended study of social problems. Having visited the Australian colonies, he is returning home by way of the Pacific and America. A few days ago he was in Montreal, and the matter of an interesting conversation with the distinguished Londoner is reported by the Wit-That paper speaks of him as "the splendid ness. optimist who believes in the spread of righteousness and the bringing in of the Kingdom of God. There is evil in the world, but men are growing better. There are wrongs to be righted but the sense of equity ever grows. There is corruption in the seats of power, but there is a growing consciousness among men that politics is divine." . While the fact of the existence and the persistence of evil in the world is to be recognized, there is a most hopeful tendency in social conditions asDr. Clifford believes. There is not only a multiplication of reforming agencies, but these agencies, are distinguished from those of the past by a better adaptation to the ends sought. There is a greater earnestness and efforts are more permanent and effective. "Moreover," says Dr. Clifford, "a grand note of equity is being struck all over the world. More and more the appeal is to righteousness. The desire for right and equitable relations ever grows."

Naturally Dr. Clifford was led to speak of London and of the struggle in which he is one of the leading spirits against the contentions of the High Church party in respect to the school question. "The High Church party in the Church of England," he said, "have long desired to exalt dogma for the sake of conserving their own power. Hundreds of churches in the national establishment today have so exalted ritual and dogma that they are Romanist in all but the acknowledgment of the supremacy of the Pope. They have tried to introduce the Apostles' Creed in the state schools. We have fought against thatthat is to say-the Union of the Free Churches of which I am the incoming president-and we will ultimately triumph over this attempt to get in the The High thin edge of the wedge of dogma. Church party is in alliance with the Roman Catholics, and the latter have the support of the Irish members in the House of Commons, but the

Nonconformist and Puritan sentiment of the people has to be reckoned with. I predict that the next twenty-five years will, religiously speaking, be a critical period in English history. The High Church party are determined to leave no stone unturned to bring in the regime of priestism ; but there is a Puritan sentiment amongst the people which, when aroused, will give a good account of itself." In reference to the statement that Roman Catholics are making their converts in England, chiefly among the Free churches, Dr. Clifford said : "Since the Oxford movement the Church of England has been extremely active and claims to have supplied the masses with the means of grace and education in a degree superior to that of the dissenting churches. As a fact, during this period of the Church of England's activity, the Free Churches, as is proved by statistics, have built more churches than the National Church, more Sunday-schools, and have today over a million more Sunday-school scholars than she has. This is the answer to those who say that we, who believe in the public school system, have introduced godless schools into Christian England becarse we are opposed to dogma and priestism. Another thing to be noticed is that this attempt to reimpose sacerdotalism upon the country has led to a closer union among the Free Churches, so that, while each has its own individual life, there is among them all, a common aim and purpose to act as a unit in op-position to the ritualistic tendencies which now present themselves in an extreme form."

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A number of distinguished Eng-They Admire lishmen who attended the recent Canada. meeting in Toronto of the British

Association for advancement of Science have since then made a trip across the Continent by way of the C. P. R. One of these distinguished gentlemen, Mr. J. Scott Keltie, LL. D., F. R. G., etc., was interviewed in Montreal by a representarive of the Star. Mr. Keltie was quite enthusiastic in his praises of the country, and, on behalf of himself and his fellow travellers-numbering about one hundred, expressed the greatest admiration for all that they had seen. The railway officials of course did not fail to do what lay in their power to make the trip an interesting and pleasant one for the travellers. They had a special car, stopped where they wanted to and were thus enabled to see many things which the ordinary traveller in a trip across the Continent does not see. They admired the varied scenery of the country and marvelled at its resources, agricultural and mineral. They were especially impressed with the magnificent grain fields of Manitoba The party spent considerable time in British Columbia, examining its great and varied resources. They visited the Kootenay district and were astonished at the evidences of rapid development. Rossland, a city of 6,000 inhabitants, grown up in three years, seemed to Mr. Keltie a marvel of progress with its perfect order, nice streets and good buildings. They also visited the coal mining districts of the Pacific coast and were strongly impressed with the evidences found of the great mineral wealth of the Province. Mr. Keltie was led to believe that there is in Canada a large field for the investment of British capital, and it is only right and proper, as he says, that England should do what she can to develop the natural resources and wealth of this Dominion by investing capital where the results offered are so favorable and the investment apparently safe. Canadians have a magnificent country with room and abundant reward for 100,000,000 of people, and needing only population and capital to develop its marvellous resources.

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It was not only in the extent and fertility of the country its mineral resources and other forms of natural wealth that Mr. Keltie and his fellow travellers from beyond the sea found subjects for admiration. The people of Canada, their institutions and the stage of civilization which has been reached also impressed them most favorably. Perhaps they had shared a little more largely than they liked to confess in the idea that has prevailed pretty generally among Englishmen as to Canada-that it is a country of perpetual snows, a good deal of a wastehowling wilderness. The cities of Quebec, Montreal, and Toronto, had struck them with admiration. They and Toronto, had struck them with admirgion. They had no idea that they were so solid and substantial. And then, when it came to electric lighting and electric cars, why the Canadian cities were actually far ahead of anything they had in the old country! Then the universities of the country, the educational system, the press and other features of Canadian life were far in advance of what the visitors had expected. Mr. Keltie thinks that more should be done to bring to the knowledge of the people of the old countries Mr. Keltie thinks that more should be done to bring to the knowledge of the people of the old countries the advantages which Canada offers as a home for the emigrant. He believes that in England, Scotland, and Ireland, and in parts of the Continent, particu-larly in Switzerland, there are men of the farming class who if they understood the opportunities which Canada offers, 'would be only too glad to come over here and try it.' The conditions for the farmer in Creat Britain and Europe huse, here, such of late here and try it." The conditions for the farmer in Great Britain and Europe have been such of late years that men of intelligence and industry are find-ing the struggle a hard one and they are men who would prove a most valuable factor in the develop-ment of this great new country.

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The Seal Question. The benning out the again has come into prominence again The Behring Sea Seal question in connection with a proposed International Convention, to be held by invitation of the United States Government during the present autumn at Washington, for the purpose of discussing means for the preservation of the Seal fisheries in the Northern Pacific. Some irritation is being expressed by United States newspapers at the alleged refusal of Great Britain to be represented in the Convention or oreal inflation to be represented in the Convention in which, as it now appears, Japan and Russia are also invited to take part, and it is charged that England's refusal is due to the position taken by Canada. On the other hand it is denied that the British Government has refused to take part in the Convention. There appear, however, to have been some hesitation in the matter. It is said that when the British Government was invited to send dele-vates to the proceed Competition some nestation in the matter. It is said that when the British Government wis invited to send dele-gates to the proposed Convention, no mention was made of other powers being asked to enter into the discussion, and the acceptance of the invitation was based on the understanding that the two govern-ments were to be the only parties to the discussion. As Great Britan's connection with the seal question is chiefly on account of the Canadian interests in-volved, a reasonable explanation of the British Government's hesitation in accepting the invitation to take part in the Washington Convention under the new conditions is, that it was considered only fair to Canada that she should be consulted in the matter before the invitation should be accepted. Canada doubtless has some reason for annoyance in connection with this vexed question. The people of this country felt that the claims set up by the late Mr. Blaime as to the property of the United States in the Seal fisheries of Behring Sea were ex-travagant in the extreme, and since the British and Canadian view of the subject has been upheld by the Paris arbitration, Canadians have not felt that the higgling policy pursued by the United States in reference to the awards due to cliuzens of this count the Paris arbitration, Canadians have not felt that the higgling policy pursued by the United States in reference, to the awards due to citizens of this coun-try, on account of vessels unlawfully seized by United States cruisers, was quite worthy of a great nation : but the people of this country desire, so far as in them lies, to live on terms of peace and equity with their neighbors, and it does not seem likely that the government of Canada will object to a Convention in which all parties interested should be represented, called for the purpose of devising methods by which so important an industry may be preserved from destruction.