

mission appointed by the Ontario Government to enquire into the state of the University of Toronto. One of his public addresses was entitled "The Perfect Book and the Perfect Father." It was in reference to certain statements made in this address that he was condemned for heresy by the Presbytery of Montreal in 1863. His appeal to the Synod of Montreal and Ottawa was almost unanimously sustained, only three members siding with the Montreal majority. Last June he resigned his chair in consequence of the appointment of Prof. Scimger to the principalship of the college. He was a writer of great ability, and his private studies were chiefly in the line of history, ethnology and philology. He married in 1875 Miss Mary Helen, eldest daughter of John S. Playfair, and a cousin of Lord Playfair.

Montreal, July 31.—(Special). The news of the death of Rev. John Campbell in Manitoba yesterday came as a shock to his friends in this city, and many were the tributes paid to his memory. For many years the deceased had been prominent in connection with the Presbyterian College and was known all over the Dominion as a distinguished scholar.

CANADA AND MILITARISM.

We sometimes doubt if those who would almost seem to desire Canada to be known as a military land, rather than as an agricultural, industrial and commercial country, quite realize what it is for a country to endure the burdens and submit to the tyrannies and atmosphere of a military regiment. Canada is not a military country, for which fact its people might well every day and every night of their lives give thanks to God on bended knee. Not many Canadians would care to change places with the military-ridden, liberty denied masses of Russia; yet Russia is only a strong object lesson of militarism in the saddle and of rule over the common people by military force. In a recent book, "Russia as it Really is," by Carl Joubert, there is the following vivid picture of the poor Russian peasant dragged away from home and family to die in the Far East.

"The town hall of a provincial town; behind the barrier which divides the room in two is huddled together a motley assortment of men and women, and perhaps a few children. There are mothers and fathers, wives and sons, with faces anxious to the degree of pain. Their solicitude is all for the younger amongst them, round whom they press, clinging to their arms, and gazing wistfully into their haggard, callous faces. The opening in the barrier is kept by two soldiers that none may pass through until their names are called. In the other portion of the hall there is a table at which some officers are seated, and in front of the table is a long barrel shaped box, with an opening at the top, supported on a trestle. The young men are sorted out from their relations, and formed into a ragged line along the barrier. They are about to take part in a grim game of chance. The stakes are years of human life, and the bank pays nothing if it loses. They file past the ballot box, dipping their hands

in as they pass, and drawing out a slip of paper, and in accordance with the number on the paper is their fate decided. For those who have drawn unlucky numbers but one hope remains—that they may be found medically unfit. Within my own observation I have known young men to starve themselves for two months before the recruiting time, so that they might be rejected on medical grounds. Some even maim themselves for life rather than chance that medical examination. Oh, the joy over the rejected! Oh, the tears for those who are taken! It is a pitiable spectacle."

RUSSIA MUCH IN EVIDENCE

Russia has again recently been very much in evidence.

As to the war, there has been the same almost unvaried story of Japanese success. Japan has better guns, better strategists, better generals, a better Intelligence Department, and greater ability to keep intended movements secret from the enemy.

Russia's next recent contribution to world-wide excitement was the seizure and sinking of British and German merchant vessels by irregular Russian cruisers. There is considerable difference of opinion as to whether these performances of Russian vessels were deliberately planned in order to embroil all Europe, or whether it indicates that Russian Ministers of State are as incompetent as Russian Generals on the field. Britain has strongly protested to Russia against any further irregular molestation of her vessels with the result that Russia has promised reparation and greater care in the future.

Scarcely had the reverberation of these muttered thunders subsided before the world was startled by a detonating crash in the shape of the assassination of M. Von Plehve, the principal Minister of the Czar and considered by many to have been the power behind the throne. The effect has been consternation in Russia, this occurrence being believed to be but the beginning of a coming series of revolutionary events which may not exempt even the Russian Emperor himself. M. Von Plehve, it is agreed on all hands was not only the instrument, but to a great extent the instigator, of the despotic measures which will forever make his name infamous. His influence it was that reversed and thwarted measures for extensions of Russian self-government, and for greater liberty of discussion in press and platform; his much of the responsibility for the oppressions and massacres of the Jews; his the crushing out of that autonomy and those privileges of Finland which had been solemnly guaranteed by the Czar. Revolutionary assassination of monarchs and of cabinet ministers is a poor remedy; but it is a matter rather for regret than for wonder when one hears of people long harried by tyranny turning on their oppressors.

Dark as it looks, good may eventually come out of it all! Things often must come to their worst before they can come to their best.

THE CREEDS IN THE WAR.

If one were looking for evidence that in the last days of man's abode on earth race distinctions would give way to a mood of common human brotherhood and kinship of the spirit, he could hardly have a more pregnant omen than the present-day situation. The trader and merchant hope for Japanese victory because they believe that Japan as possessor or controller of Asiatic mainland territory will stand for the open door. The Jew wishes for Japanese rather than Russian victory because of memories of intolerance and fears of the extension of an area of that intolerance. The Roman Catholic knows that Japan will extend to Asiatic territory a legal status for Roman Catholic missions and churches which the Orthodox Greek Church never will concede save grudgingly if at all. The Protestant missionaries know that Japan will encourage and protect that which Russia will fend off and prohibit. In short, Russia defies the sentiment of the "open door" in religion, she incarnates as a nation that spirit of bigotry and religious monopoly which died a natural death in the rest of Europe in the nineteenth century, and which the twentieth century Europe and America has no mind to see take root on Asiatic soil, where even now nations non-Christian in belief have come up on the higher level of free thought and free speech.—Boston Transcript.

The work of the Protestant deaconesses makes great advances in Germany. Pastor Filledner opened the first house for deaconesses October 13, 1836. To-day there are 75 such "mother" houses, with 14,501 sisters therein enrolled. These ministrants by the bedside of the sick are scattered over 5,211 fields of labour, including 1,221 hospitals, 48 homes for convalescents and 313 refuges for incurables. Others are engaged in orphan asylums, founding homes and rescue missions for fallen women. The income of the principal institution is now fourteen million marks.

By a marked and significant reaction, the management of the Chautauqua Assembly are increasing their plans to emphasize the religious elements of their summer program. The tendency to magnify superlatively the intellectual and sociological elements in the Assembly interests is thereby to be checked. The morning devotional hours will be each week in charge of some leading evangelical minister, such as Bishop Vincent, Dr. Dorchester, of Pittsburg, Dr. J. Wilbur Chapman, Dr. James Gray, President Faunce, of Brown, Professor Hulley, of Bucknell, and Dr. Pailputt, of Indianapolis. Rev. Hugh Black of Elmhurst, will preach on Sunday, August 14. "Mission Week, with a daily program under the direction of five well-known secretaries of American mission boards. In the week August 7-13 the general topic will be "The Bible in Modern life." The principal lecturers of that period will be professor George A. Coe, of Northwestern University, Dr. Ira Landrith, secretary of the Religious Education; Rev. Byron Forbush, the "boy problem" expert, and Professor S. H. Clark.

Port Morien congregation, Cape Breton, comprising 93 families, presents a unique record. Not a single death occurred during 1903 nor up to the present time in 1904.