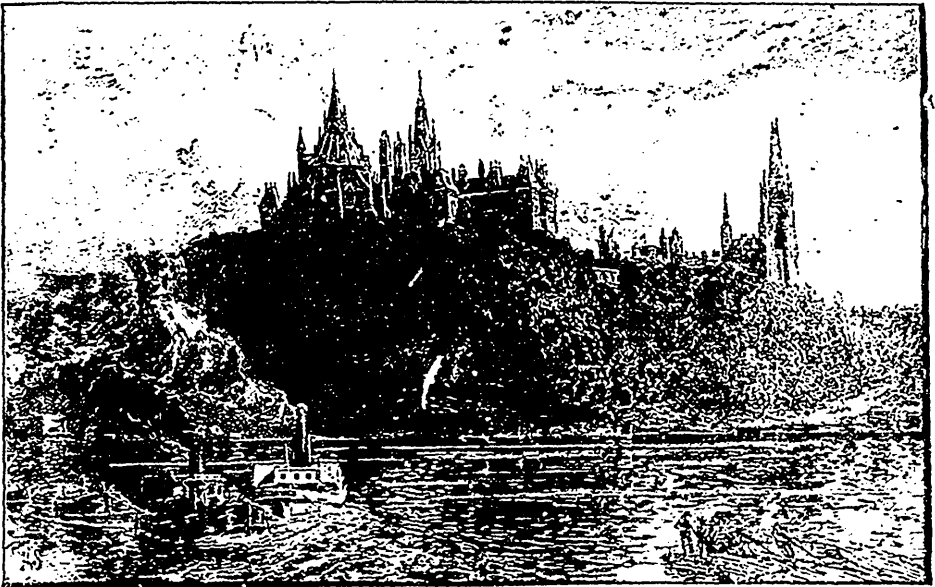


## The World's Progress.



PARLIAMENT BUILDINGS, OTTAWA, FROM THE RIVER.

The recent fire in the West Departmental Block of the Parliament Buildings at Ottawa came near being a national calamity. We regard the stately pile of buildings that crown Parliament Hill as one of the noblest groups in the world. The soaring Mackenzie Tower, especially as seen from below the cliff, is one of the finest features of the Parliament Buildings. We think it almost criminal neglect that no more efficient means of fire extinguishing exists. There should be in the tower and in that of the main building a great tank of water, as there is in the dome of the Toronto Asylum for the Insane, so that there would always be sufficient pressure to drown out any fire. There should be, too, frequent fire drill and all the appliances kept ready for instant use. As it is, the historic archives, important records, and valuable and costly library are in imminent peril.

### THE BITTER CRY OF INDIA.

The bitter cry of India has rung in the ears of the world with intenser pathos as the months go by, and has elicited a sympathetic response in all English-

speaking lands. The generous contributions which are being sent from all parts of the Empire are a proof of its unity and solidarity, and the gifts of the United States, Russia, and other countries, show the still wider sweep of human sympathy. Were but a tithe of the money that is spent in forts and fleets and armaments, which but antagonize the races of mankind, given to relieve the wants and woes of suffering humanity, the world would be knit together in bonds of brotherhood as never before. Let us thank God for the advance of civilization and the recognition of a Christian conscience in what is already being done. The response of Canada has been good as a beginning, but it is by no means adequate to the pressing need of our fellow-subjects in India. It is a grand opportunity for Christendom to show the Hindu and the Moslem the fruits of its faith. By generous bequests of the bread that perisheth a kinder reception may be secured for the Bread of Life. It will avail little to preach to a hungry man, or to offer him a tract instead of bread.

The very beneficence and justice of England's rule, the creation of irrigation