

November, 1905

# What the World is Saying

## Fresh Outlets.

IT is a matter of no small importance to the west that new avenues of transportation are continually being opened. Time was when all our plans were based on the idea of shipping wheat through Canada from the West to the Atlantic. But all this is changed says the Toronto News:

"We now hear of large quantities of wheat being shipped across the American border, partly for American millers, and partly to be carried by American railways across the continent. We hear also of a large shipment of Alberta wheat westward to British Columbia, to be there converted into flour, and exported to the Orient. With so many outlets for his products the Western farmer ought to be monarch of all he surveys, and the rush for farms ought to increase rather than diminish."

## More Railroads.

IT has been prophesied that during the next five years Canada will increase in railway equipment by some 7,000 to 10,000 miles of new railroads. Speaking of this the Canadian Manufacturer says:

"Whether this estimate is below or above what shall prove to be the facts, it is certain that the Dominion is entering upon a period of railroad construction which gives promise of eclipsing anything which the country has yet experienced. Beginning with the new trans-continental project of the Grand Trunk Pacific, and seconded by the plans of the Canadian Northern, and the inevitable growth of the Canadian Pacific, the total of railroad construction in Canada, and particularly the great new northwest part of it, is certain to be large. There is room in western Canada for 50,000 miles of railway. To-day there are scarcely more than 5,000 miles."

## Long Life.

IT was only the other day that the eminent English physician, Sir James C. Browne, undertook to console the middle-aged persons who had been cast down by Dr. Osler's reputed relegation of them to the category of the superfluous, says Harper's:

"Sir James averred that if men had their rights they would not only be alive, but retain their mental and physical vigor, at the age of a hundred. Women, he thought, had a still better prospect of life. What both men and women want, of course, is what Tithonus forgot to ask Aurora for—not length of days, but immortal youth, or, at least, an indefinite prolongation of the prime of life. Not only a long life, but a merry one—that is what we all desire. A more distinguished scientist than Sir James Browne, to wit the famous Russian author of the theory of phagocytosis, Professor Elie Metchnikoff, now chief of Research at the Pasteur Institute in Paris, offers us, not, of course an elixir vitae, but the positive assurance that a signal prolongation of middle life is theoretically possible, and presents a problem that should prove entirely capable of practical solution."

## The Rescue of Niagara.

PRESIDENT ROOSEVELT is receiving shoals of letters begging him to exert his power to protect Niagara Falls from its threatened loss of natural beauty. It is fervently hoped that the President may create an International Commission to look into the matter. Commenting on this Collier's says:

"Thus far the preservation of the Falls has been left to the State of New York and the Province of Ontario, which have shown themselves equally unworthy of the trust. The rescue of the imperiled cataract will be a difficult undertaking, for the power companies on both sides of the river have already acquired vested rights which they can maintain in the courts. Although they took the property of the public without compensation, the public can not get it back without paying for it. But an international commission, composed of men

more civilized than the politicians of New York and Ontario could organize a public sentiment that would force its way over all obstacles."

## The Influence of "Home-Work."

THE toils of Home-Work have been occupying the minds of many recently in the Old Land.

The subject is by no means a new one, and we may rest assured that when the present discussion is over the last word will not have been said. But there is one hopeful feature about it, that is, that medical men are taking an interest in it. Hitherto the conflict has waged between irate parents and the schoolmaster. The Hospital, a London medical journal, has taken up cudgels against the time-honored institution. It says: "The stress and strain of hard work have to be borne by the vast majority of adults; in this world the race is generally to the swift and the battle to the strong. But compulsory home lessons inflicted on boys and girls of eight or nine do not tend to equip them for the obligations of life. They are much more likely to retard their progress. They overtax the mental faculties at a time when it is particularly essential that they should not be overtaxed; they interfere with the physical development of the children, which is of vital importance; and even the most thickheaded can recognize the folly of a system which enables a boy to come out first in a competitive examination at fourteen years of age and qualifies him for a lunatic asylum at forty."

## The Awakening of Darkest Africa.

STANLEY AND LIVINGSTONE gave us an Africa of thrilling adventure. The twentieth century has given us an Africa of rapid growth and untold commercial possibilities. Says the Canadian Manufacturer: "It is only fifty years ago when Livingstone carved his name on a tree standing in view of the marvels of the Victoria Falls, in what was then 'Darkest Africa.' After Livingstone came Stanley, and it was only thirty years ago that this great explorer explored the boundaries of Lake Victoria Nyanza, and it is less than twenty years ago when he made his last and in many respects most memorable trip through the then unknown regions of Central Africa. 'Yet we have before us now,' says the Wall Street Journal, 'a two-page advertisement of a fast railway train running through the very region explored by Livingstone and Stanley. A train de luxe leaves Cape Town every Wednesday for Kimberley, Mafeking and Bulawayo, connecting with a fast saloon service and sleeping accommodations to Gwelo, Salisbury and Victoria Falls. These trains are lighted by electricity and provided with saloon, dining and buffet accommodations. The Cape to Cairo Railroad indeed reaches nearly every important point, which only a few years ago we were reading about in the wonderful narratives of Livingstone's and Stanley's explorations. Nothing could illustrate more vividly the rapidity with which modern civilization is moving, and the speed with which Darkest Africa is being opened, not only to the commerce, but to the tourists of the world."

## The English "Bloke."

THE TORONTO NEWS has been turning its attention to a class of immigrant familiar to many in the West. The news designates him as the English "bloke." It says: "They are not all the best sample of Englishmen who are now coming to the shores of Canada. A shiftless fellow, of whom his own neighborhood is tired, a sawny idler, not necessarily of bad character, but still good for nothing at 35, is persuaded by those who think his room better than his company to try his luck in Canada. Arrived here his earliest experience is to be sent to a farm by one of the Government agents; but in a week or two the farmer finds that a Canadian lad of 17 is a long way ahead of this great, soft, square hulk trying to fit himself into a round hole, and he tells him so, with the result that they part com-

pany. The immigrant's next move is into a city, where he again finds every thing different, everything wrong, and himself an unappreciated candidate for employment, really because he is able to do nothing well. If he is lucky enough to get back to England, he is for ever afterwards a libeller of Canada, declaring it no fit place for a Christian to live in, and doing all he can to deceive others into the belief that has come to be really his own."

## The Meaning of Marriage.

FELIX ADLER, the leader of the Ethical Culture Society in New York, in his new book "Marriage and Divorce," has taken an extreme view of the vexed question of divorce. He claims that before one can intelligently discuss the subject of divorce he must be thoroughly acquainted with the meaning of marriage. Most writers have missed this pivotal point. Dr. Adler has seized it, and has made it the centre of the whole question of marriage and divorce. To him "the highest end of marriage is to perpetuate, promote and enhance the spiritual life of the world, to keep the flame of mentality burning in the universe, and to confer perpetual benefits one upon the other, especially the highest benefits of moral growth. The supreme aim of marriage is to contribute to the growth of character, of the mind, of the feelings, of the whole nature. This is a blessed task where the union is blessed. Where the union is unblessed, the performance of it may be attended with unspeakable pain. Yet it must be attempted none the less and persevered in to the end." Dr. Adler believes that education is necessary on the subject of marriage. "If we cannot keep the results of rash and ill-mated marriages, we ought to show more kindness to those who have not yet entered the marriage relation, and we ought to teach the ethics of marriage in the churches, in ethical societies. In this respect we are all culpably negligent."

## The Promotion of Lord Minto.

LORD KITCHENER'S trump consists less in the resignation of Lord Curzon than in the sending out of Lord Minto as his successor. The Toronto Star, commenting on the matter, says: "For a year Lord Curzon has chafed in India. He has been harnessed with Lord Kitchener, a masterful man, with whom, perhaps, no human being ever yet worked harmoniously. Looking towards home, Curzon could see a once powerful party of which he had been a foremost member breaking up, while opposed to it was a party incapable of taking advantage of its incapacity. In India he was having endless trouble; at home he was missing the chance of his life. It is interesting to learn from the cable that Lord Minto, by the adroit balance he preserved in Canada between the military and civil power, made himself the man of the hour for the crisis in India. The impression here was that when the participation of Canada in the Boer war became an issue, Lord Minto made one indiscreet speech, and thereafter preserved ten scared silences, while the Government proceeded to carry out the manifest desire of the people."

Canada congratulates Lord Minto on his well-deserved promotion.

## Quality in Character.

QUALITY is the universal test. Men and things are classified according to their intrinsic worth. The question is not what you do, but how well you do what is assigned to you. Girard Hamilton has gone down in history as "Single-speech Hamilton." He was a member of the British House of Commons. He made only one speech in the whole of his legislative record. That speech lasted just five minutes. It was pat. It hit the nail on the head squarely. It turned the tide. It crowned the man who delivered it with immortality, and secured for him a place in history. Quality, not quantity. Quality first; quantity second. They say that lightning never strikes twice in the same place. Do you know the reason why? It isn't necessary. The lightning does its work so thoroughly the first time that it doesn't find it necessary to return in order to repeat the operation.

Four things a man must learn to do  
If he would make his record true:  
To think without confusion clearly;  
To love his fellow-men sincerely;  
To act from honest motives purely;  
To trust in God and heaven securely.

—Henry Van Dyke.