

# Messenger and Visitor

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## Canada at

## St. Louis.

To those who may have thought that Canada was a great barren land, a country of almost perennial snow and ice, the Palace of Agriculture at the St. Louis World's Fair is a revelation. "No sections in Uncle Sam's galaxy of States," a St. Louis correspondent writes, "displays fairer specimens of the result of the husbandman's industry and no land shows a greater variety of products than does the great country that adjoins the United States on the north. Canada has a space of 10,000 square feet in the Exposition's mammoth Palace of Agriculture—a structure that covers an area of twenty three acres and contains all that is edible from all lands. A replica of a historic structure forms the centerpiece of this notable exhibit. One of the handsomest of the public buildings in the Dominion is the Library of Parliament at Ottawa. The dome of this building, reproduced on a smaller scale, is one of the most commanding objects in the big building. It is an octagon, thirty-four feet across, and its top extends sixty feet upward and brushes the rafters of the Agricultural Palace. Its frame is of pine, and the surface that shows is covered with glowing red burlap. Artistically fastened to this background are the grains and grasses of Canada, more than 3,000 specimens being shown in charming array. Great butresses are built up of millet, a forage plant; brome grass, a fodder crop grown extensively in western Canada and which appears shortly after the snow leaves the ground; wheat, oats, clover, blue grass and hundreds of other choice specimens. Corn, used so much in the embellishment of the exhibits of the States, finds no place in this display. The eight arches in the octagon afford a conspicuous place for oil paintings, typifying the live stock industry of the great country to the north. The pictures are works of art, and their great size makes the scenes very lifelike. The windows under the pointed arches are filled with bottles of threshed grain."

## Cruel Fashion.

Women are tender-hearted, but Fashion is cruel, and women bow almost without question to the behests of the cruel goddess. Thus tender-hearted women become the instruments of much cruelty which is sometimes practiced on others and sometimes on themselves. One of fashion's cruelties involves the slaughter every year of countless thousands of beautiful birds that their plumage may adorn the head-wear of tender-hearted women. The extent to which this destruction of birds for millinery purposes is carried is indicated by the report lately issued by the Bird Protection Society in England. At one sale—the first of the present year—in the Commercial Sale Rooms, the central market of the plume trade in London, no fewer than 2,687 birds of Paradise were sold. As these birds are restricted to a comparatively small area of the globe, it is almost safe to prophesy their early extinction if fashion continues to call for them. During the year probably 10,000 will come under the hammer. Impeyan pheasants suffered to the number of 1,828. Four hundred tiny Indian owls were sold for a farthing each. A large number of the Indian owl Ketupa, a by no means common bird, realized three pence each. Humming birds have been mercilessly butchered to swell the list, 11,400 passing into the hands of the milliner. Despite the outcry against the wearing of osprey plumes, there has been a brisk demand for them, as much as £9, 12s, 6d per ounce being paid for them.

## Going South.

There is said to be an unusual movement of population within the United States this year prompted by a desire to find new fields for investment and business. The movement alluded to is from the farming districts chiefly, and there is said to be a strong tendency to go southward, the northward movement to Canada which prevailed last year and the year before having been checked by the efforts put forth by railroad and land companies interested in the southwestern States. Canadian land agents are recognizing this turn in the tide of emigration as likely to have a serious effect on the movement of population to western Canada, which had begun to assume so large proportions. The land companies, it is reported, are changing the base of their operations from Iowa, where their work has hitherto been done chiefly, to Illinois and Indiana. Some of the United States railway and land companies have numerous agents out endeavoring to persuade people from these

States to go to the South and are reported to be meeting with a good deal of success. The companies which are working in the interests of western Canada are accordingly finding it more difficult than last year to impress the people with the advantages which are offered by the country to the north.

## The Kentville

## Sanatorium.

The building erected by the Nova Scotia Government as a Sanatorium for tuberculosis of the lungs has been completed. In the course of a few weeks the institution will be furnished, and it is expected that it will be ready to receive patients about the first of July. The sanatorium is situated on a high sandy hill a little northward of Kentville and in full view of the town. The general situation in one of the best protected parts of the Cornwallis Valley, and the very porous nature of the soil immediately surrounding, form very favorable conditions for the purpose for which the institution is intended. The building was erected under the supervision of Mr. Herbert Gates, architect of Halifax, according to plans which were prepared by Mr. J. W. McGregor of Montreal, under the direction of Dr. Richer of Montreal. As now completed, without the furnishings, the Sanatorium is said to have cost \$20,000, and it is capable of accommodating twenty patients. According to the plan, each patient will have a separate room and each room opens out directly on to a verandah, so that whenever necessary the bed may be wheeled out from the room into the open. The verandahs both on the ground floor and on the floor above are twelve feet wide, and there are sun rooms which communicate freely with the verandah. The ground floor has only a few patients' bedrooms, situated in the lower part of the building; the remainder of this floor is entirely devoted to reception rooms, library, large dining-room, physicians' living quarters, dispensary, laboratory, lavatories, large cloak room, nearly all communicating with a very spacious hall. On the floor above are a number of bedrooms, bath rooms, and hydro-therapeutic room, along with the matrons' and nurses' quarters. The servants have their living quarters in a small annex and in this annex will be found the kitchen, store room, laundry, and so on. The water for the sanatorium is supplied by the town of Kentville, and is very generous indeed. The lighting throughout is electrical. It would seem that the building, as well as its situation, is excellently adapted to the purpose for which it is intended and will doubtless prove a real boon to the Province. The sanatorium will be open only to persons residing within the Province. Patients who are able to pay for the cost of treatment will be required to do so, and for those who are not able there is legal provision that the cost of treatment may be assessed upon the city, town or poor district in which said patients have a settlement, provided they are received at the Sanatorium on the request of the mayor of such city or town or the overseer of the poor for such district. It is provided however that patients who do not come under the provision noted above and who are without means, shall not on that account be refused the benefits of treatment.

## The Mormon

## Inquiry.

A number of leading Mormons have given their testimony quite freely in connection with the Smoot investigation, and their evidence goes to show that the manifesto of the Mormon President Woodruff, of 1890, forbidding polygamy, has not prevented Mormons in Utah who were so disposed from having more wives than one. Brigham H. Roberts, a Mormon who was excluded from the United States House of Representatives a few years ago, has three wives, and admitted that he was now living with these in violation of the statute and also of the law of God and the Church as set forth in the manifesto of 1890. Mr. Roberts also said that he would not think of accepting a nomination for political office without first getting the consent of the (Mormon) Church. He admitted that every nominee who had obtained the consent of the Church had been elected, and that no Mormon who had failed to get such consent had been successful at the polls. Angus M. Cannon, a patriarch of the (Mormon) Church who has six wives, admitted that since 1890 he had been living with them in violation both of the statute and the law of God. The Mormon President Smith, it will be remembered, made a similar admission when he was before the committee of

investigation a few weeks ago, and Mr. Cannon said that President Smith had since then received a vote of confidence at the general conference of the Church. Calvin Cobb, publisher of a paper in Idaho, gave testimony before the committee. He said that one-third of the people of that State were Mormons, and because they held the balance of power the leaders of both parties made terms with the Church. It was due to Mormon influence, he thought, that the Legislature recently provided for a constitutional convention, the Mormons desiring, it was believed, to get rid of the anti-polygamy declarations of the present convention. O. W. Powers, formerly a judge in Utah, and afterwards Chairman of the Democratic Committee, testified at length as to the influence of the Church in politics. The young men and women he said now posed polygamy. But in Mormonism there was something worse than polygamy and that was the exertion of a controlling influence in politics, society and business by the hierarchy to attain ends at variance with American institutions.

## Newfoundland

and

## Confederation.

A correspondent of the Toronto Globe, writing from Newfoundland, gives to the readers of that paper the results of an interview with Sir Robert Bond, the Premier of the Ancient Colony, in respect to the matter of confederation with Canada. Evidently the proposal for union does not arouse any enthusiasm in the breast of the Newfoundland Premier. He does not believe that there is any considerable sentiment in favor of union among the people of the island, and apparently he is not anxious that such a sentiment should be cultivated. Sir Robert Bond questions that any large benefit would result to Newfoundland from confederation. The isolation of the colony makes its position different from that of any of the Provinces of the Dominion, so that if united with Canada Newfoundland, according to Sir Robert Bond's opinion, could not participate with other Provinces in the general scheme of advancement. Then there is a feeling that under confederation local industries would suffer and Newfoundland would become a dumping ground for Canadian products. Premier Bond argues that Canada does not want the fish, oil, sealskins, minerals, etc., which Newfoundland produces for export, and that the commercial relations of the Colony are more naturally with the United States. He is not, however, prepared to say that he is opposed to confederation until the terms are made known, but he is quite definite and emphatic in declaring that more favorable terms must be offered than any which have heretofore been proposed before it can be said that there is any possibility of Newfoundland accepting them.

## The War.

The latest despatches from the Far East bring news of an important land battle in the vicinity of the Yalu river between Russian and Japanese forces, in which both sides lose heavily and the Russians are forced to abandon their positions and retire. It is impossible from the reports so far received to give any clear account in detail of the fighting which has taken place on the Yalu. The official and other despatches make it clear, however, that the Japanese were engaged during the past week in completing their preparations for crossing the river at different points and that on Saturday a large Japanese force effected a crossing. The Russian forces offered a vigorous resistance and inflicted some loss on the Japanese and also suffered some losses at their hands. The principal engagement however took place on Sunday morning. The Japanese army under General Kuroki having effected a landing on the northern bank of the Yalu the evening before, attacked the Russian positions at dawn, and with an infantry charge covering a frontage of four miles, drove the Russians from their position at Chiu-Tien-Cheng and the heights on the right bank of the Ilo river which enters the Yalu from the north almost opposite Wiju. The Japanese turned the left flank of the Russians, and in the battle swept away the new front interposed by the Russians to check their onward movement. In his official report of the battle General Kuroki says: "We have taken 28 quick firing guns, many rifles, much ammunition, more than twenty officers and many non-commissioned officers and men as prisoners. Our casualties number 700 and the Russian loss is more than 800 men." There is no official statement at hand from the Russian side as to the number of casualties, but the Russians admit heavy losses and the abandonment of their position which it was found impossible to hold against the superiority of the Japanese artillery. It would appear that the Japanese have won a decided advantage, but at a pretty large cost. If General Kuroki's estimate is to be accepted the Russian loss is still larger. The Russians did not of course expect to make any permanent stand at the Yalu. Their plan was to hinder and weaken the Japanese as much as possible in their crossing into Manchuria, with the expectation of resisting them under more favorable conditions farther on. But it does not appear that the Russians have been able to inflict as much injury as they have sustained. It has been Russia's turn to score on the sea this week. The Vladivostock fleet is reported to have sunk a Japanese transport at Won-san. There are also reports, which may be correct, of other Japanese vessels having been sunk by Russian torpedo boats.