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news, which is also
CAPITAL in that it is
mostly good news and
from the World's CAP-
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Organ of THE NATIONAL BUREAU OF REFORMS,
210 Delaware Av., N. E., Washington, D. C.
Rev. Wilbur F. Crafts, Ph.D., Supt.

NEWS WORTH TELLING.

[We find good people all over the land disheartened because they get mostly bad news in their daily papers, and only a denominational fraction of good news in their Church paper. There has been, this week, the usual number of murders and suicides and adulteries with the same old confidencegame and oil-can explosions. These we skip as news NOT worth telling.]

Armenia.—In both houses of Congress strong resolutions have been adopted on the Armenian atrocities, condemning the Turks, calling on the "Powers" to enforce their treaties, and assuring the President of support in any vigorous measures he may choose to take in the case. Senator Frye and Congressman Hepburn made addresses of fire worthy of the occasion. Those who suspect exaggeration in their addresses and in newspaper reports should read the recent issues of "The Missionary Herald," the monthly organ of the American Board of Commissioners for Foreign Missions, which sent out the American Missionaries now in Armenia. This periodical, speaking with great reserve and from abundant testimony from its own witnesses on the spot, confirms the current reports in all essential particulars. It is shown (1) that the massacres began just before the Sultan promised reforms, and occurred only in the districts for which reforms were promised, and were confined, save an accidental exception or two, to Armenians; (2) that the massacres were conducted with a uniform method, with the full permission and even participation of Turkish officials and soldiery, usually beginning when Armenian merchants were in their shops, to make both murder and robbery easy, inaugurated at the signal

of the bugle, and ending after a nearly uniform duration with the same signal, the killed being usually men; (3) that not less than thirty thousand have been slaughtered and that multitudes of Armenian women have met a fate worse than death. Many other men and women have escaped the murderer and ravisher only by adjuring their Christian faith and accepting Mohammedanism, which not a few have died rather than do. Every man who hates what God hates, on reading these unquestionable statements, must feel the need of an imprecatory psalm, and here it is, a sonnet of William Watson, who ought to have been Great Britain's poet laureate, who puts in words of flame its people's protest against the Government's inaction as a crime only second in guilt to that of the Nero of the Bosphorus, who should be not only deposited but gibbeted by the powers.

"Never, O craven England, nevermore
Prate thou of generous effort, righteous aim!
Betrayer of a People, know thy shame!
Summer has passed, and Autumn's threshing-
floor

Been winnowed; Winter at Armenia's door
Snarls like a wolf; and still the sword and
flame

Sleep on; *thou only* sleepest; and the same
Cry ascends unto heaven as heretofore;
And the red stream thou might'st have stanch'd,
yet runs;

And o'er the earth there sounds no trumpet's
tone

To shake the ignoble torpor of thy sons;
But with indifferent eyes they watch and see
Hell's regent sitting yonder, propped by thee,
Abdul the Damned, on his infernal throne."

This recalls the sonnet of Milton, "Avenge, O Lord Thy Slaughtered Saints," but Great Britain has no Cromwell this time to halt the slaughter with the threat of

war. Mr. Chamberlain of the British Cabinet, however, turns the imprecation partly upon us by intimating that if the United States instead of threatening war over the Venezuela boundary had offered to join Great Britain in the nobler defense of Armenia, and of Americans there, outrages would long ago have been stopped by the voice of ironclads. If war was ever justifiable since the world began, we should now make a holy crusade against the Turk, to rescue from him not an empty sepulchre but living temples of Christ.

Brutalizing Exhibitions.—The Attorney General of New Mexico, replying to the protest of a ministerial union against a projected prize fight, the very announcements of which by the press all over the country is already spreading the plague of brutality, declares that the Territory has neither a law to enforce nor money to enforce it—which is a new proof, if it were needed that the Territory is not worthy of the Statehood for which it is asking. Oklahoma has furnished similar evidence of its unfitness for Statehood in the free fight with which its recent convention to ask for that honor broke up and in the riotous proceedings of even the school children in one of its towns who armed themselves with stones to resist the introduction of colored children into their schools despite their coming by authority of the courts and escorted by officers of the law. When to these is added the monstrous ninety day divorce law of this Territory the evidence that it is unfit for Statehood is full.

Civil Service.—The National Board of Trade, in session in Washington as we write, has begun its deliberations with an urgent argument for complete Civil Service reform in the Consular Service in the

interest of American trade which is jeopardized by frequent changes and political appointments.

Christian Citizenship.—That Washington's Birthday should be more generally celebrated is urged by various organizations. Endeavorers suggest that it should be called "Christian Citizenship Day" and used in that interest. The Union League Club will furnish patriotic music free for organized celebrations. The writer has suggested a special reason why the day should have an unusual celebration this year, namely that this is the centennial year of Washington's farewell address, the last of the Revolutionary centennials. In Washington the anniversary of the National Reform Bureau will occur on the evening of the 21st, and there will be a convention in the interest of Armenia on the 22d, a good day to declare war on a far worse despot than Washington successfully resisted. "Capital News" will issue a special Washingtonian edition, beautifully illustrated, with Washington Monument and Washington Arch.

Cuba.—One more item of reliable news has come besides the removal of General Campos, namely, removals of Cubans on a great scale to Florida, in fear of the new commander who has a reputation for cruelty.

Divorce.—The following law will be introduced in Congress by request of the National Bureau of Reforms to defend the families of the whole country against the lax divorce laws of the Territories: "No divorce shall be granted in any Territory for any cause which shall have occurred out of the Territory, unless the party applying for the same shall have resided within the Territory for one year next preceding the application." All who

favor such a law should so petition, and follow with letters to Senators and Congressmen, especially Senator Hoar and Congressman Henderson, Chairmen of the Judiciary Committees.

Drinking Usages.—Senator Proctor this week presented in the Senate a large petition called "The Voice of the Churches," signed by nearly all the pastors and church officers of Washington, and another signed by the officers of the local W. C. T. U., both asking for local option in the District of Columbia. In South Carolina Gov. Evans has found it necessary to place State police in Charleston to enforce the dispensary law. In Brooklyn Mayor Wurster has announced himself opposed to the location of any saloon within 200 feet of a church or school or within 300 feet of an engine house. But what about those lawless Sunday saloons? In Washington before the National Board of Trade, in session as we write, will be presented for discussion a memorial unanimously adopted by the Merchants and Business Men's Association of Chester, Pa., which declares that the business interests of the country would be greatly benefitted by the suppression of the liquor traffic and asking Congress to appoint a commission to investigate this aspect of the liquor question, together with its relation to the health and morals of the people. Copies of the resolutions may be secured of D. G. Hendricks of Chester. Another valuable contribution to temperance from a similar standpoint is an article in "The Templar," of Toronto, of Jan. 24, giving statistics of insurance societies and friendly societies in Great Britain as to "Abstinence and Longevity." Yet another document of value that has appeared this week is the report of the recent National Anti-Saloon Convention, which can be obtained of J. L. Ewin, of Washington.

Madagascar, it is announced, has been fully denationalized and is now a French dependency, which probably means a loss of its native prohibition as well as its native Sabbath, with the substitution of French wine and the French Sunday, probably Frenchy morals also.

Gambling.—The Patch anti-option bill, which forbids gambling in grain, is again before Congress. The Chicago Board of Trade, probably with a view to excluding bucket-shops from a share in the grain gambling, is considering a plan to have all trading in wheat in cash property, based on a Board of Trade grain depository.

Law and Order.—A drunken negro, who had killed a man in a railway car in reckless shooting, was lynched at Welch, W. Va., on Jan. 27. The lower house of the Carolina legislature has fixed the responsibility for a lynching upon the county where it occurred and giving the nearest relatives of the lynched person a claim upon the county for \$2,000. The liquor dealers of New York are hoping to get rid of Theodore Roosevelt, the bravest figure in the world's politics to-day, by the greater New York bill. It is very questionable whether either New York or Brooklyn would benefit by union, and there are certainly no gains in sight sufficient to offset the loss of Mr. Roosevelt to law and order.

Municipal Reform.—At a municipal reform meeting in Chicago, about a week ago, the appointment of a Committee of One Hundred, to act independently of the old parties, in carrying on the movement to divorce politics from municipal affairs.

Miscellaneous.—Hon. Theodore F. Runyon, American Ambassador to Germany, died on Jan. 26. The American liner, St. Paul, went ashore off Long Branch in a fog on Jan. 25. There was no loss of life or cargo.

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TESTIMONIALS FROM PRINCETON SEMINARY FACULTY.

Rev. Mr. Crafts:

Dear Sir:—The Faculty of the Seminary have wished me to express to you their appreciation of the lectures on "Social Problems" which you delivered to the students last week, and their thanks to you for the course. We recognize the wide study which you have given to these subjects, and the large number of valuable facts which you have collected. We recognize also in your treatment of the facts, the caution and the desire to be fair and thorough which are necessary for a proper discussion of such practical and important topics. You seem to us bent on apprehending the whole truth and in doing justice to all sides of each case. Please accept our thanks. Very sincerely yours
GEORGE T. PURVESS.

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The Congregationalist: "It is certainly the best work that has appeared on the sabbath as a practical question."

Prof. A. A. Hodge, in the Presbyterian Review: "As Cox's 'Literature of the Sabbath Question' in two volumes is an almost exhaustive presentation of the history of opinion, and of the literature of the past on the great question of Sabbath observance, so this book of Mr. Crafts is unique as a repertory of information as to the present state of Sabbath opinion and observance over the nominally Christian world. The information has been collected by stupendous correspondence with representative men residing in all parts of the world. The resulting generalizations are represented to the eye by a map of the world shaded to represent the comparative degree of strictness with which the Biblical view of this great institution is maintained. The book is exceedingly valuable, and is strongly on the right side."