

ously with the charges of heresy against Dr. Briggs shows that Presbyterian theologians are considerably exercised over their creed.

The main charge against Briggs is that he taught doctrine conflicting with the Holy Scriptures as interpreted by the Presbyterian church. The first specification under this charge is that Briggs declared, "There are historically three great fountains of divine authority—the Bible, the church and the reason." The heresy lies in making the church and the reason coequal with the Bible for divine authority.

The second specification charges Briggs with teaching that the Holy Scriptures are not sufficient in all cases as a guide to salvation without saving knowledge of God through the church.

The third specification deals with the Rationalism of Dr. Briggs. He teaches that people who reject the Holy Trinity, the Incarnation, the Atonement, the Resurrection, the personality of the Holy Ghost, the Bible miracles, etc., will find knowledge of God if they turn to their own reason. It was thus James Martineau found God.

There are several other charges and specifications, but they chiefly hinge on the three here mentioned. It is evident to observers that the established creeds of the churches are unsatisfactory to their own adherents and that radical changes, if not a great collapse, awaits the structure of crumbling Christendom.

CANADA'S GLOOMY OUTLOOK.

THE St. Paul *Pioneer Press* says the political condition in Canada has an uncertain outlook. Sir John MacDonald's master hand is no longer available to solidify the heterogeneous and to restrain the mutinous. He has left none in his party able to fill his place, and hence the crisis is coming. The *Press* remarks:

"The resignation of Chapleau is only the first of a series of troubles which Canada has to face. Not in our own government do race prejudices cut a figure so prominent as does the feeling between Ontario and Quebec. That feeling is bound to be intensified, and to threaten the existence of the Confederation itself, by the personal differences that have arisen between the leaders. If the hands of the Liberal party were entirely clean, if it were not subject to almost the same conditions that beset the Tories, this would be its opportunity. It is, indeed, entirely probable that it will profit by these troubles and dissensions sufficiently to obtain power at the next election."

But there is still a deeper cause of disturbance than even race hatred and jealous partizanship. The returns of the last census disclose a sad state of affairs. In trade, industry and population Canada has advanced but little

during the past decade. Her debt has increased to enormous proportions. The dishonesty of her statesmen is now notorious. Jealousy and distrust prevail in all her inter-provincial relations, and on the whole the *Presses* in the outlook a most gloomy foreground.

DOMESTIC ANIMALS ON FARMS.

A SHORT time ago a synopsis of the census bulletin pertaining to horses, mules and asses on ranges in the United States was given in these columns. Now the bulletin pertaining to the animals on farms is at hand, and makes an interesting comparison document to the other. From this it appears that on June 1st, 1890, there were on farms in the United States and Territories 14,976,017 horses, 2,246,936 mules, and 49,109 asses. In 1889 there were foaled 1,814,404 horses, 157,105 mules, and 7,957 asses. In the same year were sold 1,309,557 horses, 329,993 mules, and 7,271 asses. The mortality among these animals from all causes was 765,211 during 1889. During the decade from 1880 to 1890 horses increased about 45 per cent., mules about 27 per cent., the increase of asses not known. This is the first census taken of these latter animals independent of mules.

The western division which includes Utah, Nevada and Arizona, had on June 1st, 1890, 1,431,078 horses, 73,007 mules and 10,766 asses. Of these Utah had 64,801 horses, 1122 mules and 432 asses. New Mexico had 38,130 horses, 2409 mules and 5958 asses. Arizona had 15,780 horses, 637 mules and 809 asses.

Illinois stands first with 1,335,289 horses, Iowa second with 1,312,079, Texas third with 1,025,876, New York fourth with 664,430 and Pennsylvania next with 618,660. Rhode Island stands lowest with 9864.

In mules Missouri stands first with 245,102, Texas 220,596, and South Carolina 156,000. In asses Texas stands first with 6836, Missouri second with 6441 and New Mexico third with 5958.

WEAKNESS OF THE BRITISH ARMY.

THE following pitiful picture of the status of the British army appears in the *Review of Reviews* for November:

"Military manoeuvres have been the order of the day. In Germany, in Thuringia, 60,000 soldiers were in the field, and it was noticed that although the firing was incessant, the atmosphere remained perfectly clear. In the next war, thanks to smokeless powder, there will be no more smoke than there was at the battle of Hastings. England also has been having her manoeuvres in south-eastern Hants. General Sir Evelyn Wood was in command, and although the officers were zealous and the men obedi-

ent, the reports from day to day do not tend to reassure the country as to the efficiency of its second line of defence. The proportion of men who fell out in the march was excessive, and it was asserted that if the majority of the troops had been set a heavy marching order they would never have reached the rendezvous at all. Mr. Arnold Foster, whose admirable 'Citizen Reader' should be a textbook in every English school, and who has rendered yeoman service to the country by the alarm which he raised seven years ago about the navy, declares in the *London Times* that he never yet witnessed so unsatisfactory and humiliating a display as that presented by the First Army corps. This is no fault of the officers or of the men, but of the system, which he declares he can prove has utterly broken down. Says Mr. Forster:

"Our cavalry are without horses, our artillery without guns or train, our infantry battalions are, I firmly believe, becoming worse every year. The militia is a patent and recognized fraud, while the yeomanry has ceased to exist as a military force."

PURITY IN ELECTIONS.

THE three great agencies by which dishonesty is practiced at elections are colonization, illegal registration, and fraudulent voting. The newspapers of New York tell us that elections in their city are frequently carried by one, or all three, of these means. If so, it is not the fault of the lawmakers, or of the election laws. The law in that city provides that within 84 hours after the closing of registration, there shall be published by the *City Record* a list of registered voters, arranged by Assembly districts, and by election districts, so that the names of all registered voters residing at any given number, of any street shall appear together, and those of each street in each election district shall appear arranged by house numbers in consecutive order, each street separately.

The registry of each Assembly district is printed as a supplement to the *City Record*, and must be sold to persons wishing to buy it at not less than five cents a copy.

With such precautions as these, it would seem that it only needs a little public spirit to maintain purity of elections. The *Record* shows the number registered from each house and also gives their names. Any person residing in that vicinity can verify or disprove the registration. This system excels the alphabetical classification completely. It shows at a glance where fraud in colonization or registration is resorted to. It only requires a little patriotism and public spirit to detect fraud. But unless honesty rules in the public heart legislative restrictions will fail of their object, and corruption at elections will prevail in spite of laws and penalties and regulations.

California has 15,000 members of the Masonic order.