

the Chinese Christians bought from soldiers or from reduced rich families and resold at a profit what they had purchased, and the proceeds were turned over to the general fund. These facts appear to afford all the basis for the general charge of Sir Robert Hart and the more specific charges of Mr. George Lynch.

The Outlook does not assume to express any final judgment respecting these various charges. We hope that the Missionary Boards, acting either in concert or separately, will secure a rigid investigation by some impartial committee, and, if there has been any wrongdoing, will let it be known. If disgrace be deserved, let it fall where it ought to fall. Missionaries are to be held to a higher standard of morality than soldiers; they are not to be defended or excused because they are missionaries. Not even "previous good character" can serve as a defense, though it may as a palliation, for offenses against the moral law. In the general excitement and disorder which followed the capture of Peking some missionaries may have lost their heads and assumed responsibilities which they would better not have assumed, and some may have shown a careless conscience in picking up from the general wreckage ownerless articles for their own use which should have been sold for the general benefit. But there is not as yet anything worthy to be called evidence that this was done in even a single case. To urge their views of public questions on foreign governments may not have been politic, but it was not immoral. To urge the punishment by law of notorious ringleaders as a means of preventing private retaliation and revenge may have been inexpedient, but it was not vindictive. To appeal to Chinese authorities to provide, by the enforcement of Chinese law, succor for the destitute and the starving was to act a part at once Christian and statesmanlike. To take possession of abandoned houses in a time of general anarchy and use them for the public welfare, and to save from general loot ownerless articles and sell them for the benefit of impoverished and innocent Chinamen, showed a degree of force and wisdom in a great emergency which laymen generally have not attributed to missionaries. What official investigation may show we cannot

tell; but, so far as unofficial evidence throws light on the subject, the American missionaries issue from this terrible tragedy with a record which any men might be proud to hand down to their children and their children's children.



An American Exposition

The opening of the Pan-American Exposition at Buffalo next month will be a significant event in the history of the New World. Heretofore the most important expositions have been international; they have presented the industries, the science, the art—in a word, the civilization—of the whole world; and their chief value has been the rich opportunities for comparison which have been afforded. Educationally, no one can question the importance of these expositions; they have gone a long way towards equalizing artistic and industrial conditions, by making each nation aware of the superiority at some points of other nations, and by opening its eyes to better methods. It has been impossible to look the world in the face at any great exposition and not realize the nobility of the great competition of civilization, or to miss the impulse which comes from such a competition. The exposition in Philadelphia was the beginning of a new epoch of industrial and decorative art in this country; for the first time there was diffused among the people on the continent an approximately adequate idea of the value of art and the possibilities of securing it in all parts of the country. To the movement which was initiated in Philadelphia the Chicago Exposition gave an immense impetus. That exposition was a revelation to Americans, as well as to the world at large, of æsthetic possibilities. It was an illustration of nobility in handling a great opportunity by an intelligent city; and many men saw for the first time what could be done by co-operation in order to secure the services of the highest intelligence and the best training. The Pan-American Exposition will have the æsthetic beauty of the Chicago Exposition, with one notable additional feature—the introduction of a brilliant color scheme. It will present to the eye that which the Chicago Fair presented, and which the Paris Fair utterly lacked—unity of design, adaptation, and structure throughout.

All the accessories of the Fair will combine to deepen its harmonious beauty. It will be held on the limits of one of the most beautiful cities in the country, and one especially adapted for the purposes of an Exposition; for there is no more comfortable summer city in America than Buffalo. The great highway of the approach to the Fair will be Delaware Avenue, one of the most beautiful streets in America. From Delaware Avenue the sightseer will enter the park, and from the park he will pass into the Exposition grounds, the park serving as an impressive entrance. When he enters the grounds he will find himself looking at a beautiful Spanish-American city, symmetrically laid out, with beautiful waterways, masses of flowers, ornamental approaches, and a rich harmony of color, the contribution of the Latin temperament and the Latin imagination to the American continent.

The chief characteristic of the Fair, however, will not be its external form, though that promises to be, in its unity, completeness, and brilliancy, the most beautiful of all the series of great expositions, but its illustration of civilization in the New World; it will justify its name of "Pan-American" by presenting everything of significance from the extreme north to the extreme south. Nothing foreign will be found within the grounds; everything will be made on this side of the ocean—architecture, industry, educational systems, ethnological displays, manual products, agricultural methods, art. Everything, in a word, will be American, not in any divisive sense, but American for the purpose of showing in a concrete fashion what America has achieved in the three centuries which have passed since the earliest colonization. When one remembers the immense varieties of life and of the products of life which are produced by the peoples between Baffin Bay and the Straits of Magellan, it will be seen that the Pan-American Exposition will present, not only the greatest variety of industries and arts, but also a picture of civilization from its initial stages to its highest development.

Canada, Mexico, the Central and South American Republics, have shown the greatest interest in the enterprise, and in most cases have done their utmost to enrich it with representative illustrations of their own products and civilization. It

can hardly escape the attention of the world that the Pan-American will be, in effect, an Exposition of the development of the race under free institutions; for a very large part of the peoples of the New World are living under popular governments; and the whole world will have a chance, for the first time in any complete fashion, to study the material results of the working out of the democratic idea.

The commercial importance of the Exposition is likely to be very considerable. It has been very largely due to the lack of foresight on the part of Americans that European influence has become so great in South America. It is idle to declaim against the spread of the German influence, for instance, and the immense hold which German capital and German skill have secured in various parts of South America. The German is there simply because he has been quicker to see the opportunity and more prompt to seize it than his American competitor. The Exposition is likely to open the eyes of the United States to the resources for commercial development of South America; and it is also likely to make the South Americans aware of the immense commercial service which they can secure from the United States.



The Center of Unity

The tendency, so often noted of late years, to pay increased attention to the Lenten season, and to emphasize by unusual services the typical experiences of that season in the life of Christ, was never so marked as during the past six weeks. In all parts of the country, among churches of almost every denomination and Christians of every communion, the memories and the associations of the Lenten season were made the subject of preaching, meditation, and prayer. The special noon-day services held in many of the large cities were attended by congregations which filled the edifices; and the number of busy men and of women engaged in self-support who were willing to take half an hour out of the short noon hour for the sake of attending service was not only surprisingly large, but appears to be growing from year to year. The Episcopal churches in this city were crowded to the doors on Good Friday for the three hours'