TERMS AND NOTICES.

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Religious Intelligencer.

REV. JOSEPH MCLEOD D. D.,...EDITOR.

WEDNESDAY, JULY 11TH, 1900.

The best sermons are those which most help people to goodness in their every day life.

A man of unclean speech is abominable anywhere. Such an one in the ministry is hide us. A thief or adulterer would be no more out of place in the ministry.

No word of the death of Rev. Thos. Connor which occured on Thursday, June 28th, reached the INTELLIGENCER office till after last week's paper had gone to press. At the last moment in the absence of the editor, a clipping from a daily paper was inserted. In this issue is a fuller reference to his life and death.

A Church of England bishop has been finding fault with the preaching of the ministers in that church. Of the younger ministers he says they "do not think it worth while to take any trouble about their sermons." It appears that only about one third of the men now preparing for the Church of England ministry are college graduates.

The Religious Telescope tells of an ex-Roman Catholic priest, now Rev. J. F. Coffey D. D., who recently visited Ottawa, the home of his deceased parents, to look after $4,000 due him from his mother's estate. The executor would not recognize his claim, "because he had left the church." Is that the law? It may be in Quebec, but Ottawa is in Ontario.

During the sixty years of its life, Acadia College has sent out five hundred and eighty-three graduates, of whom over five hundred are still alive. Of course, the greater number have been graduated in late years, more than half in the last ten years. The College and the Academy and Ladies' Seminary have steadily grown in favour, and are now readily acknowledged to have a place amongst the foremost educational institutions of the country.

On Friday of this week the World's Convention of Christian Endeavour Societies will meet in London. It will continue a week. It will be one of the great events of this year of notable events. Forty thousand representatives of the movement, from all parts of the world, are expected to be present. The Christian Endeavour movement is great, embracing "a multitude which no man can number," and has, certainly, done vast good. Yet there are some good people who do not more than half believe in and sympathize with its methods. The wisdom of such immense conventions as the one now to be held, is seriously questioned. But whatever judgment any may have of such a great meeting, all christians will pray that the presence of the Lord will be manifestly with the host of His people met in the world's greatest city, and that through the meeting a great impetus may be given to the kingdom of Christ.

"It is true he is not a good Catholic, but he is a very bad Protestant," was the reply of Pope Pius IX to one who suggested that too much favour had been shown to a certain Protestant Englishman. The answer was witty, but, as the 'Christian Advocate' points out, it contains more philosophy even than wit. The number of bad Protestants in the sense that they are useful to Rome is increasing. They are those persons and papers who are continually magnifying and commending such truths and virtues as attach to Roman Catholicism, and denying, minifying, or ignoring its doctrinal errors, its humanly made sacraments, its unwarranted assumptions of authority, its claims of jurisdiction over the state, its cunning and greed, and its utter intolerance wherever it dares exercise it. And amongst the worst of these "bad Protestants" are those who cry out "narrowness," "intolerance," whenever the truth is told about Rome. One of the great needs of this time is a more robust Protestantism.

PROHIBITION IN PARLIAMENT.

The Parliament of Canada has again voted on the question of prohibition of the liquor traffic, and has declared against it by a majority of two to one. There were three resolutions presented, —(1) Mr. Flint's, declaring in favour of Provincial prohibition, because of Quebec's large negative vote in the Plebiscite; (2) Mr. McClure's, declaring in favour of national prohibition; and (3) Mr. Parmelee's, declaring that the result of the Plebiscite was such that Parliament would not be justified in enacting prohibition.

No vote was taken on either the first or second resolutions, the third being carried by a vote of 98 to 41. The vote was not on party lines, there being Liberals and Conservatives on both sides of the question. The vote as to parties was divided thus: For Parmelee's resolution, 81 Liberals and 17 Conservatives; against it, 15 Liberals and 26 Conservatives. A large number of members were not present. The names of those who voted, and how they voted, will be found in the Parliamentary report on another page. All the members of the government voted for Parmelee's resolution, which set forth the government's policy in the matter, as was stated, in effect, by Sir Wilfrid Laurier and Mr. Fisher.

In the discussion of the resolution, it was again stated by the Premier that in the matter of the Plebiscite there was an understanding between the leaders of the party and the prohibitionists that unless there was a majority of the registered voters in favour of prohibition there would be no obligation to enact prohibition. Because this statement has again been made we must again say that nobody representing the prohibitionists of Canada had a right to make such arrangement, that nobody representing them ever did make such arrangement, and that no intimation of such an absurd thing was ever made till after the election. If there had been the slightest hint that anybody, presuming to speak for prohibitionists, had dared to make such a compact, they would have refused to make the campaign or go to the polls. Only fools would be parties to an arrangement which required of them an impossibility. Prohibitionists are not fools.

Because it continues to be said that prohibitionists wanted a plebiscite, it is necessary to say again, and with emphasis, that the prohibitionists did not ask for a plebiscite, nor did they desire it. Indeed, the prevailing feeling in the prohibition ranks was against the plebiscite idea. It was known that in such a vote the enemy could use corrupt and powerful influences which give them an undue advantage. For this and other reasons the majority of prohibitionists did not favour a plebiscite. The Plebiscite was the proposal of the Liberal party. In the Convention of the party in 1893 prohibitionist Liberals proposed prohibition as a plank in the party platform. The Convention rejected this, but offered, as a compromise, a Plebiscite on the question. While, as stated above, prohibitionists did not favour the plan, when it was offered they accepted the challenge, made the fight against tremendous odds, and won at the polls such a victory as was never won in this or any other country like this, on such a question. All the talk about the percentage of registered votes is pure bosh in view of the fact that such test is never applied to any other matter about which the electorate votes, and the other fact that neither the party now administering the affairs of the country, nor any other political party, has ever secured a majority of the registered votes.

In spite of Quebec's remarkable negative vote—remarkable chiefly because of the doubts of its genuineness—the country as a whole gave 14,000 majority for prohibition; and outside of Quebec, the majority was 108,000 against the legalized rum traffic. And it would appear from what Sir Wilfrid Laurier says that we need never expect national prohibition. His position is that so long as one Province is strongly adverse to prohibition it cannot be had. Quebec is not likely to become favourable to prohibition; therefore there can be no national prohibitory law. In other words, Quebec's will must determine the character of liquor traffic laws in the whole of Canada. The Premier's declaration against Mr. Flint's resolution in favour of Provincial prohibition was strong; he said he regarded it as most dangerous legislation, because sectional. It does not seem to have occurred to him that there is anything sectional in allowing the negative vote of one Province to over ride the strong majorities of the other Provinces.

We quite agree with Sir Wilfrid that Provincial prohibition is not the best kind of prohibition, but failing the better form—the national, we think the country ought to have the chance to make a trial of it, just as we advocate making the most of the Scott Act so long as it is the best form of prohibition available.

The cause of prohibition has received, first and last, much unfair treatment from politicians of both parties. it has had many a slap in the face from governments and Parliaments, but never a sharper slap than this last.

It is useless to deny that the prohibition movement has received a staggering blow. "What's the use?" is the question in many more minds than of those who utter it. The rum men are correspondingly elated. But no one who has at heart the deliverance of the country from the great curse of the legalized drink traffic must allow himself to be turned aside from the work. We are at a time when prohibitionists need to make this the first question in determining their political action. If out of the reverses they have suffered they will learn to be united, they may be nearer an important victory than they think. The prohibitionists in both political parties can, by standing together, dictate the nominations in their respective parties, in enough constituencies to bring national prohibition within early probability. The action of the Dominion Alliance, which meets next week, will be awaited with considerable interest. Let us hope a line of action may be decided on which will give hope and courage to the prohibition host. Whatever the present feeling, there is victory ahead.

WAR NOTES.

The South African war news for the week has been meagre. But though silent, Lord Roberts is, doubtless, directing the movements of the forces so as to make the speediest ending of the war, with the least loss of life.

President Kruger is reported to have moved another step eastward toward the Portuguese frontier, and to be now at Nelspruit, and his Secretary of State is reported to have sailed for Europe in charge of part of what remains of the Transvaal Treasury.

Lord Roberts is feeding the families of Boer soldiers both at Pretoria and Johannesburg. Arrangements are being made for the distribution of oats for seed purposes to farmers actually in need of it; those who are unable to procure seed oats in any other manner.

Lord Roberts denies the charges made in regard to the hospital work in South Africa. He says that branch of the service is ready for the fullest investigation.

It is reported from Zeerust that General Snyman, the besieger of Mafeking, and Commandant Botha and the whole Marico commando have been captured near Lichtenburg.

President Kruger again announces his desire for peace on condition of the complete independence of the two republics and annesty to the rebels in Cape Colony and Natal If these terms are not granted he will fight to the bitter end and no doubt he will also stagger humanity.

There is humors even amidst the roar and rush of battle, as the following incident bears out:—A German artilleryman, who was assisting the Boers, got separated from his companions and ran straight into the arms of a British patrol. "Ach, I am lost," he exclaimed. "Oh, no," said a genial Tommy, "You're not lost. We've found you!" And the next moment he was being marched back to camp, a prisoner.

Thirty Canadian invalids from South Africa, who have been in the English hospitals under treatment for wounds and diseases, sailed Thursday by the steamer Parisian for Canada.

The War Office has just issued a return of the British casualties in South Africa since the beginning of the war.

The total losses exclusive of sick and wounded have been 29,706, of which the killed in action were 254 officers and 2,403 non-commissioned officers and men; died of wounds, 70 officers and 610 non-commissioned officers and men; missing and prisoners, 65 officers and 2,624 non-commissioned officers and men; died of disease, 133 officers and 4,024 non commissioned officers and men; invalided home, 844 officers and 18,433 non-commissioned officers and men.

4.—D battery, Royal Canadian Artillery has gone to Bloemfontein to take part in operations against General DeWet, whose commandos have caused considerable trouble in the northeastern section of Orange River Colony

NOTES ON CURRENT EVENTS.

A GOOD EXAMPLE.

Of Governor McInnes, of British Columbia, who was lately removed from office, it is said that during his occupancy of Government House, he would not serve liquors at official dinners. It is suggested that he would have been more popular with certain influential classes if he had not set himself against their prejudices in this matter. All honour to him for his courage in banishing intoxicants from the first House in the Province over which he presided. His course, though producing severe criticism from certain people, is sure to have lasting good effect.

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THE CHINESE.

China, which is so much in the eye and mind of the world just now, is held together by no man knows what, unless it be, as the Register suggests, the worship of ancestors and reverence for antiquity. It seems like a vast human pudding. It may be stirred and divided; but, as the disturbing influence passes, it settles into its original form. The people are said to be ignorant about external affairs. We are constantly told that the majority of them never heard of the Japanese war and do not know what or where Japan is. And yet Chinamen seem to know every spot on the earth where it is possible for them to work and earn wages. They have accurate knowledge of the emigration laws of the United States and Canada, and know every unguarded spot on the frontier, and they can carry on work chiefly the laundry business, with profit in the face of the many and great obstacles which labour combines cause to be put in their way. Perhaps they are not so ignorant as they seem to be; certainly they are not so meek and innocent as they appear to be. In the adjustment of China's relations to the rest of the world the nations have a problem which will tax their diplomacy.

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SIR HENRI'S SUCCESSOR.

Mr. Bernier, who succeeded Sir Henri Joly as Minister of Inland Revenue, differs from Sir Henri in at least two particulars. Sir Henri is a Protestant, Mr. Bernier is a Roman Catholic; Sir Henri did not object to sending Canadian troops to share in the Empire's South African campaign, Mr. Bernier does object. Mr. B. is not given to much speech-making but in the first speech made since he became a Minister he said he did not favour sending troops to Africa. Circumstances, he declared, obliged Sir Wilfrid to consent to the men going. "Nobody was obliged to go. England asked us if any one would like to enlist. All the government did was to pay the cost of sending the troops." He is, evidently, in full agreement with Messrs. Tarte, Bourassa & Co., who persist in declaring that Canada should not have sent any of her sons to be "soldiers of the Queen," and who explain that the Canadian contingents were not sent, but, under pressure of public feeling at home and the request of the Imperial government, were permitted to volunteer.

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THEIR IGNORANCE.

Of places and people outside their own land, the Boers are strangely ignorant. Their notions about the smallness of the force that Great Britain could send against them were responsible for the confidence they so often expersed of driving the British into the sea. A British officer in one of the transports which conveyed Boer prisoners to St. Helena gives an admirable illustration of this sublime lack of knowledge in a letter to a friend. "The prisoners," he writes, "are a job lot,—all sorts and sizes, descriptions and nationalities. When some saw the other side of Table Bay they asked "is that Europe?" Now, when they cannot see the land, they say 'it is a very big river.' One asked how long I had been out, and when I told him he asked if I was the last man to leave England; and when I said, 'No, there are now in London more men than there are in South Africa,' he only said, Almighty God! we were deceived; and now we must be British again?

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THREATENED FOR LOYALTY.

The Collector of Customs at St. John's, Province of Quebec, has got himself into trouble by being outspoken in his loyalty to the British flag. "La Patrie" is threatening him with dismissal from office. He lives in a community where half the citizens, being French, are Boer sympathizers, who have talked treason every day since the South African war began, and openly expressed their satisfaction whenever the British suffered loss. The Collector, being a loyal British subject, could not easily stand these things. One day when one of the anti-British gang said that our Canadian soldier boys had no business in South Africa, and that he hoped they would all be shot, and that not one of them would ever return to Canada, the Collector remarked that the British hung several like him in 1837, and that they ought to have hanged more. For this expression of patriotic spirit, the Collector is attacked by the French press and threatened with the loss of his office. In answer to the attacks made upon him, he writes a frank statement of what he has said and done, and why, concluding thus:

"I have been a civil servant more than ten years, and have been sober and attentive to my business, and have not defrauded the government to the value of a farthing, and if under these circumstances the government see fit to dismiss me from the service because I am loyal and have lived up to the oath of allegiance which I have taken, and am unwilling to listen to disloyal talk without protesting against it, I must submit, but I shall not hang my head in shame, nor be obliged to seek a refuge in a foreign country."

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GALICIANS.

Last week another lot of Galicians, numbering 675, reached Halifax, and were forwarded at once to the west by the C. P. R. The country is not to be congratulated on the addition of this kind of people to its population.

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HON. A. R. DICKEY.

The public life of the country has lost one of the best and most promising of its young men, in the death of Hon. A. R. Dickey, which occurred by drowning, at Amherst, N. S., last week. Mr. Dickey was Minister of Justice in the last Conservative Government of Canada. He commanded the good-will and confidence of the best men in both political parties. The country can ill-afford to lose such men, no matter to which party they belong.

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THE BOXERS.

Dr. Randle, who was twenty years a missionary in China, gives an interesting account of the "Boxers" whose deeds have shocked the world: "It is a patriotic organization, the avowed purpose of which is to oust the foreigner from China. It first took the name of the Great Sword Society, meaning thereby that they would use force to expel the so-called 'barbarians' from their country. The name, however, has since been changed to the Fist fighting Society, which has been rather sarcastically translated 'Boxers.' The aggressive action of Germany in Shantung no doubt had a large influence in its formation, and I believe their first attempt was to fight, or resist, the Germans. Probably, however they soon recognized them as a task beyond their early powers, and they began to threaten the native Christians and the missionaries, and shortly after to attack them, at first destroying their property, with a view to their recantation. Subsequently they began to kill the native Catholic Christians, which stirred up their zeal and increased their numbers. The authorities, both local and central, have done much, though indirectly, to encourage them, and they doubtless have the countenance of the Empress Dowager, as well as the sympathy and good wishes of all anti-foreign mandarins and gentry, which includes a majority of those influential classes. There is a good element in China desiring reform, but it is not influential. The present government of China is corrupt in the extreme and has been perpetuated longer than is good for the country or the world. The missionaries must suffer for the hatred against foreigners, the unprotected positions of many of them making them specially subject to attack.

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THE BELGIAN ASSASSIN.

The young Belgian miscreant who attempted the life of the Prince of Wales has been very tenderly dealt with. He has been sentenced to a Reformatory till he becomes twenty-one years of age. It is not surprising that the English papers characterize the trial and sentence as farcial. The Belgian feeling towards Britain finds expression in this practical justification of the attempted assassination of the heir to the British throne. It is people of the stripe of the would-be-assassin and those who justify his crime, that the immigration authorities of Canada are endeavouring to bring to this country. It is to be hoped that Canada will be saved from the curse of having such creatures added to its population.

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THE DEMOCRATS.

The Democratic Convention was held in Kansas City, Mo., last week. The Convention opened on "the fourth," and that day was given up principally to patriotic demonstrations. On Thursday the platform of the party was announced. It opposes imperialism, militarism and trusts and specially declares for the free coinage of silver at the ratio of 16 to 1. Following the adoption of the platform came the nomination of William Jennings Bryan for the party's candidate for President. The nomination was unanimous, no other name being mentioned—and amidst the greatest enthusiasm. The candidate for Vice President is Adlai E. Stevenson, who was Vice President during Cleveland's first term.

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THE DOMINION ALLIANCE.

The Council of the Dominion Alliance is called to meet in Toronto on Wednesday, 18th inst. It is hoped that every Province in the Dominion will be represented; and the meeting is expected to be one of unusual interest and importance. The prohibition movement is just now at a critical point, and much wisdom and counsel are needed in determining the line of action to be pursued. All compromise proposals should be pushed aside, and the prohibition forces be rallied for a new and strong forward movement for national prohibition.

REV. THOMAS CONNOR.

A second time this year death has come to the ministry of the New Brunswick Free Baptist Conference. First Rev. E. B. Gray went home. Now Rev. Thos. Connor has answered the call, and has joyously entered "his home on high." Next to Rev. James Noble, bro. Connor was the oldest minister in the Conference, being in his 84th year when he died. Unlike bro. Noble, who is yet able to do a good degree of work, bro. Connor has not been able for several years to engage in the active duties of the ministry. The enforced idleness was distasteful to him, for he loved the work in which he had spent so many years. Yet he submitted with a good degree of patience, and longed chiefly—since he must cease from labouring—to enter into the rest and joy of the eternal home.

His labour in the early years of his ministry was principally in the western part of Kings Co. (where he was born, converted and where he began preaching) and in Queens and Sunbury Counties. Thirty or more years ago he moved to Woodstock, since which time his ministry was almost exclusively in Carleton County and the upper part of York County. In the earlier years of his ministry he was very successful in revival work. Indeed, up to the time when he had to relinquish work he was much at home and skilful in evangelistic meetings. He never was happier than when in the midst of a revival.

When he entered the ministry less importance was attached to special training for the ministry than now. He came greatly to regret that he had not "a better fitting," as he called it, for the great work. Often we have heard him say,—"The brethren should have been more faithful with me; instead of ordaining me when they did, they should have advised me to spend some time in preparing for the ministry. It would, probably, have hurt my feelings at the time, but it would have been the best thing for me." But with good natural ability, he set himself diligently to work, and was for a number of years a successful labourer in the vineyard. He was a man of one book—the Bible. He studied it with diligence, and prayerfully; and his knowledge of it was quite remarkable. His christian experience was deep and tender and very assuring. His talk of things spiritual was not as of things far-off and mystical, but as of things in the experiences of every day life, and most real. He was glad to put off mortality. Frequently he expressed anxiety to be freed from the earth life. In a serious illness of some years ago he had such experiences of the divine presence, and such views of the heavenly home that he was disappointed when he came back from "the verge gates of the holy city," as he was wont to express it. He never ceased to long to enter in, and be "forever with the Lord." And now he is satisfied.

He was married three times, his last wife being a daughter of Rev. T. S. VanWart, who survives him, as do a son and two daughters—a child of each marriage. To the bereaved the sympathy of his and their friends will be given. He had many friends, for he was a large-hearted man who made friends, and kept them. His brethren loved him, as he did them, and at Conference and elsewhere they will miss his hearty cheerfulness.

Rev. C. T. Phillips was his near neighbour and confidential friend for many years, and his pastor during the years that he was not able to engage in the active work of the ministry. He is better able than any other to speak of our deceased brother. We are glad to have from him the following appreciation: