

TERMS AND NOTICES.

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Religious Intelligencer.

Rev. JOSEPH McLeod, D.D., ... EDITOR.

WEDNESDAY, OCT. 2ND, 1901.

There is no failure in christian work, said the late bishop Whipple. The only failure is in not doing it.

Pastors who put the religious paper into the homes of their people are introducing what will be a helper in all their work. Try it, brethren.

Roman Catholic leaders object to public schools because, as they say, they are "godless schools"—that no religion is taught in them. The schools which they control are supposed to teach religion and morality. And yet, of those engaged in disreputable businesses—rum-selling and the like, and the criminals of the country, Roman Catholics furnish a larger proportion than Protestants.

There are men who never declare themselves on a question, even a moral question, till they discover which way the majority is likely to be. While there is any doubt about the majority they maintain an appearance of neutrality. So soon as they think they know which way the crowd is going they are very pronounced on that side. Perhaps they cannot help it—poor things.

The Romanizing party in the Episcopal Church in California is about to issue a weekly paper, the avowed purpose of which is "to counteract and kill Protestantism in the Episcopal Church." This is the constant endeavour of the Roman element in the church, though it is not often so plainly declared. The stalwart Protestantism of the church, should quickly put out the Romanizers.

Only two or three weeks before he had to assume the Presidency, President Roosevelt was preaching to young men in a Chicago church. "Be ye doers of the word, and not hearers only," was his text. He pressed upon his hearers the importance and value of being practical christians. He said it was "a shame for one professing to be a christian to fail of an honest effort to do all that the Bible enjoins." It is good to have the teachers of such truth in high and influential places.

Rev. Dr. Bickford who will retire from the editorship of the Morning Star at the end of this month, will, we hear, become the chief editor of "Current History," a magazine published in Boston. It is now in its eleventh year, and has a circulation over the whole country. Dr. Bickford, who will begin his new duties in November, will bring to his new position a well trained mind and large editorial experience, and may be depended on to do excellent work. We wish him much success.

There is much that is pleasant about an editor's work. There are, of course, some unpleasant things—as in all kinds of work. One of the hard things—the very hardest, we think, in an editor's experience is the knowledge, which comes to him more and more clearly, that to serve his constituency faithfully and to ring true on questions of righteousness he must sacrifice valued friendships and cut the closest personal ties, and be misunderstood by those whose worth he recognizes and whose reasons for hostility to himself he fully understands.

Dr. Henson says a wise word when he says that it is not the higher critics who are destroying the influence of the Church, so much as the lower living christians. The fog of higher

criticism is not dissipated by firing great guns at it. That only adds to the fog the smoke of the powder. The only way to dissipate the fog is by the sunbeams of christian living. The preacher may wear himself out preaching the evidences of Christianity, and some cross-grained representative of Christianity in the pews will spoil the whole inside of ten minutes after the preacher gets through.

PRAY FOR CONFERENCE.

This week the New Brunswick Conference will meet in annual session. It is hoped there will be a full attendance of the members—both ministers and lay delegates; and that they will attend with a purpose to remain till the work of the session is done.

Not alone those who will attend are interested in the proceedings of Conference. They are simply the representatives of the many thousands who think with interest, and many of them with deep concern, of the Conference and the things done by it. Though at home, they may show their interest in the life and work of the denomination by their earnest prayers for the Lord's presence in the Conference, and for His guidance of all the members in their dealing with matters touching the welfare of the cause. There should be, in all the churches and in all the homes of our people much and fervent praying for the Conference. Do not fail to pray, brethren.

the pastor who gathers and feeds and leads the Master's flock.

In the first place, he is in a close and covetable partnership with the Lord Jesus Christ. His work is on the same lines with Him who came to reveal the mind of God to sinning and suffering humanity, and to "seek and to save the lost." Christ's great commission to the band of men who were in the most intimate relations to Himself was, "As ye go, preach!" They were to be His witnesses, His representatives, His heralds and His ambassadors; and that is the very same commission given to-day to every man whom He calls into His ministry. If you ask me, "What is a call to the ministry?" I would answer that it is both the ability and the intense desire, with God's help, to preach the Gospel of salvation in such a way that people will listen to you.

In addition to the joy and honor of a peculiar partnership with the incarnate Son of God, every true minister is, in the best sense of the word a successor of the Apostles. Although without their infallible inspiration and miraculous gifts, yet, like them, the faithful minister is the ambassador of the Lord Jesus. The greatest of the Apostles, in addressing his spiritual children at Thessalonica, exclaims, "What is our hope or joy or crown of rejoicing? Are not even ye in the presence of our Lord Jesus Christ at His coming? For ye are our glory and joy." Rising above his poverty, his homelessness and his persecutions, the old hero reaches out and grasps his royal diadem. It is a crown blazing with stars—every star an immortal soul plucked from the darkness of sin into the light and liberty of a child of God and an heir of heaven! Poor, he is making many rich; he would not change place with Caesar. My young brother, when you are frightened away by foolish fears, or drawn away by worldly ambitions from the Gospel ministry, have you ever thought what an apostolic companionship you are despoiling? Have you thought of what a joy and crown of rejoicing you are flinging away?

Think, too, of the glorious themes and the sublime studies that will occupy your mind as a minister of God's Word. Is human science elevating? How much more is the science of Almighty God and of man's redemption, and of the unseen realities of eternity? Your themes of constant study will be the themes that inspired the mighty Luther and Wesleys and Pascals and Chalmers; you will be nurturing your soul amid those pages where John Milton fed, and amid the scenes that taught Bunyan his matchless allegory, and Jeremy Taylor his heart-like melodies. Every nugget of fresh truth you discover will make you happier than one who has found golden spoil. The study in which a devout pastor prays, and pores over God's Word, becomes an ante-chamber of the King, and he hears the cheering voice of the infinite love, "I am with you always."

If the high range of his studies and the preparation of his discourses are so stimulating to an earnest, soul-winning pastor, he finds even richer satisfactions in his pulpit, and in his labors among his flock and the surrounding community. John Bunyan voiced the feelings of such pastors when he said, "I have counted as if I had goodly buildings in the places where my spiritual children were born. My heart has been so wrapt up in this excellent work that I accounted myself more honored of God than if He had made me emperor of all the world or the lord of all the glory of the earth without it." "He that converteth a sinner from the error of his ways doth save a soul from death, and they that be wise shall shine as the brightness of the firmament." The young man who enters the ministry with this hunger for souls has "meat to eat that the world knows not of." His purse may be scanty, his parish may be obscure; difficulties and hard work may often bring him to his knees; but while his Master crowns his toils with blessings, he would not change places with a Rothschild or an Astor. Every attentive auditor is a delight; and when a returning and repentant soul is led by him to the Saviour, there is not only joy in heaven, but a joy in his own heart too deep for words. It is full measure, pressed down, running over.

Converted souls are jewels in the casquets of faithful pastors; they will flash in the diadem which the righteous Judge will give them in that great day. Even here in this world, it is far better "pay" than any salary for a pastor to be told, "that sermon of yours helped me," or "that one brought me to Christ." During my fifty-five years' ministry I have had an immense correspondence; but the letters that I embalm in lavender are those which express gratitude for a soul-converting sermon, or for words of uplifting consolation spoken either in the pulpit or

elsewhere. Happy the minister who is thus helped while he is helping others! He gets a small instalment of heaven in advance.

Far be it from me to pronounce the ministry a bed of roses or a hammock of luxury. A faithful, courageous pastor has trials, and not a few temptations; they often attest his fidelity, they sinew his faith and drive him closer to Christ. A whining minister is a disgrace to his calling and an abomination to the Lord. The man who finds that he has mistaken his calling ought to demit the ministry at once. If the ministry were "weeded" tomorrow it would be the stronger.

I do not assert that every able and godly young man in our schools and colleges should enter a pulpit. There are many who can serve their Master and their country more effectively in some other sphere. It is equally true that the only occupation that is not overdone in America is the occupation of serving Christ and saving souls.

The only profession that is not overcrowded is the "guild" of good, clear-headed, conscientious, industrious, Christ-loving ministers. Not one such is likely to go begging for a place. They are in demand.

If there may be some in the pulpit who ought to be out of it, there are many out of it who ought to have gone into it. This decrease of candidates for the pulpit is a bad symptom; it shows that the thermometer is falling in the churches. It shows that ambition for money making and worldly honors is slicing the heart of God's church and drawing much of its best talent into these greedy outlets. Unless this depletion of the ministry is checked, a woe will be pronounced upon the churches, and a Gospel famine will be the penalty. My purpose in this plain article is not only to send a halting word of good cheer to the thousands of faithful shepherds of Christ's flocks. It is to hang before Christian young men in our schools and colleges these two questions: Have I the necessary gifts, mental, physical and spiritual, for the Gospel ministry? If so, can I afford to rob my Master of the service and myself of its joys?

POLITICAL NEWS.—The Nova Scotia elections take place on Wednesday of this week. Two Counties—Yarmouth and Antigonish, returned government supporters (4) by acclamation.

Mr. R. R. Ritchie, has been appointed Sheriff of St. John.

Mr. Fortin M. P. has been appointed judge of the Superior Court of Montreal.

The foreshadowed changes in portfolios has not taken place. Mr. Sutherland, though, is acting Minister of Marine and Fisheries since the retirement of Sir Louis Davies.

There are now ten vacancies in the House of Commons—4 for Quebec, 3 for Ontario, and one each for Manitoba, P. E. Island and New Brunswick. La Patrie, Mr. Tarte's paper, intimates that the elections will all be held at one time in December.

HOME RELIGIOUS NEWS.

—Rev. H. H. Roach, of Annapolis, N. S., has accepted a call to the Tabernacle Baptist church, St. John.

—The Synod of the Presbyterian Church of the Maritime Provinces is in session in St. John this week.

—The Provincial Sunday School Convention will meet in this city on Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday of next week.

HEARD FROM.—A Constantinople despatch of Thursday says that Miss Helen H. Stone, the American missionary who was carried off by brigands has been heard from. The letter does not reveal the whereabouts of Miss Stone, but says she is in good health and has been well treated by the brigands, especially in the earlier stages of the abduction. Latterly, in consequence of the vigorous pursuit of Turkish troops, she has been subjected to privations. Miss Stone adds that the brigands demand a ransom of 25,000 Turkish pounds.

HOW HE FEELS.—A young man, away from home, writes:—"For some time I have been without the INTELLIGENCER. Please send it to me. I find it very hard to keep in touch with the church of which I am a member without it."

"A HOLY BRICK."—The Italian steamship Regina Margherita, lately arrived at Buenos Ayres from Italy, has brought one of the most extraordinary parcels that has ever appeared in the manifest of any vessel—that is, a holy brick. It was declared to be holy because it was taken from the Holy Gate in the Vatican. The parcel was forwarded by the Pope to Argentina as a mark of special distinction.

NOTES ON CURRENT EVENTS.

DRINK DID IT.

The investigation into the loss of the Str. "Islander," by which so many lives were lost a few weeks ago, has shown that the Captain and the pilot were both intoxicated. Another tragedy to be charged to the deadly drink traffic and drink habit.

TO BE EXECUTED.

"Guilty of murder in the first degree," was the verdict of the jury in the case of Leon F. Czokosz, who shot President McKinley. The trial only took eight or nine hours. The wretched creature made no attempt at defence. He was sentenced to be electrocuted during the week beginning Oct 28th.

ANTI-TAMMANY.

The mayor of New York has a four years term. The first mayor of Greater New York is nearing the end of his term. It has been four years of Tammany rule, which means that everything bad that men wished to do they were permitted to do—for a consideration. Recent investigations have revealed such a system of wholesale corruption that honest men in both political parties are combining in an attempt to overthrow Tammany rule. A combination list of candidates for city offices has been agreed upon, and a most determined fight is being made to purify city affairs. Dr. Seth Low is the reform candidate for mayor. Let us hope that the reform movement will succeed. It surely will if the decent men in both parties stand together.

BUTTER IN BRITAIN.

British consumption of butter has, the Mail and Empire tells us, reached 260,000 tons a year. Of this the United Kingdom supplies 85,000 tons, leaving a deficiency of 175,000 tons to be made up by importations. Foreign nations send in 140,000 tons, and British colonies furnish 32,000. Among the principal foreign countries to sell butter in England are France and Holland, and these are the people who would suffer if a preferential rate were established on British-made butter. At present they have a free market in Great Britain, and are ungrateful for it. In return for the favor, they shut British goods out of their own markets and conspire against the Empire.

ATROCITIES.

An account of diabolical cruelty comes from the Congo Free State. Two Europeans, Ewbank and Wery, are involved. The former is charged with murdering a black chief because he had not saluted him with sufficient servility. Then the two white men ordered the women of the village to dance. They were reluctant on the ground that they must first mourn for their dead chief. An attack was forthwith made upon them, and twenty-seven women and some children were taken prisoners. The helpless and huddled group of women were deliberately fired upon, and twenty-two were killed. Next day, for amusement, a woman and her baby were shot at and both killed. For this incredible brutality the two men were put on trial and sentenced to fifteen years' hard labour. On an appeal and revision of the case, Ewbank was condemned to penal servitude for life and Wery's sentence was reduced to five years' imprisonment.

CHINA.

Sir Claude Macdonald, who was British Minister to China during the recent troubles there, and who was in command of the troops in Pekin during the Siege of the Legations by the Boxers, is now in Canada on his way from England to Japan. His opinion of Chinese affairs is the opinion of one who thoroughly understands the situation. In an interview in Montreal he said that British prestige had been in no way diminished by the events in China. England's policy in the Far East has been throughout the recent trouble in China directed to protecting her trade interests, with which nothing would be allowed to interfere. In this respect her policy will remain unchanged. Territory grabbing she is content to leave to Russia and Japan, in so far as they are able to do it. England controls the trade of the Yang-Tse Valley to a far greater extent than is generally known. Whatever success will attend France's efforts to obtain a damaging judgment cannot be foretold, but a guess that it will not amount to much might not be far wrong. Referring to China and the recent rising he said: "China has received a severe lesson. Just at present she is feeling whipped and sullen, and the effect of the lesson is not yet very apparent. I do not think that such a

rising as occurred in Pekin last

will occur again during the lives of present generation. True, you never tell what will happen in China next; it is a most extraordinary country. One thing is certain, the strength of China is simply incalculable. When it is developed, as it is every reason to believe it will, China will be no longer the butt of civilized people. What nation or combination of nations could stand against a country with a population of five hundred million souls whose fighting strength has been developed? It is a mistake to think the Chinese are poor fighters. They are, on the contrary, excellent fighters when drilled and officered. Evidence of this was given by a native regiment commanded by English officers, who in the fighting round Pekin, sailed in their fellow-countrymen and fought in brilliant fashion. One day they may have hordes of these men drilled, well armed, and well officered. With the Western nations it will then be a case of stand from under."

THE ROYAL VISITORS.

The Duke and Duchess of York left Ottawa on Tuesday last week for their west. All along the way there were demonstrations of welcome to the Royal visitors. At Winnipeg, Regina and other principal places there were fine displays.

A mink cape, the gift of the ladies of Ottawa was presented to the Duchess by Lady Mint.

The women of Toronto have decided to give the Duchess of Cornwall \$1,350 writing desk of Canadian materials.

In the welcome to the Duke and Duchess of Cornwall and York at Halifax, 6,000 children will be massed at St. Paul's Hill and will sing when the procession passes along.

As now arranged—and it is hoped this is the final arrangement—the Royal party will arrive in St. John on the 17th Oct., and remain on the evening of the 18th.

It is stated that on the return of the Duke of York from his Canadian tour he will be made Prince of Wales. President McKinley's estate amounted to about \$250,000, all of which he left to his wife. The will was made three or four years ago, and it stipulated that \$1000 a year should be given to his mother, who has died since Congress is likely to make the same liberal provision for Mrs. McKinley that it did for Mrs. Garfield, after President Garfield's assassination. Mrs. Garfield received her husband's salary for the rest of the year, a pension of \$5,000 a year for life, and the franking privilege, by which she can use the mails without payment of postage. During the year 382,000 pieces of mail matter addressed to British soldiers in South Africa were returned undeliverable.

It is now said that Mrs. Kruger intends to make an appeal to President Roosevelt.

The Boston Herald thinks that eternal fitness of things is evident every now and then. The Jackson (Mich.) citizen who supervised the execution of the death sentence upon Mrs. Surratt, Payne, Harold Atzerodt, conspirators in the assassination of President Lincoln, and wishes to act in the same capacity in the case of Czokosz, is, appropriately enough, named Christian Rath.

An important edict was issued by the Emperor of China on Sept. 17th commanding all viceroys and governors to select the best students in every province and send them to foreign countries to study politics and science. This is a renewal of the plan begun by Yung Wing thirty years ago.

How Not To Do It.—Says the National Baptist: In writing for the paper, please always leave out all letters possible. The editor has nothing to do, and it does him good to see his time writing out the words in full for the printer. Please to write that "Rev. Brown has been called to Zion ch. The ch has many good brn & str th ho is large; th cong is fair; th salary is a hundred \$ pr mo and donn ea yr. His serm rddrd to th yng was xclt. Th past and fam hve gone to th mts fr a fw wks."

This is a large assortment of societies in our churches nowadays, and no one denies that they are doing real good. But here's a word for the old saints—and some of them are not so old either—who never signed a pledge, never held an office, never served on a committee, and never spoke in a meeting. These quiet and commonplace folks are nevertheless bulwarks of the kingdom. They love the church, they read God's Word (and do not tell from the housepets that they have done so), the angels see them much of their knees in secret, and they abound in unostentatious good works. Their names are not on many societies' rolls, but they are on the books above.—The Interior.]