

TERMS AND NOTICES.

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Religious Intelligence.

REV. JOSEPH McLEOD, D.D., EDITOR

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 16TH, 1902.

The preacher's message should be delivered simply, directly and reverently.

Many churches, some of them very fine structures, are being built in Austria as the result of the "Away from Rome" movement.

The Mormons make many converts in Denmark. They have grown so bold that they distribute their literature in the churches.

Miss Stone, the missionary so many months in captivity, reached her home in Chelsea, Mass., last Thursday. She is in very good health, except some nervousness due to the severe strain she endured for so long.

A Quarterly meeting of a religious denomination in Wisconsin at a recent session actually passed a resolution appealing to its churches to refuse to allow any representative of the Woman's Missionary Society to organize work amongst them.

Ministers in some places have combined in feeble efforts to discourage Sunday funerals. Very small success has attended the attempts.

The custom of praising the dead at funerals is responsible for much of the indifference with which the preaching of the gospel is received.

FAILURES IN PREACHING

In the current number of the Homiletic Review Dr. Gregory deals with failures in preaching even when the truth is faithfully preached.

Success in the ministry, Dr. Ganssauls says, is not to be measured in apparent results. God Almighty takes our loaves and fishes which are so few, and, through the hands of the Christ we would serve they feed the multitude.

While the gain of Protestantism in several parts of Europe is attracting attention, it is also worthy of note that Roman Catholicism is gaining rapidly in the capital of the German Empire.

reckoned at 187,886 persons—that is, more than one-tenth of the total population. Another remarkable fact about them is their extraordinary energy.

The story of how a Presbyterian church became extinct is told by the United Presbyterian. It was organized in a newly settled district. The people were struggling to make their homes and had not much means.

There are churches amongst us that are weak because they allow themselves to be dependent when they ought to be self-supporting.

Rev. T. DeWitt Talmage D. D. died in Washington Saturday night. He had been in poor health several weeks, having recently returned from New Mexico because too ill to fill speaking engagements.

The answers to this question ought to be full of light to many a man who is sorrowful in soul because of sad failure to reach men. It goes with the saying that it requires that the preacher should himself master the themes and truths that he presents.

The man in the pulpit has the Bible, and his message is the Gospel salvation. His function is—with the aid of the Holy Spirit—to secure the embodiment of that message with its salvation in the lives of his hearers.

This failure to reach men is undoubtedly the first and most common cause of the early passing of the dead—by so many able and honest and earnest men in the ministry.

preaching. If the message fails to reach, of course it can not grip; or if it fails to grip the man, that is uttermost failure.

Observation has convinced the writer that the ministry of many a man, the matter of whose message was orthodox, the drift of whose purpose was right, and whose tone and manner were indicative of much earnestness, has come to grief, and he himself to agony of soul.

The topic is thus seen to be one of vital moment, and the writer devotes his best efforts to the enforcement of the points he makes.

Success in the pulpit demands, humanly speaking, that the preacher shall put his message into the mind of every hearer with the clearness, if possible, with which it lies in his own mind.

This should be an overwhelming conviction with the man in the pulpit. He is there, not to exhibit profundity, nor to minister to literary or esthetic culture, nor for lecturing on abstruse themes to students or professors on theology or philosophy or literature or art.

The last and lowest man, who is essential to complete the "every" for whom the preacher is responsible, must be made the objective; and then comes the common-sense adaptation of the means to the end of reaching him with the message.

If the preacher would reach men he must master the character, the needs, the point of view, the thinking, and the language of the average man and of that last man in his audience.

In a sense, the preacher is called upon to preach to every man "in his own tongue." To do this it may require a radical change in the preparation of his sermons and in his notions of thinking and of the aim of preaching.

The Great Teacher is in this respect—as in so many others—the one safe and perfect model for those He has sent to teach men the way of life.

The points made suggest the price at which some of the ablest men in the pulpit may save their ministry from wreck, and put away Paul's dread of becoming "castasides," the dread of the ministerial dead-line.

The transfer of the negotiations to Pretoria, where both Lord Kitchener and Lord Milner, the British high commissioner in South Africa, are at present, is interpreted by the London Monday papers as meaning that the Boers are prepared to make formal peace proposals.

Peace negotiations are understood to have been going on the past week. On Thursday, in answer to inquiries, the War Secretary stated in the British Commons that Schalk-Burger, Reitz, Lucas Meyer and Jacobs had been joined at Klerksdorp by General Botha and added that Steyn, De Wet, Delarey and three other members of the late Orange government arrived at the same place Tuesday.

Dr. DeWitt Talmage, the oldest son of former President Kruger and twenty-four other relatives of Mr. Kruger bearing the same family name, and living at Pretoria, are among those who have recently taken the oath of allegiance to Great Britain.

Over 2000 Boers are fighting in the British ranks and are found useful. General Kritzinger has been acquitted of the charge of murder and is now held as a prisoner of war.

cause of the early passing of the dead—by so many able and honest and earnest men in the ministry.

But supreme success in the pulpit demands that the preacher shall not only reach his hearers with his message planting the vital truth in the mind, but also that he shall grip them with that truth by fastening it to the controlling practical ideas in the man.

Is it asked: What are these ideas? In their Biblical and Christian forms these practical ideas, as they present themselves for the preacher's use, are all summed up in Christ as the Divine Savior.

It is easy to see why many a thoughtful and scholarly preacher gets no spiritual grip upon his hearers. He takes some concrete Scripture teaching and, leaving out the central figure of the Cross, he acutely and ably draws from it an abstract proposition as his theme.

The preacher has got to get out of that kind of so-called preaching, if he is ever to reach and grip men. He needs to keep to the Cross and to the concrete, if his message is to lay mighty hold upon his hearers.

In preaching on sin, he is not to dwell upon it in the abstract, nor to puzzle his auditors over its origin, nor to inveigh against it as crime or vice, nor to censure it as godlessness simply, but to press it home as supremely the personal unbelief of the man just before him in Christ, in whom is summed up all the grace and glory of God.

A Calais, Maine, minister, presumably a United States citizen, has been authorized to solemnize marriage in New Brunswick. It required an Act of Provincial Legislature to do it.

The vegetables for the Royal party when in St. John cost \$15.40; the grog cost \$645.96. The rum-seller is forty-three times as important as the vegetable dealer, in the judgment of the powers that be; he is supposed to be that much more valuable as a vote controlling influence.

About twenty of the Canadian teachers for South Africa sailed from Halifax by "The Corinthian" on Monday. The others, including those from New Brunswick are to sail from St. John by the "Lake Ontario" on Friday of this week.

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NOTES ON CURRENT EVENTS.

DRINKING WOMEN.

The drink-habit is increasing among the women of England. Not any one class, but women of all classes are amongst those who are yielding to the drink temptations.

WHAT IT COST.

The Minister of Agriculture stated, in reply to a question, that the census in 1881 had involved an outlay of \$456,904; that in 1891, an outlay of \$570,115, while the census of 1901 has cost to date \$986,296.

It has cost enough to be fairly correct. And yet there are most inexcusable inaccuracies, the one which wipes out 10,000 Free Baptists in New Brunswick for instance.

WHO DRANK IT!

In the itemized account of the expenditure by the Provincial Government during the visit of the Duke of Cornwall \$645.96 is put down as paid to M. A. Finn for wines and other liquors. The Duke and his party were in the Province about twenty-four hours. Who drank the grog?

A REPEAL MOVEMENT.

In Cape Breton there is a movement to bring about the repeal of the Canada Temperance Act. Petitions to have an election for repeal are being signed. Roman Catholics seem particularly active in the movement for repeal.

SPECIAL LEGISLATION.

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FOURTY-THREE TO ONE.

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THE TEACHERS.

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PEACE TALK.

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THE FUNERAL.

On Thursday the body of Cecil Rhodes was committed to the burial place in the Matoppo Hill, chosen by himself. The funeral procession which wound its way through the hills and gorges was five miles long.

SOUTH AFRICA.

Casper Kruger, the eldest son of former President Kruger and twenty-four other relatives of Mr. Kruger bearing the same family name, and living at Pretoria, are among those who have recently taken the oath of allegiance to Great Britain.

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The next Canadian contingent for Africa will be mobilized at Halifax. Recruiting will commence on the 18th. Rates of pay will be the same as in the Second Mounted Rifles.

It was announced in the British Parliament a few days ago that all the papers and dispatches relating to the Spion Kop engagement would be published.

The differences between the C. P. R. and the trackmen are to be settled by arbitration.

The British Admiralty has sent out a cruiser to search the North Atlantic for the missing Str. Huronian, which left Glasgow Feb 11th, for St. John.

The rebellion that has been in progress in Southern China for the past three months has recently been assuming more formidable proportions, and is spreading over the three provinces of Kwang-si, Quang tung, and Yunnan.

Sir Henry Strong, Chief Justice of the Supreme Court of Canada, is to retire very soon.

McGill University has opened an office in London, where students may take the entrance examinations.

Rev. Edwin C. Sweester, pastor of a Universalist church in Philadelphia, has been asked to resign, for praying for Czolgosz, the murderer of President McKinley and refusing to pray for the president.

PERSONAL—Prof. Davidson, of the University N. B., has been given year's leave of absence, to take effect at the end of the present term.

Says The Messenger & Visitor: "Among the lady teachers who are going from these Provinces to pursue the work of their profession under the direction of the British Government in South Africa is Miss Ida E. McLeod, daughter of Rev. Dr. McLeod of Fredericton, and Miss Ella D. Crandall, daughter of Rev. D. W. C. Randall, of Waltham, N. S. Miss McLeod has been for four years teacher in French and German in Acadia Seminary and the highest esteem in which she is held both for her personal qualities and her work as a teacher finds expression in a letter from Principal DeWolfe, which appears elsewhere in this issue.

Principal DeWolfe's letter mentions above, says: Miss Ida E. McLeod, who has been for four years our teacher of French and German, has resigned to accept an appointment under the British Government as a teacher in South Africa. Miss McLeod left for her home in Fredericton on April 13th.

Miss McLeod will be greatly missed in the Seminary. A teacher of eminent ability, beloved by her pupils, honored by her Christian character, and to her new work the best wish and prayers of the entire school.

The Moncton Daily Times is an eight page paper, somewhat enlarged. It is evidently prosperous.