

RELIGIOUS INTELLIGENCER.

"THAT GOD IN ALL THINGS MAY BE GLORIFIED THROUGH JESUS CHRIST." -Peter.

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Editorial Outlook

POLITICAL NEWS.

Nominations have been made during the week as follows: F. H. Hale, Conservative, in Carleton Co.; R. O'Brien, and H. A. McKeown, Liberals, St. John. O. S. Crockett, Conservative, York Co.; F. W. Hanwright, Conservative, Hants Co., N. S.; H. J. Logan, Liberal, Cumberland Co., N. S.; James Reid, Liberal, Restigouche Co.; John Costigan, Liberal, Victoria Co.; Dr. Daniel and Dr. Stockton, Conservatives, St. John City and County; James Robinson, Conservative, and W. S. Loggie, Liberal, Northumberland Co.; N. Landry, Conservative, Gloucester Co.

EXPLORING SAHARA.

French engineers are now exploring the Desert of Sahara, locating and mapping the oasis by astronomical observation. About one-fortieth of the desert is believed to consist of fertile oases, and it is all-important that these be accurately located, so that a caravan can depend upon water and supplies. A recent expedition with seventy-five soldiers on fleet camels covered a distance of 1,300 miles in four months, taking accurate astronomical observations, and locating numerous points. Most of the oases were found to be wrongly located on old maps, which accounts for frequent failure to find them, and sometimes for the loss of caravans in the desert.

BRITISH CONTROL.

To those who may wonder how Tibet can be called a vassal of Great Britain while the suzerainty of China remains intact, it may be remarked that such anomalies are not now in the modern world. This particular anomaly is not greater than, if so great as, the position of Egypt, which nominally remains a part of the Turkish Empire owning the Sultan's supremacy, but is at present governed by an hereditary Viceroy under the control of Great Britain. The Khedive made a feeble attempt some years ago to assert his independence of that control, but was soon persuaded that it would be foolish to persist. And no greater blessing could come to Egypt than British control. And so Tibet will find, too.

CONGO HORRORS.

It is well that the attention of the government of civilized countries has been drawn to the atrocities practised upon the unfortunate people of the Congo. Belgium has control there, and evidently uses its sovereign power in the most cruel manner. The state of Congo has a territory of more than a million square miles, and a population of more than 20,000,000. The recog-

niton of King Leopold as sovereign was intended for guardianship of the natives, but it has been used for the exploitation of the country's resources by white adventurers, whose treatment of the people has been described as "worse than inhuman, it is positively devilish." Missionaries and others, cognizant of the facts, have made such representations that England is stirred with indignation at the cruel oppression of the natives, and has remonstrated. Representations of the state of things has, also, been made to the United States. It is high time that all Christian governments unite to stop the horrors that are being endured by the poor, defenceless people.

THE WAR.

With considerable flourish of trumpets Russia started in a few days ago to annihilate the Japanese in Manchuria. Gen. Kuropatkin announced that he was at last ready, that he had the forces he had been waiting and retreating for, and would begin to make war. He expected to eventually relieve Port Arthur. He moved against the enemy, but he has not yet accomplished their defeat. There has been desperate fighting, quite as fierce and deadly as that at Liao Yang, and the losses on both sides have been heavy, but as in previous battles the Japanese have shown their superiority. The Russian advance has been turned into another retreat. They have fallen back twenty miles. The Japs captured seventy guns. All accounts of the fighting south of Mukden appear to confirm the completeness of the Japanese victory, and the only question discussed by military critics is whether Gen. Kuropatkin will be able to make as orderly a retreat as he did from Liao Yang, or whether the Japanese possess sufficient fresh reserves to undertake a successful pursuit, in which latter case it is believed the Russians will be obliged to abandon Mukden.

Field Marshal Oyama estimates the Russian casualties at 30,000.

HOW THEY DO IT.

It is often stated that Roman Catholics are generous givers of money for the purposes of their church; and they are commended for their great devotion, as thus expressed. But there is another view of the matter that should not be overlooked. The offerings they make are not pure benevolence as many suppose. The *Journal and Messenger*, of Cincinnati, mentions a recent instance which illustrates the methods used to get money, and reveals the motives which actuate the givers. A Sunday was set apart for a collection in behalf of the orphans and destitute children, and, after calling the attention of the pastors and people to the demand for the money, the Archbishop of Cincinnati says to his people:

Renewing the indulgences granted during former years, the Holy Father grants an indulgence of seven years and seven quarantines to all who attend the public recitation on the stated days and pray according to the intention of the Holy See. He grants the same to all who, hindered by lawful cause from attending the public devotion, devoutly say the prayers in private. He also grants a plenary indulgence to all who assist at the public devotion ten times and go to confession and receive Holy Communion; and the same to those who, hindered as above, say the prayers in private. Finally, this full and plenary remission of penalties he extends to all who on the feast of the Holy Rosary, or on any day within the octave, approach the sacraments and spend some time in any church or oratory in prayer to God and to his Blessed Mother according to the intentions of the Holy Father.

Thus it appears that any person contributing as above is to have seven years and two hundred and eighty days cut off from the time which he would otherwise spend in purgatory. That is a large inducement. And the same argument is used in almost every case when money is called for.

BRIEF MENTION.

Major Archibald, of the Salvation Army, has been appointed commissioner of paroled and discharged prisoners by the Dominion Government.

Four thousand voters were added to the Ontario lists by the recent revision.

Mr. Chauncey M. Depew, president of the New York Central Railroad, is authority for the statement that within ten years all the leading railroads will be using electricity for their motive power.

It is expected that ere long a railway will connect Damascus with Mecca. The thousands of pilgrims will then travel by rail.

A. B. Simpson raised nearly \$70,000 in cash and pledges in his New York Tabernacle, Sunday. He preached his annual missionary sermon.

Lord Milner has resigned the High Commissionerhip of South Africa on account of ill-health. The resignation will not take effect for some time.

It is in contemplation to bring on a vote for the adoption of the Canada Temperance Act in St. John. It has not yet been fully decided.

The Anglican Synod, meeting in Montreal last week, passed a resolution pledging itself to do everything possible to help close the rumshops throughout the Dominion.

ACADIA COLLEGE. — Acadia College, opening last week, was highly encouraging. The registration of new students was sixty on opening day, and others are expected. The Freshman class numbers fifty. There are, also, special students. There is a large increase, too, in both the Academy and the Ladies' Seminary. This promises to be the best year in the history of the institutions.

What Others Say.

A VOTER'S RESPONSIBILITY.

Remember this, that every one of you upon election day is for the moment of voting the chief magistrate of the nation in the act of delivering his message to the law-making authority. You may not get what you want; you may see at the time no chance to get it, but you must speak your own highest thought then and there, or dip your colors to the ascendancy of human meanness. — *John G. Woolley.*

CONSCIENCE NEEDED.

A quickened conscience as to our individual responsibility in public affairs is very much needed. It is in that way alone that we may hope for the evolution of a higher type of politician, and the adoption of higher political standards. For, after all, the percentage of people who would desire crooked work for party ends, or who would become parties to such abominations as have been recently revealed, is very small indeed. — *Chris. Guardian.*

CHURCH LETTERS.

It cannot be too strongly impressed upon the members of the church that when they are moving to another part of the country they should secure a certificate of membership before leaving, and ministers should be alert enough to look after those who are removing, so as to give them certificates, and if the destination of the parties is known, duplicates or letters should be sent to the minister at those places. If care was shown in this matter, we should not lose so many of our people by drifting away. Church members are to blame when they do not ask the minister for their certificates, and ministers are at fault if they do not look after those folks and follow them. — *The Wesleyan.*

IMITATORS.

We are such a race of imitators. We want to do what we see others doing; we want to go where others are going; we buy what others buy; we wear what others wear; we eat what others eat; we use the idiom our neighbors use; If Mrs. Jones says "Noo Yawk," Mrs. Smith suddenly discovers that "Noo Yawk" is the proper pronunciation; and if Mr. Black talks about his fat "keows," Mr. White thinks it's milking time and sends his boy after the "keows." If Brown curls his mustache, Gray twists his into a wax-end. If Tom wears two rows of buttons on his vest, Jim's got to have his jacket made the same way; if some party leader calls out "Low bridge!" every last man in the party ducks his head. And if anyone makes any pretensions to independence of thought we commiseratingly say: "Isn't he odd?" And if he persists in holding opinions different from our own, or in doing things his own way, we have all sorts of sympathy for him: "It's a pity that he's such a crank." "Good fellow, but he's a fanatic and so impractical." — *United Presbyterian.*

W. C. T. U.—The Provincial W. C. T. U. met in annual session in Moncton last week. There was a good attendance. Encouraging reports were presented. There was an addition of 111 members during the year.