

TERMS AND NOTICES.

The RELIGIOUS INTELLIGENCER is issued on Wednesday, from the office of publication, York St. Fredericton, N. B.

Terms \$1.00 a year in advance. If not paid in advance the price is \$2.00 year.

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ALL COMMUNICATIONS, etc., should be addressed RELIGIOUS INTELLIGENCER Box 884, Fredericton, N. B.

Religious Intelligencer.

Rev. JOSEPH McLEOD, D. D., EDITOR.

WEDNESDAY, Nov. 8th, 1899.

Where true piety is selfishness ceases to be.

Diminishing contributions to the Lord's treasury are a sign of decaying spirituality in the churches.

Churches in which there are unrepentant would soon get rid of the miserable things if they would go to work for the Lord. Try it.

The Home Mission Committee of the Presbyterian Church announces that forty more missionaries are urgently needed in the home field. Our Presbyterian brethren are pushing their work vigorously, and with a large degree of success.

It is the 'Free Baptist' of Minneapolis, which says that "pastors Free Baptist churches who take no interest in their denominational papers false to their church and creed." We think the statement is about correct. It would be a great pity if there were such preachers. Surely there are none.

Of the million dollar Century Fund the Presbyterians in Canada have undertaken to raise, five hundred and thirty-seven ministers have contributed \$56,400. If the other ministers do as well, more than one-tenth of the million will be contributed by the ministry. The whole Presbyterian church ought easily do nine times as much as the ministers.

The Jews think the treatment Kruger gives them is enough to justify Great Britain in its course towards the Transvaal. The Irish Roman Catholics, who receive the same treatment from Kruger as the Jews, are loud in expressions of sympathy with the Boers and denunciations of Great Britain. They hate England and everything English so bitterly that whoever and whatever is against England they love.

Dr. Joseph Parker makes an earnest plea for "a speaking church." The redeemed, he says, have been silent too long. We want a speaking church; we want a church of testimony. Every man can at all events relate his own experience, modestly and tenderly. A man may not be able to expound prophets and paraphrase sweet gospels so that a thousand men may listen to him with more or less interest, but every man can tell what he has seen and known and felt and handled of the Word of life.

The week of Prayer for young men, as suggested by the international committee of the Y. M. C. Associations, begins next Sunday, 12th inst. Such a week has been observed for several years, and has, doubtless, brought blessings to many young lives. Where there are Associations there will be daily meetings for prayer and Christian work. But where there are no associations Christians are urgently requested to observe the week by praying every day, for young Christians—that they may be faithful, and for the young who are not converted—that they may be brought at once to Jesus Christ. Ministers will do well to make next Sunday the occasion of special sermons to young men, and also to the churches regarding their duty towards young men.

Religious liberty seems to be becoming a reality in Portugal. The regulations which forbid ex-patriates to remain in the country, exclude Protestants from serving in the army, and prohibit Protestant worship in the streets, are a dead letter. Protestant services are well attended in Lisbon. Protestant schools are crowded, and a Government inspector has

publicly declared a Protestant school to be the best in the country. Many young men are seeking to enter the Protestant ministry. The middle-classes are taking interest in the Gospel. Persecution has ceased. It is declared that never again shall a Portuguese suffer for his religious convictions. Nevertheless, the Protestants must be on their guard. The regulations said to be a dead letter ought to be abolished. Otherwise it may be found some day that it was only a case of suspended animation.

The Jubilee missionary meeting of the "Disciples of Christ," held recently in Cincinnati, was a great gathering. There were about ten thousand present, representing not only all parts of the country but various quarters of the world. It was the celebration of the organization of a society in 1849 for the propagation of a home of their doctrines, and later (1882) for the prosecution of foreign mission work. Their growth in the United States has been steady and even rapid. They have now a church membership of more than a million, and in the foreign field they are prosecuting their work with earnestness and success. A summary of the reports presented shows that during the half century \$2,300,000 were expended for missions; 2,361 churches were organized, 98,560 persons were received into the churches by missionary workers. The most prosperous year of the fifty was last year, during which two new churches were organized every week, and 6,046 persons were received into the churches. The Missionary Board is steadily enlarging its work; in forty cities it is carrying on evangelization, and in thirty-six states it maintains missions. The contributions of the people are, of course, larger each year, and every branch of the church's activities is stimulated and blessed. Our brethren have found the secret of the nurture and development of spiritual life—the nearness to the Lord which believes and obeys the great commission.

Needed Reforms.

Looking back a half century, or even less time, and comparing the political and social condition of the world then with the present state of things, the changes are so marked that one might almost conclude that a needed reforms have already been effected. But examination into existing conditions shows that there is still much to be done in the direction of reforms that will still further alleviate and better the condition of the people. There is, always demanding first attention amongst moral reforms, the need of the overthrows of the liquor traffic. Whatever else may be done, so long as the legalized liquor traffic remains all moral and religious activities are neutralized to an alarming extent, and the country endures a superlative curse.

There are reforms needed in the interests of workmen. The constant unrest and dissatisfaction which prevail in all parts of the world show that something is out of joint. No doubt, there are demagogues and socialists who are not safe leaders. But this alone does not account for the universal dissatisfaction. Men may differ about the remedy, but there can be no question that some remedy is needed. The invention of machines that do the work of many men has changed the whole position of manual labor; and there is no provision in the methods of procedure between employer and laborer adapted to the altered condition of things. Some method is needed that will secure to the toiler a just share in the profits made by the partnership between labor and capital.

We need the Christian morality, that governs Christian men in private life, practised in business and political life. There are not two standards of moral duty. We need a social reform that shall break down the barriers between the rich and the poor, and practically recognize the brotherhood of all men. In a word, we want a reformation that will apply the principles of the religion of Christ to all departments of human life.

M.

POLITICAL NEWS.—Sir Charles Tupper has gone west to address a series of political meetings in the Territories and British Columbia.

A Liberal convention of Bothwell, O. C., last week, nominated Hon. David Mills as the party candidate at the next election. He formerly represented the County, but is now in the Senate.

Nova Scotia Conservatives have made the following nomination: Hon. A. R. Dickey in Cumberland; Dr. M. J. Colchester, Thomas Kenny and Mr. Borden, M. P., in Halifax; Mr. Gregory in Guysboro; M. G. Groulx in Antigonish.

War Notes.

The closing sentence in our war note of last week—"At this writing there is probably heavy fighting going on at Ladysmith"—turned out to be correct. And the result was somewhat disastrous to the British forces. Gen. White's report says he went out from Ladysmith to reconnoiter the Boers' main position, and, if possible, to capture a hill which had the previous day been held by the enemy. One part of his force, under Col. Carlton, was sent to seize Nicholson's Nek, and turn the enemy's right flank. The main advance was successfully carried out; but Col. Carlton's column suffered. They were surrounded in the hills, and after fighting till their ammunition was gone, the survivors, about 800, fell into the enemy's hands. The first news of the reverse caused a great shock in England and throughout the Empire. Fuller information showed the loss, while serious enough, to be less serious than first report, and such a reverse as might happen to any commander and troops. The British pride was touched, and there were dark and downcast looks. But this feeling was a thing of a few hours; it was followed quickly by an intense purpose to fight this fight to a finish—a successful finish.

It is easy for men, with no knowledge of the situation, to sit in quick and harsh judgment on General White. The less they know the more readily they denounce what they call blunders, and declare what ought to have been done. The fact is that the small British force in South Africa has done some remarkable fighting, showing great skill in the commanders and fine courage in the soldiers. When all is over it will be seen that the defensive fighting which is now being done, against tremendous odds, contributed largely to the success which is sure to attend the British arms. The officers and men who are now daring and enduring some of the severest things in war will in the final review be reckoned among the conspicuous heroes of the struggle.

The reverse at Ladysmith gave the enemies of Great Britain a chance to chuckle. French papers were not at all careful to disguise their great satisfaction that the British force had suffered. And, of course, they predict all sorts of later and greater disasters. A society has been formed in France to give assistance to the Boers, and it is said they are even enrolling volunteers.

About the Canadian contingent, the 'Freeman's Journal,' of Dublin, a violent anti-British sheet, says:

"The wild whoops of the English press regarding the support given by Canada to the British arms will probably prove to have been premature. No judicious reader can reflect on the message from the dominion and fail to note the unwillingness of Sir Wilfrid Laurier to encourage the jingo movement. The thousand Canadians now on their way to South Africa have not left behind them the good will of a Canadian nation."

That is the way a Fenian sheet views what has been going on in Canada these late weeks. About one thing, at least, it is woefully mistaken, viz about the feeling of the Canadian people towards the thousand of their fellow citizens now on the way to the seat of war. Canada is proud of her brave sons. Only a few Fenians and those who are French rather than British have any other feeling.

Germany, evidently, has no intention of joining hands with France or any other enemy of Great Britain. The reason for refraining from interference may be wholly selfish, as it is likely to be in such cases, but it is well that the right thing is done even from the lowest motive. A Berlin paper says:

"Although Germans individually may disapprove of England's policy, the actions of the Emperor must be dictated by Germany's interests, which do not allow her to unnecessarily arouse bad feelings in England. It would be a great mistake to prejudice German interests in South Africa by a one-sided attitude, in view of the future re-organization of the political situation there. Moreover, the great sea power and the great land power have every reason to co-operate in union and harmony."

The Canadian regiment had a most enthusiastic send-off. When last heard from, at Farther Point, Que., they were in good spirits. They are likely to reach Africa in about four weeks from the time of starting, and will be in time to share in actual warfare.

The Governor-General, Lord Minto, in a speech on the departure of the Canadian volunteers said:

"Canada has freely made her offering of this military contingent to the Old Country, and in doing so has accepted the difficulties which she knows must follow. The people of Canada have no desire to consider the quibbles of colonial responsibility. What they have done is to insist that their

loyal offers should be made known, and they heartily rejoiced when they were graciously accepted."

The insurance of the Canadian soldiers which it was announced the government had decided upon was not effected. The plan was abandoned. Something else may take its place, though there is no definite announcement as to that. The insurance arranged for by Sir Charles Tupper remains.

Immediately the news came of the British reverse at Ladysmith, a feeling went throughout Canada that another regiment should be at once offered. This did not express a feeling that a thousand more Canadian soldiers were needed to enable Great Britain to defeat the Boers; it was simply an expression of the deep strong patriotism which is at its best when there are clouds in the sky of the country. From every part of the Dominion came offers of service; and it was made clear, that given the opportunity, there were thousands of men ready to bear arms in behalf of the empire.

The government voicing this feeling, communicated with the Imperial authorities, offering another thousand men.

In the event of a second contingent being sent; it is wisely suggested that "the political considerations," which had so much to do with appointment of officers in the first contingent, should not have weight, but that "military considerations alone should decide the selection." The Montreal Witness urges this point strongly. It is suggested, also, that the larger part of the force be taken from the permanent corps, including a considerable number of the N. W. Mounted Police.

Newfoundland is anxious to contribute to the British force in South Africa. It is understood that the government of that colony proposes to form a company out of the Colonial police, a semi-military body, well drilled and ready for service. It is suggested that this company go with the next Canadian corps.

The situation at this writing, so far as it can be gleaned from the mixture of facts and conjectures which make up the telegrams, is about this:

Ladysmith has been a state of siege for several days; the Boers have it well surrounded. There have been reports from Amsterdam and Berlin that General White had been compelled to capitulate. There is no official confirmation of such reports. In English military circles there is a belief that Gen. White can stand a heavy attack, and it is hoped he can hold out till relieved.

A Sunday despatch from Gen. Buller, at Capetown, says that on Thursday at Ladysmith there was an artillery duel, in which the Boers' guns were silenced. The object of Gen. White was the capture of a Boer camp behind Bester's Hill, which was well fortified. When the British artillery had silenced the Boer guns, the cavalry stormed the position. The Boers fled, leaving many dead and wounded as well as the whole camp and equipment in the hands of the British.

Colenso, a small place twenty miles from Ladysmith, has fallen into the hands of the Boers. Kimberley was safe when last heard from, but an attack was expected.

The Boers have proclaimed their possession of nearly all the British territory in South Africa, except Cape Colony. Let us hope they may enjoy their brief possession by proclamation. Gen. Buller's plans are not announced, and are not likely to be. The first of the reinforcements are supposed to be arriving now, and by the end of the week a considerable force, it is expected, will have reached Africa.

Conference Sparks.

Instead of standing off from political questions, Christians should be in close touch with them.—C. T. PHILLIPS.

The church which only seeks to keep what it has will soon not be what it was.—G. E. FOSTER.

I thank God for growing Christian unity.—G. O. GATES.

Give India the Christ—the holy one, and the heathen will become the children of our Heavenly Father.—F. D. GEORGE.

The way gets brighter—thank God.—T. O. DEWITT.

The happiness experienced by the first disciples in the upper room is repeated in the experience of disciples now, for we have His presence.—W. PETERS.

It is my purpose to lift up Jesus.—D. PATTERSON.

This is the same good company we will have in heaven.—C. B. LEWIS.

God's people are a joyous people, and are sometimes noisy—they shout for joy.—G. M. WILSON.

Notes On Current Events.

November 28th is the date announced for voting on the question of the repeal of the Canada Temperance Act in Westmorland Co. A meeting of friends of the law to prepare for the campaign has been called. The time is short, and all who are interested in defeating the purpose of the rum men will need to bestir themselves.

Word comes from the west to the effect that the Northwest Territories may soon become a Province of the Dominion. The money now appropriated by the Dominion for territorial government is said to be wholly inadequate to meet the steadily increasing expenditure made necessary by the influx of population. The leader of the Northwest Legislature will soon, it is thought, test the electorate on the question of the territories becoming a Province.

General Fuston, of the United States army, who distinguished himself in the Philippines, has begun an action for criminal libel against Archbishop Ireland, of St. Paul, who is said to have charged the General with having looted Roman Catholic churches in the Philippines. He has, also, taken proceedings against the Monitor, a Roman Catholic paper in San Francisco, for having printed the story.

The Zionist movement seems to gain in adherence and influence. The late meeting of representative Zionists showed a growing enthusiasm. Much money has been raised to forward the settlement of the Jews in Palestine—which is the great object of the movement.

The Russian Censor has his hands full. The newspapers in Russian Poland have not been giving complete satisfaction lately to the Russian officials in that province. They mix themselves up in all sorts of questions which do not concern them, and they have shown an unpardonable curiosity about the latest news which no Russian Censor can tolerate. Accordingly measures have been adopted to curtail the activity of Polish editors, and the Governor-General has issued a confidential circular to his police asking them to inform the editors of Polish newspapers of certain points to which they are to make no allusion in their columns. These points are thirty in number. Among them are orders not to print anything about the plague in Russia until the official papers shall have first published it. They are not to allude to the Chinese Eastern railway, nor to the railway which is to run through Manchuria. No address directed to the Tsar is to be published by them. Nothing about the mobilization of the army or the movement of troops must be printed. If any political offender has been arrested the arrest must not be mentioned. Nothing must be said about military life in barracks, about the movements of vessels of the fleet, about the dissatisfaction of the workmen in factories, or about an agitation to reduce the price of medicines. The last point forbids the newspapers to publish the accounts of any suicides which may occur.

Bishop Neely, Protestant Episcopal, of Maine, died on Tuesday of last week at his home in Portland. He had been in failing health for a long time. He was much esteemed in his diocese.

The Vice President of the United States, General Hobart, is seriously ill. It is not thought that he will recover.

Lord Pauncefoot, British Ambassador to the United States, who has been a good while absent—part of the time as a member of the Peace Conference at the Hague, is about returning to Washington. He left there Sir Julian, he returns Lord Pauncefoot, having been made a peer in recognition of his services at the Peace Conference.

It is announced that Admiral Dewey is to be married soon. He has been a widower for twenty years. The bride-elect is a Mrs. Hazen, a leader in Washington society. She has been a widow ten years, is rich and a Roman Catholic. The Admiral is a member of the Protestant Episcopal church.

It is now thought that the negotiations concerning the Samoan Islands will result in dividing them between Great Britain and the United States, Germany, the other power interested, to be satisfied in some other way.

DOMINION W. C. T. U.—The Dominion Woman's Christian Temperance Union is to meet in Halifax on Thursday of next week, and will be in session till the Tuesday following.

What the War is About!

Six principal points involved in the present South African struggle, precipitated by the Boer government's formal declaration of war, are thus set forth by the Chicago Interior:

1. Taxation without representation. The British Government demanded for British subjects that this should be rectified. This was what was meant by the diplomatic controversy over the "franchise." The Boers finally made the concession that five years of residence and the oath of allegiance to the Boer republic should entitle an outlander to vote. But this concession was placed under limitations which practically nullified it. It was not an honest offer. The Imperial Government demanded a five-year limit to political incompetency, and that the ballot should not be subjected to any nullifying conditions. This the Boers refused, unless the Imperial Government should renounce suzerainty. The latter refused to discuss that question and the Boers then withdrew the offer.

2. Trial by jury. British subjects are not allowed a trial by a jury of their peers as under the laws of all English-speaking peoples. A British subject under the Boer oligarchy must be tried by a jury of Boers.

3. In the public schools the English language is not allowed. As the population of Johannesburg is twenty English to one Boer, this was a virtual exclusion of English children from the schools. The Imperial Government demanded, on behalf of British subjects, that the two languages should stand on an equality—English speakers to have the same benefits as those exclusively given to the Dutch. This was refused.

4. Municipal government. There are only about 1000 Boers in Johannesburg to 23,000 outlanders. The Boer Government clung to its exclusive right to govern the English city without the consent of the governed.

5. Extortionate taxation. Before the English discovered and developed the Kimberley and Witwatersrand mines the total income of the Boer Government was about \$6,000,000. It is now four times that amount, or \$24,000,000. The Boers levy upon the outlanders of \$19,000,000 per annum, in the expenditure of which the tax-payers are allowed no voice.

6. Slavery. Though this does not appear in the diplomatic discussion, it has affected the sentiments of British subjects toward the Boers. The natives are practically enslaved by them. They call it "apprenticeship," but native youth are held to work at labor without compensation during the most effective period of their lives, namely, till the age of twenty-eight. After that age they are held to service of terrorism in many, if not most instances. This is highly repugnant to the British constitution, whose glory has long been that no slave could tread on British soil. The early emancipation of him the instant he stands upon it.

These are the issues upon which the Transvaal and the Orange Free State have thrown down the gauntlet of battle. The contention was not over the right of the Boers to self-government. That the Imperial Government has never questioned nor made any attempt to circumscribe. The demand of the English is that Englishmen within the limits of the British empire shall have equal enjoyment of the right with all others. If that has been conceded, the Imperial Government would have left the people of the Transvaal to settle all matters of domestic concern to suit themselves.

Mission News and Notes.

—The Moravians have concluded to transfer their missions in Greenland to the Lutherans.

—In the Protestant boarding school for boys in Japan there are 1,600 scholars, and for girls 2,527.

—It is said that five different dialects have been reduced to writing in Congo Free State and will soon be in religious literature.

—In Formosa there are 62 towns and villages, in each of which there is one or more Christian churches.

—The government of New Guinea has granted to the London Missionary Society a tract of land at Samarai, a religious purpose.

—The progress of the Gospel in Sumatra is apparent everywhere. Villages that were heathen twenty-five years ago are now Christian.

—Christians in the Hawaiian Islands have raised \$10,000 with which to support a mission work on the island of Midway, in the Philippines.

—A medical mission in Central Morocco is being successfully carried on among a population of from 600,000 to 800,000 people, all living in tents.

—A Japanese judge who once resigned his fifty dollars per month salary immediately and has worked