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## Religious Intelligencer.

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

WEDNESDAY FEB. 21ST. 1900.


**A new definition of layman** is "one who lays things on his pastor which he ought to do himself. It is too true in many cases.

**The Presbyterian Home Mission** Board of Canada has fourteen men in the Kootenay region. They are pushing their work with energy and are winning a good success.

**We omitted to mention last** week in the note concerning Rev. C. M. Sheldon's experiment in journalism that The Topeka Capital, with which he is to make the experiment can be had for the week commencing March 13th for twenty-five cents.

**The day of suppers, bazaars** and the like to raise money for church purposes, is passing. A New York minister recently declared that if he were the pope of America he "would declare it a mortal sin for any church to raise money by any commercial schemes whatever."

**President Kruger is widely** regarded as a religious man. He quotes Scripture in support of about everything he undertakes, and is much given to "pious" talk. He is the kind of a religious man rumsellers are fond of. He is understood to regard strong drink as one of the blessings of life; and once opened a distillery with "praise and prayer."

**The negotiations for the** union of the Free Church and the United Presbyterian Church in Scotland, which have been going on for some years have been successful, and very soon the union will be accomplished. The opposition, which at the first was quite pronounced, has gradually been overcome, and there is now practically no objection to union. It will greatly increase the strength and efficiency of Presbyterianism.

**That the French Roman** Catholics of this Province feel quite as deeply about the recent appointments of bishops as we said last week, is made clear by a brief note in the 'Globe' from Judge Landry. That paper had stated that he had gone to St. John to attend the consecration services. The judge corrects this, saying, "I was at home on that day, feeling profoundly the isolated position of the Acadians in these grand ceremonies."

**The Roman Catholic mission** in behalf of Protestants in Montreal, has pretty thoroughly stirred the Protestant churches of that city. The pastors are preaching on the beliefs and practises which separate Romans and Protestants, and are seeking to fortify their people against the insidious attacks of Rome. Next Sunday, Rev. Thos. O'Connor, of New York, an ex-priest, is to begin a mission to Roman Catholics in Knox church (Presbyterian). Mr. O'Connor has, for several years, been at the head of a movement to afford protection and instruction to priests who have broken away from Roman bondage. He is also editor of 'The Converted Catholic,' an interesting monthly.

**A Spanish Colporteur tells** the following incident. A few months ago, in a small town, Benacazon, long noted for its fanaticism, a man died who had been in the habit of reading the Bible. He was the only man in the place whom the colporteur could count as his friend. After the funeral, the priest, who had known of the heretical tendencies of the deceased, examined his books to ascertain if there were 'bad books' among them. He found a New Testament and some christian tracts. The widow desired to keep the Testament and other books, but the priest rudely refused. He also threatened her, saying, "If you say anything, your son's wages are in danger." That is the way Romanism threatens where it has power. Its spirit is the same everywhere.

**A missionary of the American** Board of Missions, located at Bombay, writes of the benefits of Britain's rule in India. He says that no one can live among the common people and hear their expressions of feeling without being convinced that they have a hearty appreciation of English rule as conferring benefits which otherwise they could not enjoy. It is good to have this kind of testimony from a United States citizen, for not infrequently the missionaries of that nationality, forgetting that they could not have done christian work in India but for British rule, are quick to point out and magnify what they regard as mistakes in British administration, and to say severely unkind things about the country whose flag protects them.

**The United States Congress** is to enact, during the present session, a constitution and code of laws for the Hawaiian Islands. The people of the islands are, of course, very anxious to have good laws, and so they are petitioning Congress to prohibit the importation, manufacture and sale of intoxicating liquors. They ask, also, to have the prohibition of gambling and the opium traffic continued in the new constitution. The Hawaiians have suffered much from these vices, and want to be delivered from them—at least as legalized institutions. Of course the liquor tarffic men will do their most and worst to prevent the granting of the prayer of the people. The action of Congress will be awaited with interest, and with no little anxiety.

### THE MODEL CHRISTIAN.

A christian, according to the dictionary, is "one whose inward and outward life is conformed to the doctrines of Christ." He, therefore, who in the most complete and comprehensive manner exemplifies these doctrines in his life, is a model christian. The stars differ in brightness; so do christian men and women. While all christians do possess the new life, and have in a greater or less degree the characteristics of the new life, all are not sufficiently complete to be regarded as models. Some are as gentle and loving as was John, others are as heroic and zealous as was Paul, or as devout as was Baxter, or unwavering as John Knox; and yet none of these are, properly speaking, models in christian life and labour. Mere goodness, or heroism, or loyalty does not necessarily make one a model christian; it is, rather, the combination of these which makes one a many sided, completely rounded and thoroughly equipped man in Christ Jesus.

Sometimes one is met who seems to be, and really is, animated by an inexhaustible love which reveals itself in a thousand different ways throughout a long life. Of such an one it is often said, 'What a beautiful christian character!' It is truly a beautiful life, for the grace of God is manifested in the abounding love which marks it. But it is not a good model, because some quite as necessary qualities of the christian life are not manifest in the life.

One who is enthusiastic in christian work, whose zeal moves him to activities which tax his powers to the utmost and even beyond, whose zeal consumes him, is often pointed to as a pattern, and when, prematurely worn out, he goes to his reward, it is remarked 'What a noble and Christ-like life!' And it was such in a high and important sense; yet in such a life there may have been, as there often is, the absence of qualities which are essential to the model christian life.

Some christians make profession an experience which has come to be known as "entire sanctification." In such christians people are given to understand that they may expect to see all the very best things in the best form. That in some of those professing the highest attainments there are marked beauties of life and character is true, as is true, also, of quite as large proportion of those who do not make like profession. Yet even such are not always, not even often, model christians, because they frequently lack some of the qualities essential to completeness of christian character and efficiency in christian service.

The various types of christians who cannot be regarded as model might be described at great length, for there are many of them. But let the foregoing suffice. In another article will be set forth some of the qualities inseparable from a model christian life.

M.

### WAR—AND SOME LESSONS.

Many of us have long hoped and prayed that war would never come again. Especially have we cherished this belief concerning Christian nations. In both we are disappointed. For the past two years war has existed, and this by one of the leading Christian nations; and for nearly six months another Christian nation has been at war. And the end is by no means in sight. Sad ending of this wonderful century!

Could the United States, as a Christian nation have prevented the conflict with Spain? No. Could not England have avoided the war with the Transvaal? No. Why not? Because the national consclenee in both cases, as the final tribunal from which there was no appeal, said No. It is given to the strong to help the weak. Justice is bound to throttle injustice. Right must triumph, and only righteousness can exalt a nation. All else is vain. These were the motives then that have moved these two great nations to take up arms in defence of the oppressed.

Withal, how easily and readily are motives misunderstood and misconstrued. Not a nation in Europe understood, except England, the primary motive of the United States in the war with Spain. Equally true is this concerning Britain in the present conflict. Men and nations, morally obtuse, say it is the gold of Johannesburg that moves England, which is as false as it is illogical. The gold mines are owned by capitalists, not by the Transvaal, and the majority of these capitalists are not English. Hence these capitalists will continue to own the mines whatever the final settlement of the war.

Mr. Chamberlain told us the other day, in his guarded and conservative speech, that the prime cause of this war was due to the hatred of the Dutch toward the English. We have adequate reason to believe this true. And strange as it may seem, this hatred is allied with the basest ingratitude. England who fought their battles and made a place for them where they could read their Bibles and worship unmolested by the black races, is hated now without stint. It is the old story of the serpent warmed in the bosom of its friend.

And speaking of the Bible in this connection, we need to exercise care else we will be misled. We are told of the devotion of the Boer to his Bible. Therefore, he may be right, it is said. But, in their wars among themselves, the Bible has been their text book on both sides. Nor is the fault with the Bible; it is rather the distorted judgment of the Boer, caused by his ignorance and aggravated by his zeal. Conscience with the Bible, like the compass with the chart, may bring us safely to port. But only on condition that both are watched against the insidious influence of base metals and the ocean currents. Mr. Kruger may pray without ceasing; but does he watch? As a politician, without doubt his eye is open; as a statesman and a christian it is closed. Injustice toward the race because of nationality or the color of the skin will have its day of reckoning. The current sets that way, and, like the gulf stream, it is not expected to change. Ships of state with wise pilots keep in this current. Mr. Kruger has not done this. His method has been one of cruelty toward the black races, and oppression toward the Outlanders. The Outlanders, (representatives of England, America and other nations in South Africa) who pay nine tenths of the taxes in the Transvaal, are not permitted representation in the Government, they are not even permitted government support for English schools there. Johannesburg, from which place the bulk of the revenue comes, is left without sewers, while the money, for years past, has been largely appropriated for arms and ammunition and expert officers to fight Great Britain. And this preparation has been going on in secret.

Greatly as we regret the conditions that forced England to take up arms in defence of her oppressed subjects, we believe that she will not only "muddle through it in some way" as Lord Salisbury said, but that great good in the end will come to all concerned. The struggle is certainly cementing not only the British Empire, but the Anglo Saxon race.

I have lived some thirty years in New England, and it has given me great pleasure to see this country and the mother land come nearer in kindly feeling, forgetting the old family misunderstandings, and joining hands in hope and action for the world's redemption.

B. A. SHERWOOD.

Providence, R. I.

Last week London had a storm that developed into a blizzard. It was intensely cold in London, and reports of severe weather came from all parts of the United Kingdom. Telegraphic communication was seriously interrupted for a short time.

## NOTES ON CURRENT EVENTS.

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The Papal delegate was given the chief place amongst the ecclesiastics at the state dinner at Ottawa a few days ago. The Church of England people are quite stirred up over the matter. They think their bishop should have had first place, and say that "Mgr. Falconio has no official status in Canada." They must, certainly, be mistaken about his official status. He was sent by the Pope at the request of the government, and is at Ottawa as the special representative of the Vatican. Whether he should have precedence over the Anglican bishop or anybody else at dinners and such affairs, is a matter which the parties concerned will, perhaps, fight about more or less. But those who object to the Pope's man being head of the class will find themselves beaten about every time. Rome is not taking a back-seat these days.

* *

A bill is proposed in the Colorado Legislature which, if it becomes law, will make a great change in matrimonial matters. It will put the granting of marriage licenses in the hands of a board of medical examiners. It provides for a board of medical examiners in each county, to consist of three physicians; no two are to be of the same school, and, where it is possible, the board is to have one or more female members. This board is to have power to examine all persons seeking to marry and to refuse permission to all who are not mentally and physically equipped to enter marriage state.

* *

The wholesale rumsellers of other provinces are sending circulars to farmers throughout Prince Edward Island, offering special cases of assorted liquors at reduced prices. The Island Province, with the exception of Charlottetown, is under the prohibition of the Scott Act. An amendment of the Act, to meet the case of these outside rumsellers who seek to carry on their bad traffic in defiance of law, is in order. We commend the matter to Sir Louis Davies, who is the Island's representative in the government.

* *

The rumoured mutiny at Khartoum turns out to have been a trifling thing. Two or three young Egyptian officers had become excited by anti-English articles which had reached them in some of the papers, and were endeavoring to stir up two Soudanese battalions to disregard certain orders. None of the senior officers were implicated in any way, and the matter was very quickly settled.

* *

India is not the only part of the world suffering the horrors of famine. It is reported that in East Africa a half million people have died of starvation within a few months. A British officer in Ukamba reports,—

"That 50 per cent of Ukamba's 1,000,000 population have died of starvation; and that the proportion of such deaths in Mombasa Province is sixty percent. Between Vol and Kikuyu, a distance of two hundred miles, 50,000 people have starved to death. To add to the horror of the situation, the smallpox has been gaining headway in Mombasa."

A missionary writes:

The famine has been doing its awful work so long, and to such an extent, that the natives seem to think nothing of ten or a dozen bodies lying about in their shambas (gardens). I have heard of famine, and read of famine, but never had the remotest dream of its awfulness till now. I write this while listening to the cry of starving children without the door. The natives, with few exceptions, are existing entirely on a little root berry, about the size of a pea, which they dig out of the ground. Where these are to be found you will daily see hundreds of pitiable specimens of humanity—skeletons of men, women and children, their mouths besmeared with dirt—squating about, digging out these roots and eating them as soon as found; thus they manage to keep body and soul together for a time, but eventually they give up the struggle and die. My heart has been wrenched time and again by having to turn this one and that one away, and then learning of their bodies lying not far off, they having hovered about in the hope of yet being fed. The Rev. F. W. Krieger, superintendent of the Christian Unity Evangelical and Industrial Mission in British East Africa, is impressing into service every possible measure of relief. The officials of the government railway are granting special reductions in transportation, and dealers on the coast are making wholesale rates for food. In Mombasa, Mr. Palmer, superintendent of Inland Revenue and Conservancy, has saved many lives by his energy and devotion. After his business duties were performed, he would canvass the streets for grain, money, medicine and bandages.

The famine is caused by the extraordinary drought of two seasons.

* *

Hon. Edward Blake has resigned the Chancellorship of Toronto University, giving as his reason that at this stage of the University's history it 'requires an efficient working chancellor on the scene of action.' His resignation will be regretted. If he had, a couple of weeks ago, resigned from the Irish party all his true friends would have rejoiced.

* *

Gen Hutton left Canada suddenly. He is to serve in South Africa, at the call of the Imperial War Office. Probably he was glad to get away, and that the Minister of Militia and some others were glad to have him go there is as little doubt. The General desired to conduct military affairs independent of politics; the Minister of Militia, whatever he may have desired to do, could not always resist the political pressure. Such men as Domville did not like General Hutton, as they do not like any one who stands in the way of their schemes.

It is announced that the Minister of Militia will ask Parliament to amend the Militia Act so that it may be open to the government to appoint any officer they choose to the command of the Canadian militia. The law as it now stands requires that the general commanding shall be an officer of the Imperial Army. To change the law in this respect would be to make the militia more than ever a thing of politics; it would soon be a part of the political machine. There is no doubt that Imperial officers who come here to command the Canadian forces make mistakes as other people do. It is not likely that a Canadian General would be always wise; and he certainly would be more easily moved by political considerations than an Imperial officer. If Parliament is wise it will not interfere with the present arrangement.

* *

Some United States papers make a good deal of what they call the defeats of the British by the Boers. They seem to forget that their country has not been more fortunate with the Tagals than Britain with the Boers—though they have been much longer trying to subjugate them. The Montreal Witness thinks this fact should moderate the criticisms of certain newspaper writers across the border who give more attention to affairs in South Africa than to what is going on in the Philippines. It is now nearly thirteen months since General Otis undertook to quell the rising in the island of Luzon. During that time he has had from thirty-five thousand to sixty-five thousand men engaged in the task, two thousand of whom have been killed and three thousand invalided through wounds and disease, while the cash outlay has amounted to three hundred million dollars. Still the Filipinos remain unconquered, and the prospect of peace appears as far off as ever. Comparing the conditions of the conflict in the Philippines with those of the campaign in South Africa, the United States cannot boast of greater success in the islands than Britain among the kopjes. But neither can abandon the task it has undertaken. It is noteworthy, however, that while there is jubilation among a section in the United States over British reverses, not one word of adverse comment has been uttered in Britain concerning the failure of military operations in Luzon.

* *

A Quebec judge, some months ago, gave a judgment which, practically, destroyed the Dunkin Act, the temperance law which is in force in Richmond, P. Q. A druggist having been convicted of thirty violations of the Act, Judge Lemieux quashed all the convictions on the ground that the accused might be sent to prison for the rest of his life, he thought in default of payment of fines, which would be oppressive. Appeal from his judgment was taken to the Privy Council, and the judge's judgment has been reversed, the Privy Council holding that any number of convictions can be made under the Act.

POLITICAL NEWS.—The Ontario Legislature met on Wednesday, 14th inst.

In the British Columbia Legislature, a few days ago, Mr. Jos. Martin made an attack on Provincial Treasurer Cotton, accusing him of being a defaulter from Colorado. He gave notice of a motion appointing a committee of inquiry into the conduct of the provincial treasurer.

Rumours are revived of changes likely to take place in the New Brunswick government within a few months, among them the intimation that Premier Emmerson may be a judge.

### HOME RELIGIOUS NEWS.

—The Baptists of Salisbury, W. C., are contemplating the erection of a church.

—Rev. J. J. Teasdale (Methodist) of Charlottetown, P. E. I., has been seriously ill. His many friends will be glad to hear that he is improving

—Rev. Mr. Martin (Evangelist) is preaching in the Woodstock Baptist church, in the absence of the pastor.

### WAR NOTES.

The announcement of the relief of Kimberley was welcome news throughout the British Empire. General French reached the long-beseiged city Thursday afternoon. Lord Roberts' combinations for the movement of the corps, dovetailed with precision, though obstacles that had not been foreseen had to be overcome. The French rode into Kimberley Thursday afternoon, just when he was expected according to the field martial's time table, having in four and a half days marched ninety miles with artillery and having fought two small engagements.

The relief of Kimberley was accomplished with the loss of only fifty men. Twenty thousand infantry made similar marches under a sub-tropical sun and through a dust storm, to hold the positions which Gen. French took.

The rapidity of Lord Roberts' movements away from his base has become one of the problems, perhaps the chief problem of the war. He and Lord Kitchener have created a mobile force able to move in exterior lines and outflank the Boers, themselves the more wonderfully mobile.

But for an unexpected delay at Dekiel's Drift, which was almost impassable for wagons, the whole British force would have been surrounded. The delay of one day there gave them their chance for a hasty retreat.

All the other movements of Lord Roberts were executed exactly to time. Gen. Cronje is retreating with his main army, and even if he escapes altogether he will probably lose all his baggage.

Gen. Buller is doing his part. To-day despatches from his camp announce that Gen. Buller has established his headquarters on Hussar Hill. Heavy artillery firing was maintained at intervals by both sides from Wednesday until Friday. The British slowly pushed the advance and their infantry occupied entrenched new positions in front of Hussar Hill, with slight loss. It is believed that the lyddite worked havoc in the Boer trenches.

The Boers are supposed to have removed their big guns back over the Tugela Friday afternoon. The Boer fire has been heavy at times. The whole country is thickly wooded.

At Hlangwane Hill the Boers are strongly fortified, and are shelling the British with great accuracy. Gen. Buller's casualties during the last two days operations have been about

Specials from Ladysmith report apparent movement on the part of the Boers toward the Free State. The news that General Buller is attempting another crossing of the Tugela east of Colesberg, after the capture of Hlangwane Hill, gives great satisfaction.

Replying, in the House of Commons to a question relative to the Boer invasion of Zululand, Mr. Chamberlain said the Government had decided that if the native territories were invaded by the Boers, the natives "will be encouraged and assisted in every way in defending themselves." The Colonial Secretary also said that the Natal Ministry had notified the Home Government that it could not any longer be responsible for the peaceful attitude of the Zulus, as the invasion of their country was contrary to a tacit compact that the natives should not be drawn into the war.

The Boer fighting force is now said to be 120,000 men.

General French, who only ranked as a Colonel in the army, with the temporary rank of brigadier general, has been made a Major General. Lt. Col. Kekewich has been promoted for services in the defence of Kimberley.

Last Saturday the first unit of the special corps of yeomanry called the Duke of Cambridge's own, left London to embark at Southampton for South Africa. The force is composed entirely of men of good social position. Trooper Abinger wears a corporal's stripes, while Lord Aylesbury's son is a trooper. Each man had to pay £120 for the privilege of joining, the money going to purchase their outfits, while their pay will be devoted to the fund for the relief of the widows and children of the killed soldiers. Immense crowds cheered the "Gentlemen Rankers," as they were termed, on their way to the station and the train started amid scenes of enthusiasm. The Duke of Cambridge went to Southampton to bid the company farewell.

In the operations which have resulted in the occupation of Jacobsdal by the British troops, the hasty retreat of Gen. Cronje from Magersfontein and the relief of Kimberley the Royal Canadian Regiment was given a share. When the order to make a forced movement was given the Canadians who were brigaded in the ninth division, moved out from Wegedraai on the right flank of the force to attack Jacobsdal as reserves. While the Canadians, as part of the ninth division were protecting the right flank of the troops operating for the capture of Jacobsdale the rear guard composed of troops from the ninth division attacked Waterval drift. They were acting as an escort to the British supply column and quite a heavy engagement resulted.

In the advance from Wegedraai several Canadians fell out on the march and are either in the hospital or captured. Their names are Private J. Drake, formerly of the 63rd Halifax