

TERMS AND NOTICES.

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Religious Intelligencer.

REV. JOSEPH McLeod, D.D., ... EDITOR

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 30TH, 1902.

The late Dr. Talmage's will disposes of an estate valued at \$300,000. It is all given to his family.

The people not only need the plain truth, but they desire it. Even though the truth often makes them uncomfortable they respect the preachers who are faithful.

The attention of the Nova Scotia churches is directed to the announcement in another column concerning Missionary Sunday—May 18th. We trust the observance may be general, and with good results.

There are two good rules, says Dr. Henry Van Dyke, which ought to be written on every heart, never believe anything bad about anybody unless you positively know it to be true; never tell even that unless you feel that it is absolutely necessary, and that God is listening while you tell it. Charity thinks no evil, much less repeats it.

Our Methodist brethren are wanting more young men for the ministry. The General Superintendent, Dr. Carman, has announced through the denominational papers that at the recent meeting of the Transfer Committee of the Manitoba and Northwest Conference appealed for sixty more young men to meet the necessities of the work: the British Columbia Conference wants an addition of sixteen men; and New Ontario will require six more.

A Presbyterian minister in Minnesota was receiving pay from a company of brewers for writing articles in favour of their product and in defence of the saloons. He was called to account before the Presbytery. He acknowledged the authorship of the writings in support of the drink habit and traffic, and attempted to justify his course. The Presbytery condemned him, and he was deposed from the ministry.

Dr. John Watson (Ian MacLaren) deserves credit for having turned back to his home in New Jersey a young man on his way to missionary work in Africa. The young man's father, when dying, had committed to him the care of his mother, charging him not to leave her. He did leave her, however, and got as far as Liverpool, when his troubled conscience led him to seek an interview with Dr. Watson for the final decision of his duty. The young man says: "Dr. Watson showed me the path clearly. I realized that in my desire to do something heroic I was running away from the first duty of any right-minded man—that to his mother. He taught me that the common life calls for heroism, though it is without applause." The eight years spent in his preparation for the abandoned work have not been lost, as the son, fulfilling his filial duty, will preach in the home field.

The Wesleyan proposes that the Methodist General Conference appoint a Temperance Secretary, who should travel among the churches with the specific duty and responsibility of strengthening and systematizing temperance work throughout the denomination. While acknowledging that a great deal of temperance work has been done by the churches, and that the trend of church teaching is in the right direction, our contemporary truly says that it has to be admitted that a great deal is left to be desired in the way of direct systematic and sustained

effort to make and to establish pledged adherents to total abstinence principles and practice, and to develop a well informed and earnest conviction of the evils of the drink traffic and the imperative duty of using every possible means not merely to limit its ravages on society but to destroy it root and branch. . . . The key to the whole situation is, unquestionably, in the hands of the church. If ever the land is to be delivered from the thralldom of liquor, if ever it is to cease to corrupt politicians, negative the efforts of philanthropists, honeycomb social life with rottenness, and bring ruin and death annually upon thousands and thousands of individuals, that deliverance must come, as all other similar deliverances have come, from enlightened Christian consciences and from Christian men and women loyal enough to their convictions to forego anything to suffer anything, so that these convictions should have right of way. If our churches not only the Methodist Church, but the other Evangelical Churches—if the churches, we say, were in their individual membership and in their corporate strength a solid unit on this question, the liquor traffic, strongly entrenched and enormously wealthy as it is, could not stand a single year."

THE CENSUS AGAIN.

A misstatement once started keeps going in spite of the most diligent attempts to correct it. This is especially true if the misstatement bears an official stamp.

The injustice done the Free Baptists of Canada by the census blunders continues and perhaps, will continue. We find the figures of the census quoted in papers far and wide, and commented on as if correct. Some of these papers have, doubtless, seen the correction made in the INTELLIGENCER; others, probably have not seen it. But, whether they have seen the correction or not, they accept the officially announced figures, and proceed to moralize on what they accept as a fact, but which is a flagrant and inexcusable falsehood.

We may expect to hear and read again and again, for many years, that in the ten years between 1891 and 1901 the Free Baptists in Canada lost more than 20,000, and that 10,000 of the loss occurred in New Brunswick and 2,000 in Nova Scotia. And when the statement is denied, we will be met with,—"But it must be, for the census returns show it; the information is official and therefore, correct." Somebody has said that there are three kinds of lies—plain lies, a kind more emphatically expressed, and statistics—the last being the worst of the three. The census returns of the Free Baptists certainly justify the statement that statistics may be the superlative in lying.

Among the papers that have commented on the census figures is the New York Independent, which states the alleged decline, and accounts for it, thus:

"The Friends (Quakers), Salvation Army, the Universalists, the Brethren, and the Free-Will Baptists have all declined in numbers, and the reasons for this decline may be found in the fact that these bodies have no influential papers, no theological seminaries, and no regular ministry."

The Independent did not know any better, perhaps, than to repeat the incorrect census figures. It might have known better than to be guilty of such sweeping condemnation of the papers and the ministry of the religious bodies it mentions. That, however, may be put down to the conceit which characterizes so much of what our neighbors say and do.

The Independent's statement and comment were copied into the "Morning Star," which added a few words on its own account. This is what it says: "The thing for Canadian Free Baptists to do is to take the Morning Star and patronize our theological schools. We can guarantee free trade in those things. There is neither export nor import duty on theology."

The "Morning Star," we may explain, is the eastern organ of the Free Baptists in the United States. Its place of publication, Boston, is not very far from Canada, and it might be expected to know some things about the Free Baptists in this part of the world—for instance, that they have a regular ministry and denominational papers; and it might even have learned that they have not been losing their people at the rate of 2000 a year.

When it quoted the Independent we looked for it to correct the misstatement as to the loss of members, and to rebuke the reflection on our ministry. But it does neither of these things. Instead, it treats as correct, and endorses to its own readers, the misstatement and the ungenerous reflection, not to say insult, of the Independent, and even makes these

things a reason for soliciting Canadian patronage for itself and its theological schools, with the intimation that thereby Canadian Free Baptists may be saved from obliteration.

The "Star" not having corrected and retracted the Independent, we must assume that it was without knowledge of the facts. We have, therefore, to assure it (1) that Canadian Free Baptists have not suffered loss as the census returns state; (2) that we have a regular ministry, not less well organized, nor less efficient than is the ministry of the people for whom the Star speaks; (3) that we have denominational papers which, while they may not be influential in the judgment of the Independent and the Star, do live and move and have a being, and do not find it necessary to forage in their neighbour's territory.

Perhaps our contemporary will give its readers the facts about Free Baptists in Canada, relieving them of the wrong impression they must have received by its endorsement of the Independent's unfair statement.

A WISE MOVEMENT.

One of the most helpful results of the "away from Rome" movement in Austria is the great interest which is being taken in the establishment of Sunday Schools. Before the Protestants of Austria were moved by the extraordinary depth of the present agitation against Rome they paid little or no attention to this most vital branch of the Church's work. The children were practically neglected. This was especially the case in those districts where Catholics and Protestants lived together, the latter in isolated groups or families. The children were allowed to lapse. They were even permitted in not a few cases to take part in Romanist religious instruction, as the parents felt that Catholic instruction was better than none at all. All this is being rapidly changed. In Bohemia, Moravia, Styria and among the Slovaks inhabiting the lands along the southern foothills of the Carpathian mountains, Protestant pastors and school teachers and parents also, are alive to the importance of having the children trained in the tenets of the Reformation. Active associations are at work in the countries, assisted and encouraged by friends in Germany, establishing Sunday schools, either singly or in groups, within reach of every Protestant family in the country. This is their aim; but before this is accomplished much is necessary, both patience and a liberal supply of money for travelling expenses, for books, especially for Bibles and New Testaments which it is the wish of the Sunday school associations to distribute gratis among the children. It is stated that during the past two years no fewer than 200 Sunday schools, mostly on the group principle, have been called into life. A most satisfactory matter connected with those schools is that the teachers, both male and female, give their services gratis, and are persons animated with fervent zeal for the cause.

POLITICAL NEWS.—The legislature of Newfoundland was prorogued Tuesday. The Governor congratulated the colony, in his closing speech, on the present favorable industrial outlook. Thirteen Ontario newspaper men are among the candidates in the elections in that province. The Socialists have nominated a woman, Mrs. Mary D. Rivo, to contest North Toronto for the Legislature. They have also placed candidates in the field in East and South Toronto. The Toronto Guardian says that the political speakers of both parties in Ontario have, up to the present, studiously avoided all mention of prohibition and the Referendum. It would appear that both Grit and Tory are desirous that this great moral issue be "kept out of politics." Prohibitionists, however, have not been idle, and it is estimated that at least nineteen candidates are in the field who are prohibitionists above any party or personal affiliation. The election of any such number in reality of that stamp, would seal the fate ultimately of the liquor traffic.

The Montreal Transcript is authority for the statement that Premier T. A. A. Lawlor, of Chatham, as county court judge, vice Judge Wilkinson. It is said that George Haddow, ex-M.P., will be appointed collector of customs at Dalhousie about May 1.

T. Isaac Coffey, is gazetted harbor master for Moncton.

Atrocious assassinations are reported from Asia Minor, the victims being Armenians.

NOTES ON CURRENT EVENTS.

CANADA DOESN'T WANT THEM.

A London despatch says the Colonial Office and the Canadian government are having correspondence about the settlement of a lot of Boers in this country. There may be no foundation for the statement of the despatch. We hope not. Boers are not the kind of people needed in Canada. We have already too many who are no strength to the country, and may be a great weakness. To add a lot of irreconcilables like the Boers would be about as unwise a thing as could be done. It would be a dangerous enlargement of the element which now brazenly avows its anti-British feeling and purpose.

MR. SPEAKER ROBERTSON.

Hon. Th. S. Robertson, Speaker of the Nova Scotia House of Assembly, died in Halifax on Saturday, 20th inst. He had been in poor health for some months, and at the close of the session of the Legislature went away in hope of improving his health. Mr. Robertson, though only fifty, had been in public life a good many years, having represented Shelburne Co. both in the Provincial Legislature and in the Federal Parliament. He was a genial and very companionable gentleman, and had many friends who will mourn his sad death.

THAT RAILWAY PROJECT.

That big railway scheme which secures charters from the New Brunswick Legislature in the closing hours of the session, and which was expected to build railways in all the needed parts of the province, and in sundry other places, may not materialize very soon. Dr. Webb, the Vanderbilt representative who was mentioned as the chief mover, says there is no such intention as has been stated. Mr. McAvity, of St. John, who was prominent in the matter, is reported as saying that the who project is in embryo and may never develop. The scheme on paper if it never goes farther, is likely to be used. Just watch it.

HOME RULE.

It is reported from Ottawa that Mr. Costigan intends before the close of the session of Parliament to move a resolution favourable to home rule for Ireland, and deploring the action of the British government. If such a resolution is offered it should meet the fate of Mr. Charlton's.

JAPAN AND RUSSIA.

Recent advices tell of the probability of war between Russia and Japan. Preparations on a large scale are being made by both countries. A gentleman with exceptional opportunities of ascertaining the facts, says,—"Both the Russians and the Japanese regard war as inevitable. The Anglo-Japan alliance will probably have the effect of delaying the occurrence, but the trend of opinion is that it must sooner or later. The Japanese are preparing as well as Russia, and they are ready to do battle at a moment's notice. They have spies dressed as Chinese through Manchuria and Siberia, and have caches of dynamite ready to blow up the Russian railway and its bridges at a given signal."

SOUTH AFRICA.

There is nothing new concerning the peace negotiations, the report from the Boer leaders who are consulting the burghers being awaited.

In the British Commons on Friday the Secretary for war said: We are perhaps in sight of peace, but in the interval we are sending out men and material to carry on the war for another year or two, if necessary, that being the only spirit wherein the government can interpret the will of the nation and approach the arrangements for the councils on of peace."

THEIR GOOD FEELING.

A French Club in Montreal had a heated discussion of a resolution protesting against the sending of another Canadian contingent to South Africa. The members expressed themselves freely and strongly. The French blood was up, and the condemnation of everything that looked towards strengthening the hands of Britain was vigorously and viciously attacked. The only objection urged against passing a strong anti-British resolution was that it might "hurt our leaders." Those who took this ground said,—"Let those who want to go to South Africa go there. They are no good to the country, anyhow. It will be for the good of the country to get rid of them."

The speakers were all eager to declare their lack of sympathy with the English. As one expressed it,—"We do their work and take their money, and we are independent of them."

Nice, isn't it?

HOW THEY FEEL.

The premiers of the states of the Australian Commonwealth are not likely to be numerous represented at the coronation. While the premiers of the confederated colonies are directly invited, the invitations to Provincial and State premiers are merely intimations that if they are in London about coronation time they will be given as good a chance as possible to see the ceremonies. The premiers of the Australian states do not like the form of invitation, and are not going to be in London—at any rate not officially. The Provincial premiers in Canada do not appear to be feeling the same way about the matter.

RESOLUTION OF ADVISE.

Mr. Charlton's resolution of advice to the British government did not find much support in the Canadian Commons. This is what he wanted the Commons to say:

"This House is of the opinion that British supremacy should be maintained and firmly established in South Africa, to which Canada has cheerfully contributed men and money. Having in view the effect of a policy of magnanimity and mercy at the session of Canada, and at the close of the Civil War in the United States, and for other reasons, this House is also of the opinion that in the interest of peace and of future tranquility, harmony and homogeneity in South Africa, the broadest policy of magnanimity and mercy may be extended to a brave foe, now opposing the British arms, upon condition of submission to British control. And upon this opinion humbly presented with the prayerful hope that it may aid in securing a favorable and honorable settlement of South African difficulties, this House invokes the considerate judgment of His Gracious Majesty the King."

Mr. Charlton probably meant well enough, but his proposal was decidedly unwise. The British government may be trusted to do right, and knows much better what is right than does even the Canadian Parliament. There is never any need of suggesting a "policy of magnanimity and mercy" to Great Britain. When did she pursue any other policy.

IN THE PHILIPPINES.

That certain officers and soldiers of the United States army in the Philippines have been guilty of cruelty, amounting to fiendishness in some cases, is beyond doubt. But so far, those accused of the crimes have, after a formal trial been acquitted. The things they have done are so horrible that it was impossible to believe the reports till the clearest evidence established the charges. A Major Waller, who has recently been acquitted of a charge of killing men women and children, told the Court of Inquiry that General Smith "had instructed him to kill and burn, and had said that the more he killed and burned the better pleased the general would be, that it was no time to take prisoners, and that he was to make Samar a howling wilderness. Major Waller asked Gen. Smith to define the age limit for killing, and the general replied, "Everything over ten." Other witnesses testified to the same effect. "I shot them," says Major Waller of his helpless Filipino captives. "I honestly thought then that I was right, and I believe so now."

The President has ordered a court-martial to investigate the charges against General Smith.

The soldiers were instructed to get information from the natives about the insurgents. If the information was not given willingly, torture was resorted to, the "water cure" being the favourite method. This torture is described by one of the soldiers thus:

"First the soldiers tried to get the prisoner to tell what he knew of the insurgents. If he refused, his hands were tied behind his back and he was pinned face upward on the ground by them. Then the neck of a broken bottle was forced into the native's mouth and water was poured in. I have seen two or three buckets poured in, making several gallons and swelling the native's body to twice and three times its natural size. Then he was rolled on the ground and the water got out, and the process was repeated. The native, of course, resisted and the soldiers rubbed the bottle across his mouth, lacerating the flesh."

"After the water cure was over, the prisoner was shot, and if it happened to be in the hills outside the town the body was left there for the dogs."

It is to be hoped that the officers responsible for these abominable things will be dealt with as they deserve.

Russia continues her persecution of the Finlanders.

Great Britain added 918,000 tons to her shipping in five years, while Germany added 490,000 tons.

M. Palma, left Cuba a few years ago a prisoner in chains; now he returns the President of the country.

Judge Wells has three months' leave of absence, and will visit Great Britain. Judge Forbes is to take his judicial duties. Judge Forbes is, also, discharging Judge Wedderburn's duties during the latter's absence in California. It would seem that three County Court Judges are more than are needed for the districts in which these gentlemen exercise judicial powers.

The C. P. R. has placed an order for 36 locomotives, making 90 ordered so far this year. When delivered the road will have nearly one thousand engines.

The Land and Loan Company of Winnipeg are doing an extensive business in farms lands near that city. Within the past ten days they say they have sold in various districts 37,020 acres, all within fifteen miles of Winnipeg, and none have been sold for less than \$10 per acre. The purchasers were all from either Iowa or Illinois and many of them will go on the lands this year.

A BATTLE FOR THE SABBATH IN CAPE BRETON.

IN WHICH THE GENERAL MANAGER OF A RAILWAY IS BROUGHT TO HIS KNEES.

The following graphic story of the interesting campaign in defense of the Lord's Day against its desecration by the "Inverness & Richmond (Cape Breton) Railway Company" will be read with keen interest by all lovers of the Christian Sabbath.

The story is best told in the words of the Rev. D. McDonald, B. D., of Strathlorne, N. S. It was not written for publication, but Mr. McDonald has kindly consented that it should be in the hope that others may be cheered with the news of victory.—J. G. S.

"Sunday work was carried on to a limited extent in 1900 between Port Hastings and Mabou. The head men were evidently feeling their way. This summer (1901) in order to have the railway completed by the specified time and to have the clearest right to the county bonus of \$1000.00 a mile, and in order to make money faster, work was carried on night and day, and a few men were working on Sunday for a while in May and June. Freight was brought from Hastings to Broad Cove Mines on Sunday. Gravel trains went from the gravel-pit behind the Strathlorne Hill to Mabou and Port Hood. Construction material of different kinds was carried hither and thither. The people were shocked by such bold transgression of law. I went two or three times to see the General Manager, but failed to find him. I preached repeatedly on Sabbath observance. Some of the railway men ridiculed the idea of insisting on no Sunday labor in Railway construction. The work went defiantly on. I put up a notice between the Manager's office and the line of Railway pointing out that Sunday labor was contrary to the laws of God and of this country, tended to lower the physical, moral and spiritual standing of all concerned, and was at best but a form of Mammon worship, and that all Sunday workers may expect to be taken to account by God and man, and dealt with according to law. That was on Saturday. Next day work went on again. A day or two later papers were served on the section foreman at the gravel-pit, on the walking boss of the whole line, and on the General Manager. The latter two did not appear at the first court, but the section foreman was fined \$3.00 and costs—about \$6.00 in all. He paid without delay. As the others were reported to be away from home when the papers were served, and would be away on the day of trial, we appointed another trial two days later. At this trial the General Manager appeared, and evidently intended to brow-beat the Court. He told the Magistrates that he was going to appeal to the higher Courts for the foreman, the walking boss and himself. Our lawyer, Mr. John L. McDougall, —a Roman Catholic—replied, "You cannot appeal for the foreman. He has must appeal for himself, if appeal is made. Your own case must take its course here before you can appeal; and also with the walking boss's before he can appeal." The General Manager wanted to appeal before the trial. Then he wanted time—two weeks—to get Counsel. We gave him one week or six days, but gave no time to the walking boss, as he did not come to the court either day, although at home. The General Manager undertook to defend the Walking Boss. We, however, made him give evidence as witness in the case, and his own evidence was enough to convict his client who was fined \$10.00 and costs. The General Manager paid the amount and got his receipt. He also signed bond of \$100 that he would appear either personally or by counsel in his own trial next week. He fumed considerably, and claimed the right under our Dominion Railway Laws to do