

RELIGIOUS INTELLIGENCER.

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

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Editorial Outlook

A MONASTERY.

The Episcopal church in the United States has a monastery, recently opened at West Park, N. Y. It is occupied by the priests of the church, who call themselves the Order of the Holy Cross. They take vows of celibacy, poverty and obedience. They wear a habit of white, with a black girdle, and a black wooden cross worn about the neck and resting on the chest. A black habit of the same shape is worn when travelling. Their monastery is the first in America belonging to the Episcopal church. There is only one other, and that is in England.

NEWFOUNDLAND.

In an address before the Canadian Club of Toronto recently, Hon. A. B. Morine, a prominent member of the Newfoundland legislature, speaking of that colony coming into the Canadian confederation, said Canada would have to take the initiative. He said: "If the Dominion government takes action in the right way, and if the intelligent and the British spirit of the people of Newfoundland is appealed to and the terms are fair, I believe that, although the struggle may be a hard one and may be prolonged, the day is not far distant, humanly speaking, when the colony of Newfoundland may be a part of this grand Dominion."

THE CRUCIFIX.

The French government a little while ago had the crucifixes removed from all the courts in France. One result has been to elicit some curious proofs of the extent to which the church of Rome's ways of teaching religion undermine the plain principles of common, everyday honesty. A few days ago in one of the courts a witness, on being charged by the judge to speak only the truth, answered: "There is no crucifix in this court; therefore, since I am a Christian, any evidence I give here will be a matter to which I shall attach no importance." Because there was no crucifix in the place he felt justified in lying if he chose. Strange teaching!

PROHIBITION CONVENTION.

The call for a convention of prohibitionists in St. John on Wednesday, June 22nd, says its object is "to take into consideration the course that might be pursued by prohibitionists, and to decide on what measures should be taken by us to bring about a better state of affairs." Every temperance society in the province is asked to send as many representatives it can, and all prohibitionists will be welcomed. It is requested that delegates be selected as soon as possible, and their names sent to the

secretary of the committee, E. A. Everett, 186 King St. East, St. John. Those attending the convention can take advantage of the rates of travel announced for the ter-centenary celebration.

LICENSE IN MANITOBA.

It is intimated that the Manitoba government intends to introduce a high license system in that province. A high license, the Attorney-General of the province is reported as saying, will improve the class of hotels, lessen the number of applicants for license, enlist the interest of licensees in the strict enforcement of the license law, and do away with illicit trade. These are the things that are always set forth in behalf of high license, and yet not one of them is true. All experience of license laws proves that they do not in any degree improve the character of the traffic, nor of the men engaged in it. Licensees are never concerned for the enforcement of the laws; they are, instead, persistent violators of them. And illicit liquor selling flourishes more under license than under any other system. There is only one sensible and honest way of dealing with the liquor traffic—delegalize it, and then keep pushing steadily towards its annihilation.

THE WAR.

There has been hard fighting during the week. The losses on both sides have been heavy. The Japanese have been the victors. They have captured Kin Chou, which means the strongest points barring their way to Port Arthur. It was evidently a desperate fight, and the Japanese success is a remarkable achievement. The report says the Russians were strongly entrenched and fought with great determination. The Japanese began operations on the 22nd; on the morning of the 24th they were able to directly attack Kin Chou, engaging the Russian artillery; at dawn on the 26th they commenced cannonading, which lasted five hours, while three ships in Kin Chou bay assisted the land forces. The official report on the 27th says: "Kin Chou and all the heights in its vicinity have been taken, and our troops are pushing the Russians towards Port Arthur."

Later reports say that the Japanese have swept the Russians from the defences west of Tabin Wau.

Japan announces that the entire coast of the Liao Tung peninsula, lying south of a line between Pitsewo on the east and Pulantien on the west is in a state of effective blockade by the Japanese navy. The declaration states that the blockade will be maintained.

A Saturday despatch says: "The Russians have abandoned Nan Qua Ling, and have been driven from San Chi Lipu, retreating towards Port Arthur. The Japanese have captured fifty cannon. The Russians left 400 dead in the

Kin Chou Nan Shan fight. On the Japanese side the dead and wounded numbered 300."

BRIEF MENTION.

Mr. Gohier, a distinguished French writer, thinks there is a real "Catholic peril" in the United States. There are those who think Canada is not wholly free from like danger.

The Salvation Army intends to establish a branch of its prison gate work at Dorchester for the help of prisoners discharged from the penitentiary.

F. W. Sanford, the leader of the people who call themselves "The Holy Ghost and Us Society," with headquarters at Shiloh, Me., has been convicted of manslaughter in causing the death of Leander Bartlett, a boy member of the colony. He had diphtheria, and Sanford would not allow medical aid. Sanford had previously been convicted of cruelty to his own child. Both cases are appealed, and he is out on bail.

ONE REASON WHY.

Says the *Journal and Messenger*: "Protestants are sometimes at a loss to understand why Romanists seem so faithful in their religious duties (though it is said statistics show that two-and-a-half times as many women as men attend their churches) and how so much money is raised for the support of the clergy. The following, clipped from *The Catholic Telegraph*, helps to a solution of the question. It must be remembered that really effectual prayer is offered only by the priests, and the way to help the souls in purgatory is to pay money for masses to get them out.

"Dear reader, you belong to the greatest mutual aid society that was ever known. Nearly all its members one day get into grievous trouble. But there is this consolation: relief is easily obtained—it can be had simply for the asking by those who have not yet come to their time of pain. This society is the church; the members in trouble are the poor souls in purgatory; you and your fellow believers can help the poor souls by prayers and good works. They cannot help themselves. Will you not help them? You yourself will some time need the help of others. Make yourself deserving of that help."

REST NEEDED.—There may be a word of needed warning for some ministers and other men in the experience of Rev. F. B. Meyer. He has had the habit for many years of reading on trains, and of keeping himself always at the highest pitch of energy. He is now blind in one eye, and his physical condition demands unusual care if he shall live many years. He says of himself: "I think the failure of my life has been in not making a business of taking rest. I have been impressed of late with consternation in view of the fact that I could so long have disregarded with impunity a weekly rest-day."

What Others Say.

A THEORY SMASHED.

A member of the legislature was robbed of \$500 by a highwayman. This disposes of the theory that there is honor among thieves.—*Chris-Evangelist*.

NOT YEARS.

The limit of active service depends upon the man more than upon his age. Some men are old at forty and others young at seventy or eighty.—*Baptist Commonwealth*.

HARD FOR NEIGHBOR.

Somebody asked Spurgeon if a man could be a Christian and belong to a brass band. "Yes, I think he might," Spurgeon replied, "but he would make it very difficult for his next door neighbor to be one."

CANADA.

There never was a time in her history when Canada stood in less danger of being Americanized than today, for never was the Canadian spirit so strong, the Canadian ambition so high, the Canadian confidence so deep and abiding as now, and never before was there so much reason for this strongly throbbing current of national life.—*The Telegraph*.

ONE-SIDED FREEDOM.

The Roman Catholic church has its greatest freedom and amplest protection in Protestant countries. England and the United States (Germany may be included) would never think of treating Catholic institutions as has been done in Italy, France and Mexico.—*Presbyterian Banner*.

SHIBBOLETH.

Many of our Shibboleths would be hard to justify, and when they cease to be significant we ought to train ourselves to part with them without too severe a wrench. It is a solemn thought that the things that can be shaken shall be taken out of the way; but we have the consolation that the great unshakable verities shall endure forever.—*Presbyterian Witness*.

WERE DISAPPOINTED.

Fools come to Canada as well as wise men. Among the thousands who came from England to Manitoba this year a few have returned, saying that they had been victimized. Perhaps they found no saloons on the prairies, and there were no electric cars running past their farms. We are sorry for these Londoners, but the West can get along and is better without them.—*The Wesleyan*.

SABBATH OBSERVANCE.

What folly it is for any of us to make a single compromise in regard to Sabbath observance. This is the one day in the week when all men ought to be able to lay aside the toils and cares of the other six days and live in a new atmosphere. The workingman ought to be jealous of his rights; but when he uses the Sabbath for excursions or amusements he admits the right of man to rob God of His own day, and it is not long before he finds himself toiling seven days for six days' pay.—*Michigan Presbyterian*.