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MONTREAL, WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 24, 1879.

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For the Post and True Witness. CHRISTMAS EVE.

ANNO DOMINO, 24TH DECEMBER. Dark, cold is the night, as the winter clouds fly...

DECEMBER 25TH, ANNO DOMINO, 1879. DARK, solemn the flood of St. Lawrence is sweeping...

As we enter the organ right loudly is pealing, The acolytes move and the choristers sing...

In thousands the faithful are kneeling around him, And thousand eyes that are dim in their tears...

*The twelve fountains where the Israelites drank in the Desert of Sin. Hebrew for Calvary. JOSEPH K. FORAN. Laval University, 24th Dec., 1879.

The Case of Sir Francis Hincks. On Saturday judgment was given by the Hon. Chief Justice Dorion, and Judges Monk, Ramsay, Cross and Tessier...

Archbishop Lynch. At his reception Thursday, in his speeches in reply to the addresses presented him, Archbishop Lynch referred to the sad condition of Ireland...

SERMON BY FATHER HENNING

St. Patrick's Church, Quebec.

A most eloquent sermon was preached in St. Patrick's Church, Sunday morning, by the Rev. Father Henning, who took for his text the 11th chapter of Matthew and 2-10th verses...

and said, "I come to make known to you Jesus of Nazareth," the philosophers said stop! stop! They would not listen to him. Paul could not succeed in making the Athenians believe that the unknown God was Jesus of Nazareth...

MISS FORAN'S DISAPPEARANCE.

Quebec, December 16.—The police have been notified of the mysterious disappearance since Saturday night last of a young woman of this city, 22 years of age, named Maggie Foran...

RAFFERTY, THE ABSCONDER. Further Details of His Flight. QUEBEC, December 18.—Some little excitement was caused in Lower Town yesterday when it became known that Mr. Rafferty, Manager of the St. Sauveur branch of the Stadacona Bank, had absconded to the United States...

AFGHANISTAN.

GOUGH PUSHING ON A FLYING COLUMN.

THE QUEEN DISTRESSED.

LONDON, December 19.—The Afghan excitement is now at fever heat, and the scarcity of news from the front seems to intensify rather than abate it.

GENERAL ROBERTS IS RELEASED. and of the roads by which the Government is endeavoring to send troops to his assistance. In the first place it is roundly declared that the relations between the English Generals are anything but harmonious...

GENERAL GOUGH'S FLYING COLUMN from Gundamuk, and at once halted, losing much valuable time. This procedure has been constantly repeated.

COMPLICITY OF RUSSIA IN BRITISH DISASTERS

In Afghanistan is alleged to justify the expectation that all possible encouragement and assistance from every source is being rendered, and will be rendered to the Afghan forces both in the way of supplies and of suggestions as to manoeuvres.

WHERE HE NOW HAS HIS QUARTERS, began on the night of the Bala Hisar explosion. It was found that they would accommodate only 5,000 men, and the neighboring village of Bomaru had to be allotted to the camp followers.

Why is it that showmen go to the expense of sending to Africa for zebras? If they would buy a mule they would get a ze-bray thrown in.—Cincinnati Saturday Night.

The Weed Sewing Machine Company of Hartford have turned out 850 bicycles during the fall, and have orders for 1,700 more, to be delivered in the spring.

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ments can easily be held by 2,500 men, leaving 6,000 for offensive operations. General Bright has 12,000 men between Samrood and Jaglalak, with 30 cannon, two months' supplies, and complete divisional and brigade transport...

LONDON, December 21.—Cape Town advices of the 2nd of December state that Colonel Murray, with the assistance of the Swazies, attacked and stormed Chief Seccoconi's stronghold on November the 23th. The attack was a complete success, and the town and castle were nearly destroyed...

The Sligo Character of Sedition.

[From the Connaught Telegraph.] The State prosecutions at Sligo have thrown a considerable amount of light on what the powers that be considered sedition. We fear we cannot be guided by the Law Adviser's definitions of the word: ticklish affair. Did we follow them to the letter we could not venture to demand in the most moderate terms the abolition of landlordism or the slightest change in the grand jury laws...

LONDON, December 20.—An official despatch from Gen. Bright, December 18, informed the Viceroy that if Gough was unable to force his way to Cabul with his brigade, he (Bright) proposed to hold the posts from India to Gundamuk, and advance on Cabul with 8,000 men.

CALCUTTA, December 21.—A despatch from General Roberts on the 18th urges Gough's immediate advance in light order, without tents, and only taking ammunition and supplies for five or six days. General Roberts says there is no enemy between Jagdaluk and Cabul to oppose Gough's advance, and adds he will be able to settle affairs at Cabul when Gough arrives.

BOMBAY, December 21.—Gen. Roberts reports that, on the 18th inst. he heliographically communicated with Latabad for a few minutes, and learned that Gough had not yet advanced beyond Jagdaluk.

The Late Mr. Hurteau.

At a special meeting of the Council of the town of Longueuil, held on Friday evening, the 19th of December, the following resolutions were unanimously adopted:—"That the members of this Council are painfully affected by the loss which the town has sustained in the death of its esteemed and regretted Mayor, Isidore Hurteau, Esq., so eminently known as one of our most distinguished citizens, and whose civic services will never be forgotten by the town of Longueuil; that the sincere condolence of the Council be tendered to Mrs. Hurteau and her family on the occasion of his death; "That the funeral of our lamented mayor be a public one, and that the expenses attending it be paid by the town, acknowledging of the signal service he rendered both to the village of Longueuil, of which he was the first mayor, and to the town of Longueuil, and that Messrs. Normand and Racine be authorized to take charge of the funeral. "That the members of the Council wear mourning for the space of one month. "That copies of these resolutions be transmitted to Madame Hurteau and published in the French and English papers in Montreal."