

Messenger and Visitor.

THE CHRISTIAN MESSENGER,
VOLUME LXII.

{ THE CHRISTIAN VISITOR
VOLUME LI.

Vol. XVI.

ST. JOHN, N. B., WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 15, 1900.

No. 33.

Bryan and
Stevenson.

On Wednesday, the 8th inst., at Indianapolis, William J. Bryan and Adlai E. Stevenson received

official and formal notification of their nomination by the Democrats, at the recent Kansas City Convention, to the offices of President and Vice-President of the United States. The notification took place in the Military Park in the centre of the city, and was made the occasion of a demonstration which was regarded as a sort of formal inauguration on the part of the Democrats of the Presidential campaign. The chief event of the day was of course the speech of Mr. Bryan, who, it is said, never appeared to better advantage. Among the sentiments of his speech which were applauded with special zest, were those declaring that, under existing circumstances, "we dare not educate the Filipinos lest they learn to read the declaration of independence and the constitution of the United States; that we would never agree to exchange the glory of this country for that of all empires; that it is not necessary to own a people in order to trade with them, and that the command, 'Go ye into all the world and preach the gospel,' had no rattling gun attachment." Mr. Bryan's promise to convene Congress immediately, if he were elected, to remedy the Philippine situation also evoked general cheering.

The Horrors of
Tien Tsin.

Among passengers who recently arrived from China at San Francisco by the transport "Logan,"

was Mrs. E. B. Drew, wife of the British Commissioner of Customs at Tien Tsin. According to the account of Mrs. Drew, the experience through which foreign residents passed during the days of fighting between the allied and Chinese troops was one of terrible apprehension and suspense; and especially so for the women. Mrs. Drew is reported as saying: "During the bombardment we lived in the cellar of our house. The house was partially wrecked by big shells. Sleep was out of the question and so unstrung were we that but little food satisfied us. There was ever present the haunting fear of the Chinese triumphing and slaughtering every foreigner and convert. Some, probably all, the women were prepared to act in case the Chinese effected an entrance. But it appears the allied officers were also prepared to act. I did not know it at the time, but I learned later that ten or twenty men had been detailed to kill every foreign woman in case the Chinese were the victors." The stories which were cabled at the time, of the brutality of the Russian troops toward the Chinese, are confirmed by Mrs. Drew, who tells of the Russian soldiers tossing Chinese children upon the points of their bayonets, and says there is ample evidence of these terrible atrocities. These reports as to the brutalities of the Russians are confirmed by Rev. Frank Haynes, a Methodist missionary, Prof. Clifford who was attached to the Imperial University at Tien Tsin, and by Mrs. Tenney, wife of Prof. C. D. Tenney, also of the Imperial University. Prof. Clifford is reported as saying: "Looting by the allied forces began as soon as they got the upper hand. The Russians led in this, and went to extremes. They are not usually cruel, but, expecting no mercy, they showed none. I was an eye-witness to eight cold-blooded murders by them. The victims were old and infirm Chinese. The Russians stole everything in sight, looting the houses in the settlement as the Chinese would have done."

Canadians in
South Africa.

The report of Colonel Otter to June 29th, gives the parade state of the first contingent on that

date as effective, 434; sick and at rest in camp, 542; on command, 36. The disposition of the 1,152 men composing the first contingent is as follows: At present in South Africa, 1,012; sent to England, 70; killed or died of wounds, 38; died of disease, 20; transferred, 134. General Hutton in his report to Lord Minto speaks in glowing terms of the conduct of the Canadian Mounted Rifles, 2nd Battalion, in the engagement at Honing Spruit on June 22nd, and says: "I have the honor to submit to your excellency the names of the following officers and men for their conduct in the engagement, and which I have especially brought to the notice of the commander-in-chief: Lt. H. J. A. Davidson, supt. N. W. M. P.; Lt. W. M. Inglis, late Captain Berkshire regiment, wounded; Corp. Fred Morden, wounded

and subsequently killed; Lance Corp. (now Sergt.) Thos. Miles, wounded; Pte. Kerr, wounded, and subsequently killed; Pte. Miles, wounded." A recent despatch says: "A party of Boers near Standerton notified the English officers commanding at Watervaal of their willingness to surrender. Fifteen of Strathcona's Horse were sent to accept the submission of the officer in charge. When the men of Strathcona's Horse approached the rendezvous, in extended order, the Boers opened fire. A sergeant who had raised a troop in Canada, rallied his men. Doing so he rode among the Boers, who demanded his surrender. 'Never,' cried the sergeant, who, while turning his horse was shot dead. The Canadians lost two dead and three wounded out of the party of twenty-two. A recent letter in the Daily News from its correspondent at Pretoria, says, the Canadian Mounted Rifles, with Smith-Dorrien have distinguished themselves with courageous deeds that will rank high among the most brilliant episodes of the campaign. Referring to the Honing Spruit fight, the correspondent speaks in the highest terms of praise about the courage and bravery of Lieut. Inglis, Corp. Morden, Lance-Corporal Miles and his brother, and Pte. Kerr of Pincher Creek, Rocky Mountains, where men are famous for their courage and hardihood. It never boasted braver sons than the four who lay side by side behind a low bank keeping fifty Boers at bay. Morden was the first to fall dead with a bullet through his brain. Kerr was also killed just as help arrived.—After these fine tributes to the brave and soldierly conduct of Canadian soldiers in South Africa, it is painful to learn of the disgrace and deservedly severe punishment which have overtaken two members of the Royal Canadian Dragoons—Privates Hopkins and Pearce, both formerly of A squadron, R. C. D., Toronto, who have been awarded ten years penal servitude each, for collecting arms from burghers without authority and selling them back to them. Col. Lessard in his report of the matter says: "I have no excuse to offer for their rash act, except that I think they were led by another man who styled himself Sgt. Jones of French's Scouts."

The Musical
Bicycle.

The latest thing in bicycles, it appears, is a musical wheel, the invention of a Chicago genius;

and now the happy cyclist, like that lady—immortalized in the nursery rhyme—with "rings on her fingers and bells on her toes," may have "music enough wherever he goes." This musical attachment for the bicycle consists of a frame which fits into the frame of the wheel, and on this frame are stretched piano wires, while on the cross piece are some small hammers operated by pins on a cylinder, and made to strike the wires. The cylinder is caused to rotate by means of a gearing connected with the crank shaft. With one cylinder only the one tune can be played, but the tune may be varied by putting in new cylinders, and the time of the tune will be governed by the pace of the wheelman. When the cyclist has had his fill of music he has only to touch a lever, and—*presto*—the wheel becomes silent. This is perhaps one of the most attractive features of the musical bicycle. The masculine pronoun has been used in this connection advisedly, because the invention does not appear to be adapted to the style of wheel which ladies prefer to ride. Perhaps the Chicago genius was literally a *philanthropist* and was actuated by a desire to place the masculine half of the cycling world on some approach to equality with its better half.

In South Africa. Mr. Wyndam, the British Under

Secretary for War, predicted a week ago in the House of Commons that the end of the war in South Africa would be reached in three weeks' time. In the light of present reports the prediction appears highly optimistic, for it is hard to avoid the conclusion that the Boers are very well able to maintain an annoying warfare against Lord Roberts' forces for several weeks to come. It is possible, of course, that the Boer leaders may conclude that discretion is the better part of valor and lay down their arms, but of this there appears to be no present indication. Apparently they are still busy in the western Transvaal. Commandant Delarey is understood to have captured a garrison of 300 Australians and Rhodesians at Elands River, and there are rumors that Mafeking is in some danger of being besieged again, though it is probable that General Carrington and his force will be able to avert that danger. The Boer General De Wett has succeeded in crossing the Vaal to the northward, and though he has suffered some loss of

baggage, and probably of men, he seems to be making good his escape out of the toils laid for him by Generals Kitchener and Methuen. General Buller had occupied Amerspoort on the 7th, driving the enemy before him, and on the 9th was on the north bank of the Reitspruit, on his way to Ermelo, which is 65 miles from Machadodorp, President Kruger's headquarters. General Rundle has arrested at Harrinith Commandant Marais, 3 field cornets and 30 armed burghers, but appears not to have succeeded yet in capturing General Olivier with his 1,000 men. General Rundle's men are reported to be suffering severely for lack of provisions. General Hunter on August 9 received the surrender of 130 burghers and more than a million rounds of ammunition. Lord Roberts reports the discovery at Pretoria of a clumsily conceived plot of the Boers to carry him off. The ring-leaders and all concerned have been placed under arrest.

In China.

Out of the mass of confused and more or less conflicting statements which news-gatherers in China have forwarded during the past week, there is but little that can be depended upon as certainly trustworthy. It appears, however, to be true that on August 6, after severe fighting, the allied troops occupied Yang Tsun, a place of some strategic importance situated about one quarter of the distance between Tien Tsin and Peking. From this point there is ordinarily communication with Peking both by railway and steamer, but the Chinese are reported to have obstructed the river navigation. To some extent communication between the foreign ministers at Peking and their respective Governments has been resumed. The United States Government has received from Minister Conger a message undated, as most, it not all, such messages are, but believed to have been sent as late as August 5, in which he states that the Chinese foreign office had asked the foreign ministers to fix a date for their departure for Peking under suitable Chinese escort. The minister had replied that they could not, without instruction from their own Governments, leave their posts. Mr. Conger also states that the ministers are unwilling to trust themselves and the other members of the legations to a Chinese escort, and that to ensure their safe departure a body of foreign troops must be sent sufficient to guard the 800 foreign residents, including 200 women and children and also 3,000 native Christians, who could not be abandoned to certain massacre. It would appear that notes substantially identical with that of Mr. Conger were sent by the other foreign ministers at Peking to their Governments. The Chinese minister at Washington announced on Sunday to the United States Government, that he had received from Peking a copy of an imperial decree, by which Li Hung Chang is appointed Plenipotentiary for the purpose of bringing about an immediate cessation of hostilities, pending the negotiations which Earl Li is authorized to conduct for the settlement of the questions between the Chinese and the foreign Governments. In Berlin doubts are expressed as to the genuineness of this decree, and, whether genuine or not, it is unlikely that the Powers will consent to a cessation of hostilities until the Chinese Government can give some trustworthy assurance of the safety of the legations. The fact probably is that the Chinese Government would be glad to give such assurances if it could, but it is not master of the situation. The power is in the hands of the military, and the military is at part in league with the insurrectionary element. The condition of the Chinese Government itself is therefore precarious. It does not dare to show a strong front toward the Boxers and exercise its full authority on behalf of the foreign residents, for fear that in doing so it shall seal its own doom.

The latest trustworthy news from China, as we go to press, is that the United States Government has received from General Chaffee, commander of the American contingent of the Peking relief expedition, news of his arrival on Thursday last at Ho Si Wu, thirty-three miles from Peking. Presumably this means the arrival of the allied forces at that point at the date named. The news inspires hope of the early relief of the legations and other foreign residents at Peking.

—The Viceroy of India has cabled the gratifying news that the recent rains have effected a very decided improvement in the crop prospects of the country. Ample rain has fallen for present agricultural requirements in Gujrat and the greater part of Rajputana and Central India. Seeding is being actively prosecuted so far as the scarcity of plough bullocks permits. If the present favorable conditions continue, considerable autumn crops will be secured and the tension will relax. For the present there is, of course, no relaxation of the famine conditions. The number of persons receiving relief is now about 6,250,000.