The Catholic Register.

"Truth is Catholic; proclaim it ever, and God will effect the rest."-BALMEZ.

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TORONTO, THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 1, 1900.

Current Topics.

The Boer Ware. Waren, upon whom the oppose of the British are fixed as the many who is to lead the way to Ladysmith. The Boer garrison driven from Spion Kop is said to have been anall, yet the British losses were heavy, which goes to show that the Boers are still determined to make the onemy pay dear for any little success. There still remains a footners are still remains of continuous defensive positions, rugged hills and ravnes, between Warren and Ladysmith. Even the Times military export says that it is Warren and Ladysmith. Even the Times military expert says that it is exceedingly difficult to arrive at any ex-act estimate of the advantage gained, that it is necessary to have fuller in-formation before attaching any undue

The feeling in England during the past week has been intense, and an other series of reverses like that of a month ago would tax the patience and ondurance of the English people. The situations around the other armies is situations around the other armies is unchanged, though lively times may be expected soon as Buller has given the word to advance all along the line. The people seem leth to blame the generals, and as blame must be put somewhere, they prefer to place it on the shoulders of the Government. On the other hand Mr. Broderick, Under-Secretary of State, insists that the Government have neither controlled the generals nor situed thom in the forces they have demanded. That the Borra were splendially equipped to make a fight for it is cortain; that the British had miscalculated the fighting strength of the enemy is also certain, for the rest, where the combatants are equally brave and determined the second of the combatants are equally brave and determined the second of the combatants are equally brave and determined. is also cortain, for the rest, where the combatants are equally brave and deter-mined, and the generals equally clever, it is to be expected that the advantage at first will be on the side of the de-fensive. The defence of the three places, Mafoking, Kimberley and Lady-smith, which are the objects of British operations, only tends to prove that it is easier to act on the defensive than on the offensive—less daugerous to shoot from cover than to charge in the

Seven days fighting has left the Book Seven days fighting has left the Boor positions unchanged, almost unbouched, and General Buller's army with the loss of 706 mer, and General Woodgate killed. The news that Spion Kop had to be abandoned during the night after it was taken, created consternation and it was taken, created conservation and depression among Londoners, who are realizing that in very truth the war is only now beginning. The prospect is a long and bloody war, unless the powers intervene, or Great Britain is forced to defend some more important division of hear empire.

The abandonment of Spion Kop and the retreat of Buller's forces south of the. Tagels probably seals the fate of Ladysmith. General White, with his brave little army, will be forced to surrender or have his soldiers slaughtersurrender or have his soldiers slaughter-ed in an attempt to run the gauntlet of the Boer guns and riffes. The news of this last reverse has roused public feel-ing in London and throughout England to a sense of the real situation which can no longer be concealed. The Times faces the facts fairly and honestly and does not hesitate to venture the opinio that the reverse at the Tugela may only prove the fore-runner to a catastr without parallel in British history cept in the surrender at Yorktown. the fore-runner to a catastrop

Canada has sent her Canada and contingents to South
the War. Africa, and the experiment has so acted on an

mont has so acted on an advanced section of the people of the Dominion, that they are advocating what practically amounts to a standing Canadian army maintained at the country's expense. They argue that no country however small, need regard itself as an insignificant factor in defensive warfare. The Imperialistic tendency in this country needs careful and prudent consideration. It is to be hoped that, during the present session of Parliament, this movement to replace the Colonial coliny that prevailed up to the time of policy that prevailed up to the time of policy that prevailed up to the time or the Queon's Jubileo by a new and Importalistic policy, will come in for a soarching examination and a thorough discussion. Whatever is best for Canada is best; but undoubtedly there is a large portion of the Canada people with the public propositions that aim at who will view innovations that aim at who will view innovations that sain a militarism and its consequent expense to the country with anything but satisfaction. It would be an entirely different thing if Causak were a perfectly independent country. Is it

possible that these military gentlemen, deriving food for thought from British reverses and military incapacity in South Africa, think that Great British is no longer in a position to defend her colonies against out-life attacks?

A considerable numb-

er of news-letters from Canadian or of nows-letters from
Contingents.

Canadians at the seat of
war has been published during the past week, telling of the
doings of the lets Cana liau Contingent.
These letters introscally my phof no
more value than hundreds of others
coming from the same quarters, yet will
they be read by Canadiana with more coming from the same quarters, yet will they be read by Canadrans with more interest and more confidence, as farnishing a description of the seenes and rowns in the midst of which those Canadran sold us are serving. Nothing of any special import has been obviousled of the Erst contingent's operations during the week, except the death of two more of its members.

of two more of its members.
The second contingent is on its way. Lord Strathcoua's Horse is in process of formation with Ottawa named as the rallying place. British Colum-bia's offer of 100 men has also been accepted by the Government.

Opinions concerning
War the hemanity, fairness
Sympathy. and national character
of the Boors still continue to differ. These who for various
roasons side with them are content to
scoept anything written or said in the
favor as gospel, while those who are opposed to them swallow with avidity
stories of Boer treachery, ignorance,
barbarity. The truth probably lies
somewhere midway between the two
oxtromes, and no doubt when a fair and
impartial account is written they will
appear to be very ordinary people—not
much werse than the general ruck. It
should be the office of good journalism
to get at the truth. The truth can
only be got from the mass of conflicting
opinion. Opinions are rife at present, the
truth not to be counted upon. The
reader, therefore, should read and put
his own construction on what he reads,
always bearing in mind that the character, leanings, nationality, self-intest
and other human considerations in
fuence and color individual opinion.
These stirring times, when feeling and
sentiment run high, should be devoted
by the fair-timided man more to reading
reflecting and digesting than in accepting as final. Opinions concerning

ing as final. The Queen's War has the British
Speech. Parliment been summoned to face such grave

speech. moned to faces uch grave responsibilities as present themselves at the present juncture of affairs in South Africa. The real cause of the war is thinly masked behind the Botr invasion of British territory, and it is a matter of speculation as to how far those causes as well as the responsibility for, and the disasters of, the war will be investigated at a crucial time like the present, when it behoves freat British to show the world a united and uncomprising front. Against the pride and gratification her Majesty feels in the particitism, bravery and devotion of her troops is set the iremendous loss of life and the sorrow and auffering it outside until the price of the second of the sec life and the sorrow and suffering it entails upon so many thousands of British subjects. The dominant note of the speech, as was expected, is one of determination to pursue the war to a victorious conclusion. Reference is made to the loyalty and active interest in the war displayed by the Colonies, to the offers of native Princes of India to the offers of native Princes of India to place their troops and resources at the disposal of her Majasty for service in South Africa, and to the brilliant course and soldier-like qualities of the Colonial troops in active service. The Samoan Treaty with Germany and the United States is mentioned, a bill is promised for the federation of the Australian Charles for the federation of the Australian Colonies, and measures, it is stated, have been taken by the government to meet the distress caused by the famine and plague in India. The military administration s sheltered behind the lessons of the greatest importance afforded by the war. Increased expenditures are called for both in the Army and Navy departments—the former on account of actual war, the latter in view or further possible war.

of intener possible war.

Sone Free.—Mrs. E. J. Neill, New Armagh P. Q., writes: "For nearly six months I was troubled with burzing schose and pains in my feet to such an extent that I could not sloop at night, and as my foet were badly swollen! Could not wear my booth for weeks last I got a beside of process of the country of the cou

The War and its Lessons.

The War and lis Lessons.

We take the following article, which tends to show that the English people are not by any means a unit on the control of the contr

as how it is to be provided. If we see to credit Mr. Obamberlain's organ, the Birmingham Daily Post the question will not be settled under the fremiership of Lvd Salisbury. According to that Journal, the serviction rumours of the supposed intention of Lord Salisbury to reture at an early date from the position he holds in the Government of the country are true to this extent that "he will not doug bins off the rest to which he is untitled" after the dissolution, when now issues will have to be faced. Are we to regard this as a bint that there is in Birmingham a gentleman who is propared to direct the Government forces in dealing with the new lives we will be supposed to the sup

(By Mary Cross)

None of the objections, says the above writer in December's is-sut of "St. Autorew's Magazine," which may be urged against women taking part in politica, or being on ovier representative boards can be advanced against their assisting the apostolate of the pen or press, by supporting and helping to circulate Catholic literature and publications. It is not enough that children are stught the Catechian at school; the religious instruction they receive from priests and toachers ought to be nutrared into practice at heme, especially by the methor; in asturia Guardian Augel of childhood; the mother can determine what the children shall read, can save them from perinicious trash by feetering a love of what is beautiful, simple, and innocent in the world of letters. We can scarcely per-estimate the importance of woman see a teacher of religion; the number of men who are professedly teaching religion, in other words, promiting Catholic traths, and these aerely can induce those in their care to not only read but also to distribute Catholic books, magazines, pamphiets, etc. Catholic patients in hospitals, innetes of workhouses, and the sack poor, eagerly welcome such gitts, as I have known from experience. * " " History roaders a gloriens surwer to the question "What has woman done, what can she do for Catholic Traths?" Was not our Blessed Lady doing O.T.S. work in visiting St. Eliasbeat? She was the owngoing to the honorantion, making known the details of that stupendous mystery of the acceptance of human respect the gospit, when he was a survey of the trace of the feat. who received the special commendation of faith and making distances of the feat who received the special commendation of faith and making distances of the East. who received the special commendation of her peac, to delice and in continued the pagan upporters and agrees, a Cacily, a Lucy learlessly proclaimed their faith. As examples of zeal and perseverance, we have St. Pulcheria, the grade of the fact who received the special commendation of her peac, t saggiet and shaum, too deep overwist, while of use and should will a sure of liposatily awaying that Christianity suggests no better way of coulding a quarred than a savage and bloody war, it may are woll confess itself to child the county of the county would have been thought forward, a coupt the fact that will be considered by Nonconformist ministers and others as a strong minority who, of explose the clamour of the war pointy of Mr. Friesd Righes, the clientor of the "Methodist Times," and in expressing his dissent from the discovery of Mr. Friesd Righes, the clientor of the "Methodist Times," and in expressing his dissent from the war pointy of Mr. Friesd Righes, the clientor, in a support of the two wilson of Johannsburg in its inst for gold in support of the two wilson of Johannsburg in its inst for gold in support of the two wilson of Johannsburg in its inst for gold in the county of the coun

gious sanction to higamy, doprived to riago of the sublinar character. Nacramout, and destroyed the sublinar character of want, and the thought and the sublinar character of want, and the case of principalities and powers the sacrad rights of maiden, wife, and mother. To quote again from a Probestant writer. F. H. thermopy, "regarding its work in the formation of the character of women, in the case of the part of the case of the condition of the character of women, in the case of the condition of the character of women, in the case of the condition of the character of women, in the case of the condition of the character of women, in the case of the condition of the character of women, in the case of the c

Provinent English Catholics at the Front.

Throe of the British generals in South Africa are Catholics, Najor-General Glory, Major-General Howard and Brigadier-General Howard and Brigadier-General Kolly-Kenny. Among those who left England recently for the front was a son of Baron Russell of Killowen, lord chief justice, who went out as lieutenant of artillery. Other Catholic officers at the front are Major Lord Edmund Talbot, M.P., young brother of the Duke of Norfolk, and perhaps the only English members of parliament to take an active part in the war; Colonel Herbert, C.B., who served a few years ago as commander of the Canadian militis; Capt. E. A. Hurbert, cousin of the former; Capt. Reginald Longueville and his brother Lieut. Ed. Lorgueville, both of the Coldstream goards; Major Francis Lambkir, M.D., 18th Husears; Lieut. Adrian; Case, 10th Hustars; Capt. T. H. O'Rrien, of the Lineashires; Capt. Hury Freck. Clifford, of the Suffolks; Capt. Molyneux, mentioned in the dispatch for his gallant defense of the former Colous which now owns his name; Capt. Francis Owen Lawis, North mear Colous which now owns his name; Capt. Francis Owen Lawis, North mear Colous which now owns his name; Capt. Hury Fredk, Clifford, of the Suffolks; Capt. Molyneux, mentioned in the dispatch for his gallant defense of the former Capt. Mounced Indantry, who has died of wounder received at Graspan; wounded in battle; Lieut. Maxwell Scott, and grandson of the Luncas convert James Hope Scott; and many others.

Lord Kitchener Speaks Out.

Lord Kitchener has been interviewed by the "Leipziger Nonoste Nachrichen," and he speaks of the war as follows:—
Almost without exception out Generals are capable and experienced officers. It is not they but the writers in the Jung-Press in Great Britain that are responsible for our defeats. Those people, head of by cortain Ministers, have depicted the war in South Africa as a military promension. They well-nigh stoned braws Sir William Butier when he referred to the gravity of the situation and admonished them to be moderate. Their foolish shouting brought our brave Generals into controllor and drove to their death herio officers and troops who were compelled to achieve forced successes for the sake of a clique of Stock Exchange specified at Africa without any but the barest preparations for their harmon lous co-operation and for their barmon tone confound at Africa without any but the barest preparations for their barmon lous co-operation and for their victualling. It was supposed that we had to deal with savages, whoreas in reality was accomposed by a Premising to Spondation. It is ridiculous to imagine the pople in London could know nothing of the armaments of the Transvaal. They simply neglected to read the raports sent in by Sir. William Butler.

More Appropriations.

Kore Apprepriations,
A London Cable to the New York
World says that the House of Commons
will be asked to appropriate \$75,000,000
to cover the war expenses up to March
31. This is insulation to the \$50,000,000
stready appropriated. Politicians
predict that it will cost two, three or
four times the above mentioned sum to
see England through her South African
undertaking. Of course, blood and
suffering do not count for much. The
plty of it is that those who made the
war. Have not to do the fighting.

For the Overworked.—What are
the causes of despendency and melanoholy? A disordered liver is one cause
and a prima one. A disordered liver
means a disordered somach, and a
disordered stomach means disturbance
of the nervous system. This brings
the whole body into subjection and the
victim fools sack sil over. Parmeleo's
Yegetable l'illa are a recognized remody in
this etate and roller will follow the re

Pros Five Cents. Fact or Fancy.

Men and Women.

A couple of weeks ago I was one it.d to pass acone rather reverse stricture on the Association Woman, for which I have been not indignately respondent of the weeken and indignately responding the properties of the several granius Association Women. I should have stately principle which were directed chiefly, not exclusively, to the married Association Woman and especially to the A. W. who has a family of children deptaiding on her. If she has only a husband to look after, it does not roater so much. Seriously, this running after publicity out the place of humanity and reform, which has spread to such a romarkable extent smonge Canadian women, cannot but have a permissions sheet on the home. A married woman study is by the side of her 'usband, with his and her children, in the heart of the home.

home. A married woman souty is by the side of her 'unband, with his and her children, in the b-ars of the home.

Club life among women, however, which was started as a fad, has taken quite a strong home as a fad, has taken quite a strong home as a fad, has taken quite as the same and the strong of the same as a fad, has taken quite as the same as a fad, has taken quite as the same as a fad, has taken quite as the same as a fad, has taken quite as the same as a fad, has taken quite as a fad, has taken to same as a fad, has taken as a fad, ha

Read and learn how a lady's cigarette broke up a wedding at Midville, a town in Nebraske. Geneviere Ransom was a young society woman and she smoked cigarettee. Harry Kadar was a young man etyaged to marry her, but he objected to marrying a smoking woman, and politely told her so. Sweet Jonewise, laving to choose between a husband and a cigarettee, preferred the former, who led her to the after, which was her parents' drawing-room. The bouse was full of gueste, the clergyman had bounded to the common, when said her word to be succeeded forms. The bound was her parents' drawing-room. The bound was her parents' drawing-room. The bound to be succeeded for the succeeded forms. The bound was her parents' to cream any but it served its purpose. "You're been smoking again!" he oxiclaimed desperately, and sure enough she bad. A bridesmaid shortly before the ceremony had offered poor Geneviero a cigarette and she could not resist the temptation. Harry walled not resist the temptation. Harry walled out of the boune without a word, the bride fainted, the match was declared off. It is not reported what the worked little brideening did, but it is probable she fluw to the permissions week of deader reasorse. My sympathies are onitiely r is week Goneviero, who, no doubt, with now smoke herself into an untimely grave. Had she only had the sense to smell Harry's breath, beingtip possibly have saved the situation.

To most men at some time in life comes the desire to sindy the sex, if only to satisfy themselves that they are wisor than their neighbors who have tried to make something pozzle, and have only succeeded indifferently well. It is always increasing and frequently instructive to real what a thoughtful woman has to say of her sex on any given point. Probably there has been as much said and written about woman as about man, yet no matter how well informed a follow may be on the subject in the abstract, when be comes to the study in practice he has to begin at the radiucents. A bonuticion Previdence has ordained that woman shall be an eternal connadrum to man—and in that lie the wis, on and mischief of it.—I—O—U.