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The Catholic Register.

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

VOL. VII.—NO. 51.

TORONTO, THURSDAY, DECEMBER 21, 1899.

PRICE FIVE CENTS

Current Topics.

The Boer War

For the first time in an indefinite period of British history, the weather is at a discount as a topic of conversation. War is all the talk, and pretty serious it is too—for the British. Three British Generals, Gatacre, Methuen, and Buller, the Commander in Chief of the British forces in South Africa, have successfully met with decided reverses, if not practical defeat at the hands of their stubborn, heroic foes. To face the situation, the British authorities have sent General Lord Roberts to assume supreme command in South Africa, with General Lord Kitchener as his chief of staff. The gravity of the situation is well summed up in the following utterance of Right Hon. Mr. Asquith, in his address at Newcastle, England, on Saturday, the 10th, inst.

"It is our title to be known as a world power that is now upon trial, and it is fall here, the empire ceases." So it has come to this, that a paltry republic, with scarcely half a million of people to draw from, has set the whole British empire at defiance, and in a few weeks has reduced it to the extreme position of a world power fighting for its life. The recent British reverses form a never-failing subject of jubilation to the continental press, which almost universally exults in Britain's humiliation. Boer stock, of course, has gone up, and it would not be very startling, if the splendid valor, endurance and skill in the art of defensive warfare displayed by the Boers, yet won for them auxiliary recognition from some of Britain's powerful foes, and finally their independence. The weakness of the campaign so far, in the judgment of those who profess to know, has been in the lack of sufficient and efficient artillery, in the neglect of proper scouting, in the want of cavalry, and, evidently in the opinion of the British War Office, in inferior British generalship. The great hope for the future lies in the unobscured bravery and conspicuous gallantry of the British troops, but even this will not avail, unless generalship competent to grapple with the difficulties of the situation are placed in command. The British losses in every battle have been frightful, and apparently far in excess of those of the Boers. But this is only what might have been expected in attacks of almost unassailable positions, held by such redoubtable foes as the Boers. If it were not for the gallant defence of Mafeking, Kimberley and Ladysmith, the three central strongholds against which the Boers have dashed themselves in vain, the position of the British in South Africa would be well nigh untenable. The failure of the Boers to capture or reduce those places leads to the conclusion, however, that the Boers are as much bold in offensive operations as they are in advance in defensive warfare, to which the nature of the country so readily adapts itself. While the British Press and the British people accept the present critical situation with calmness and equanimity, there are signs of dissatisfaction and coming trouble for somebody, probably for Mr. Chamberlain, certainly for the Salisbury Government, if it does not succeed within a reasonable time in making matters more in South Africa. Altogether it is generally acknowledged that Great Britain has received a setback that has scarcely a parallel in the country, and has now a war on her hands that promises to tax the resources of the Empire to the utmost. Should foreign complications arise, as they may, her empire would most certainly be in serious jeopardy.

When the first Canadian contingent started on its voyage to the Cape, it was sagaciously predicted that with fair winds, they would arrive just in time to hear that the Union Jack was waving at Pretoria. It was also surmised that our Canadian boys would be relegated to mere garrison duty, and that the expedition would be something in the nature of a picnic. They arrived at the Cape, and were so disappointed that they would be regarded as treated in the same manner as the soldiers of Her Majesty's soldiers, and were promptly sent to take their chances at the front. This is as it should be, and in with the wishes both of the contingent which desired to go to the front, and of Canadians at home. At present, the Canadian contingent is somewhere in the dangerous neighborhood of Modder River, assisting in guarding

General Lord Methuen's lines of communication. Whatever the fortune of war may lead them, Canada's sons may be relied upon to give a good account of themselves. The adverse turn that the course of the war has since taken, has decided the British authorities to accept further offers of men from the colonies, giving preference to mounted troops. A second contingent, larger than the first will be sent from Canada, so that those who could not gain a place in the first contingent, will have an opportunity of enlisting in the Queen's service, which just at present promises all the fighting most ferocious fire-eater could desire. It is said that the Minister of Militia has been good with applications from all over Canada and the United States, with offers to go on service in South Africa.

The composition of the 2nd Canadian force will be probably as follows:

1. "A" and "B" Batteries of the Permanent Corps. Their peace strength is 230 combined, but the full field strength is over 300, and they will be brought up to that. They will take twelve guns.
2. A force of 500 or more cavalry or mounted infantry, made up from the Northwest Mounted Police and the Royal Canadian Regiment of Cavalry.
3. A battalion of infantry, probably 600 strong. This will be made up of volunteers.

Another Australian mounted contingent of 1000 men will sail for South Africa before Jan. 10. An additional New South Wales battery of artillery is to sail immediately.

The Holy Year

To sanctify the night of December 31, 1900, the Holy Father has granted permission for the celebration of mid night mass in all the churches of the world, along with the privilege of receiving holy communion. The Holy Father also extended the concession, so that midnight mass may be said on the 31st of December, 1899, as well as on December 31st, 1900. The Blessed Sacrament may be solemnly exposed during this mass, with the permission of the ordinary. The universal decree, dealing with the celebration of the Holy Year, will be found on another page. The absurd contention made by a number of papers, that the Pope by his proclamation has shown that in his opinion, the nineteenth century closes on the last day of the present year, so that the new century begins with the year 1900, instead of the year 1901, is disposed of by the words of the decree itself, which says:—

"Since, moreover, at midnight of the last day of December, of the coming year, the present century will come to an end and a new one begin so." The obvious intention of the papers alluded to, was to reflect on the infallibility of the Pope, who, it may be observed, was not on this occasion speaking ex cathedra, or on a question of infallibility. As the Catholic Mirror very reasonably remarks: "The point is a small one and unworthy of the comment it has so far received, but lest any one be misinformed as to the true wording of this document, and not rightly comprehending the dogma of the infallibility of the Pope, should be led astray by arguments designed for such purpose, it is well to give a clear exposition of the true inwardness of the case."

French Canadian

Referring to the unfriendly attitude assumed by the French Canadian Press towards the people of Ontario, M. Benjamin Sulte, of Ottawa, the well known historian and litigator, takes occasion in La Presse to read his fellow-Canadians of the Lower Provinces a very sharp lesson. He says that the French-Canadians in Upper Canada in 1860, numbered less than 10,000; at present they are in the neighborhood of 150,000. After extolling the enterprise and progress evinced by these transplanted Canadians, amongst whom he has lived for thirty-four years, as compared with their compatriots of the Province of Quebec, he charges the French-Canadian press with the deplorable habit of never speaking of the English without insulting them, and in consequence the French-Canadians of Ontario have to pay for those insults. M. Sulte warns the French-Canadian press, that if it persists in such a course, the French-Canadians of Ontario will soon refuse to recognize the bond of sentiment which has hitherto linked them to the mother-province, and which is not so durable as the people of the mother-province may think.

The Manitoba and P.E.I. Election

The defeat sustained by the Conservative Governments of Manitoba and Prince Edward Island, should furnish food for reflection to the Liberal Administration at Ottawa. Whatever may be the cause of this sudden and to some extent unexpected change, whether in Manitoba, it may be due to an unpopular railway policy, and an undue regard for Provincial rights, or in Prince Edward Island, to the prohibition question and popular caprice, it looks as if a Conservative wave were setting in, which may repeat the political tragedy that befel the Mackenzie Government in 1878. It behooves the Liberal party, if they are desirous of retaining power, to put on their thinking caps and get at the root of things. Political waves are no exception to the general rule, and have a characteristic knack of growing in their course in size, force and destructive power. There are not wanting in the country other signs of danger to the Laurier government, chief of which promises to be a Quebec isolated from the rest of the provinces.

Socialists and Religion

The Catholic Times (Eng.) administers a severe but well merited castigation to one, Mr. Burrows of St. John's College, London, a leader of the English Socialists. Mr. Burrows, in a lecture on "Socialism and the church", began by charging the English Socialists with the abolition of cruelty to animals. This may or may not be true; but this lecturer, like most of his kind, could not shut his mouth without turning his venomous shafts against the priests of the Catholic Church.

"In France and Belgium and Austria," said this venacious polemic, "they saw the priests supporting corruption and rottenness, while here in England they were invariably opposed to popular education."

The Catholic Times takes the occasion of paying the following tribute to the energy, devotion to duty and self-sacrifice of the Catholic priests of England:—

"When and where did Mr. Burrows learn of the fact of the world in which we live is very limited. The true sacerdotalists are the Catholics, and their Church and clergy have no more to fear from the attacks of the Socialists. At times Catholic priests have been too conservative or too much attached to feudal or dynastic notions just as other folks, but take the broad page of history since the inception of the Christian era, and the name of the priest is the name of the hero of the world. The great truth that the sacerdotalist, the priest, has been the poor man's friend. He rescued him from barbarism, stood up for his rights when trodden upon by the baron or the monarch, and against the progress of civilization, and placed him upon the path of progress. When tyrants became unbearable the priest heeded not to lay down his life for the people, and in the long roll of the Church's martyrs are the names of large numbers who have sacrificed for the honor of the altar is that they served the people even to the shedding of their blood. To come to our own day, what right, we ask, has the Socialist to proclaim that our priests are against the progress of the laborer and the poor? We wish to say nothing disparaging of the daily labors of the Socialists. True, we feel sure, Socialists who continually exert themselves according to their lights and to the best of their ability for the improvement of their fellow-men. But we put it to Mr. Burrows whether their self-sacrifice in ministering to the poverty-stricken and thus suffering equally to that of the Catholic priests. Go at once to the man who weans and misery have found their victims and whom are you more likely to meet? The Socialist or the priest? Not even Mr. Burrows will venture to deny that on every single occasion upon which the Socialist may be encountered, the priest will be met with a hundred times. Tried by the inflexible test of personal service, Mr. Burrows' charge not only breaks down but tells against himself. Nor does his accusation against the priests in France, Belgium, and Austria help to support it. In France the clergy may have been carried away by Chauvinism during the Dreyfus case. This, however, is a disease not confined to France. In Belgium the priests are everywhere working for the interest of the people, and the benefits which the toiling classes have received from the Catholics whilst in power are the best proofs of the progressive spirit in which the Government is conducted. The Catholic clergy of Austria as a whole are also faithfully doing their duty by the people, and are in favor of useful legislation for them. The assertion that the clergy in England have invariably been opposed to popular education is absurd and need refutation. We Catholics, despite much poverty, have taxed ourselves heavily for elementary education; our clergy have built schools and stroged hard to maintain them. It is equally untrue now to be told by a platform Socialist that the Catholic priests have been against popular education. Mr. Burrows is rendering poor service to the cause which he professes to champion.

So far, the English Socialist, we think

their continued brethren, have shown little inclination to identify themselves with hostility to religious creeds, knowing well that to do so would be to do it to sterility and destroy its usefulness, which can only be maintained by allowing full religious freedom to its votaries. A leader who will make such ill-founded and unjust statements as those quoted above, can be of no practical use to the cause he advocates.

The Support of the Catholic Press

In dealing with the question of the co-operation of all sections of Catholics, in promoting the work of the Catholic Press. The London Monitor, which somewhat comprehensively claims to be the Catholic organ for Great Britain, has something to say as applicable to the English speaking Catholics of Canada, as it seems to be to the Catholics of the Mother Isles. After claiming the right to deal freely, even with party politics, if they choose to come its way, it offers these very sensible remarks, which we in Canada endorse most heartily:

"Having, therefore, explained our position on the matter, we think we may therefore venture to appeal to the Catholic community, to take an active interest in the work of spreading Catholic literature and Catholic news papers. We do not ask them especially to push our publications or to recommend them, although, of course, we shall be very glad to do so; but we must surely strike everyone as a short-sighted and unfortunato policy to stand by and see our Catholic homes invaded by 'Godless literature, our Catholic youth of both sexes more or less degraded, our healthy and progressive spirit even grown up Catholics wax cold and indifferent under its influence, without taking some step to supply an antidote? And the only effective antidote is sound and healthy Catholic reading."

It is impossible, of course, to make a Catholic newspaper consist of only matters referring to the Church and the Priesthood. In sketching out an ideal Catholic journal, our Holy Father the Pope, expressly warned Catholic journalists to attempt to make a Catholic newspaper of the week, a Catholic journal must deal from a Catholic point of view with questions of the day, political, social, and industrial; it must be a mirror of the week's news; it must give attention to such sports, to books, and to a multitude of things that are not in themselves expressly Catholic, but which interest Catholics as they interest other members of the community, and to such subjects are treated of in a Catholic or at least are shorn of anything injurious, and while, in the same publication, we are able to give attention to the purely Catholic questions, we can hope to induce Catholics to buy our publications and support them, and to contribute from their homes other publications of a character that may be mischievous and harmful.

Our aim is, therefore, to make popular newspapers for the masses of the people, papers that will attract attention of even the poorest of our Catholic population, which will provide suitable reading for them, and that will not root them by being over their heads or "high-bred," that young and old will be inclined to read them. These are the lines we have deliberately adopted, and they are the lines upon which we intend to proceed. No doubt we have not the approval of everyone for our policy, but that is unavoidable. What we do contend is—and we defy anyone, no matter how much they differ from us, to deny it—that our papers, at any rate, are Catholic in tone and feeling, and create a Catholic atmosphere around them, and that, however much some people may dissent, say, from our official views, they are bound to admit that, in this respect, we preach no doctrine that is un-Catholic. We are free to hold opinions in politics of the most advanced character, so long as we do not conflict with Catholic teaching, and, after all, even the politics of the non-Catholic Press, whether they are on one side or the other, are not always such as Catholics can heartily approve of.

Our claim upon the support of our fellow-Catholics is, therefore, we think, a strong one, and we shall continue to urge it with all possible energy, until we succeed in accomplishing our purpose, which we can do no harm by restating, name.

To secure that a Catholic publication of some kind, shall find its way once a week into every Catholic home in these countries. We might add, that as far as Canada is concerned, party spirit is carried to such an extent, that a Catholic paper distinctly stamped with a party stamp would be likely, certainly, to find favour in the eyes of only about one half of the reading public. The Catholic paper in Canada, therefore, if dependent upon public favour for its subsistence, must appeal to the whole Catholic body, and bear the name at least of being independent in politics—better still, if it is really and truly independent. From a politically useful standpoint, the Catholic party paper might often find itself greatly hampered by its own partisanism, in rendering service to the Catholic cause, particularly in a country where the party spirit is so rampant, and antagonistic creeds. But that the Catholic paper should be free to take up the cudgels, where the liberties or privileges of the Catholic community are assailed, or on questions of national importance must be conceded, other-

wise its sphere of influence would be greatly curtailed. It is important to be connected with this important question of the sphere and usefulness of the Catholic Press, Cardinal Vaughan says: "We are now in the age of the apostolate of the press. It can penetrate where no Catholic can enter. It can do its work as surely and as fast as the devil. It is an instrument in our hands. All should take part in this apostolate; here at least there is work for everyone. For ten who can write, 10,000 can subscribe, and 100,000 can scatter the seed. Say not that to scatter books, pamphlets, tracts, and leaflets is to sow bad loss, if you have but a grain of faith in the gospel parable of the sower. God Himself, with bountiful hand, is always sowing His grace over the world of men, and what is the history of His sowing? Is greater praise to spring up under the hand of the Master? But for every effort we make there is an eternal reward. We need writers, a multitude of subscribers, and a numberless body of men and women sowing and scattering the truth wherever English is read or spoken."

Archbishop Ireland also has recently said: "There is a great power for good in the hands of the laity if they will only exercise it, and in particular, this power can be used to excellent advantage by the Catholic Press. In my country the Catholic Press has been most instrumental in pressing upon the Government of the day, the needs of the people, and it should be the same in yours. Don't hesitate to make your journals representative of the shades of Catholic opinion. Let in plenty of fresh air, and let each organ be distinctive. I am a strong advocate of viewing things outside faith and doctrine in a healthy and progressive spirit, and of treating all matters not bound by the decision of Holy Church in a broad and critical light."

The Ethics of Reviewing

Catholic writers, not unfrequently and with some show of justice, complain that their literary efforts do not attract the attention of the general press, that notice and appreciation accorded to the works of non-Catholic writers. On this question in the ethics of reviewing the Weekly Register, London, England, has the following thoughtful and appropriate remarks, which we reproduce in justice to the non-Catholic press and Catholic writers, who will readily see that works of a distinctively Catholic character will be of exceptional interest only to the Catholic Press. But it is the duty of the latter to be fair in dealing with the works of Catholic writers, and not to ignore or damn them with faint praise as is too frequently the case.

"This counsel of faithful dealing would seem to have a special application to the Catholic Press. Books written from our point of view appeal to a relatively small and close public; they often treat of points which are obscure or uninteresting to the general reader; and so they are apt to get less than their fair share of attention from the non-Catholic Press. It follows that their criticism by our papers should be as intelligent and well-informed as possible, because our people depend upon this for whatever information or guidance they may desire in regard to such books. On Catholic reviewers, the whole responsibility rests for a scholarly presentation of our own special literature; a presentation which we would have as critical, and with as much independence of opinion as a strict and independent criticism to the books of Catholic authors, whether they deal with technical or general subjects. It has been a distasteful, but we venture to say, a very salutary task, to criticize unfavourably in these columns, more than one such book. Nor can our papers permanently command the confidence of our public in the estimates they put forward of Catholic work, unless they maintain as high a level of competence as that of the non-Catholic Press. We are afraid that there is a good deal of indiscriminate praise showered on Catholic books from a mistaken sense of esprit de corps. Of course we do not wish our critics to dip their pens in gall, or to take up a passionless, unadmiring attitude; but we do claim that their views should be executed adequately, fearlessly, and without favour."

An Appeal From the Orphan.

The Sisters of St. Joseph in charge of the Sacred Heart Orphanage, Sunny-side, respectfully call the attention of the public to the fact, that there are nearly three hundred children in the Institution, and as they have not the necessary means to procure for them, what they would wish, they take this opportunity of asking their kind friends and benefactors, to remember the "no class little ones" at Sunny-side, by having their "Christmas Cheer" with them, and by so doing, add to the happiness and pleasure of the children, as well as their own.

The orphanage book for a visit from "Santa Claus," but it is only through the charity and liberality of the good citizens, that they may expect to receive a call from him.

Our Lord loves the poor, and those who love the poor will be abundantly recompensed hereafter.

A BEAUTIFUL CEREMONY

Miss Minnie Heddell, of Waterloo, takes the White Veil.

The beautiful, little inside Chapel at the Convent, was the scene yesterday afternoon of an interesting and impressive ceremony, when Miss Minnie Heddell, of Waterloo, took the white veil. Miss Heddell is an exceedingly bright and clever girl, a graduate in music of Toronto Conservatory of Music, and holds five certificates from the Toronto Art School.

She is very proficient in painting and fancy needle work. She will be, therefore, a valuable addition, intellectually as well as religiously to the ranks of those devoted sisters of the Holy Sepulchre Community who have dedicated their lives to Mother Church.

Rev. Father Solanus, Superior of the Franciscan order, acted as Officiant while the Rev. Father D. Fennelly, C. R. of St. Jerome's College, Berlin, addressed the candidates on the nature and importance of the step she was now taking, explaining in eloquent and impressive language, the great sacrifice she was making and the nobility and sanctity of the life she had chosen with the view of consecrating herself more completely to the sweet service of Jesus Christ.

Father De Paul filled the office of Deacon, and Father Hurman that of second assistant. Five exquisitely gowned little girls, Henrietta Collins, Nellie Radlow, Augusta Crotty, Rhea Martin, and Lea D-zill acted as Flower Girls and added much to the beauty and solemnity of the ceremony.

DECEMBER: A CHRISTMAS DREAM

Tell me now for the best or worst, Who is the last, who is the first Of all the palmers that Eastward go, Dragging their shackles across the snow?

The first is Adam, and was in Eden, For the way is heavy to far Judee, The second is Eve, and her eyes are dim, But her smile is for Adam, and none but him.

The third is Lillith, and fair is she, As only a spirit of air can be; The babe she strangled this very night Lies in its cradle stark and white.

The fourth is Adam, the fifth is Cain, For the way is heavy to far Judee, The second is Eve, and her eyes are dim, But her smile is for Adam, and none but him.

Ho! ho! now for the best or worst, Who is the last, who is the first Of all the palmers that Eastward go, Dragging their shackles across the snow?

The first is Adam, and was in Eden, For the way is heavy to far Judee, The second is Eve, and her eyes are dim, But her smile is for Adam, and none but him.

—Nora Hopper, in St. Peter's.

THE BELLADON OF CALVIN'S CHRISTMAS

By Helen Gray Cook
When you hear the fleecy, hoarse
Horn of the startled street,

Clang! Clang! Each to his station!
Clang! Clang! To hear the way

In the morning blue and mild, of the
Mother and all bells were calling,

In the morning, blue and mild, for a
Woman and a child,

Ring, swing, bells in the steeples!
Ring the Child, and ring the Star,

Thirty-four swung out again with
Her mighty, bounding team,

Clang! Clang! Quick to clear the
Way!

Teering, plunging through the din,
Saw a man can hold them in!

Oh, the bells that hide the Star!
Oh, the fire-gong beating fierce

Just a second there to choose, and
A life to keep or lose—

Ring, swing, bells in the steeples!
Ring the Star and ring the Cross,

Ring, swing, bells, to tell the people
God is pleased with many men,

The Keeping of a Tryst.

She walked past the show window
Two or three times, turning the

The corsage was of delicate violet
Silk covered with a network of silver

Her face was pale, her eyes were
Deeply shadowed, and her hair

Why had he been so cruel, as he had?
Why had he hesitated to retract his

She hesitated, about to turn away
From the upper scene. She would

Lo! she stood, undetected, a small
Girl approached—a wanderer from

Why should he not commit a folly if
It pleased him? Only that he

Why should he not commit a folly if
It pleased him? Only that he

Why should he not commit a folly if
It pleased him? Only that he

Why should he not commit a folly if
It pleased him? Only that he

Why should he not commit a folly if
It pleased him? Only that he

Why should he not commit a folly if
It pleased him? Only that he

Why should he not commit a folly if
It pleased him? Only that he

to allow a mere matter of dollars
and cents to stand between her and
her dear?

Three days after this incident was
Christmas Eve. As usual, she had or-

It was within a minute or two of the
dinner hour when the young husband

He hurried to his dressing-room. Ex-
citedly he was sitting at the table

She was sitting at the table facing
him. The long light, when the girl

He was not fatigued by the work of
the day, but by his hurry

He turned, and in the aperture of with-
drawn curtains his wife stood,

The man who had looked at her with
such a look of admiration, and who

Well, they were not the only ones
who had made a mistake in marriage.

Why had he been so cruel, as he had?
Why had he hesitated to retract his

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Why had he been so cruel, as he had?
Why had he hesitated to retract his

When she after all but a dream
of a life, she found in a real and

He remembered how he had hurried
his dresser to that night. He could

The intervening years were blotted
out. He forgot all the quarrels, the

Nearer—nearer—slowly the figure
of the woman, living life on his

He turned, and in the aperture of with-
drawn curtains his wife stood,

Why had he been so cruel, as he had?
Why had he hesitated to retract his

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Death of a Prominent Water
Nationalist.

We regret to announce the death of
Mr. John McCrossan, Strabane, which

He was in his room by the time he
had reached this stage of his reflection

He remembered how he had hurried
his dresser to that night. He could

The intervening years were blotted
out. He forgot all the quarrels, the

Nearer—nearer—slowly the figure
of the woman, living life on his

He turned, and in the aperture of with-
drawn curtains his wife stood,

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THE HOME SAVINGS AND LOAN COMPANY LIMITED. ESTABLISHED UNDER LEGISLATIVE AUTHORITY. CAPITAL, - \$2,000,000.

Office, No. 78 Church Street, Toronto. DIRECTORS: HON. SIR FRANK SMITH, Senator, President. EUGENE O'KEEFE, Vice-President. JOHN FOY, EDWARD STOCK, JOHN RYAN. SOLICITOR: JAMES J. FOY, Q.C., M.A.

J. E. SEAGRAM DISTILLER AND IMPORTER OF WINES AND LIQUORS WHISKIES MALT and Family Proof OLD RYE, ETC.

P. BURNS & CO. Coal and Wood. Established 1856. Wholesale and Retail Dealers in.

ANGLIN & MALLON, BARRISTERS, SOLICITORS, NOTARIES, ETC. Office: 100 Adelaide and Victoria Streets, Toronto.

FOY & KELLY, BARRISTERS, SOLICITORS, ETC. Office: Home Building and Loan Company's Building, 80 Church Street, Toronto.

HEARN & LAMONT, BARRISTERS, SOLICITORS, PROCURATORS IN ADMIRALTY, NOTARIES, ETC.

MACDONELL, BOLAND & THOMPSON, BARRISTERS, SOLICITORS, NOTARIES PUBLIC, ETC.

McBRADY & O'CONNOR, BARRISTERS, SOLICITORS, ETC. Office: 88, Canada Life Building, 46 King St. West, Toronto.

THOMAS MULVEY, BARRISTER, SOLICITOR, PROCURATOR IN ADMIRALTY. Office: 11 Quebec Bank Chambers, 9 Toronto St., Toronto.

O'KEEFE'S SPECIAL Extra Mild Ale. Turn it Upside Down. DRINK IT ALL - NO ORS - NOT CARBONATED.

The Cosgrave Brewery Co. OF TORONTO, LTD. Malsters, Brewers and Bottlers.

A. M. ROSEBROUGH, M.D. Eye and Ear Surgeon to St. Michael's Hospital.

CHARLES J. MURPHY, Ontario Land Surveyor & Co. Office: Cor. Richmond & Bay Sts., Toronto.

Empress Hotel. Corner of Yonge and Gould Streets, TORONTO. Terms: \$1.50 per day.

Children Have Catarrh. THE SINGER SEWING MACHINES. SIMPLE STRONG SILENT SPEEDY.

Dr. Chase's Catarrh Cure. For the beginning of consumption, which claims as its victims the young men and young women.

COWAN'S Royal Chocolate and Hygienic Cocoa. EPPS'S COCOA. GRATEFUL. COMFORTING.

EPPS'S COCOA. Distinguished everywhere for Delicacy of Flavour, Superior Quality, and highly Nutritive Properties.

THE TEMPERANCE AND GENERAL LIFE ASSURANCE CO. OFFERS THE BEST PLANS AND RATES AND THE MOST DESIRABLE FORMS OF LIFE INSURANCE OBTAINABLE.

TEACHER WANTED. For R. C. Murphy School, No. 10, Toronto. For R. C. Murphy School, No. 10, Toronto.

The Catholic Register.

PUBLISHED EVERY THURSDAY

OFFICE 40 LOMBARD ST., TORONTO

Subscription price, \$2.00

Approved and recommended by the Archbishop, Bishop and Clergy.

ADVERTISING RATES

Terms of advertisements in this office

Additional notices on contracts

Notices should be made by post office order, Express Money Order, or by Registered Letter. If by other means, receipt must be added for delivery.

When sending address, the name of former Post Office should be given.

No advertisements for matrimonial purposes.

Special Rates, Marriages and Deaths, 50 cents.

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 21, 1899

A Merry Christmas

"Fear not, for behold I bring you good tidings of great joy that shall be to all the people," said the Angel of the Lord nearly 1900 years ago.

"Glory to God in the highest; and on earth peace to men of good will," sang the army of Angels of the Lord over the lonely hills of Bethlehem some 1900 years ago.

It would seem as if the Babe of Bethlehem had been born, had lived, and suffered and died in vain.

The Christmas atmosphere, as it prevails over the wide British empire to-day is so full of war and slaughter that Christmas with its peaceful, happy, hallowed associations seems out of place.

But sunshine or shade, in peace or during a time of savage warfare, the Catholic Church is ever the same.

Happy, indeed, should we be, and thankful should we be in this fair and happy land, to be able to welcome the Prince of Peace in our churches, free from the turmoil of bloody strife, and the sorrow and suffering it entails on the bereaved and waiting ones at home.

Christmas in all Christian countries has always been regarded as the season of gladness, of the reunion of families, of all those dear associations and memories that are calculated to soften the heart and move the soul to tenderness and religious devotion.

No country in the world lends itself more readily to the observance of Christmas than Canada, if our ideals are those of northern nations, and nowhere is its advent looked forward to with so generous a disposition to make the best of it in every way

it comes. All nature seems to assist in heralding its approach, covering the earth with its mantle of snow, and lulling all the land into a peaceful, prayerful stillness, as if in preparation for the coming of the Infant Saviour.

Christmas is also preeminently the children's festival, and it is meet that it should be so; for did not our Divine Lord when grown into manhood say: "Suffer little children to come unto me?"

Let the children have their way just for one day, remembering that He too was once a child. Turn the house over to them, parlor and kitchen. What matters it if a few toys are broken? Toys are made to be broken.

The Boer War.

The reverses which have attended the British in South Africa during the past week, have somewhat dampened the ardor of those who erstwhile were predicting a speedy and easy victory.

And yet it must not be concluded on the strength of the exultant shouts of a continental press, almost wholly hostile to Great Britain, that the British arms have sustained an irremediable defeat, while it must be candidly admitted that the Boers have proved, in military parlance, foemen worthy of British steel, and adepts in the art of defensive warfare.

any—never should have been a necessity. If prudence and wise diplomacy on both sides had been allowed to prevail. Nor is it right to hold President Kruger wholly responsible for the bloody work inaugurated by his so-called, hastily and ill-advised ultimatum, which the Right Hon. Joseph Chamberlain and his supporters, would have the world believe precipitated the conflict.

So far, it must be admitted that the advantage remains with the Boers, whom with the present available forces, it seems impossible to expel even from British territory—not to speak of the arduous and dreadful work which lies before the British, when they have carried the war into the home land of the Boers.

Meanwhile, even the English press has not been, and is not a unit on the question of the righteousness of the war, opposition to it, however, being chiefly confined to the radical journals, such as Reynolds's newspaper, and Labourers' Truth.

While it is far from our purpose to impugn the rights of the press to the free and open discussion of all public questions, by which only we can gauge the trend of public sentiment, now becoming such an important factor in determining the grave issues affecting the life and welfare of nations, we have no hesitation, so far as we ourselves are concerned, in recognizing and acknowledging the danger that attaches to intemperate and untimely utterances in a country like Canada, and at a critical time like this.

It is openly charged that all the French Canadian journals of any note, except Mr. Pessard's paper, La Solle, are, like their Parisian brethren, distinctly hostile to the British in their war against the Boers.

and it must also be admitted that the enterprise shown by some of our leading papers, in gathering news from the remotest corners of the globe, is phenomenal and highly creditable.

There can be no doubt concerning the prevailing sentiment among the vast majority of the Canadian people, and the present attitude of the French-Canadian Press will but serve to accentuate the fact that there is a clean out line of cleavage between Quebec and the other provinces, which threatens to widen into a breach, aiming at the disruption of the Canadian people, and the destruction of national aims and ideals.

The Canadian people is made up of various elements, differing in race and in creed, and the development, progress and welfare of this country can only be secured by the process of toleration, of mutual consideration and concession.

On the other hand, so far as England is concerned and apart from Canada, no fair-minded and well-informed man could reasonably expect the Irish people, either of the motherland, or in the various parts of the British Empire, to which they have been driven by hard conditions, and to whose progress and development they have contributed so much by the energy, genius, versatility and good citizenship that are characteristic of their race, to greatly sympathize with England in this her day of trial.

Newspaper Education.

It behoves the Catholic parent to keep a watchful eye on the literature that finds its way into his house. It comes chiefly in three forms, news paper, the magazine and the novel or story, and of the three, the latter mentioned possesses decidedly the greatest possibilities for doing mischief in the home.

and it must also be admitted that the enterprise shown by some of our leading papers, in gathering news from the remotest corners of the globe, is phenomenal and highly creditable.

It is the custom in various European countries for the government to exercise a press censorship, oftentimes of a rigorous nature, because it realizes a fact to which the American people seem to be blind, and the Canadian people dim-sighted; namely, that newspapers are the directors of popular thought, and must exercise an enormous influence on the formation of the character of the nation.

In our cities may be found exposed or not exposed, according to the conscience of the news vendor, for sale, vile sheets that, in spite of the presence of press Guardianship on the part of the Canadian Government, find their way across the border and into the hands of readers who gloat over the prurient literary trash and its accompanying vulgar and immoral illustrations.

Alluding to American papers, many of which find their way into Canada, an American exchange says, "There is another aspect of the case, and this is the unappealing lawlessness to which certain newspapers lend their columns. We refer particularly to the 'personal advertisement' columns. In these, under cover of carefully chosen phrases, propositions are advanced whose meaning palpable through the thin mask of words, is so licentious that we can only allude to them in this general way.

is useless to appeal to journalists whose self-respect, or lack of self-respect permits them to accept the profits of so degraded and degrading a business, but intelligent readers have the matter in their own hands.

To come to worthless magazines and novels filled with the veriest trash, their name is legion. They creep into the home, the office, the school room, perverting the minds of the young, and undermining and destroying the work of master, teacher and parent for good. It should never be forgotten that one of the possibilities of education is an enlarged sphere for evil as for good.

Power of the Catholic Press.

To judge a case fairly one should hear both sides. No fair-minded man would care to condemn an accused person before hearing what he has to say for himself. This principle is admitted on all questions except religion.

It is acknowledged by missionaries and priests who have made it a special study that the objections against the faith and practice of the Roman Catholic Church come from misunderstanding the true teaching of our Holy Religion and the too ready ear given to its covert but sworn enemies, who through the instrumentality of pulpit, hall and press are ever seeking, even in these days of enlightenment and progress, to preserve that absurd anti-Catholic attitude that holds the ignorant and bigoted masses in an unchristian bondage.

Protestants as a rule do not care to hear the truth concerning the Catholic faith, would not hear it if they had the chance, and yet they profess to know all about it. They walk in the self-satisfied one-sidedness of a reflected light and imagine that the Catholic Church is buried in an Egyptian darkness of ignorance, superstition and irrational dogma.

Without seeking to reflect on the religious belief of anyone, it may be fairly stated that in distinctly Protestant countries or in countries in which Protestants form the great majority, Catholics are the best educated people in the land, not only so far as their own religion is concerned, but in the knowledge of other prevailing creeds. They are the only people who hear both sides, and this they are more or less forced to do, if they peruse the ordinary newspapers in order to keep pace with the times.

IRISH NEWS.

ATHLON.

While returning from Ballycastle on the 19th inst. a certain Mr. Daniel Christie, of Craigie, Ballinacorney, was thrown out of his carriage...

ARMAGH.

The solemnity of the Sacred Heart, Loughliggity, recently presented the Rev. P. Moore, Curate, with an address and testimonial on the occasion of his removal to Carrington. The occasion which made the presentation...

CARLOW.

The feast of the Presentation was celebrated with great appropriateness for the blessing and opening of the foundation stone of the new schools about to be erected in Carlow in connection with the community of nuns of the order identified by the name with this festival of the Blessed Virgin.

CAYAN.

At the last meeting of the Bawaby branch of the United Irish League arrangements were made for holding a range of meetings to strengthen the position of the United Irish League in that part of the county Cavan...

CLARE.

At the last meeting of the Clare county council, Mr. M. A. Scannan, J.P., chairman, presiding, Mr. P. Loughery proposed the following resolution: "That we, the undersigned, do hereby find it again imperative upon us to draw the attention of the county council to the serious consequences...

DERRY.

The Rev. Thomas McWilliams, curate at Magherafelt, has been appointed pastor of Ballinacorney, in succession to the late Rev. Hugh McCooey.

DONEGAL.

O'Donnell branch of the United Irish League of Letterkenny recently requested the Strabane Dramatic Club to give their services in connection with the proposed monster demonstration to be held in January next.

DUBLIN.

The memory of Wolfe-Tone, the Manchester martyr, and of others of the patriotic dead, was honored by a procession through the principal streets of Dublin, and the placing of wreaths on the national monuments in Glasnevin cemetery and in other parts of the city.

LONGFORD.

At the meeting of the Executive of the United Irish League was held in Carrick-on-Shannon last week. The following were proposed: "That we, the undersigned, do hereby request the Nationalists of Lower Drumrilly to take immediate steps to form a branch of the United Irish League, and to join into line with the rest of South Leitrim, as in no other district is the spirit of active patriotism more necessary."

Dublin, which has political, social and historic memories. The house was in the early decades of the present century the Dublin residence of the Marquis of Conyngham.

Major Harty, a landlord and justice of the peace, was charged with criminal charges with shooting at and wounding Patrick Meenan in a rural high, near Ballagh. Without cause Great efforts were made to hush up the affair, as the accused was a landlord and J.P.

GALWAY.

The decision of the local government board refusing to sanction the appointment of a Sister of Mercy as nun of the Galway workhouse, has aroused the Galway urban council to counter action. There is prevalent a deep spirit of resentment...

LIMERICK.

Mr. William T. H. Arden, has sent \$10 to Mr. William O'Brien as a subscription to the United Irish League fund.

MAYO.

At the meeting of the Mayo county council, Mr. J. J. O'Halloran, chairman, presiding, Mr. J. J. O'Halloran, chairman, presiding, Mr. J. J. O'Halloran, chairman, presiding...

MEATH.

The Dublin Gazette announces that Shaun Mangin, Esq., of Dunboyne Castle, Dunboyne, Lieutenant of said county with the approval of the Lord Lieutenant of Ireland, has appointed Mr. J. J. O'Halloran, Esq., J.P., of Rathoath Manor.

MONAGHAN.

The office of secretary to the Monaghan County Council has been resigned by P. O. Westmore. It is held by P. O. Westmore.

KILKERRY.

Captain W. E. Farnes of River-View, Waterford, has been appointed agent of the Earl of Bessborough's estates, in succession to the late Mr. F. Weston Walsh, J. P.

ROSCOMMON.

Sincere sympathy goes forth to that Sterling Castlerena Nationalist, John Fitzgerald, and his family, on the death of his daughter, a young girl, who died on the 10th inst. She was only twenty-one years old, and a native of this county.

There would be a political display as a custom of the Court-house, it must be said, and he had instructed the police accordingly. The latter were at the meeting of the Court-house and drew forth the following resolution: "That we protest against the manner in which the high sheriff of this county has thought fit to refuse a petition...

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A WORD OF CAUTION.

The old saying that "a man, who is not a doctor, should not give medical advice," is only another way of saying that you can't give "free medical advice," or any other kind of medical advice who hasn't the proper education and a certificate in the fact in the form of a diploma. And in this particular a woman has no more privilege than a man. She can't give medical advice without medical education and medical knowledge.

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THE EXCELSIOR LIFE INSURANCE CO.

Our Annual Report for 1898 shows as the result of the year's operations the following: Substantial Increase in the Important Items shown below:

Table with financial data: Premium Income, Interest Income, Total Income, etc.

THE WESTERN ASSURANCE COMPANY

INCORPORATED 1851 CAPITAL - 2,000,000 FIRE and MARINE HEAD OFFICE - TORONTO, ONT.

WM. A. LEE & SON

General Agents 10 ADELAIDE STREET EAST TELEPHONES 692 and 2076.

DOMINION LINE ROYAL MAIL STEAMSHIPS

RATES OF PASSEGE - FIRST CABIN - Montreal to Liverpool or London, etc.

For Croisiers, Beads, MONUMENTS

McCabe & Co. Undertakers and Embalmers 299 Queen St. East

J. YOUNG, THE LEADING Undertaker & Embalmer

M. McCABE UNDERTAKER

F. ROSAR, Sr. UNDERTAKER

Elizabeth Stuart Phelps, in telling of her struggles to acquire fame and fortune, says: "Do not write if you can earn a fair living at teaching, or bookkeeping, or electricity, or hat-making. Make shoes, weed cannaes, survey land, keep house, make ice-cream, sell cakes, clean and polish shoes; but, if a lightning bolt should strike you, or a book agent, before you set your heart upon it, that you shall write for a living. Do nothing hasty, but do not wait until you are an invalid, and then want you and people read your own letters. Do not wait until you are a drop of ink for influence, but let your pen pass by an old writer any day for an unknown and gifted new one, with power to say a thing in a fresh way. Do not flit with your pen."

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BLACK TOM,

The Run of Cooper's Creek.

AN ADVENTURE IN THE WEST.

(From the Dublin Weekly Freeman.)

The men had finished their supper of half-baked ham and strong tea, and were lying in a comfortable way...

Black Tom was somewhat silent, and spoke comparatively little. But Tom Logan was a talkative man, and over the course of the evening he told the rest of the party...

Tom Logan, lying there in his bunk, with his eyes to the wall, heard it with a start. He was sitting up...

The bushrangers had performed a great feat, for using had few parallels. They had held up the bank at Kooravalla, and thoroughly rifled it...

Tom Logan made no least pause. In a leap he was in the saddle and gathering up the reins in his left hand...

Tom Logan was a man of a different type from the other men. He had a plan—a scheme—a plan, even to recover the stolen money...

"I'll have a look at the horses," said a voice, and Black Tom got on his feet and moved towards the door...

Black Tom granted out something, but what it was Tom Logan never knew. The speaking voice was gone and a new loud voice was calling in his ears...

Tom Logan was a man of a different type from the other men. He had a plan—a scheme—a plan, even to recover the stolen money...

At the end of the bank was a small, independent concern, but it was not really more than from one to two minutes—he lay there, dazed in body and mind...

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SPEAKER HENDERSON

Speech Denunciation of the A. P. A.

The fifty sixth congress of the U. S. A. met and organized, Dec. 4, in the presence of the usual large crowd.

An amazing feature of the opening was found in the fact of the senators and representatives. In the past of every senator and representative were those separate circulars in one envelope...

The closing hours of the last congress were, one of the most successful which was described in The Citizen of March 11.

The associated press dispatch from Washington, describing the closing hours of congress, which adjourned Saturday...

"About 7 o'clock Mr. Henderson aroused the house by an electric speech. It was one of the most elegant of this congress."

"In the course of his speech he said: Gentlemen may think that I feel deeply the loss of my religion."

Received the Paper and Had to Pay. A case of interest to newspaper publishers occurred recently at Eastbrook, N. Y.

The new Toronto Western Hospital was opened on Friday, 15th, inst. The appearance of the building...

Death of Lady Margaret Howard. We record with deep regret the death of Lady Margaret Howard, which took place at Arundel Castle on Friday...

Not a Nourishing Pill. The explicit of a pill is the substance which holds the ingredients and makes up the pill mass.

active part of his life, but the best of the earlier part of his life is to be found in the work he did as a remarkable character in his own right...

The last two years before her illness began, in 1896, were largely devoted to the organization of the important settlement at "Solar Square, Mill End, London by her in 1894."

Lord Ebury's Dismissal. The Dublin Freeman says,—"The dismissal by Lord A. Ashbourne of Lord Ebury from the Commission of the Peace for an alien, was addressing a body of labourers, to "blackthorns," which was supposed to be indicative of a desire to apply to physical force...

The Washington D. C. Star in speaking of the merits of one of the newly elected members of the House of Representatives, Mr. P. C. J. Treanor the financial secretary comes of a musical family.

Free and easy expectoration immediately relieves and from the throat and lungs from viscid phlegm and a medicine that promotes this is the best medicine to use for coughs, colds, inflammation of the lungs and all affections of the throat and chest.

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Advertisement for 'Our Boys and Girls Own' magazine, featuring 'The Best Christmas Gift' and 'A Year's Subscription'.

Latest War Despatches.

Ottawa, Dec. 20.—The following despatches were received yesterday afternoon...

Attention of the Ministers and the House of Commons was called to the receipt of the second Canadian contingent...

Montreal, Dec. 20.—The Montreal Herald has received the following despatches...

As Head of Medical Staff. The Hon. J. G. Macdonald, Minister of the Interior...

Col. Hutton's Offer. The Hon. J. G. Macdonald, Minister of the Interior...

St. John's, Dec. 20.—The Hon. J. G. Macdonald, Minister of the Interior...

Hamilton, Dec. 20.—(Special.)—As soon as the second Canadian contingent...

London, Dec. 20.—(Special.)—The Hon. J. G. Macdonald, Minister of the Interior...

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Can Get Plenty of Men. Ottawa, Dec. 19.—The President...

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to the South Africa. The Lord Mayor, Mr. A. J. Newton, and the city officials...

Berlin, Dec. 19.—The following despatches were received yesterday afternoon...

London, Dec. 19.—Ninety per cent of the members of the Honorable Artillery Corps...

Council Halls in Victoria. Washington, Dec. 19.—(United States.)...

Sydney, N.S.W.—The Government of New South Wales has decided to...

Chicago Cattle. Chicago, Dec. 19.—Cattle, local to the city...

New York Live Stock. New York, Dec. 19.—(Special.)—The following despatches were received...

East Buffalo Cattle. Buffalo, Dec. 19.—Cattle, local to the city...

Home Monetary Recoveries. The early hours of the trading witnessed...

Very Heavy Liquidation. The early hours of the trading witnessed...

Quieter Conditions. With the subsidence of the panic conditions...

Decision of the Banks. But the decision of the banks yesterday...

Attracted Great Throngs. Yesterday's unprecedented events on the stock exchange...

London, Dec. 20.—(Special.)—The Hon. J. G. Macdonald, Minister of the Interior...

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Life! The Dark clouds which hover over the home of the bereaved, when death has removed the bread-winner...

North American Life. JOHN H. JEWELL & CO. FINANCIAL AND PROMOTERS...

Bargains in Pianos. We have many of them—pianos of standard makers used somewhat, but in good condition...

THE YORK COUNTY Loan and Savings Company. BEST SYSTEM for accumulating money.

Eugene Given Free Poems A 7.00 Book. THE Book of the Century Hand...

SITUATIONS. In the business field are constantly opening to those who are qualified to fill them.

LATEST MARKET.

What cables are disappointing and lower. Closing quotations: Wheat, 100 bushels...

Receipts at Liverpool during the past three days were: Wheat 11,000 tons...

The Northwest wheat movement on the Pacific coast is a cable record...

Receipts of grain, 25 loads at 100 bushels of 100 bushels...

Dressed Hogs—Deliveries fall, 29, selling at \$22.25 to \$25.00 per cwt.

Decrease in Lake Grain Traffic. Buffalo, Dec. 19.—Practically all the grain...

London, Dec. 20.—(Special.)—The Hon. J. G. Macdonald, Minister of the Interior...

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