

Religious Intelligencer.

THAT GOD IN ALL THINGS MAY BE GLORIFIED THROUGH CHRIST.—Peter

XLVII.—NO 28

FREDERICTON N. B., MAY 30 1900

W HOLE No. 2452

WIVES AND GLEANINGS.

There are more than 2,410 women scattered throughout the States, with a total membership of half a million women.

Mr. Hattie D. Singing, 'Whole wide world,' Choir. Scripture Reading and Prayer, Pastor. Singing, 'Over the Ocean Wave,' Choir. Recitation, 'Missionary Music,' Josie Floyd.

Recitation, 'O, ly a mite box' Bessie Goodwin. Missionary Exercise, Four little girls. Recitation, 'Missionary Wish,' Lillian Cook. Recitation, 'The King's Message,' Aggie Goodwin. Recitation, 'Ry's Story,' Ralph Wetmore. Singing, Neta, Nera and Marion Kenney. Recitation, 'A Mission,' Laura Hopkins. Recitation, 'Pennies, nickles and dimes,' Lizzie Lewis. Map Exercise on India, Mr. Jeffrey. Reading, 'If they only knew,' Miss Hersey. Singing, 'From Greenland's Icy Mountains,' Choir.

The collection, which was taken by two little girls, amounted to about \$15. Our society, though small, has held some very interesting meetings this year. In March we took up China, in April Japan. Each time we had, among other things, a set of questions on the country under consideration, the answers to which proved both instructive and interesting.

LAURA E. HARTLEY. "Bible Women" are now greatly in use in Oriental countries. Some have done very well. Some devote their whole energies to their work; but some are disappointing. Their training is now being carefully attended, and with very great advantage. One of the most valuable fields of well doing in connection with women's work is the rescue of orphan and outcast children to be trained for lives of usefulness.

A MORE REMARKABLE CASE. When one had read the story of Helen Keller, he felt that the limits of the marvellous had been reached. That a poor girl without sense of sight, deprived of the possibility of hearing and void of the powers of speech, could be carried through the ordinary studies of our most gifted youth and graduate with honor from one of our first class universities, this seemed more wonderful than any story of fairy-land. But Helen Keller has herself been instrumental in showing the world a still more remarkable career. It is that of a little boy named Tommy Stringer, a thirteen-year-old lad from Washington, Pennsylvania. The boy had been so neglected in his infancy that when brought to an institution for the care of the defective classes it was not certain that his mind was any more acute than his blunted and half obliterated senses. It took some weeks to get him physically strong enough to stand upon his feet although he was five years old. It took nine months of patient training to get him to comprehend by motions of the hand the word expressing his first necessity, "bread." But after the mind was once awakened his progress was so rapid that to-day he is far in advance of most boys of his years in mechanical ingenuity, mental aptitudes and spiritual feeling. In mathematics, for example, he is almost a phenomenon, and in out-of-door life he is an expert and an athlete. All of which makes one think how much Jesus Christ saw in our poor, deformed and feeble human life which it needed only his gentleness and grace to bring out. "It doth not yet appear what we shall be, but we know that when he shall appear we shall be like him."—The Interior.

ACADIA.—The closing exercises at Acadia College, Wolfville, will take place June 3 to 6, and promise to be of considerable interest. The closing programme is as follows: Sunday, June 3rd, 11 a. m.—Baccalaureate sermon by Rev. Kerr Boyce Tupper, D. D., LL. D., of Philadelphia. 7 p. m.—Address before college Y. M. C. A. by Dr. Tupper. Monday, June 4, 7.30 p. m.—Lecture before the Senate of the University by Dr. Tupper. Tuesday, June 5, 10.30 a. m.—Class exercises by graduating class. 2.30 p. m.—Closing exercises of Horton Academy; usual exercises, with address by Rev. D. H. Simpson. 7.30 p. m.—Closing exercises of Acadia Seminary usual exercises, with address by Mrs. Chas. Archibald, of Halifax, vice-president of the Women's National Council. Wednesday, June 6, 10.15 a. m.—Closing exercises of the college.

THADEXUS. M. Inglis, of the Presbyterian mission, Ajmer, India, describes the following amusing yet pathetic scene: "While sitting at tea a noise was heard opposite the tent door. I looked out through the door screen. 'Two little ones,' I said, 'waiting to be taken and the mothers are gone off.' Upon this Dr. Huntley rose and looked out, while I returned to finish tea. "Why, there's four," he exclaimed, and came back. I again got up to look, and behold in place of four counted six. We both smiled. The doctor feeling it impossible to believe the rapid increase, got up again to satisfy himself. One, two, three, four, five, six, seven, eight, he counted, with much amazement—eight standing in a line gazing towards the tent. "We finished tea, and on going out judge of our astonishment to find the line grown even longer, and two more added to the number. Thus, in half an hour the mission received a legacy of ten children. One woman only remained behind to hand her children over weeping. Some of the others we saw marching off along the road, leaving neither name nor address."

YARMOUTH N. S. The Foreign Missionary Society of the Yarmouth Church held its annual thank-offering meeting Sunday evening May 13th. The following program was carried out: Woman's Foreign Missionary Society. "Rise up ye women that are at ease." Isaiah 32: 9. [All contributions for this column should be addressed to Mrs. J. S. McLeod, Fredericton.] UNLOVED WIVES OF COREA. "I once asked a Korean woman," said Mrs. W. M. Baird, a delegate to the Conference from Pyeng Yeng, Corea, "if no Korean man loved his wife. After considerable hesitation the woman replied that there might possibly be such a case, but it was very rare. The wives are selected in childhood and without regard to their suitability. "The absence of home love is one of the pitiable features of the Orient. There is really no home life in Corea, because women are not recognized in the home. If a man meets his wife on the street he does not notice her, while she, if she sees him in time, slips out of sight if she can. When Christian homes are established the women find a measure of love hitherto unknown to them." Mrs. Baird told a pathetic story of a little hunchback boy whom her husband found in a remote part of Corea. It was a district in which, until Mr. Baird's visit, white people had never been seen, but some traveling native Christian had visited the boy's home and left several tracts. Through them the boy got hold of the main facts of Christianity, and had not only discarded his ancestral and idol worship, but had induced the entire family to join him. This, said Mrs. Baird, was the more remarkable because of the tenacity with which these people cling to the worship of their ancestors.

THE ECUMENICAL CONFERENCE. No. III. It is estimated that 20,000 people attended the Conference. There were alternate meetings, held in five of the largest churches in the city. Sometimes it was a question where to go. No matter where you went, you might regret that you had not gone somewhere else. But there was no vexed question as to where to go on the opening Saturday, April 21st. Long before the hour, 2.30 p. m., crowds were waiting at the entrances to Carnegie Hall for admission. Ticket holders were admitted first and then, if there was any room left, the general public were admitted. Of course, hundreds were turned away at every service.

Punctually at the hour, R. V. Dr. Judson Smith, of Boston, Chairman of the general committee, and the one who arranged the program, called the meeting to order. Back of the platform, completely covering the back of the stage was a huge double map, showing both hemispheres, with different colors to indicate various degrees of Christian civilization. Over the centre of the map, in red, was the text, "The field is the world; The good seed are the children of the kingdom." Over the Western map was, "Go ye into all the world and preach the gospel to the whole creation"; and over the Eastern, "And they went forth and preached everywhere."

On the platform, in the front row, were representatives of the British, German, Australian and Canadian delegations. Back of them were several hundreds of foreign missionaries and delegates.

There was only one hymn to sing on such an occasion, and only one tune to which it could be sung. "Let us all sing," said the Chairman, "and sing with all our hearts. 'All hail the power of Jesus' name, Let angels prostrate fall, Bring forth the royal diadem, And crown Him Lord of all.'"

And, led by organ and cornet, all the people sang, and the sound was like "the sound of many waters." The hundreds in the corridors and on the side-walk joined in the singing. And on the wings of song we were carried above the clouds, into the sunlight; and when Dr. Mable prayed that we might be filled anew with the Spirit of Pentecost, every heart said Amen.

Gen. Harrison, ex-President of the United States, was introduced as President of the Conference, and made an admirable address. He said: "I count it a great honor—a call to preside over the deliberations of this great body. It is to associate one's self with the most influential and enduring work that is being done in this day of great enterprises."

The careful and comprehensive programme that has been prepared for the convention will, in its orderly development, bring before you the whole subject of foreign missions in all its aspects. Gentlemen whose learning and special experience will give not only interest but authority to their addresses will discuss assigned topics.

We shall have the arithmetic of missions, the muster roll, the book increase, the paymasters' accounts; some will need these. We shall have before us some veterans from the mission outposts—men and women who have exhibited in their work an unsurpassed steadfastness and heroism; whose courage has been subjected to the strain of time. They have been beleaguered; they have known the weariness of those who look for succor. From them we shall hear what the Gospel has done for tribes and lands; and best of all, what it has done for the individual man and woman. These reports will be consolidated reports of the whole mission work of all the detachments of the evangelical Protestant army.

GREATEST NEED OF FOREIGN FIELD. Hours for devotional exercises are assigned. The greatest need of the foreign field is a revived, reconsecrated and unified home church. And this conference will be fruitful and successful in proportion as it promotes those ends. There will be, I hope, much prayer for an outpouring of God's Spirit. The gigantic engines that are driving forward a material development are being speeded as never before. The din of the hammer and the axe, and

the hum of wheels have penetrated the abodes of solitude—the world has now few quiet places. Life is strenuous—the boy is started in his school upon the run, and the pace is not often slackened until the panting man falls into his grave.

It is to a generation thus inventively a generation that has wrought wondrously in the realms of applied science that God in His word and by the preacher, says: All these are worthy only, and in proportion, as they contribute to the regeneration of mankind. Every invention, every work, every man, every nation, must one day come to this weighing platform and be appraised.

To what other end is all this stir among men, this increase of knowledge? That these great agencies may be put in lively and lined-up in the halls of wealth to make life brilliant and soft; or become the docile messengers of a counting house or a stock exchange; or the swift couriers of contending armies; or the couriers who wait in the halls of science to give glory to the man into whose hand God has given the key to one of His mysteries. Do all these great inventions, these rushing, intelligent developments, exhaust their ministry in the making of mere riches and the reinforcing of armies on the field? No. These are servants, prophets, fore-runners. They will find a herald's voice; there will be an announcement and a coronation.

The first results seem to be the stimulation of a material production and a fiercer struggle for markets. Cabinets, as well as trade chambers, are thinking of the world chiefly as a market house, and of men as "producers" and "consumers." We now wield our wars of succession, or for mere political dominion. Places are strategic primarily from the commercial standpoint. Colonies are career's fields in the world's market place. If the product carries too long in the warehouse the mill must shut down and discontinue will walk the streets. The propulsion of this commercial force upon cabinets and nations was never so strong as now. The battle of the markets is at its fiercest. The great quest of nations is for "consumers." The voice of commerce is: "And my hand shall find as a nest the rich of the people, and as one gathereth eggs that are left will I gather all the earth."

IN ALL THE GREAT NATIONS. But with the increase of commerce and wealth the stress of social difficulties is not relieved, but increases in all of the great nations. The tendency is not to one brotherhood but to many. Work for the willing at a wage that will save the spirit as well as the body is a problem of increasing tangle and intricacy. Competition forces economical devices and names wages that are, in some cases, insufficient to renew the strength expended. It suggests if it does not compel, aggregations of capital, and these in turn present many threatening aspects. Agencies of man's devising may alleviate, but they cannot cure this tendency to division and strife and substitute a drift to peace and unity. Christ in the heart and His Gospel of love and ministry in all the activities of life is the only cure.

The highest conception that has ever entered the mind of man is that of God and the Father of all men—the one blood—the universal brotherhood. It was not evolved, but revealed. The natural man lives to be ministered unto—he lays his impost upon others. He buys slaves that they may fan him to sleep, bring him the jewelled cup, dance before him and die in the arena for his sport. Into such a world there came a King, "not to be ministered unto, but to minister." The rough winds fanned his sleep; he drank of the mountain brook and made not use of the water wine for himself; would not use His power to stay His own hunger, but had compassion on the multitude. He called them He had bought with a great price no mere servants, but friends. He entered the bloody arena alone, and, dying, broke all chains and brought life and immortality to light. Here is the perfect altruism; here the true appraisal of men. Ornaments of gold at gowns, silken robes, houses, lands, stocks and bonds—these are rare when men are weighed. Where else is there a sole self true? Where a brotherhood so wide and perfect? Labor is made noble—the King credits the smallest service. His values are relative; He takes account of the percent when tribute is brought into His treasury. No coin of love is base or small to Him. The widow's mite He sets in His crown. Life is sweetened; the poor man becomes of account. Where else is found a philosophy of life so sweet and adaptable—a philosophy of death so comforting?

The men who, like Paul, have gone to heathen lands with the message, "We seek not yours, but you," have been hindered by those who, coming after, have reversed the message. Rum and other corrupting agencies come in with our boasted civilization, and the feeble races wither before the hot breath of the white man's vices. TO PREVENT SALE OF SPIRITS TO THEM. The great nations have combined to suppress the slave trade. Is it too much to ask that they shall combine to prevent the sale of spirits to men who less than our children have acquired the habits of self-restraint? If we must have "consumers" let us give them an innocent diet.

The enemies of foreign missions have spoken tauntingly of the slowness of the work and of its great disproportion to cost; and we have too exhaustively consoled ourselves and answered the criticism by the suggestion that with God a thousand years is as one day. We should not lose sight of the other side of that truth—one day with Him is as a thousand years. God has not set a uniform pace for Himself in the work of bringing in the Kingdom of His Son. He will hasten it in His day. The stride of His Church shall be so quickened that commerce will be the laggard. Love shall outrun greed. He exacts faith. He will not answer the demand to show a curse of stone in His great cathedral for every thousand dollars given. But it may be justly asked that the administrators of our mission treasuries justify their accounts; that they use a business wisdom and economy; that the expense is no waste, that the workmen do not hinder each other. The ploughing and the sowing must be well done. These may be and should be judged—that is men's part of the work. But the care of well-planted seed is with God. We shall have reports from the harvesters showing that He has given the promised increase—some thirty and some an hundred fold. Gifts to education are increasingly munificent. University endowments have been swelled by vast single gifts in the United States during the last few years. We rejoice in this. But may we not hope that in the exposition of the greater needs of the educational work in the mission fields to be presented in this Conference some men of wealth may find the suggestion to endow great schools in mission lands? It is a great work to increase the candle power of our educational arc lights, but to give to cave dwellers an incandescent may be a better one.

Not the least beneficent aspect and influence of this great gathering will be found in the Christian union that it evidences. The value of this is great at home, but tenfold greater in the mission field where ecclesiastical divisions suggest diverse prophets. The Bible does not draw its illustrations wholly from the home or the fields, but uses also the strenuous things of life, the race, the fight, the armed soldier, the assault. There are many fields; there are diverse arms; the battle is in the bush and the comrades that are seen are few. A view of the whole army is a good thing; the heart is strengthened by an enlarged comradeship. It gives promise that the flanks will be covered and a reserve organized. After days in the bush the sense of numbers is lost. It greatly strengthens the soldier and quickens his pace when he advances to battle if a glance to right or left reveals many pennons and marshalled hosts, moving under one great leader, to execute a single battle plan.

During the Atlanta campaign of our Civil War the marching and fighting had been largely in the brush. Sometimes in an advance the commander of a regiment could see no more than half of his own line, while the support to his right and left were wholly hidden. To him it seemed as if his battalion was making an unsupported assault. The extended line, the reserve, were matters of faith. But one day the advancing army broke suddenly from the brush into a savanna—a long, narrow, natural meadow—and the army was revealed. From the centre, far to the right and left, the distinctive colors, divisions, brigades and regimental corps appeared, and associated with each of these was the one flag that made the army one. A mighty spontaneous cheer burst from the whole line, and every soldier tightened his grip upon his rifle and quickened his step. What the savanna did for that army this world's conference of missions should do for the Church.

TEMPERANCE SUNDAY.—In the International S. S. Lessons, June 10th, has been selected as a temperance lesson. In it are shown the dire result of the loss of self-control, and from it the sacredness of a promise or pledge may be taught. We therefore ask all Superintendents to have this lesson taught in their schools as a temperance lesson. In schools where a pledge has been taken it will be well to review the work of the past year, and, with a firmer purpose to combat the evils of intemperance, tobacco using and profanity, set their faces toward the year to come. In schools where there has been no organized effort to educate the young as to the results of becoming victims of these habits, we hope they will organize on June 10th. We recommend the White Ribbon Army as the most easily worked, and which meets every need. Any information concerning it will be supplied upon application to (Mrs.) LAURA J. POTTER, Canning, N. S. Prov. Supt. of Dept. of Temperance.

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A TOUCHING INCIDENT. M. Inglis, of the Presbyterian mission, Ajmer, India, describes the following amusing yet pathetic scene: "While sitting at tea a noise was heard opposite the tent door. I looked out through the door screen. 'Two little ones,' I said, 'waiting to be taken and the mothers are gone off.' Upon this Dr. Huntley rose and looked out, while I returned to finish tea. "Why, there's four," he exclaimed, and came back. I again got up to look, and behold in place of four counted six. We both smiled. The doctor feeling it impossible to believe the rapid increase, got up again to satisfy himself. One, two, three, four, five, six, seven, eight, he counted, with much amazement—eight standing in a line gazing towards the tent. "We finished tea, and on going out judge of our astonishment to find the line grown even longer, and two more added to the number. Thus, in half an hour the mission received a legacy of ten children. One woman only remained behind to hand her children over weeping. Some of the others we saw marching off along the road, leaving neither name nor address."

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