

Religious Intelligence.

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

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W. HOLE No. 2455

NOTES AND GLEANINGS.

The railway across Siberia is to be built, it will be easy for a man to go from London to Japan in 48 hours.

Mr. H. Peavey, of Minneapolis, has the largest life insurance policy in the world. It is for \$1,000,000 and the annual premium is \$3,390.

Every year a number of boys are sent from Siam by the King to learn different things. One learns upholstery, one typing, one learns language, one science, and so on. When they return to Siam each takes him some different information to impart to others.

It is estimated that at the beginning of the new century England have 82,000,000,000 tons of still unused and available.

Mr. J. A. H. will the late Samuel Howard Milwaukee, Wis., leaves practically his whole estate, valued at \$200,000, in trust for the support, maintenance and education of orphan children.

Norway has a law dealing with cremation. According to the act every person over fifteen years of age can be cremated after death if he or she has made a declaration in the presence of two witnesses. For the purpose of a declaration on the part of the parents is necessary.

A Georgia paper says that hundreds of Mormon "elders" are making converts among the "Crack-r" population. They teach the baptism for the remission of sins, and condemn the Baptist doctrine that regeneration should consist in "Whether they will stop the horrible practice of having regeneration precede baptism is the momentous question."

Statistics have just been laid before parliament showing that during 1898 the British Empire as a whole, yielded about one-third of the world's output of gold, more than one-quarter of the salt, one-fifth of the silver, and seven-eighths of the tin. Of coal the field was 220,000,000 metric tons, only about one-fifth of which was contributed by mines outside the United Kingdom.

An Ohio boy has invented a typewriter that can be used by the totally blind. The boy is Fred Frey, and although he is under twenty years of age, people are already talking of his wonderful skill in mechanical devices. His typewriter is operated by electricity and may be run for the personal use of the operator, or by attaching a wire made to reproduce in the blind alphabet, messages thousands of miles away. In Mr. Frey's invention raised dots are used as in the blind alphabet. There are only four dot keys and a space key to the machine, the entire apparatus being as simple as it is practical.

Among the greatest benefactors of the half century just past stands prominently the Baroness Burdett Coutts, who has just entered her eighty-sixth year. For several years past we have heard much less of her than formerly; but she has not been indifferent to the claims of humanity, and has held her large possessions as committed to her of God. She came into possession of her fortune, by inheritance from her father, Sir Francis Burdett, in the same year of Queen Victoria's accession, 1837, and it is estimated that during the sixty-three years she has spent in charity not less than \$9,000,000. Her inheritance was estimated at \$10,000,000. There are plenty of young women at twenty-three who could find other ways of disposing of the income of such a fortune without giving it away in charities. But they could also die without attaining to her years, and without the remembrances which will follow her in the generations to come.

During last year, 16,899 have been baptized in connection with the Baptist churches in Great Britain, making the total membership 353,258. Last year a total membership of 355,218 was reported, showing a net loss of 1,960.

ECUMENICAL CONFERENCE.

NO. VI.

The laymen's meeting at Carnegie Hall proved to be one of the most popular events of the whole Ecumenical Conference on Foreign Missions, if the attendance is any criterion. The great audience assembled very early, and almost every seat was taken half an hour before the exercises commenced. One reason perhaps was that Ira D. Sankey conducted the music, and several hymns were sung before the opening of the meeting. The large organ was used, and there was a large chorus stationed in the upper gallery.

One of the most impressive events of the evening was the singing of the favorite hymn of the late Dwight L. Moody, "One day the silver cord will break." Mr. Sankey sang it as a solo, and first the whole house joined in the chorus, "And I shall see Him, face to face." At the next verse only the galleries sang, then only two galleries, and finally only the trained voices in the topmost gallery. It sounded like a distant sweet echo of the music that had gone before, and many eyes were moist as the last strain died away.

The addresses of the laymen were mostly of a cold, studied character, as if the speakers, trained orators though many of them were, did not feel quite competent to speak on religious topics before so great an assemblage, and held themselves in some measure in restraint.

There were many well-known people among the audience. Ex-President and Mrs. Benjamin Harrison occupied one of the boxes in the first tier. Henry M. MacCracken, Chancellor of New York University, occupied a box with Mrs. Russell Sage and Miss Helen Gould. Another box was taken by John Wanamaker and party of Philadelphia; in another one sat E. P. Metcalf, Governor of Rhode Island.

President Charles B. Angell of the University of Michigan presided, and addresses were made by President Samuel B. Capen of the American Board, Judge David Graham Barklay of Belfast, who formerly stationed in the Punjab, India; Gov. Northen of Georgia, ex-Mayor Schieren of Brooklyn, and the Rev. Dr. George Scholl of Baltimore, who was asked by Mr. Schieren to forego the dignity of the cloth for this one occasion and appear as a layman, since others who had been called upon had failed to respond, and he wished to hear from him because of his long experience as a worker in the African field.

ADDRESS BY SETH LOW.

President Seth Low stepped to the front as soon as the preliminary singing had subsided and introduced President Angell in the following terms: "Only a matter of living interest can draw people together in great numbers day after day, and night after night. The Christian religion gives few more impressive evidences of its power than is given by the multitudes that flock to its houses of worship, Sunday by Sunday, out of every people and tribe and nation. The great audiences that have attended all of the sessions of this missionary conference have a value of this sort. They reveal in the most impressive way the power of Christian missions to awaken the interest and to stir the heart of Christian people, at this very hour.

These audiences show that this interest does not run along denominational lines. The cause that brings us all here is the cause of our common Master; and every one must gather from such meetings as these that no brotherhood less wide than the brotherhood of man can satisfy the heart of the disciple, any more than it can satisfy the great heart of the Master.

It is not a far cry from a conference like this to a common front in the mission field. Still less is it a far cry from united activity in missionary work to a common front everywhere against the forces of evil. God grant that this Conference may be both the prophecy and forerunner of increasing unity of spirit and of action on the part of all who call themselves Christians.

Most of the meetings of this Conference so far held have been addressed by clergymen and by men and women who have some claim to be called experts in matters relating to missions. The meeting to-night is called a laymen's meeting. The object of it, I suppose, is to permit laymen, as such,

to testify to their interest in the missionary work of the churches. It is my very great pleasure to propose as Chairman of the meeting President James B. Angell of the University of Michigan." [Applause.]

Dr. Angell said: "I am sure that we all consider it an auspicious omen that this meeting has been opened by that distinguished layman, President of the great university in this city which has furnished so many laymen and clergymen to the Church of Christ. I am sure that this conference, if it had the power of suffrage granted to it by the City of New York, would place upon him even greater responsibility in the good work which he is so able to carry on."

TO SPEAK FOR RANK AND FILE.

You have been listening all these days to these leaders and commanders of the army of the Lord. To-night you are invited here to hear from the representatives of the rank and file. It is desired that you should be assured, especially you who come from far-away fields of labor, that in all your toils you have the support and the sympathy and the prayer of the great army of Christ's disciples through all the nations that are represented in this great assembly.

It has been my good fortune to have visited at least three of the lands in which the work of the foreign missions is carried on, and I am sure that I fairly represent the laymen who are here and who are at home and represented by their neighbors here, when I say that it is our burning desire to strengthen you who are upon the field by every assurance of our help.

I sometimes think that those of us who have never been upon the foreign field do not understand what the real trials of the foreign missionaries are. I think it is true that the real trials are not those that we suppose to be so, and that trials of which we know little are the real trials of the missionaries themselves.

I have had the good fortune to be in the homes of Princes, in the palaces of the rich in many lands and I am stating the simple truth when I say that I have never been anywhere in the world in homes which impressed me so with the happiness of the dwellers as in the humble homes of our hard working missionaries on the foreign field.

We have been thinking that the long journey from home or the hard and discouraging conditions of toil is the great trial, but these the missionary goes from home fully determined to confront, and rarely finds them so serious a matter.

THREE GREAT TRIALS.

But there are three great trials which I venture to name which, I think, we ought to remember as friends of all the missionaries on the foreign field:

First is that sad day which comes upon the father and mother when they must send their children home for education, when they so need the companionship of father and mother, and father and mother more need, perhaps, the companionship of their children. We can do something for this sorrow by caring in all ways for the comfort and health of their children at home.

The second trial is that great trial to the soul—the moral and spiritual nature which comes at last after months of solitude in a non-Christian community. The terrible weight of non-Christian thought and custom and habit weighs upon the soul, and seems to stifle spiritual life and hope itself. It is to the spiritual and moral life just what imprisonment in a narrow cell is to the man who is robbed of the vital element of oxygen, and more than one missionary has found his reason tottering under this great trial. The only relief we can give them is by our prayers.

The third and last great trial which I shall name is that which comes upon the missionary when, as he finds hope of a harvest in sight, he is stunned by the sad tidings from home that there must be fatal curtailment in his work, and that all this promise must be blasted because the churches at home are not ready to support him in this great and Godlike work.

There is no trial like this to the human soul. It is we laymen who have the purse to furnish comfort and cheer to our workmen who have gone to the front.

If the laymen of this country will furnish the means, the colleges of America will double the number of missionaries on the foreign field in five years. [Applause.]

Every one of us college Presidents know noble young men and women whose hearts are with an intensity of desire to enlist in this blessed work. These are the words I wish to leave with this audience to-night in introducing the gentlemen who are to follow me, and who represent the laity of our churches.

WHAT MISSIONS HAVE DONE.

President Samuel B. Capen of the American Board said:

It is too late in the century to ask the question whether or not foreign missions pay, but it is always in order to ask how much they pay.

He then contrasted the present condition of the work with what it was a hundred years ago, when, he said, Yale College was a hotbed of infidelity and Princeton had but one Christian student. In Hawaii eighty years ago, he said, the missionaries found the natives eating raw fish with the dogs, and then eating the dogs. Last year, with a proportion of church members, as compared to this country, or 1 to 120, their gifts were as 1 to 6, and forty years ago they were themselves already sending out missionaries on their own account to neighboring islands.

He reviewed foreign missionary work during the century, giving many instances of heroism by both women and men, and said that it was not true that commerce followed the flag, but it followed the missionary.

"This," he went on, "is not the highest sort of an argument, but when men are going around sneering and saying there is no good in foreign missions, it is well to have a few facts like this to throw at them."

He compared the state of the work at present to the building of a modern skyscraper. The foundation is built by workers almost unseen, and then the work on the superstructure will go on with a rush.

He predicted a great coming contest between the Anglo-Saxon and Slav races. "Russia," he said, "is crowding us in every direction, and it is our opportunity to put in a missionary wherever he will impinge upon Russia."

He recommended committees in every church to forward the work of collections, and said: "Many people pay their missionary obligations with the ecclesiastical nickel."

"Little drops of water,
Little copper cents,
Make a mighty ocean,
And benevolence."

he remarked, and added that there were some pastors who refused to agitate the question of missionary collections lest it interfere with their own living.

Judge Barklay followed, telling of many interesting features of mission work he had witnessed during his service in India.

RESULTS OF THE CONFERENCE.

Gov. Northen of Georgia, who is President of the Southern Baptist Convention, was the next speaker: "The result of this great conference, he said, "will never be known to men until the books are opened in the presence of God. They are broad and far reaching, and under the superintending care and direction of God himself, and destined to effect the salvation of men. I earnestly pray, to the very ends of the earth."

It is a Congress of Nations assembled to proclaim the living God throughout all the earth as the one thing under heaven that shall be the solution of all the problems that trouble Governments or vex men.

When I looked upon the inspiring scene upon this platform last evening I thought there was nothing for the layman to do—the ministers, Bishops, missionaries, and women had done it all.

Mrs. Montgomery said: "The ministers have gone forth and sown the seed, missionaries have come along and plowed it under, and now it is left for the woman to harrow it in." The layman has nothing else to do, thank God, but harrow it in. Dr. Angell has told us that if the laymen will furnish the money the colleges will furnish the men and women."

AS BUSINESS MEN VIEW IT.

Ex-Mayor Schieren of Brooklyn said:

This is the practical question of the business man whose money you want, "What is my money doing out there?" Now, if you can impress a business man that his money is doing a work the average business man and Christian worker will open his pockets and give toward it. Unfortunately, I am not conversant with the practical work in foreign mission fields.

There are laymen who are, but I could not get them here, but there is here this evening Dr. Scholl, who will speak to you of the practical work of the Muhlenburg mission in South Africa, which has for nearly forty years done work in the mission line.

Dr. Scholl told numerous instances of thrift and enterprise shown by his African converts, and said the boys of the mission industrial school had built a little side-wheel steamer with their own hands, which he believes to be the first steam-boat built on the west coast of Africa, and which is still running on the St. Paul's River. He closed with this special instance:

Fifteen years ago a little native boy came out of the jungle by the St. Paul's River, naked as the day he was born, dirty, and ignorant. He was taken in charge by the missionaries, cleaned, clothed, put into the Sunday school. Later he became a Sunday school teacher, then a Sunday school Superintendent, and then a deacon in our Church, as he still is. He married, took his wife back into the jungle, and now has a family and a fine coffee plantation. Only a little while ago we got a request from him to get him some steam machinery for use in clearing his crops.

John H. Converse of Philadelphia, who followed, said:

In the great conflicts to which Gov. Northen has referred, between the Lord Jesus Christ on the one side and the devil on the other, we acknowledge that the heroic men and women we have listened to this week are, if you will pardon this light inaccuracy, the men behind the guns. But laymen have a privilege and duty as well. They may at least bring up the ammunition.

In regard to missions, the attitude and obligation of the business man is clear and unquestioned. If a Christian, his primary duty is included in the word missions. But, also, speaking from a lower standpoint, he should recognize the obligation to make his business contributory to missions. Missions prepare the way for the telephone, the telegraph, and the electric light. They open the door which the merchant and manufacturer is only too glad to enter.

Dr. Angell told the audience to remember that a great church which was not a missionary church was on its way to its death. The doxology was sung by the audience and the meeting ended with the benediction pronounced by the Rev. Dr. Jacob Chamberlain, the veteran Indian missionary.

THADEUS,

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. Jos. McLeod, Fredericton.]

CHINESE CHRISTIANS LOVE TO GIVE.

Mrs. Julia E. McKenzie, a Baptist missionary in China, writing in the Baptist Argus says: "The very best endowment of the Chinese that I know is their love of giving. 'Hilarious givers' they are, knowing well that 'it is more blessed to give than receive.' I am living in delightful enjoyment of purest beauty of wild pear, peach and apricot blossoms brought me in profusion by our school children, who seem to have constituted themselves a flower mission, with me as its chief object. They have found out my love for flowers, and are not content with bringing me bouquets of them; they bring me sprays, branches, limbs, six or seven feet long. As I go along the street, some very least of my child friends, face and hands smeared over with tears and mud, the very embodiment of dirt, toddle up to me with a bunch of flowers and seem to love me for accepting them.

A little sister and brother brought

me a box of tea, the box all blazoned over with red flowers and characters, much to their delight. The giving of that tea has proven a bond of love from them to me; they are my true friends because of it.

A woman, who lives across the river and comes over to meeting, not a Christian, but the mother of one of our boys, brings me eggs, and eggs, and eggs. We not only don't have to buy eggs, but we have them to give away. Giving those eggs is the greatest pleasure of that woman's life. We trust her love of giving will be the means of leading her to accept our Lord Jesus as her Savior, to give herself to Him.

GIVE LITTLE GIFTS.

A woman's paper recently gave a true story which should carry a suggestion to every reader. Mrs. Blank, a woman of means and culture suddenly discovered that she was growing old. Her house was filled with beautiful objects, the accumulation of a lifetime.

"I have enjoyed them long enough," she said. "It is time that I was done with the care of 'things.' If I give them now to the right people, they will be useful. If they are disposed of indiscriminately when I am dead, they will be of little value."

She proceeded therefore, to give away her treasures where they were needed and would be valued. To a worker among children in the slums went a stereopticon; books to poor libraries in the country, photographs to schools. To a hospital for sick children she sent a collection of scrap books, filled with pictures which, in the course of years, she had cut from illustrated papers. Most of her bric-a-brac treasures were given where they would afford pleasure.

"Gather up the fragments, that nothing be lost," was her motto.

None of us realize how many hungry poor are waiting for all the crumbs that fall from the rich man's table. The old magazine thrust into the wastebasket, would bring a happy hour to some tired woman on a western ranch. The odd bits of silks and muslin on the floor of the sewing-room would give delight to the crippled children in a hospital ward.

It is much easier to give a note or a cheque in charity than to find where trifles are needed and then to send the trifles.

"I have no time for such work," we plead every day. But Christ found time, not only to bless the children, but to take them in his arms before he blessed them, although he had but three years of public life in which to do his Father's business in the world. Was not that his Father's business?

NOTICE.

The Annual Meeting of the Woman's Foreign Mission Society of the Fifth District will be held at Upper Hampstead, Queens County, June 30th., at 2:30 p. m. Blank forms have been forwarded to the Vice Presidents where no Local Societies exist. We hope to hear from each church in the District.

(Miss) SADIE CARPENTER,
Sec. Treas.

NOTICE.

The annual business meeting of the W. F. M. Society of the 6th. District will be held at Penobscot, K. Co., on Saturday, July 14, at 2:30 p. m. Each society is requested to send a representative to that meeting. Blank forms have been sent to secretaries of auxiliary societies, who are kindly requested to collect and forward money as early a date as possible.

R. T. McLEOD,
Sec. Treas.

Apohaqui, K. Co.

AMONG EXCHANGES.

WRONG FISHING.

The minister who fishes for compliments will never "catch men."—Free Baptist.

HE MIGHT SUCCEED.

Many a pastor is falling right along, who could succeed nobly if only he will lay upon the altar his selfishness, his love of ease and good feeding, his lack of prayer and devotional study of God's Word. The reckoning of such a man with his Master will be sad indeed.—Baptist Argus.