

Religious Intelligencer.

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

FREDERICTON N. B., APRIL 17 1901

WHOLE No 2498

VOL XLIX.—NO. 16

OVER THE SEA

No. II.

We arrived at Rimouski ten hours after leaving Quebec. Having had a quick run we were obliged to cast anchor for five hours, as our ship, being a mail steamer, was not supposed to leave Rimouski before a certain hour. Finally the tender brought out the mails, and passengers, with a number of friends to see them off, and we steamed slowly away, the waving of handkerchiefs was like the flutter of white doves, and with the fact that this was our last stop till we should reach the coast of Ireland, I began to realize more fully that I was going away from home, and began to wonder if after all it was the wisest thing to do; but these reflections were soon put to flight, as I became absorbed in the beautiful scenery. The sail along the coast of Gaspé was charming and to add grandeur to the scene, we had a glorious sunset. The calm waters seemed burnished like gold with the reflection of the sun, slowly sinking to rest, and the repose of air, and sea, and sky, seemed like a type of the "rest that remaineth."

The following day was Sunday, and we had service at 10.30, which was conducted by a Presbyterian clergyman from Winnipeg. The ship services are supposed to be in the Episcopal form, but when no clergymen of that denomination are on board, other clergymen are invited to conduct the services. The service was largely attended, for all second cabin passengers are allowed the privilege of coming up to the first saloon for divine service and concerts. The day passed quietly and reverently.

Another day spent in the enjoyment of the rugged scenery on that rock bound coast of Newfoundland, and we passed Cape Race. The light-house, and every object along the coast stood out clearly, which was most remarkable, as it is usually enveloped in a dense fog. Indeed, Capt. Gault of the ill-fated steamer, Montpelier, who was passenger on our ship, said he had rounded Cape Race eighteen times, but never before saw the Cape nor even the light-house. As we passed we viewed his noble ship (Montpelier) lying on the rocks where she was wrecked three weeks before.

Going via Cape Race meant two hundred miles more to our journey, but the Elder Dempster Co. had not allowed their ships to go via Straits of Belle Isle since the wreck of the "Scotsman," the previous year. So we consoled ourselves with the adage that "the longest way around is the safest, etc."

The stewardess who had charge of our state-room was on the Scotsman, in that capacity, at the time of the wreck, and related to us many sad scenes of the terrible disaster,—of the darling babe washed from the arms of the loving mother, by the cruel waves; of an old lady of four score years, after being rescued from the ship, who grew weary and sickened, on the attempted journey over the boulders and cliffs to the Life Saving Station, and was left upon the rocks to die. These were indeed heart-rending scenes, and I said to her: How can you follow the sea after such an experience? She replied: "My dear madam it is not for the love of the sea, but I am a widow, and have six small children, and a widowed mother, to support, and I cannot earn the necessary means any other way." And she added: "Perhaps you don't know that in our country wages of all kinds are very low."

Having passed Cape Race the broad Atlantic was our home for six eventful days. The passengers were pleasant and agreeable, and many acquaintances were formed that will endure for all time. But on ship board, as elsewhere, we find those who are "born to trouble as the sparks fly upward." For myself, I saw no occasion for stumbling. The ship was new and presented a fine appearance. The captain and officers were courteous and kind, the stewards and waiters were all attention, and the cuisine was of the very best, and could not well be surpassed by any hotel on either side of the water.

I learned on this trip, more thoroughly than ever before, that nothing draws us nearer to others than unadvised good nature and kindly

bearing. Instinct easily discriminates between the real and the sham. Those whose gentle ways spring from the true source are, indeed, blessed; their geniality is a fountain of contentment to themselves, and diffuses happiness to others. Each day passed very much the same, with conversation, reading, deck promenading and deck games, the passing of an inward bound ship, and the sighting of a whale occasionally.

Seven days out from Montreal and sunshine every day, but my diary reads "quite a sea on, and a slight appearance of sea-sickness." I, of course, knew the symptoms, having had that much ridiculed trouble several times on crossing the Bay of Fundy, also sailing around Sandy Hook, near New York, some years ago. I took to my room on Thursday and was very comfortable, but not so if I attempted to get up. However, on Saturday there was a concert to be held in the evening for the benefit of the Seamen's Orphanage at Liverpool, so I resolved to get up, thinking that my sickness was perhaps all in my mind, as the Christian Scientists claim. I determined to think I was quite able to dress and go up to the concert; consequently, I came down from my berth, got out a silk waist etc.; for every person is supposed to dress for a concert on ship board. I completed my toilet and was about to congratulate myself on my great strength of will power, when lo! my "last state was worse than my first." After a few minutes I managed to ring the bell for the stewardess, who came and undressed me, and when I was once more in my berth I thought no more of the concert, and concluded I would be no subject for Christian Scientists. I was once told by a lady of this modern theory, who had been very susceptible of sea-sickness, that she had completely overcome it. It all seems like a dream now, for sea-sickness, like toothache, are forgotten as soon as they are passed, and only the privileges and pleasures remain. But I shall always look upon sea-sickness as a great leveller, the dignified, the proud and the modest, and the rich as well as the poor are all brought to the same humiliating condition.

The morning was our second Sunday out. A morning-service was conducted in the first saloon by a clergyman from Prince Edward Island. An evening service was held in the second cabin saloon. We had three clergymen on board—two Methodists and a Presbyterian. It scarcely seemed like the Sabbath to me as I was not out of my room. As evening came on the Captain announced that we would reach Moville in the early morning. Some of us were almost too happy to sleep, and all were on deck at five o'clock on Monday morning to catch the first glimpse of land. Never had our eyes, even in imagination, feasted on such beauty as the verdure of the "Emerald Isle." We reconnoitred the shores with our field glasses. Fishing and farming were the occupations. The small white-washed houses of the fishermen were grouped on the shores with the farm houses on the hillside; there were also some fine residences with hedges, etc.

The wild flowers of Ireland are varied and pretty. The gorses were at that time in full bloom, and their handsome golden blossoms formed a delightful contrast with the many shades of green. They are coarse and prickly, with no beauty except the blossom, which I admired very much. I once had a very pretty Christmas card sent me by a dear friend, with the thorns as well as the beautiful blooms of the gorse on it, and the following good wishes, "Bright be thy Life as the gorse's golden blooms, and sheathed be every thorn in thy path." As I admired the card I often wished I might see the real blossoms as they grew, but it never dawned upon me that I should have this wish gratified on the shores of "Old Ireland."

The tender came out from Londonderry and took the mails and a number of passengers who had planned to tour Ireland first. Our ship turned about, and as we sailed out of the Lough we were very near the shore and had a magnificent view of the celebrated Giant's Causeway.

The day was all excitement in the expectation of landing, but night had fallen before we reached Liverpool

therefore our ship anchored till morning. We wakened early. It was a fine sunny morning, and we beheld the famous docks of Liverpool. We had an early breakfast, and the ship was brought to the pier. It was thronged with people, and there were repeated cheerings and salutations exchanged between the shore and the ship, as friends happened to recognize each other. I particularly noticed three gentlemen, (a father and two sons I learned later) who were pacing up and down the pier to catch some wished for face among the crowd. As they continued to gaze they seemed disappointed and agitated, when suddenly one of the young men raised his silk hat and called, "father here they are." I shall never forget the look of joy which filled that old gentleman's face as he moved forward with mingled smiles and tears. Not one word spoken, but smiles with tears streaming down his cheeks. (It was indeed unspeakable joy; and as I gazed upon the scene I thought if the meeting of friends in this world causes such unspeakable joy, what will be the joy of meeting on the Eternal shore when we shall behold the King of Kings, and the many loved ones who are "waiting and watching" for us. But all was not joy that morning, for *Jesus said unto him, My Lord and my God. He passes at once from the depths of dependency to exalted faith. Jesus saith unto him, Thomas, because thou hast seen me, thou hast believed. Thomas had come to faith by the way of visible manifestations. But there is another way. Blessed are they that have not seen, and yet have believed. For, come to faith by a spiritual apprehension, by inward sympathy, by the way of the affections and the higher nature.*

gation, inducing its members to extend a call to him when he has no serious thought of accepting it. Such a man, and unfortunately there are such, should be publicly exposed, and disciplined by his Presbytery.

Worth Thinking About.

(JOURNAL AND MESSENGER.)

In our efforts to help the unfortunate we sometimes forget to give the good people a chance. A bright boy is picked up out of the slums. He seems smart, and his wickedness is a challenge to reform him. His benefactor gives him an education, or an opportunity in business. The boy appears to succeed by his quick wits sharpened by the evil he has seen. But he always lacks the moral character which other men inherit. He may be vehement in some cause of reform, ruining his cause by his extremes. He may go wholly to the bad. Why did not the benevolent man give a good boy a chance? Perhaps because the good boy was too independent to ask for it, while the bad boy was a beggar accustomed to get something out of other people.

ABOUT QUEEN VICTORIA AND THE KING.

It will probably be many years before the face of the Queen has disappeared from our coinage. It is supposed that there are something like a thousand millions coins in circulation, and though gold and silver return to the Mint from whence they came, bronze coins never go back. What becomes of all the pennies is one of the mysteries that nobody can solve, and as there are hundreds of millions of coppers—though they are not, of course, coppers at all, but bronze—it is not easy to conceive how they will pass out of circulation.

King Edward, says the Free Baptist, has been a man whose life and associations have been such as to commend him as an ideal to whom the young men of England might look up and be inspired. The peculiar and varied temptations of his position would doubtless have been a greater handicap to his moral career had it not been for the beneficent influence of his wife. The queen has been a dutiful wife, a devoted mother, esteemed in her social relations, and will always be a steady and potent, though unobserved factor in the career of the King of England.

In the Dominion Presbyterian we read that Queen Victoria once conducted a Bible class. It was years ago, when the Queen was living in London. She would call together the little children of her married servants in one of the private rooms of Buckingham Palace and read the Bible to them. At the close of the reading Her Majesty would explain the chapter, and children's hymns were sung. Is there not in this a very forcible suggestion to many who are surrounded by tenants, or domestics, who need training in the Scripture? If the queen could wisely give her personal attention to the training of the children of her large official household, we may wisely do the same.

Dr. Norman Macleod, who knew Queen Victoria intimately, recalls in the February Sunday Magazine one of the most pathetic anecdotes told about her late Majesty: The first person she went to see after her bereavement was a Highland cottager, widowed like herself. "And we both cried. The Queen cried and I cried. I controlled myself as soon as I could," said the dear old creature, "and asked her pardon for crying. And 'Oh,' she said, 'she was so thankful to cry with someone who knew exactly how she felt.' And she afterwards said, 'you saw your husband's death coming, but I—I did not see mine. It was so sudden!' Who, asks Dr. Macleod, does not know the value of the sympathy of experience, the sympathy of those who "know exactly how one feels?"

A curious illustration of the variety of race problems which the Government of Great Britain has to solve is afforded by a recent incident in Central Africa. Some members of one of the dwarf tribes in the Congo region paid a visit to the British Commissioner of Uganda, and on their return they reported so favorably of their reception

that the whole tribe at once set out to visit the British Monarch, intending to travel overland to see him, and branding as a falsehood the explanation that a wide sea intervened to check their progress. It is satisfactory to know that on the whole this kind of friendly view of the British Empire is the one that prevails among the black races everywhere, and that the representatives of the British Government are able administrators and humane gentlemen.

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. Joe. McLeod, Fredericton.]

CONNELL, C. CO., SOCIETY.

After reading the very interesting letter from our sister of the St. John West Society, the desire was strong to report our society, especially as she expressed a wish to hear from "other societies through the missionary column." We were thus sure there was one who would like to hear of our prosperity in this good cause, and I doubt not there are others. I often wonder why the sisters who can write do not do so more frequently. I am sure many of the sisters who are engaged in this work would be helped and encouraged; and might not some of those who are at ease be, by this means, roused to action. It seems to me sister Slipp's letter must have been a reminder to some of the sisters, as there has been a letter almost every week since. How nice it would be to have a report from each society, and how much nicer if, in addition, we could have new societies springing up to report. If this should take place, then would we be in a position, as our Home Secretary says, to "send more missionaries."

We wonder when we think of certain communities where our churches are situated, and know that the sisters of those churches are prosperous and well fitted to take their places among the workers, and still are unconcerned trying to make themselves believe that they cannot keep up a missionary society. Surely, they cannot realize the loss they themselves are sustaining, and the opportunity they are letting slip to labour in His vineyard.

Our society was organized in the Spring of '98. At the time of organization it consisted of seven members; at the close of the year we had more than doubled our numbers, having nineteen enrolled. We have four meetings in the year, one every three months. Some may wonder, why not every month. For this reason we have an Aid Society which meets every month except the months on which we hold our missionary meetings. We have had a good interest from the first, and never better than at the present. At our last meeting, held on Feb. 8th, we had a full attendance. One young lady who attended for the first time expressed herself thus, "I did not know the missionary meetings were so nice;" I must come again! And so we hope to see the young brought in, that they may be ready to take the places of those who may soon be called hence. At each meeting we have a number of readings bearing on missions. One member takes the Missionary Helper, from which we glean many helpful things. We also get many good things from the INTELLIGENCER. We engaged in this work because we believed God required it at our hands; and while we have been willing to make the attempt to help a little. He has blessed our feeble efforts; and we feel that while we have tried to help those who are in darkness, we ourselves have been strengthened and blessed. We hold our meetings in the homes of our members, and would advise any sisters who have it in their hearts to start a society, to try this plan rather than meeting in the church. They will have far better success, and will not find it such a trouble as, perhaps they imagine.

May this be an exceptional year in the history of our Missionary Society.

May many who are careless and indifferent be brought to see their duty so clearly as to cause them to become both interested and active, and the faithful ones be encouraged and enabled to do even better work than ever before.

J. S.

PARLIAMENT.

TUESDAY. Mr. Borden, Halifax, asked the Premier to bring down papers in connection with the Mackenzie-Mann claim, proposed in the house early in March.

The supplementary estimates for the year were brought down for \$3,779,716.

The house went into supply to consider the estimates for railways and canals. The first item taken up was a vote of half a million for steel rails. Mr. Blair explained that the railway department proposed to lay 25,000 tons new 80 pound rails per year, and by so doing hope to have the road completely renewed in six or seven years.

Mr. Baker claimed that Mr. Blair should charge to maintenance account the amount of cost of replacing the rails equal to the cost of the rails replaced. New rails in excess of the old ones should be paid for from the capital account.

The sum of \$25,000 was voted for construction and improvement of warehouses at Stellarton, Sydney, Campbellton, etc.

When the estimates for the administration of justice were taken Mr. Fitzpatrick gave it as his opinion that the salaries of judges should be increased.

WEDNESDAY.—Mr. Fielding, replying to Mr. Baker, stated that \$3,709,941 had been spent from income, and \$1,640,319 from capital account in connection with the Intercolonial from July 1st, 1900, to March 20th, 1901.

Since 1896, 1,071 new post offices were opened in Canada. Of this number 167 were opened in Nova Scotia and 85 in New Brunswick.

The railway estimates were again taken up, and Mr. Haggart produced a contract with Clergue, showing that instead of a contract for 25,000 tons of steel rails, as announced by Mr. Blair, an agreement had been made for 125,000 tons, to be delivered in five years. This contract is for over four millions, and followed an order in council on October 8th last.

Mr. Blair denied having attempted to mislead the house. He denied that the election had any effect upon his action.

Mr. MacLean showed that steel rails are selling to-day at \$24 per ton.

Mr. Borden pointed out that all the time of the contract the Dominion Steel company had its works further advanced than Clergue, and yet the government had not stopped to consider the proposition of the Nova Scotia company.

The agreement makes the price for the year 1901 \$32.60 per ton.

The estimates for Indian affairs were then taken up, after which the house adjourned.

THURSDAY.—Mr. Fitzpatrick's bill act to amend the franchise act of 1898 was read a second time and referred to the committee of the whole. There was a spirited debate, for the purpose of provincial elections, and progress was reported.

The estimates of the department of agriculture were then taken up. The most important item considered was the vote of \$250,000 for the census.

FRIDAY.—Mr. Sutherland introduced a bill to amend the post office act. It provides for the establishment of dead letter offices in the principal cities, including St. John.

Mr. Wilson brought up the question of immigration. He insisted that the time had arrived when Canada should cease to grant aid to undesirable immigrants. Paupers have been brought in, much to Canada's injury. He hoped the government would enforce the laws of the country and refuse to grant the Doukhobors reserves or to give them freedom in regard to marriage laws.

Mr. McCready defended the Doukhobors, who were misunderstood and maligned.

Private bills were taken up after dinner. A bill to incorporate the Nova Scotia Central railway was referred to the railway committee.