

TERMS AND NOTICES.

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Religious Intelligencer.

Rev. Joseph McLeod, D.D., ... EDITOR

WEDNESDAY, OCT. 23RD, 1901.

Dr. Lorimer has definitely resigned the pastorate of Tremont Temple Baptist church, Boston. His congregation hoped to keep him, and made great efforts to that end, but he has decided to accept the call to the Madison Avenue, New York, church.

It was the night for the mid-week prayer meeting. It was a stormy night. But there were a thousand people present. Of course, they had a good meeting. Where was it? You ask. In Korea, a heathen land. The Christian converts appreciate their privileges; they "do not forsake the assembling themselves together" for prayer and praise. Alas! that in this Christian land Christians do not more prize the privileges of the holy faith they profess.

Perhaps the Herald of this city will tell its readers that it was in error in stating, in its issue of the 11th inst., that the office which Hon. George E. Foster has held for several years in the Free Baptist Conference of New Brunswick has been given to another. Mr. Foster is still an officer of the Conference. He was unable to be present this year, but did not fail to communicate his regret that he could not share in the associations and work of the session.

Of the recent Methodist Ecumenical Conference, held in London, it is said that the air was full of the spirit of federation. The union of the several branches of Methodism in Canada, and the great blessing that has attended it, and the later union of Methodist denominations in Australia, and the promise of large success attending it there, impressed the Conference that the more closely united the several denominations that are essentially Methodist can become the more strength they will have for internal development and for aggressive Christian work. Such consolidation of Christian forces is surely of the Lord, and must glorify Him.

He is in every church—the man who whenever he doesn't feel very comfortable thinks there ought to be a change of pastor. If the congregation some Sunday is not large, or there is a small attendance at the prayer meeting, or there is report of a revival in some other church, the change-of-pastor man is sure to talk, and the burden of his talk is, "We ought to have a new pastor; things are running down; if we had ——— we would have success, he is having revival in his church, we must have a change, and we should have it at once." Of course, there are always some weak souls who can be influenced by this kind of talk; and they form a little company of complainers who more burden the pastor, and hinder the work of the church than all the evil influences outside the church.

The Roman Catholic religious orders that are being sent out of France cannot command the sympathy of the people who know the truth about them. The numerous convents had become, at the best, mere trading institutions. The monks, not receiving regular wages, were able to undersell other producers, and then use their profits to promote their own particular ends. One authority tells that "five religious communities sell wine wholesale; six sell liquor wholesale; two sell alcohol exclusively; four sell liquors retail; seven convents are patented as distilleries; and nine as inns, with billiard playing allowed."

All together there are 2,500 religious establishments in France carrying on some kind of mercantile traffic. There is an account in a leading illustrated paper in Paris, of these-called-miraculous "Pardon of St. Anne." After relating the legend on which the reputed virtue of the fountain in Breton is founded, it goes on to tell that during eight days in the latter part of August thousands gather at this place. "Tents are pitched for thousands, tables are served night-and-day, priests receive confessions all night; liquor is sold without stint, and drunkenness at times seems to be general." The last Sunday in August is the great day of the occasion. The illustrated paper referred to speaks truly of the "astounding contradictions, the exalted mysticism, and the orgies without restraint, of this most flagrant anachronism of the twentieth century." This may be fitly termed as cultivating religion for the money which there is in it, and reflects anything but credit upon the body which recognizes as infallible a leader under whose sanction all this debasing work has been going for long time.

CONFERENCE NOTES.

Conference gets through with its business more expeditiously than it did a few years ago. Frequently Wednesday night found the Conference still in session, and struggling, weariedly, with some unfinished question. Now we, usually, finish the business Tuesday night. Including the Ministers' meeting, a session of four days, exclusive of the Sabbath, is, perhaps, long enough ordinarily. And yet we have wondered whether, some years, another half day might not be very profitably spent in consideration of some denominational matters.

A pleasing feature of the late session was the faithful attendance of the delegates. Often the Monday of a Conference session finds nearly all the delegates gone. This year only a few left before the close of the session. This is a most gratifying change, and may be taken to indicate a deeper interest in the work of the Conference. The brethren who were so faithful in their representative duties have set an example for the delegates of future years.

Several brethren were missed. One—Rev. G. F. Currie—had died during the year. Both the Ministers' Conference and the General Conference made fitting reference to his life and death, and expressed sincere sympathy with his bereaved family circle. His brethren missed his genial presence, and his sensible participation in the business of the session. While they mourned that they would see his face no more on earth, they rejoiced in all that God had enabled him to be and to do.

Rev. J. W. Clarke, too, was much missed, for he occupied no small place in the work of the Conference. While we were regretting his first absence from Conference since he had become a member of it, we were cherishing the expectation of seeing him at the next session in the fullness of his strength. Alas! he had met with his brethren for the last time. They had only reached their homes when the tidings of his call to higher service went to them. Though these brethren went home early—one at forty and the other at forty-six, they had lived so well and served so faithfully that the good they did will abide forever. They rest from their labours; their works follow them.

Another, bro. A. C. Smith, who has for a good many years been a valuable member of Conference, and regular in his attendance was absent. His brethren regretted his absence the more because due to the condition of his health. He may be assured of the love of the brethren, and their prayers that he may be graciously sustained and comforted in his sufferings, and be enabled to triumph through Jesus Christ his Saviour.

Other brethren, also, were missed, and we are hoping that next year they may be with us to share the cares and the joys of the annual meeting.

It was good to have the presence of representatives, Rev. J. H. McDonald and Mr. H. C. Creed, of the Baptist Convention of the Maritime Provinces, and to hear their fraternal message. Prof. Anthony, representing the Free Baptist Conference of the United States, was, also, warmly greeted, and was heard in sermon and address with much pleasure and benefit.

Both these delegations came to the Conference with invitations to closer relationship. Prof. Anthony's was that the New Brunswick Conference become a member of the larger Conference in the United States; that of the Baptist delegation was that we unite with that body in Education and Foreign Mission work. That neither invitation was accepted does not mean

that the Conference did not appreciate the kind feeling of the bodies extending them; it simply means that, in the present circumstances of the body, the Conference felt that the best work can be done in the use of existing methods. What the future may have in store for us as to these things it is not possible to tell with certainty, and it is not worth while guessing about it. If we are all led by Him whose kingdom we seek to advance, the right things will be done.

That there was no delegate from the Nova Scotia Conference was regretted. After Conference had closed the Secretary received a letter from Rev. J. B. Merrill, dated at Cape Sable Island the afternoon of Oct. 4th saying that he had just then received notice from Rev. C. F. Cooper, the delegate appointed by the N. S. Conference, asking him (bro. Merrill) to attend. Bro. Merrill says that if he had known one day sooner he would have attended, but it was too late when he got the word. He adds:

"Allow me in behalf of our Conference to express our gratitude to your body for the presence and aid of your representative, Rev. Bro. Clarke, at our recent session at Glenwood. We appreciate the cordial relations existing between the two bodies, and trust that the future shall bind us more closely together."

The Woman's Mission Society meeting was one of much interest. The financial returns were good, the amount gathered being in excess of any previous year. The work being done by, and under direction of the Society's missionary in India is encouraging. The plan of home work for this year—organizing the children into mission bands is a good one, and the brother, (Rev. J. N. Barnes) appointed to do the work is well suited for it, and will, we have no doubt, be successful in a good degree.

The three young brethren ordained have the fullest sympathy of their brethren, and for their success in the great work to which, at the call of God, they are devoting themselves. Many prayers are being offered.

The hospitality of the people of Marysville was all that could be desired. When it is remembered that they had scarcely more than a month's notice, the admirable way in which they entertained the Conference is the more marked.

The weather from first to last was most pleasant. It is not often there is such Summer-like weather for so many days continuously in October. Any suggestion about changing the time of Conference would have found small favour this year.

The spirit of the Conference was excellent. There were, of course, as always, differences of opinion, and they were freely expressed. But while brethren differed, they differed as Christians, and loved each other none the less on account of the differences.

The devotional meetings were good; indeed the devotional spirit was in all the meetings.

A NEEDED PROTEST.

Papers which said the worst things about President McKinley during his life, have heaped eulogies upon him since his death. Did they believe what they said when they charged him with all conceivable wrong-doing, or do they mean what they say when they praise him unqualifiedly? The same course is pursued towards public men by some papers in our own country.

The Canadian Baptist, thinking the present a good time to protest against the unscrupulousness and cruelty of all too large a section of the partisan press generally, says:

It is no fault of many members of the political press that every man on the other side of politics who gains any position of influence and leadership is not driven out of political life with his reputation damaged or destroyed. The very wantonness in which the gravest suspicions and charges are bandied about is the only safeguard. Where every act of a political opponent or party is called a "job," or "steal," or "scandal," or some other opprobrious name suggestive of things that are dark and dastardly, the readers cannot long take it seriously. They know that no party can deal exclusively in rascalities and not be convicted and thrust aside by an indignant and outraged people. They know that politicians are too prudent, even though unmoved by higher considerations to hope to carry successfully through a course of continuous dishonesty and robbery of the public.

Is it not time that all true men should set their faces against the wanton unscrupulousness to which we have referred. Let the press be eagle-

eyed to detect wrong, where it exists. Let all double-dealing and rascality be denounced, when it is proved. But let the papers which deal in perpetual insinuation and innuendo, and which hurl about the gravest charges on the most flimsy pretext or on none, be taught that they cannot do this without reckoning with a solid body of fair-minded men who will not consent that any individual or party shall be subjected to mere hounding. We are glad to recognize the fact that there are party journals above such despicable methods. We hope the sentiment against them is growing. But the politics of our land are still disgraced by journals that deal all too freely in mere mud-throwing. Nothing tends more to injure a country than this. True men who prize reputation as more precious than life, the very men we need in political life, find it hard to subject themselves to that which is intended to blast it. When a large body of people read these journals in which these indiscriminate charges of nefarious practices are constantly made, they get the idea that politics are but a seething pool of dishonesty and wrong, and expect nothing but evil. They are thus prepared to accept an apparently inevitable situation, and thus help to introduce or perpetuate the worst political conditions. For the sake of country and in the interest of fair play, let tactics of the kind we have characterized be frowned down.

GENERAL RELIGIOUS NEWS.

—Rev. George F. Pentecost, pastor of the First Presbyterian Church, Yonkers, N. Y., has received a call from the American Board of Foreign Missions to organize religious work in the Philippine Islands.

—Some of the wooden churches of Norway are fully 700 years old, and are still in an excellent state of preservation. The timbers have successfully resisted the frosty and almost Arctic winters because they have been repeatedly coated with tar.

—In Porto Rico, under Spanish rule, the public treasurer paid all expenses connected with the Catholic Church, which was the religion of the State, and in every city and in every town there were churches exclusively for Catholic worship.

—The Friends are rapidly declining. In 1700 there were 60,000 to 70,000 members in England in a population of 5,000,000. Now, when the same ratio to population would give them 900,000, they number but 19,000. Both branches of them in the United States number but about 100,000.

A Christian congress of colored people is to be held in Atlanta, Georgia, next August which it is expected will be attended by 10,000 delegates. Every Protestant denomination will have booths from which literature will be distributed showing the effects that each are making for the elevation of the race.

Mr. Daniel Dorchester, the well-known authority on religious statistics has compiled the following comparative statement of the condition of Methodism, the world over, as regards members and traveling preachers in 1881, 1891 and 1901, the dates of the three Ecumenical Conferences:

Table with 4 columns: Members, Travelling preachers, Total, and a fourth unlabeled column. Data for 1881, 1891, and 1901.

—Protestantism appears to be growing rapidly in Italy. There are now over 20,000 communicants in the Waldensian churches, while the Free Church has about 3,000, the Wesleyans 1,800, the Methodist Episcopal 1,500, and the old Catholics 500. All these bodies own church buildings in different cities, and are active and earnest in their work. Large sums of money are spent each year on churches and schools. Methodism in Rome itself has won some wonderful victories.

—In an address at Old Orchard, Maine, Commander Booth-Tucker gave some interesting facts concerning the work of the Salvation Army in the United States. He said that the total number of officers is 3,000; uniformed soldiers, 20,000. There are 200 social institutes, which nightly shelter 8,000 poor persons, at an annual cost \$850,000. The army also maintains forty-four industrial homes, which give constant employment to about 600. The total expense of maintaining all the departments of the organization in the United States is \$1,250,000. How do they raise so much money? is the question asked by pastors, church workers, and philanthropists generally.

BURN THEM.—Endless chain letters, on whatever subject or for whatever purpose, should at once be destroyed. To the piteous appeal, "don't break the chain," one may reply that he takes great pleasure in suppressing a nuisance wherever found.

NOTES ON CURRENT EVENTS.

White House. President Roosevelt has changed the name of the home of the President from Executive Mansion to White House. He claims that White House, the original name, is both historically correct and more popular.

RUSSIA. Nineteen Russian Provinces are suffering so much from famine that government relief has to be given. The Czar has ordered that the Central Government give 14,000,000 roubles (\$10,500,000), and the other divisions of the Government have appropriated from 100,000 to 400,000 roubles for relief.

CHEESE EXPORTS. The New York Witness points out that the cheese exportation of the United States has for some years steadily fallen off, while Canada's cheese exports has increased steadily. In 1870 the United States exported 60,000,000 pounds to 6,000,000 from Canada. Six years ago each country shipped about 95,000,000 pounds, but the filled cheese fraud of the United States dealers did its work, and the exports in 1899 had fallen to 46,000,000 pounds, while the Canadian had gone up to 155,000,000 pounds.

A NEW LINE. The Canadian Pacific Railroad Company is likely to put on a line of steamers from Vancouver to Vladivostok, to take advantage of the trade openings made by the opening up of Siberia. The Company sent Mr. Whyte to look into the situation, and he has reported that Vladivostok is the coming Pacific port, and that the Russians are developing it rapidly and with great energy.

A NEW TREATY. It is understood that Great Britain and the United States have agreed upon an adjustment of the Nicaragua Canal matter. From what is known of the arrangement it appears that while the old treaty—the Clayton-Bulwer—is abrogated, its underlying principle is preserved in the new treaty. The canal is to be neutral and open to the commerce of all nations. The United States guarantees the neutrality. The treaty is not yet signed. The United States Senate may make objections again.

SUNDAY WORK. The Sunday before the arrival of the Royal visitors in St. John the builders of one of the arches kept their men at work all day. Those who think Sabbath observance worth while objected to the work. The contractors claimed that they had to work Sunday in order to get the arch done in time; and the citizens committee passed a resolution approving the Sunday work. As a matter of fact the work on the arch might have been begun earlier than it was, or the number of men working at it might have been increased. The Sabbath desecration could have been avoided if there had been any strong desire to do it. It would seem that those who like to violate the Sunday law in St. John have become bolder. Perhaps they think the recent investigation into the administration of the law in that city justifies their defiant attitude.

RMOURD FRICTION. The rumours about friction between the Governor General and his ministers will not down. There are denials, but they are not fully accepted. Probably the reports are somewhat exaggerated. Perhaps little more will be heard of them—perhaps a good deal. If the bottom facts are ever made public, we venture the belief that it will then be known that whatever trouble there is began when young Canadians, by thousands, asked to be sent to South Africa to fight for the Empire.

THE ROYAL VISITORS. The Royal visitors have completed their Canadian tour. On Monday they sailed from Halifax. A day will be spent at Newfoundland, and then they sail for home, and will be there in a few days. They would be other than human did they not feel glad that their months of travel are so near an end, and that they will soon be with their children and others of their family circle.

Their reception in this Province last week was hearty enough to satisfy any one. At St. John, where they arrived on Thursday and remained till noon Friday, elaborate preparations had been made for them, and their welcome was enthusiastic. Several thousands of people from every part of the Province were there to participate in the demonstrations of loyalty. The illumination of the city was very

fine. The presentation of the medals to the South African soldiers was feature of the celebration. There was a reception Thursday evening in the Exhibition building when many were presented to the Duke and Duchess. At Halifax, where they spent Saturday and Sunday, there were the same warm demonstrations which marked their visit at every other place in Canada. They have made a pleasant impression everywhere, and a good many people are happier, perhaps, because they have seen and greeted their own vantage and his charming wife Bon voyage.

DECLINED IT. Col. Hudon, the Canadian officer who commanded "C" Battery of Canadian artillery, refused to take the South African medal offered him at Toronto a few days ago. His reason for refusing it is that officers who are his juniors, and who had seen little or no real service in Africa or elsewhere, were decorated with C. M. G. or raised a grade, while he fought at the front and was not recognized in any way except by the medal such as all were receiving. Col. Hudon does not seem to have reason for complaining. He and his Battery participated in the relief of Mafeking. Somebody has blundered—or worse.

MOLOKAI. The Molokai leper settlement in Hawaii has now 909 lepers, and 164 persons who are not lepers. For the last ten years the number of commitments to the settlement has been less each year. Of the "clean" people living and working amongst the lepers, the authorities believe that in time they will become lepers. In the last ten years only ten clean residents have become lepers.

ZIONISM. The American Israelite does not favour the Zionistic movement. It says that "only a small part of Palestine is fit for agriculture, and this portion is fully occupied and has been so for centuries. While it is possible that by extensive irrigating canals the amount of tillable soil might be increased, it is certain that this would require long time and an immense outlay of money, of which the entire £2,000,000 the Zionists are trying to get in their colonial fund would be only a part. To encourage further immigration to Palestine is now more than folly, it has become a crime."

SOUTH AFRICA. Eighteen more Boer officers, captured since Sept. 15, have been prominently banished from the country. Schoeman, second in command of Commandant Lotter, who was sentenced a few days ago for treason, was executed at Tarkstad, Wolfart, another of Lotter's officers, has been sentenced to death.

A Berlin paper says that Mr. K... in, in spite of all denials, is severely ill. General Methuen, who is operating near Marico, has captured and destroyed great quantities of foodstuffs belonging to the Boers. The London correspondent of the New York Tribune cables: Durban Africa is entering upon the phase of total eclipse, so far as newspapers are concerned. Lord Kitchener is not a dictatorial, and the country knows only what he chooses to reveal. He has proclaimed martial law over Cape Colony, and is attempting to remove treason at once odious and impossible. If he succeeds, rebellion will be stamped out in Cape Colony, and the Boers, repulsed from their invasion of Natal, will be gradually starved out of the northern territory. Much depends on the temper and ability of the Boers respecting reprisals. They will lose the support of their allies unless they can avail themselves of the resources of retaliation.

The administration of forests by the Hungarian government has proved to be financially profitable. In 1898 net income from the national forests was only 1,194,000 florins; during the last decade, under governmental control, that sum has been more than doubled.

The latest returns to the census office, Ottawa, place the population of the Territories at over one hundred and fifty thousand. Dr. Montizambert has reported that Hon. Mr. F. Sherman in favor of establishing a government vaccine farm at Ottawa. PRESENT.—Some friends of Rev. H. Perry, members of Orange Lodge No. 112, in Hampstead parish, have him a present of \$13.50 on the occasion of his departure to a new pastorate.