

TERMS AND NOTICES.

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Religious Intelligencer.

REV. JOSEPH McLEOD, D.D., ... EDITOR

WEDNESDAY, Nov. 13th, 1901.

A sermon is not very easily separated from the man who makes it. Upon his life it depends for much of its life and power.

The King's strict observance of the Lord's day, and his marked disapproval of every form of Sabbath desecration, is having a good effect among "society" people in England.

The church member who does not remember his church covenant, and honour it, when he votes does not really honour it when he speaks in conference or when he prays.

Denominational news is scarce this week. Why is it, brethren? Is there nothing you ought to tell the churches about? The INTELLIGENCER wants to be kept well supplied with news of ministers and churches.

When the church prays to the Lord of the harvest to send forth labourers into His harvest, it should be ready to accept the Lord's answer to the prayer, and to provide support as well as work for those whom He sends.

The Prime Minister of Holland, Dr. Abraham Kuyper, is a regularly ordained preacher. Preachers have attained eminence in the British Parliament, the United States Congress and in other legislative bodies, but Dr. Kuyper is the first to become a Premier.

An Episcopal rector in Missouri has had a contention with his bishop over the question of using fermented wine at the communion. The bishop thinks the wine used must be fermented, and insisted on its use; the rector could not in conscience use it, and has decided to withdraw from the Church.

Here is good advice, by the Telescope, for any pastor, of any christian denomination: Do not be a bigot, neither be a narrow sectarian; but by all honest means, and in all manly ways, stand up for the interests of your own Church, and do all you can to stimulate its growth, add to its strength, and increase its efficiency. Reason, common sense, loyalty, and common honesty demand all this of you.

Rev. Dr. McLaren, pastor of St. Andrews Presbyterian church, Vancouver, B. C., in a recent sermon dealing with the gambling and other forms of vice prevalent in the city, said that if the city would appoint him Assistant Chief of Police, without salary, he would accept the position and guarantee to rid the city of gambling dens. The City ought to make the appointment at once.

The Nonconformist churches in London are making ready to take a hand in municipal politics. They desire to bring their influence to bear on the liquor traffic, to reduce the number of drink shops and to have various restrictions enforced. To this end they will combine to secure the election to the municipal councils of candidates in sympathy with their purpose. It is a most worthy undertaking, it is religion practical and in earnest.

Missionaries in China are greatly cheered by the encouragements which they find as they enter again upon the work that was so sadly interfered with by the Boxer uprising and all the troubles which accompanied it.

There are many evidences of deep regret for the treatment which was given the missionaries and native christians. The people are not only cordially receiving the missionaries, but the officials of towns to which none have yet gone have earnestly invited missionaries to come amongst them. The signs are good.

THE YEAR BEFORE US.

The General Conference of this year is now well past. Reports of proceedings have been published. Those who read the INTELLIGENCER have a very good idea of what was done during the session, and of the spirit of the annual meeting.

Some changes in pastoral relations have taken place since Conference. In the majority of cases those pastors who have changed are by this time fairly well settled in their new homes, and now pastors and churches all over the field are face to face with the work of another year. Many of them, probably all, are thinking with much seriousness of what is before them of opportunity and responsibility, and are earnestly desiring that they may this year be enabled to do the best work of their lives and have the largest success, by the blessing of God. That the highest and best desires in this respect of pastors and churches in this field be realized let all the people pray.

"Holding our own," is the answer sometimes given to questions about the life and work of churches. It is not a good answer. It ought to be possible to say more. Not always, perhaps, but ordinarily if it is all that can be said something is wrong. There must have been, for some reason, lack of faithful service. It is not well for christians to be easily satisfied. We fear it is one of the present time sins that the Church of Christ is content to move along very quietly, and think it is doing well enough if it can claim to be "holding its own." And, indeed, that claim is sometimes made when the facts do not justify it, as careful investigation would show. Given opportunities for progress, if progress is not made, "our own" is not held, and loss is suffered. The conditions being equal, unless we are doing better this year than last year, we are not doing so well. Not making gain in membership, in enlargement of spiritual life, in self-denials, in support of the Lord's cause, or in efficiency of service in some form, we have lost.

Shall we make last year's activities and their results in any department of the work the standard for this year? That would hardly do, as any one who studies the record will say. No past year of any denomination, or any local church, can be regarded as the measure of its service in the present. The record of a past year, whether the last or a previous one, may be very useful, but only by its suggestiveness. What did we do last year? That features of the reports presented to Conference of work done were gratifying there is no doubt. The hearts of the brethren were made glad. But not all parts of the work was as well done as it might have been. We refer readers to the report of the Corresponding Secretary of Conference for the facts, so far as ascertainable, about the work of the year. The facts, carefully considered, will be found quite suggestive. Let no church, no pastor, no church member be satisfied to make the record of any previous year the standard for this year's christian service. Onward! should be the motto. "O of grace to serve Thee more," should be the prayer.

Among the things that occur to us as requiring more attention are, (1) the support of the several branches of work undertaken by the denomination—as Home and Foreign Missions, ministerial education, and provision for disabled ministers; and (2) Evangelism. As to the first, it must be clear to any who look into the figures and give any thought to the matter that, as a christian body, we are not at all coming up to the measure of our ability, which is God's measure of our privilege and obligation. "Freely ye have received"—of spiritual blessings and, also, of ability to communicate blessings to others—therefore "freely give," is the message of the Word to us.

As to evangelism, is not it possible to do more of it? Pastors are busy men. Every pastor feels that he must in his own churches do some special evangelistic work. Many, perhaps all, feel that they have little or no time nor strength to give to work outside their own pastorates. And yet every one of them would be glad to go beyond the borders of his own pastorate with the message of salvation. Is not it possible for pastors of adjoining fields to so arrange for joint labour,

that they may not only help each other but, also, reach some uncared-for communities in their vicinity?

Brethren near each other may very well confer about it, and they may be able to devise a plan of mutual help.

Whether pastors can go beyond their fields in evangelistic work, every one of them will, it is hoped, make more than the usual effort to win the unconverted in their congregations to the faith of Jesus. No church can afford to neglect this work—the great work committed to the disciples of our Lord. In Sabbath Schools, in Young People's Societies, in sermons in all the meetings of the churches there needs to be constantly kept in view the conversion of the unsaved. The voice of the church, in all its teachings and activities, should be the voice of divine love saying, "Seek ye the Lord while He may be found, call ye upon Him while He is near. Let the wicked forsake his way, and the unrighteous man his thoughts; and let him return unto the Lord, and He will have mercy upon him; and to our God, for He will abundantly pardon."

For us all—preachers and churches, if we would have the Lord bless us and make us a blessing in the largest way, there needs to be a full and deep consecration to Him. Do we sometimes forget that it is not by our own wisdom or strength that the work is done, but by God's spirit? Plans are multiplied, but power is not thereby increased. There is only one power that really counts in the work of salvation—the "power from on high." For that divine power let the whole church wait before God in true humbleness of heart, and in the faith which expects God to fulfil His gracious promise. He will bless.

A ROYAL PROCESSION.

That of the Queen of Sheba, to see the greatness and learn of the wisdom of Solomon, was one of great interest; but how it pales in splendour compared with many of modern times! The great jubilee of our revered Queen Victoria, in grandeur, brilliancy and greatness exceeded all the past. It was the most marvellous expression of loyal devotion, and an exhibition of the strength and glory of an unsurpassed world-power. As long as Britain's fame endures that august and memorable gathering will be a treasure of memory.

A future King and Queen of our vast British Empire have just closed a journey which has been one triumphal procession across a good, and goodly part of our great Empire, "broad-based upon a loyal people's will." Not a procession of conquest—except of hearts, but of peace and good-will. The might and power of human interest; and the conquest of regal graciousness, and regal virtues, binding heart to heart. Goodwill, mightier than the sword, the great re-creative force and renewing power, riveting to a throne supreme in that "righteousness which exalteth a nation," the hearts of freemen, who in the spontaneity of sincere devotion delight to honor the symbol of Britain's power and greatness. Behind all pomp and display, deep in the hearts of a loyal people is the unfeeling sense of lasting obligation to a throne so resplendent in enduring virtue, and so marked and so distinctive in human interest and in human sympathy.

Because of another, a long ago, Royal procession the "finer spirit" of that just closed became possible. That Royal journey to Jerusalem was the journey of the world's King, in peace and good-will, unarmed, travelling "in the greatness of His strength," went forth amid the acclaims of the people: "Hosanna to the Son of David: Blessed is He who cometh in the name of the Lord; Hosanna in the highest." Yet they crucified him! "Not this man, but Barrabas." The cross He made His throne; and the spirit of the cross is His Crown.

Defeat! said the authorities; defeat! said the then church. But: "He is risen." Great David's greater Son—Lives! "He lives, the great Redeemer lives," and is,— "The joy of all who dwell above, The joy of all below, To whom He manifests His love, And grants his name to know: To them the cross with all its shame, With all its grace is given: Their name an everlasting name, Their joy the joy of heaven."

That Royal procession has not stayed. The King of men's hearts rides prosperously on, for: "He shall have dominion from sea to sea; and from the river unto the ends of the earth." Out from the unseen His growing way and glorious rule grow with each rising sun. In no age has His power been so wide-spread and His rule so clearly seen and so strongly felt as in this golden age in which we live.

Said Senator Hoar, recently. "As

I grow old I grow hopeful," and well may we all! For— "Jesus lives and reigns."

Broken purposes belong to man, but not to God. Sovereignty is a word needed to make hope strong. The world-power is the Christ.

"God may have other words for other worlds, But for this world the word of God is—Christ."

What can satisfy eternal love? What can defeat Eternal power? He is to be satisfied; and His Rule is to be all in all.

Then— "Onward christian soldiers, Marching as to war, With the cross of Jesus Going on before. Christ the Royal master Leads against the foe; Forward into battle, See, His banners go!

CHRISTIAN CITIZENSHIP.

As Christians we are to do our best in order to saturate all our institutions with the pure, noble and benevolent spirit of Christianity. We cannot be too unselfish, too public-spirited, too careful for the honor of God and the good of our fellow men. In this country we have many opportunities of proving our loyalty to God as good members of the Church and good citizens. A bad neighbor can hardly be a good Christian. See to your schools; see to your roads and bridges. See to the enforcement of good and salutary laws such as are on our statute book. Discourage law-breakers, high or low. Be not afraid to testify on the side of right even if you suffer for it, for good men—good citizens have suffered in all the ages at the hand of bad men.

Doubtless the man you elect from time to time to represent you in councils and legislatures are of the right stamp. The least you ought to do is to see to it that you are represented by men that "fear God and hate covousness." Let us put it in other words—men that are good citizens, faithfully discharging all their duties as husbands, as parents, and as business men. There was a time when the sacredness of the family relationship and of private character did not count for much. Happily in these better days, no man can successfully ask your votes for the municipal council, or for any office unless he is at least a sober and reputable man. Men who are not sober and reputable ought never to be voted into positions of trust and honor. No good ever comes from the promotion of such men. Their influence on the community has always been bad.

Our first and very earnest advice is that none but men of honest and good lives be considered for representative positions. If there is to be party fighting see to it that the candidates on both sides are good men. But, if possible, select your men apart from party considerations and without the turmoil and strife of a contested election. For unfortunately these contests leave ill-feeling behind them which is sometimes the cause of much harm. Of course there ought to be no ill-feeling; there ought to be neighborly cordiality in all our canvassing and all our voting; but we all have not yet attained to such a degree of self-control. Friendly compromises, and a courteous preferring of others to ourselves, may well be resorted to in municipal contests. But above all let those who entertain a due regard for the moral interests of the community strive earnestly to prevent the selection or election of men that are not trust-worthy.

We cannot shut God out of the civic arena or any other sphere of life. Hence our conduct in regard to all affairs should be such as becomes Christian men.—The foremost pulpits in New York are at present resounding with the note of warning and exhortation against the corruption, the plots and wiles of "Tammany." Morality is very deeply at stake in the conflict now going on in that great community. The case is not so bad with us by any means; but if our best people quarrel among themselves and neglect civic duties, and trifle with great issues, and give scope to partisan aims and feelings, we may yet have to face difficulties of a very serious character. Pres. Witness.

PRINCE OF WALES.—The Duke of Cornwall and York was made Prince of Wales on the King's birthday.

IT IS A FRIEND.—A sister who has had a full share of life's burdens, sending a new subscriber with her renewal, says: "I have always found the INTELLIGENCER a friend. Every week it brings me some new comfort. May it find its way into many more homes."

NOTES ON CURRENT EVENTS.

GOLD.

The world's gold output for the last year was smaller than in 1899. The falling off is attributable to the South African war. The total amounted to 12,459,287 ounces, of the value of \$257,514,700. Of silver there was produced more than in any preceding year, namely 128,716,796 oz. The output of gold this year is likely to be much larger, as South Africa has resumed production and Canada has increased her operations in her gold regions.

P. E. I. PROHIBITION.

A case involving the validity of Prince Edward Island's Prohibitory Law is before the Supreme Court of that Province. It was argued last week, the Attorney General supporting the law, and Mr. N. S. Stewart representing the liquor traffic men. The judges have reserved their decision, perhaps awaiting the judgment of the judicial committee of the Privy Council in the case of the Manitoba Prohibition Law.

LIKE DOWIE.

In every part of the world a surprising proportion of the people like to be fooled. In Paris there is a faker of the Dowie kind. It is said of him that five years ago he was a poor tradesman. Now he lives in splendor, with stair-cases richly carpeted and lined with exotics, servants in livery in the halls to receive the callers, and a never-ending procession of carriages to and from his doors. He claims to be a messiah, to cure all diseases, to interpret dreams, and to fortell events. Simpletons such as make Dowie flourish, and such as flock to places where alleged bones of saints are deposited, make the Parisian trickster rich.

GERMANY'S GROC BILL.

Germany spends annually \$750,000,000 in intoxicating liquors. A society known as the "Society for combating the Abuse of Spirituous liquors" was in conference last week, and gave considerable attention to the serious questions suggested by the enormous use of liquors. One great difficulty in Germany, as elsewhere, in combating the evils of the liquor traffic is that the country derives so much revenue from it. In Germany from liquors of all kinds the public treasury receives \$66,000,000 a year. As in other countries, they think they are making money; they are really sinking money and at the same time debauching and destroying their people.

LI HUNG CHANG.

China's great statesman, Li Hung Chang, died at Peking on Thursday last. He was nearly 80 years of age. For many years he was the foremost man in his country the power behind the throne. He had much to do with the negotiations following the recent troubles in China, being his country's chief representative. He travelled a good deal in his time; only a few years ago he was in Canada.

THE EXPENSES.

Parliament voted \$120,000 for the expenses of the Duke and Duchess of Cornwall and York during their Canadian visit. The accounts indicate that nearly \$300,000 will be required to pay all. The cities visited pay their own bills. In some the expense was within the amount voted in others the cost was greater than estimated. Ottawa voted \$10,000, and had \$1,452 left. St. John voted \$3000, but will spend \$5,000 in paying the bills. How much the several Provincial governments expended is not yet known.

TAMMANY BEATEN.

The defeat of Tammany in the election in New York city on Tuesday of last week was such a triumph of righteousness as made glad the hearts of many people. Not only in the United States was there rejoicing but in every part of the English-speaking world those who desire honesty and cleanliness in the conduct of public affairs shared in the feeling of deep satisfaction that the corruption which had held place and power for four years in the government of the great city had received such an emphatic rebuke. When public conscience is awakened, even so powerful a political machine as Tammany must go down before the moral forces that assert themselves. The majority of Major-elect Low is 30,000. Practically the whole anti-Tammany was elected. The man on the Tammany ticket who ran behind his fellows was Major Van Wyck who been a party to all the dirty work of the gang for the last four years. The decent people on his own side of

politics wouldn't vote for him for any office.

Mr. Low has a great work before him, and the difficulties in his way will be many and formidable. He has shown himself a man of ability and integrity, and he may safely be counted on to do everything possible to purify the government of the big city.

PERSECUTED STUNDISTS.

A serious religious affray, in which a number of persons were killed, took place recently in Pavlovka, in southern Russia. Of the four thousand inhabitants of the village, 800 are Stundists. There has of late been a reawakening of the bitter feeling against the Stundists in Russia, and the police, under ecclesiastical stimulus, have been zealous in hunting them out that the Government had recently to issue orders to local police and church officials to be most careful in their inquiries before instituting proceedings against alleged offenders. At Pavlovka the persecuted Dissenters have apparently been goaded into resistance against the aggressions of the Orthodox Church party. A quarrel arose between representatives of the two bodies, and a terrible fight followed in the course of which there was great loss of life and a Russian church was wrecked. A strong detachment of soldiers had to be brought in to quell the disorder. There is little doubt that the provocation came from the party of the dominant Church, but nevertheless, it is certain that blame will be laid at the door of the unhappy Stundists. Turbulent outbreaks, with bloodshed, are constantly occurring all over Russia, but the special significance of this riot is that it arose from religious differences, and occurred on Sunday.

The first postage stamp bearing portrait of King Edward has been issued by the government of Victoria. The Government of India has constructed a canal in Northern India for irrigating purposes—nearly 500 miles long. It has already brought fertility and copious crops to a million and half acres of land. This is only one instance of the good work done under the British rule for the assuaging of the horrors of famine and the prevention of future famines.

A new fad recently adopted in some upper Canadian cities, is the wearing of a strip of red tape around the elbow to protect a vaccination from being knocked against by pedestrians. Five hundred and forty addresses were presented to the Duke of York during the tour of the Empire.

During October immigration returned show that 1,150 English, 140 Irish, Scotch and 3,185 foreigners crossed the Atlantic to settle in Canada. It is said that Lord Rosebery has decided to again take an active part in political affairs.

HOME RELIGIOUS NEWS.

—Mrs. Medley of Fredericton presented St. Paul's church, Grand Manan, with a beautiful set of communion linen.

—A new Episcopal church at Florenceville East, C. Co. was dedicated Sunday, 3rd inst., by Bishop Kingdon.

—Special meetings in the Reform Baptist church, St. John, are being conducted by Mr. and Mrs. Reynolds, evangelists from Massachusetts.

—The Coburg St. Christian Church, St. John, has a new pastor, E. Nelson Stevenson. He is a young man, and comes from Prince Edward Island.

—The Leinster St. Baptist church, St. John, has extended a call to Rev. E. W. Kelly, now in Burma. Mr. Kelly was pastor of the church before going to Burma.

—A new Baptist church at Upper Demoiselle Creek, Albert Co., was formally opened for divine worship the 3rd inst., Rev. Mr. Hutchison, Moncton preaching the dedicatory sermon.

—Rev. J. M. Robinson, former pastor of the Presbyterian church at Moncton, but now of Rossland, B. C., has had the honorary D. D. degree conferred upon him by a leading American Presbyterian college.

—The Methodist Church appropriated this year for Home Missions Canada \$89,219. Of this amount \$10,447, P. E. I. \$7,684, Nova Scotia \$7,741, and \$26,072 for the Maritime Province. For the North West the vote is \$20,000.