

TERMS AND NOTICES.

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Religious Intelligencer.

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

WEDNESDAY, FEB. 20TH, 1901.

Your renewal this week will be very acceptable at this office. Send it, please.

The greatest foe to religion is the drink habit. And yet some teachers of religion regard the evil thing with indifference.

There are said to be nineteen Baptist bodies, larger and smaller, in the United States. It is about time they were getting together.

Another missionary, Dr. Shirley Smith, has just reached the Free Baptist India field, and is at Midnapore. Others are needed. Who will go?

When christians have differences of opinions, let them be sure to differ in a christian spirit. In the things that make for the extension of the Kingdom of their Lord they must heartily co-operate.

The several Methodist bodies carrying on mission work in Japan have decided to unite their forces. In the face of the great difficulties which are to be overcome such union of christian forces is, surely wise.

"Give the Gospel a chance," was the word old Peter Cartwright, a pioneer Methodist preacher, sent from his sick bed to his brother preachers in Conference. The old preacher's counsel is needed to-day, for, as he said, "the world has never yet seen what the gospel of Jesus Christ can do."

Evangelist "Sam" Jones, the eccentric and effective Southern preacher, gives this advice to members of churches:

"If you want a revival in your church, get a piece of chalk, and make a circle on the floor, and get inside it, and then say, 'O Lord, revive thy work, and begin with everything inside this circle.' It is good advice. Try following it.

They are legion who believe they could, if they had the chance, show editors just how their papers should be edited. Dr. Joseph Parker, of London, is a man of undoubted ability, and a great preacher. He had recently a week's experience at editing a paper, and this is how he tells one of the things he learned:

Talk about the sweating system, talk of shorter hours for shop assistants! I should not be far wrong in thinking that the most hard-worked creature in existence lived in a perpetual bank holiday compared with the editors of newspapers."

Here is a word of cheer for the small and struggling churches. "The best work in the Church of Jesus Christ to-day is being done in the smaller churches where the people come close together as one family. It is also time that "a larger proportion of the members of the small church are engaged in active work; and that the demands made upon the members of a financially weak church are a means of spiritual blessing to them. "God hath chosen the weak things of the world to confound the things that are mighty." Be encouraged."

Rev. Joseph Barker died at Escuminac, P. Q., on Tuesday of last week. He had for a few years been pastor of the Presbyterian church at Escuminac. Mr. Barker was a native of Sheffield, S. Co., and he was for several years pastor of the Congregational church there. Later he united with the Presbyterian Church, and was

pastor at Richmond, C. Co. before going to Escuminac. Mr. Barker was a devoted servant of God—a true, strong preacher, and a faithful pastor. Those who knew him best loved him most. For a number of years he was an occasional contributor to the INTELLIGENCER, and his articles (signed J. B.) were always clear and faithful presentations of gospel truth. He has many friends in this Province who will mourn his death. He rests from his labours, but his works abide in the lives bettered by his faithful teaching and living. Mrs. Barker and family have the sympathy of many christian friends in their bereavement. The burial was at his old home, Sheffield, S. Co. on Thursday.

THE DRINK HABIT IN CANADA.

II. INCREASE ACCOUNTED FOR.

The Westminster correspondence from which we quoted last week, and which seems to show an increase in the drink habit in this country, attributes that increase to a variety of causes. This article will reproduce the principal causes given.

The style of living in these days is more expensive than formerly, without a corresponding increase in the average income. Young men, therefore, find it more difficult to get married and establish homes. A considerable proportion of them seek recreation in club and saloon and other places where liquors are used, and where they soon learn to use them. The tendency of club life is said to be very strongly favourable to the drink habit. The temptations they furnish are many and strong, and very few club men are able to resist them. Young men, seeing their seniors, the leading business and professional men of their cities and towns, freely indulging in strong drink, find it easy to persuade themselves that the drink habit is not so bad a thing after all.

What may seem strange to many readers is the statement that in not a few cases the leaders in educational circles—Principals, professors and teachers, set an example which encourages the drink habit amongst students. At some College and University dinners it is declared that professors and students drink freely, the former laughing at the drunken conduct of the latter.

One correspondent tells of the baneful influence of the drink habit in political life. Parliament and Legislatures are said to be very dangerous places, very trying to the young men who are sent to them as representatives. In the past two or three years the tone of members of Parliament on the subject of temperance has become more uncertain than for some years before, and there is said to be a corresponding growing habit of drinking. The "old toppers" in public life encourage the excesses of new members.

Something is charged to what is called a change of methods on the part of temperance advocates. More attention is given to the endeavour to secure legislative enactment against the liquor traffic, and less to persuasion of the individual to be a total abstainer. Some evidently think that the agitation in favour of legislative prohibition is an abandonment of moral suasion methods. Then the passing away of the old-time temperance organization—the Sons of Temperance, the Templars and like societies, with their steady educative influence and their pledges, is believed to be one cause of the increased drinking.

It is made clear that the liquor traffic people are making definite, persistent and carefully planned efforts to awaken and establish in young men and boys—and also in women and girls, the desire for drink. Saloons are made increasingly attractive. Sports, like base-ball, foot-ball, &c., are touched, often controlled, by "runners" of the liquor men. Liquor manufacturers are influential in club life in the cities and in political life. In every possible way recruits are being gathered in that the ranks thinned by former temperance teaching may be filled up again. Liquor laws are everywhere violated. The candy trade has been made to serve the liquor interests, and at any of the large candy stores, or at the big departmental stores, "brandy chocolates" can be bought, which in the most insidious way awaken the craving for stimulant. The quantity of "brandy chocolates" and other "loaded" candies sold in Toronto and other large cities, is said to be enormous. One who stood by the counter at a Toronto departmental store the other day, was quite amazed at the number of ladies who made purchases of this kind.

But another, and we fear a chief reason why conditions are not better than they are, is the silence of the pulpit, or its comparative neglect of this subject. Many who have carefully observed what is going on agree that the weakening of the voice of the

Church of Christ, in the pulpit and in the religious press, explains in a large degree the increasing power of the drink habit. Preachers and editors are exhorted to reflect on their responsibilities, and see whether faithfulness does not require more of them than they have been doing in the crusade against this giant evil.

Another article will be required to summarize the recommendations in answer to the question as to what should be done to promote the temperance reform.

WHAT ARE WE DOING FOR MISSIONS?

Rev. G. L. White, writing in the Morning Star, asks Free Baptists what they are doing for missions, and makes some suggestions. He says, "Not only the new century, but the death of Dr. Bachelor, should lead us to use the above heading as a personal query. We easily recall the words which he spake while he was yet with us. We shall see his face no more. What a tower of strength he was at our missionary gatherings! His words were always calm, judicial, moderate in tone, but full of faith and cheer. His patriarchal presence, during the last years, was worth to a missionary council, if he had said nothing, more than some men's utmost loquacity. Everybody knew his worth. His deeds never lagged behind his words. Here was a man, good, loyal, true. Every tone of his voice was vibrant with the honesty and sincerity of the man. His like we may never see again.

But the mantle of this brave, lion-like Elijah should fall upon us all—upon one, we might hope, for personal work in the field—upon us all for the new interest we should take in missions.

How shall our churches be aroused to give more for missions? First, it depends largely upon the pastors. Every pastor ought to make it the first business of his pastorate to put his people upon some systematic plan for giving. It is necessary in order to sustain home work that system should be used. I know some churches that were finding it difficult to raise \$300 salary for their minister before any system was introduced, now easily raising four and five hundred. I know some churches that once gave \$200 per year for missions, when system was being used, now fallen back to fifty or sixty dollars, because system has been allowed to lapse.

Secondly, pastors should observe the four days per year and preach sermons calculated to inform and arouse the church on the various missionary enterprises we are engaged in. Every church should observe special days even when it is pledged up to all it will bear. Always some refuse to pledge, and thus their contribution, if any, can be caught. Then, those who pledge regularly, often feel like making a thank-offering. It affords opportunity to pay up dues. Recently I heard of a pastor who, on a special day for missions, gave a most telling sermon, eloquent in fact, in which he aroused his hearers to the utmost pitch, but he failed to take any collection! His church is doing no systematic work, either. One person brought a missionary offering in an envelope stamped "missions," and the church treasurer didn't know what to do with it and returned it to the donor. A sermon which arouses on any subject, and is not followed up by any practical effort to reap results, is a hurt to the hearer, a damage to the church, a detriment to the cause of Christ.

Thirdly, every church should have a missionary committee, whose duty shall be to promote the interest of missions in that church. One member of that committee should be an agent for the denominational paper. He should introduce other missionary literature when possible. Missionary books, like "The Bishop's Conversion," "Mackay of Uganda," "Paton in the New Hebrides," should be put in circulation. This will require some personal work, but it should be done. Every church is a missionary organization per se, and should act accordingly.

Let us hope for a missionary revival at once.

THE CENSUS.—The Chief Census Commissioners for the several Provinces have been announced. Those for the Maritime Provinces are:— Prince Edward Island—E. H. Beer, Charlottetown. Nova Scotia—Firman McClure, Truro. New Brunswick—George Haddow, Dalhousie.

A PASTOR writes, "From a purely denominational point of view, I consider it necessary that every Free Baptist should have the INTELLIGENCER."

NOTES ON CURRENT EVENTS.

"YOUR LORDSHIP."

It is to be hoped the judges of the New Brunswick Supreme Court will decline to be addressed as "Your Lordship," as the Barristers' Society has requested. What if it is the custom in all the Provinces? Because they act foolishly is no reason why this Provinces should do so. "Your Honor," the present form of address is better than the proposed one, and simple "Sir" would be better still.

EIGHTEEN DOLLARS.

The men who did much talking when the Boer delegates were in the United States, and who boasted what great things they would do for "the cause," undertook to raise a fund for the widows and orphans of Boer soldiers. The contributions amounted to \$1200, but only \$18 remained for the widows. The loud-mouthed friends of the Boer cause spent the rest of the fund (\$1182) for "refreshments."

ANTI-TREATING BILL.

The Legislature of Oregon has before it a bill which proposes to make it a misdemeanour to treat any person to drink in a saloon or other place where liquor is sold. It would be just as easy, and far more sensible, to prohibit the sale of liquor.

AFTER ENGLAND.

General Mercier, of the French Army, continues to fight and destroy England with his mouth. He has again been discussing his plans for the invasion of England. He moved in the Senate for a large appropriation with which to provide small steamers and barges to be used in landing troops on the English coast, in the event of war. The Minister of Marine refused to approve of the proposal, and it was not pressed.

CANADA'S CRIME.

The Dominion Statistician, Mr. George Johnson, has been classifying the statistics of crime in Canada for the thirteen years 1887-99. The total convictions in that period were 484,268, an average of 37,250 per year. Of this number 60,981 were for indictable offences, the charges numbering 88,523, so that convictions formed 68.9 per cent. of the charges. Compared with their numbers, the agricultural class, the industrial class, (except in offences against property with violence) and the professional class contribute a very small percentage of criminals. The commercial class contribute more than their proportionate numbers in the way of offences against the person, forgery and offences against the currency, while labourers contribute more than their share to every class of crime. About 60 per cent. of the convicted were born in Canada. Those unable to read and write formed about 14.4 per cent. of the convicted. Those possessed of an elementary education, about 75.6 per cent., while those having a superior education formed only somewhat over 1 per cent. of the convicted. Cities and towns furnished 76 per cent. of the criminal class of Canada.

PROHIBITION REFUSED.

A deputation of prohibitionists, representing the Dominion Alliance, the W. C. T. U. and other organizations, waited on the Ontario government last week, and urged the passage of a Prohibitory law for that Province. Dr. McKay, Dr. Carman, Mr. Spence and Mrs. Rutherford spoke for the deputation. After hearing them, Premier Ross told them the government does not intend to introduce a prohibitory law, but will endeavour to improve the license law. It was pointed out to him that a prohibitory law had been promised, and that all the legislation since 1896, affecting the liquor traffic, had not interfered with the traffic particularly, except to help it. What action will be taken by prohibitionists in view of the government's refusal to give a prohibitory measure, remains to be seen.

INCREASES PROPOSED.

There is a proposal to increase the salary of the Premier of Canada to \$20,000, and the indemnity of Senators and M. P.'s to \$1500. The matter was brought up in the Liberal caucus at Ottawa last week. Further consideration was deferred till the feeling of Conservative members could be ascertained. If the people of the country were consulted—and they might very well be, for they have to pay the bills—it would be found, we think, that there is a very general belief that the salaries now paid are quite large enough, and that the number of members of government and officials, in employ of government, and the salaries they receive, might very

well be reduced. Not more expense in the administration of the country's affairs, but less, is needed.

A FORE-CAST.

Bishop Thoburn, one of the missionary bishops of the Methodist Episcopal Church, and who is conversant with European and Asian affairs, in a recent address spoke of the things which he sees coming in old world affairs. He took his bearings, the interior says, from the line of progress of the past century. The serfs and the slaves emancipated; Italy free; Napoleonism buried; Germany consolidated, and the dawn of a great new empire in Australia and her islands. Austria is only held together by the frail life of the Emperor. Germany has sent her iron arms down to the eastern Mediterranean and her feet will follow. The Austro-Germans will go into the German empire, and Edward and Will'an will dominate all South-eastern Europe, South-eastern Asia and all that continent south of the Himalayas, and together with the civilizing powers in Africa. The Turk will be wiped out as a power. Christianity will make a progress in these vast regions unequalled before in the same limit of time. It has doubtless occurred to almost every observer that all Germans must at no late date be consolidated in the Empire, which would mean the end of the Austro-Hungarian combination and add immensely to the power of Germany. This does not necessarily mean war, but only political gravitation. There can be no doubt that the present German emperor hopes to make a name for himself equal to that of his grandfather, and that he sees in a British alliance the way to such a future.

TUBERCULOSIS.

A conference to consider the question of the prevention of consumption in Canada was held in Ottawa last Thursday. The conference was called by the Governor General. In a speech at the opening of the conference, he gave some statistics showing that 7,000 or 8,000 die annually in Canada of consumption. The deaths from small-pox between 1889 and 1898 were only twenty-one. Vaccination and quarantine have had marked effect in preventing the loathsome disease. Something should be done, he urged, to prevent the more deadly consumption, which, it has been established, may be communicated by one person to another, and also, from animals to human beings. Science holds out the hope that by taking proper precautions the disease is preventable. After a careful discussion, it was decided to organize an Association for the Prevention of Tuberculosis. Sir James Grant M. D. is president. A resolution was passed asking the dominion government to assist in the fight against tuberculosis by preventing the entrance of tubercularized immigrants and tubercular cattle, and arranging with the provinces for a system of federal health statistics of death, establishing sanitoriums, where under careful medical supervision the therapeutic effects of dry or moist, high or low, forest or prairie climates may be scientifically studied and the results published for the information of the general public, and making an annual grant for the preparation and distribution of literature regarding the means of prevention and cure of tuberculosis.

THE BRITISH PARLIAMENT.

The British Parliament was opened on Thursday by King Edward. It is many years since Parliament was opened by the sovereign in person. Queen Alexandra accompanied the King. Though there were every where signs of mourning for Queen Victoria, the display was such as has not been seen at a Parliamentary opening in a generation.

THE KING'S SPEECH.

The King's speech was as follows: "My loyal and gentlemen, I address you for the first time at a moment of national sorrow, when the whole country is mourning the irreparable loss we have so recently sustained and which has fallen with peculiar severity on myself. My beloved mother, during her long and glorious reign, has set an example before the world of what a monarch should be. It is my earnest desire to walk in her footsteps. Amid this public and private grief it is satisfactory to me to be able to assure you that my relations with the other powers continue friendly. The war in South Africa is not yet entirely terminated, but the capitals of the enemy and his principal lines of communication are in my possession and measures have been taken, which will, I trust, enable my troops to deal effectively with the forces by which they are still opposed."

I greatly regret the loss of life and expenditure of treasure, due to the fruitless guerilla warfare maintained by Boer partisans in the former territories of the two republics. Their early submission is much to be desired in place it will be impossible for me to establish in those colonies the institutions which will secure the equal rights of all the white inhabitants and protection and justice for the native population.

The prolongation of the hostilities in South Africa has led me to make a further call on the patriotism and devotion of Canada and Australia. I rejoice that my request has met with a prompt and loyal response, and large additional contingents from these colonies will embark for the seat of war at an early date.

The speech then mentions the Chinese affair, the establishment of the Australian Commonwealth, the proposed visit of his son to Australia, New Zealand and Canada, the suppression of the Ashanti rebellion, and the India famine, and says that measures will be proposed for increasing the efficiency of the army, to amend the education law, to prevent drunkenness, &c. &c., and concludes thus: "I pray that Almighty God may continue to guide you in the conduct of your deliberations and that He may bless them with success."

It is announced that the changes in the I. C. R. staff makes Mr. Pottinger general manager of government railways, Mr. Russell operative chief of the Intercolonial, and Mr. Tiffin, general traffic manager.

It is announced that the Imperial War Office decided to grant a special gratuity to all the troops, imperial and colonial, that served in South Africa. The gratuities will run, it is said, about thus: For lieutenant-colonels, \$640; majors, \$320; captains, \$240; lieutenants, \$150; second lieutenants, \$120, and for non-commissioned officers and men from \$60 to \$20.

The investigation into the hazing case in which a West Point cadet met his death, has resulted in the abolition of hazing at that Military Academy. Any one guilty of it will be expelled.

Queen Emma, mother of the recently married Queen of Holland, is said to be in poor health.

The Queen of Sweden, who has been dangerously ill, is reported as improving.

Lord Roberts' new title is gazetted as "Viscount St. Pierre and Earl of Kandahar and Pretoria." But he will still be "Bobs" to his host of admirers.

Recent reports show that insanity in Ontario has increased considerably in the last ten years.

The United States Army is to be brought up to 100,000, the full authorized strength. This will require the enlistment of 33,000 men.

The condition of the Empire Frederick of Germany is reported more serious than at any previous time. Her brother, King Edward, expected to visit her soon.

The National Council of Women of Canada has decided to send an address of congratulation to Queen Alexandra. All Canadian women will be asked to sign the address, which will be enclosed, and together with signatures bound in morocco. Signatures will be received up to March 15th.

SOUTH AFRICAN NOTES.

The Strathcona Horse are in England, whence they will sail for Halifax on the 23rd. They were reviewed the King on Thursday.

There are lots of applications from men desirous of joining Baden-Powell's South African Constabulary. The actual enlistments will not begin until March.

General French has recaptured fifteen pounder captured from British at Colenso some time ago.

The Boer losses when they were tackled by Gen. French at Erm last week, were forty men killed, two hundred made prisoners.

Gen. French has captured a column of fifty wagons and fifteen carts, has made 43 prisoners. British one man wounded.

A brother of Christian DeWet earnestly pleads for peace and asks the Boers to make their submission once.

Fourteen invalided Canadians sailed for Halifax Friday. They had longed in the west.

A BOER'S OPINION.—Paul M. P. formerly of the Orange Free State, reported by Harper's Weekly, this of Mr. Kruger. "We know a man, avaricious, unscrupulous, hypocritical man, who sacrificed entire people to his cupidity. His aim and object was to enrich himself and he used every means to that end. His ambition for power, subordinate to his love of money, used the Transvaal as a milch cow of himself, his children and his follow-