

# Religious Intelligence.

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

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## NOTES AND CLEANINGS

As to divorces in the United States the following: Out of 10,000 marriages in England there are only 19 divorces, in France 127, in Germany 157, in the United States 444.

Butterflies can stand great cold and still live. Butterflies lying frozen on the snow, and so brittle that they break unless they are carefully handled, will recover and fly away, when warmed.

The smallest letter that ever passed through the Cincinnati post-office was delivered to a young lady, January 25. The envelope was the size of a postage stamp, and its back covered by the stamp.

Chief Justice Lore, of Delaware, who has had forty years' practical experience in dealing with criminals, declares in favor of the whipping post, which has long been a Delaware institution. He says that it drives criminals out of the state.

There seems no end to the new religious bodies. In Asiatic Turkey there is a body of religionists who call themselves Zezidees, or devil worshippers. Believing that Satan is destined to be restored to heaven they wish to keep on good terms with him, as they may need his friendly offices.

The London Lancet calls attention to the fact that canned tomatoes are now being extensively colored, in order to make them look attractive and as if made from ripe fruit. Among the colors so employed are coal-tar colors and cochineal. The subject of artificial coloring and preservation of food is now receiving great attention in England.

The London Lancet says that deaths in England from starvation have fallen from 18 to 12 in 1,000,000; deaths from scurvy 1 in 1,000,000, have remained stationary; but with deaths from intemperance the case is quite otherwise—they have risen from 45 per 1,000,000 of those living in the year 1878 to 77 per 1,000,000 in 1897.

It is announced that Helen Keller the wonderful deaf, dumb and blind student, now in Radcliffe college, an annex of Harvard university, has been awarded unusual honors for her success in study. The course she is taking this year includes history, English, French and German. In every study she is abreast of her class and in some leads it. This remarkable girl, bereft of three senses in infancy, shows high mental endowments. She is now twenty years old.

It is related that a fire broke out in a cheap John clothing store, whereupon an innocent customer who happened to be in at the time, ran up and down the street, shouting fire! The shop-keeper's neighbor inquired what the man was making the fuss about. "Oh," said the shop-keeper, "he is von dem demellers dat is always meddlin' mit other people's pizness." This reminds us of the saloon keeper who protested concerning certain people who were pursuing them for violating the law that they had better mind their own business.

A woman owns and works one of the largest apple-orchards in the United States. She is Mrs. Laura Alderman, of South Dakota. For twenty-four years she has profited largely by the fruit of her carefully cultivated trees, and has hired five men every season to assist in marketing the crop. A family in Georgia makes a good living by cultivating holly-trees for the New York market. Two sisters in Kansas manage a large wheat farm. A Miss Gates, formerly a nurse in New York City, was one of the first women farmers in Oklahoma Territory. She did the ploughing herself, at first, but subsequently became so prosperous that she hired negroes to do the heavy work for her.

A MEMORIAL.—The ladies of Sackville have started a \$5,000 memorial to late Mrs. Mary Mellish Archibald, the Mt. Allison Ladies' College. They want to raise a fund to assist worthy and ambitious girls to get a higher education.

## 'AS GOOD AS THERE IS ANY NEED FOR.'

BY KNOXIAN, IN THE WESTMINSTER.

When Sandy, a Scotchman, was asked his opinion about a neighbor, anxious to do the neighbor justice, and yet tormented with the national fear of praising anybody, he struck the happy medium by saying, "He is as good a man as there is any need for."

This world would be a much happier place than it is if everybody had as much sense as that Scotchman. Thousands of people worry themselves into the grave by vainly striving after persons and things of impossible excellence, when the persons and things they have are just as good as there is any need for.

Your overcoat may not be of the most fashionable cut, but it may be just as good a coat as there is any need for. If so, why do you worry yourself and other people about it. Peace ought to be worth as much to a man as the difference between an overcoat that is good and not fashionable, and one that may be fashionable and not particularly good.

Your husband may not be exactly perfect—very few husbands are—but if he is as good a husband as there is any need for, you ought to be thankful. Some husbands do not come up to that moderate standard. Besides, there is a remote possibility that you are not quite ready for translation yourself.

The pastor, you admit, is an earnest, pious, conscientious minister. His preaching is good, his example good, his habits industrious, and everybody knows he is doing his utmost to make his people better. But you say he is not brilliant, not sensational, not up-to-date. Perhaps not, but he is as good a pastor as there is any need for, and if you were as good a Christian as there is any need for you would be thankful that you have a pastor of that kind. If you knew the influence that some so-called up-to-date men would exert on your boys, you would perhaps be thankful that you have a real man of God to help you to bring them up. Character should count for something in the Christian ministry.

The member for your county is a good man. He is clean, capable, sensible, and patriotic. He attends faithfully to his duties, and treats his constituents well. But you say he does not soar as Laurier soars. He is not as handsome as the new Opposition leader. He cannot strike off glittering phrases like Mr. Foster's, or blistering phrases like Sir Richard Cartwright's. Perhaps not. Very few can do these things. But your representative may be just as good a member as there is any need for, and you should be thankful that you are represented in Parliament by a clean, decent man. Many of our public men are just as good as there is any need for, and, be it remembered, the worst of our representatives are elected by their constituents. The people who elect a bad man, cannot be very good themselves.

If the pastor is not preaching as well as there is need for try the experiment of adding something to his salary. Nine times out of ten the addition will work like a tonic.

If you think the singing is not up to the mark, give the singing people a word of encouragement. Quite likely the work is as good as there is any need for, but if it is not, everlasting nagging will not make it any better. A church paper may not be quite as good, in all respects, as another that has ten times as many subscribers, and more than ten times as much capital, but it may be quite as good as there is any need for.

How is it that so many Christians naturally find fault, and so few say that anybody or anything is as good as there is any need for. Thousands of men and things are as good as there is any need for.

A QUEER SECT.—Siberia is the birthplace of a new religious sect, the members of which style themselves "Slaves of Christ." They teach that the earth is flat and stands on three whales and that in the middle of the ocean there is a gigantic chandelier which crows at sunrise. Railways, telegraphs and telephones are attributed to anti-Christ.

## CLEAR SHINING AFTER RAIN.

REV. T. L. CUYLER.

One of the numberless touches of exquisite poetry in the Old Testament is that which describes the "tender grass springing out of the earth by clear shining after rain." The verdant grass plot which gladdens the eye is the result of a double process—shower and sunshine. Both are indispensable. We find in this beautiful expression a type of our deepest and richest spiritual experiences. It is a type of the most thorough work of conversion by the Holy Spirit. Over every impenitent soul hangs the dark cloud of God's righteous displeasure; his Holy Word thunders against sin, and his threatenings beat like a storm of hail. Repentance and faith in Christ sweep away this cloud; the thunders cease; the face of the atoning, pardoning Saviour looks forth like a clear blue sky after a storm; for there is no condemnation to them who are in Christ Jesus. So two cases of conversion are exactly similar, yet in every thorough work of grace the darkness and dread which belong to a state of guilt give place to the smile and peace of God in the face of Jesus Christ.

What is true in the beginnings of the most thorough Christian life is often realized in the subsequent experiences of the believer. Rain and sunshine both play their part in developing godly character. It ought to be a comfort to such of my readers as are under the heavy downpour of trials to open their Bibles and read how it fared with some of God's most faithful children. Abraham toiled on his sorrowful way to Mount Moriah under a dark cloud of apprehension; but the clear shining came when God approved his faith and spared the beloved son Isaac to the father's heart. The successive strokes of trial that burst on the head of Joseph only made his exaltation the more signal when he became prime minister of Egypt. There are forty-one chapters of the Book of Job through which beats the tempest which smote the four corners of his house, but in the forty-second chapter comes the clear shining after rain, and a blaze of restored prosperity. The biographies of Elijah and of Daniel prove how light is sown for the righteous; and the eleventh chapter to the Hebrews is a meteorological record to show how faith paints rainbows on thunder clouds.

In our days God often employs stormy providences for the discipline and perfecting of his own people. He knows when we need the drenchings. Every rain drop has its mission to perform. It goes right down the roots of the heart, and creeps into every crevice. Not one drop of sorrow, not one tear, but may have some beneficent purpose. The process is not joyous, but grievous; nevertheless afterward it yieldeth the peaceable fruits of righteousness and purity and strength. Christ's countenance never beams with such brightness and beauty as when it break forth after a deluge of sorrow; and many a Christian has become a braver, stronger and holier man or woman for terrible afflictions; there has been a clear shining after rain.

This principle has manifold applications. Sometimes a cloud of unjust calumny gathers over a good man's name; lies darken the air, and it pours falsehoods, forty days and forty nights. But when the shower of slander has spent itself, the truth creeps out slowly but surely from behind the clouds of defamation, and the slandered character shines with more lustre than ever. The same storm that wrecks a rotten tree only roots the more firmly the sound tree, whose leaves glisten in the subsequent sunshine.

All ye children of God who are under the peltings of poverty, or the downpour of disappointments, or the blizzards of adversity, "think it not strange as though some strange thing had happened unto you." Millions have had the same experiences before you. No storm ever drowned a true believer, or washed out the foundations of his hope. The trial of your faith will be found unto praise and honor and glory at the appearing of your Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ. Two things ought to give you courage. One is that our Lord loves to honor and reward unwavering faith. He permits the storm to test you, and then sends the smile of his sunshine to reward you. Another thought is that the skies are never so

brilliantly blue as when they have been washed by a storm. The countenance of Jesus is never so welcome and lovable as when he breaks forth upon us—a sun of consolation and joy after trials.

Long years ago, on a day of thick fog and pouring rain, I ascended Mount Washington by the old bridge path over the slippery rocks. A weary, disappointed company we were when we reached the cabin on the summit. But towards evening a mighty wind swept away the banks of mist, the body of the blue heavens stood out in its clearness, and before us was revealed the magnificent landscape stretching away to the Atlantic Sea. That scene was at the time, and has often been since, a sermon to my soul. It taught me that Faith's stairways are over steep and slippery rocks; often through blinding storms; but God never loses his hold on us, and if we endure to the end, he will yet bring us out into the clear shining after rain.

So it is better to hope though the clouds run low, And to keep the eye still lifted; For the clear blue sky will soon peep through, When the thunder-cloud is rifted.

## Woman's Foreign Missionary Society.

"Rise up ye women that are at ease. Isaiah 32: 9.

[All contributions for this column should be addressed to Mrs. Jos. McLeod, Fredericton.]

## From The President.

DEAR SISTERS:

All of us who take the Missionary Helper no doubt esteem it a helper indeed. In the March number there is an article on "Self Denial" which we would be glad for all the sisters to see, and that all may read it we ask for its publication in our column:

SELF DENIAL WEEK.

"Tithing has become common among Christians. Many of us would no sooner use any portion of "our tenth" for other than benevolent purposes than we would use the funds set aside to pay our grocer or coal dealer. We have also come to feel that we cannot be satisfied with simply paying to God the tenth that is his due, we add, from our nine-tenths, a sort of tokens of our gratitude in what we term a thank-offering. But in all this there is no sign of sacrifice, and so it brings us to the point where we want the real luxury of giving something that has a hint of the cross about it. "There is a happiness known only to self-denying kindness." We desire that experience, partly from selfish motives, perhaps, but largely, let us hope, from a sincere desire to be instrumental of good at some cost.

The actual delight of giving unto our Lord something that means an absolute denial of self is experienced by comparatively few, and yet the number is increasing year by year. And now a call has come to our Woman's Missionary Society to set apart a certain time when its membership, and any others inclined, may simultaneously enter into such an arrangement.

What time more fitting than the week that represents to us the closing days of our Saviour's earthly life, with their crucial experiences for our sakes, and also for the many who after two thousand years are in utter ignorance of his gracious love and sacrifice? And so the week before Easter has been selected for this purpose.

Will it not be a privilege to make a daily offering to Him at that time by abstaining from certain luxuries and dispensing with various unnecessary comforts or conveniences? Trivial indeed will such self-denials seem on our part, compared with the cross borne for us; but the humble sacrifice offered by a loving heart, is acceptable to Him.

Each one must decide personally of what their gifts shall be the price, but it is desirable that we be specific in the matter. A self-denial offering must be the exact amount saved from dispensing with electric car-fares, ribbons, laces, tea, coffee, sugar, or whatever we conscientiously plan to relinquish for this purpose. It will

prove a blessing in many ways. The sacrificing of some gratification for the cause that brought the Son of God to earth will be a constant reminder of his loving example, and bring us more into touch with His gracious will. Our love for him in whose name our offerings are made will be greatly enhanced. Our sympathies will be more strongly enlisted for those we would win to him, and many a little golden brick will be placed in the Lord's highway for others to walk upon to the celestial city.

Let us, then, one and all, observe this call for March 31 to April 7; so shall our Easter be a joyous one, and our gifts bring joy to other hearts."

Let none of us be ashamed to give our mite be it ever so small, even the price of an egg, but let us give. And we would suggest, as a good way, that each member pay in to the treasurer of the Society to which she belongs, and from any who are not members, we would be glad to have cooperation. At as early a date as possible forward to the treasurer of parent society, from whom we would ask an acknowledgment in this column, either in the aggregate or the amount received from each society.

We would also suggest that for us in this Province, it be a thank-offering to God for answer to prayer in giving us our young sister Hartley; and that the sum raised be given to her to aid her in purchasing whatever she may need that perhaps we know not of in her preparation for her life work.

Yours in the work.  
A. E. SMITH.

St. John.

## WHAT OUR PAPER DOES, AND WILL DO.

DEAR SISTERS:

In moments of despondency, when I feel that we, as Free Baptists, are doing so little here at the Narrows to further the interests of our Redeemer's Kingdom, the INTELLIGENCER comes to me as an inspiration with its precious freight of cheering news from the brethren on the home field and the welcome letters of our devoted sister Gaunce who is carrying forward the blood-stained banner of King Jesus in the dark land of Heathendom.

I must take this opportunity, through our denominational organ, to appeal to my Free Baptist sisters, in whose homes the INTELLIGENCER has not already found a place, to use all your powers of persuasion upon your husbands and brothers to induce them to subscribe at once.

The INTELLIGENCER is the fearless exponent of our principles. It keeps us in touch with our special work. It is the telescope, through which we can look upon the various departments of our church and magnifies them in such a way that we feel our personal obligation to them. It will lift us out of the little narrow rut we so metimes fall into, and, placing us upon a loftier plane, while it begets in us a stronger feeling of loyalty to our particular division of the great Christian Army, marching on to victory, it causes us to reach out the warm hand of christian fellowship to every true follower of the Master.

Do not rest, sisters, till you place a copy of our loved paper in your home. Then get your loved ones interested in reading it; especially the dear children. It will prove an educator in your family. They will early in life recognize the claims of God and the church upon them.

Yours faithfully,  
SUSIE TODD.

Narrows, Q. Co.

## PARLIAMENT

MONDAY.—Mr. Gourley was informed that no negotiations are being carried on between Canada and Newfoundland in trade matters.

The premier stated that McKenzie & Mann had made a claim on the government in connection with the Yukon railway, and that papers would be brought down.

Mr. Lefurgey urged the necessity of better winter communication between Prince Edward Island and the main land.

Col. Hughes' motion for encouragement of marksmen in the militia was strongly supported.

The minister of militia stated that a mounted infantry school would be established in Manitoba.

TUESDAY.—Mr. Bourassa's motion

favoring Canadian interference in the peace negotiations and opposing the raising of the constabulary, was considered. He denounced the British soldiers as perpetrators of outrages of the grossest character. He says Quebec has not viewed imperialism with favor. He said that Sir Wilfrid Laurier was opposed to sending the men. He quoted from various sources to show how bitter had been the Quebec campaign against Sir Charles Tupper as the champion of the contingents. He explained that the French electors had been kept posted on comments in papers from other provinces, and this he says, was responsible for the return of the government.

The Premier expressed surprise that Bourassa had insisted on bringing up the question. He opposed the resolution on the ground that the British ministers were most capable to make terms. Mr. Chamberlain had not been to blame, but the policy of the republic was responsible for all. He asked the house to vote down the motion.

Mr. Borden and others spoke strongly against the resolution. Mr. Borden riddled the resolution clause by clause.

The motion was lost, 3 yeas to 144 nays.

The house rose and sang "God Save the King," and gave three cheers for King Edward.

The house went into supply to consider the estimates of the interior department.

Mr. Sifton announced that before long the Northwest Territories would probably be given a provincial government.

WEDNESDAY.—Mr. Roddick introduced a bill to-day to provide for the establishment of a medical council in Canada. The object is to bring the medical profession under federal control. He proposes a national board to be formed of physicians from the different provinces. He wants to give the profession a clear field for practice in any province.

Mr. Taylor moved for all correspondence between the Imperial and Canadian governments respecting the Island of Anticosti. He wants the island to be purchased by Canada. He thinks that under foreign ownership it is a menace to the dominion.

Mr. Britton moved for the establishment of provincial divorce courts. The premier opposed an action, and the motion was withdrawn.

Mr. Horsey moved the second reading of a bill to make the 24th of May a permanent holiday. The holiday had become part of our national life and should not be removed. The Premier expressed himself in favor of the bill, which was allowed to go over for one week.

THURSDAY.—Mr. Fielding delivered his budget speech. The speech was short. There was no amendment of the tariff. He said the finance department was better than it had ever been. For the current year he estimated the revenue at \$52,750,000. The expenditure, he said, was also growing.

Mr. E. B. Osler followed in criticism of the government policy of extravagant expenditure. Mr. Clancey spoke, and Sir Richard Cartwright moved the adjournment of the debate.

FRIDAY.—Sir Richard Cartwright continued the budget debate. He defended the government's policy in regard to railway bonuses, the issuing of script in the Northwest, and the increase in the national debt.

Mr. Borden moved the adjournment of the debate and gave notice of the following amendment to be offered on Monday:

"That in the opinion of this house the welfare of the country requires a pronounced policy of adequate protection and encouragement at all times to labor, agricultural, manufacturing, mining and other industrial interests of Canada.

That in the opinion of this house the adoption of a policy of mutual trade relations with the empire would prove of great benefit to the mother country and to the colonies, and would greatly promote the prosperity, unity and progress of the empire as a whole; and that the present time, when the Commonwealth of Australia is laying the foundation of its fiscal system, is particularly opportune for taking prompt and energetic steps towards the furtherance of this object.

This house is further of the opinion that equivalent or adequate duties should be imposed by Canada upon products and manufactures of countries not within the empire in all cases where such countries fail to admit Canadian products and manufactures upon fair terms and that the government should take for this purpose all such available measures as may be found necessary."