

TERMS AND NOTICES.

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Religious Intelligencer.

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

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 4TH, 1902.

We will be glad if the pastors can find the opportunity just now to speak a good word for the INTELLIGENCER to their people—kindly urging prompt renewals, and soliciting new subscribers. The Premium is still to be had on the terms announced.

In Ohio they have "a boy preacher" eight years old. People flock to hear the child, and really think he is preaching the gospel. Those who are carried away with this kind of thing are, for the most part, the people who are not of much value in church work.

Congregational churches do flourish in New York. According to the Advance, a Congregational paper, the churches of that denomination not only do not increase in number in the great city, but about forty that have been organized have ceased to exist. New York is a hard place for any churches that stand for sound doctrine.

Mr. Sankey, the well-known singing evangelist, has joined the Presbyterian church, having been transferred by letter from the Methodist church of which he has been a member all his life. No change in his belief has taken place. It is chiefly a matter of convenience and fondness for the pastor of the church he has joined.

Rev. Dr. Stewart, who for thirty-two years has been professor of systematic theology at Mount Allison, has tendered his resignation. He is now seventy-six years old, and feels that it would be well for him to relinquish the work he has been doing so long. Dr. Stewart is widely known and is highly respected wherever known.

The special work of the Paulist Fathers—an order of Roman Catholic priests, is among non-Catholics in Protestant countries. They claim to have a large degree of success wherever they hold a mission. They report that a recent two weeks' services in one section of Chicago resulted in forty Protestants being received into the Roman church. Of course such reports will nearly always bear some discounting, but that some converts are made is probably true.

The Archbishop of Canterbury in a recent address said that "in the next two hundred years more should be done in the preaching of the gospel than had been done in all preceding centuries." Somebody—one of those who are all the time worrying themselves and others about the near approach of the Lord's coming—wrote the Primate rebuking him for implying that "the Lord will not return within two hundred years." To which the Archbishop instructed his secretary to reply that "he knew absolutely nothing of the date of the Lord's return." That He would return he had no doubt, but he did not know when. And those who tried to find out what our Lord told us were not to know were not as reverent as they ought to be.

There are few pastors who have not suffered from, and seen the cause of religion suffer from, the thing the Journal and Messenger states so well in this paragraph:

Possibly one of the greatest burdens Christianity has to carry is the men converted from the slums, who, instead of going to work, or engaging in some honest business, set up for preachers of the Gospel, temperance

or moral lecturers. They are usually narrow men, and know very little of Christianity. They attract attention from curiosity, and because, in the name of religion, they denounce Christians. A professed infidel who would say the same things would not secure a hearing, yet because the man claims to have been converted, even Christian people will often support him in doing the infidel's work.

All christians rejoice in the prosperity of all christian bodies. The statistics of the Methodist Church in Canada show, somewhat, the strength of that body and the character and extent of the work being done by it. The ministers and probationers number 2,016; church members, 289,162; local preachers 2,264; exhorters, 1,125; class-leaders, 9,162; churches, 4,334. They enroll roundly 270,000 scholars in their Sunday schools giving Christian work to 33,000 officers and teachers; and they have 71,000 young people into their Epworth Leagues. They own property valued at \$15,500,000. Their contributions annually for all purposes average \$10,000,000. Their Book and Publishing House, in Toronto, is the largest concern of the kind in Canada. They have nineteen educational institutions. The Twentieth Century Fund of the denomination amounted to \$1,200,000, of which \$700,000 was appropriated to wiping out various denominational debts.

Referring to the recent comment of the Independent on the Census returns of the religious bodies in Canada, in which it classes Free Baptists with those bodies which it declares "have declined in numbers, and the reason for this decline may be found in the fact that these bodies have no influential papers, no theological seminaries, and no regular ministry," the Free Baptist, of Minneapolis, says:

At least three of the statements are quite incorrect and the other is partly so. The RELIGIOUS INTELLIGENCER, organ of Canadian Free Baptists, says that the statement of loss in numbers among them is false. Any one who has read the RELIGIOUS INTELLIGENCER or knows of its history, can testify to the fact that they have at least one influential paper. It is a paper that will compare favorably with any religious paper anywhere, and is far ahead of many of the larger denomination's organs. As to the statement of "no theological seminary," with Cobb Divinity School so near to them in Maine and identical with them in teaching, the need of one strictly their own is largely obviated. As to "no regular ministry," that is a statement entirely at variance with the facts. Even the Independent does not know it all.

PEACE.

The South African war is ended. The negotiations for the cessation of hostilities, which had been going on for two or three weeks, were concluded Saturday night—the terms of the surrender of the Boers being then signed.

So in after noon Sunday the War Office in London received the following despatch from Lord Kitchener: "Pretoria, Saturday, May 31 11.15 p. m.: A document concerning terms of surrender was signed here this evening at half-past ten o'clock by all the Boer representatives, as well as by Lord Milner and myself."

The news was at once communicated to the King. Very soon the word was spread abroad, and everywhere there were signs of joy that the long struggle was ended.

The news reached Canada in the afternoon. Being communicated to the pastors of the churches, many of them made the announcement with appropriate comments, at the evening service, and in the singing of the Doxology, the National Anthem, and other ways the congregations expressed their thankfulness that peace had been secured.

The end of the war is a surrender of the Boers. As the London Times points out, Lord Kitchener's telegram tells of the signing of "a document containing terms of surrender." The details of the terms are not yet announced; but there can be no doubt that the British government has maintained its contentions on every vital point, and at the same time been magnanimous as always.

DENOMINATIONAL FUNDS.

There are certain funds which have claims on all the churches of the denomination. They are for the support of undertakings of a general character, and are under the direction of the Conference. Home and Foreign Missions, the Students' Fund, the Fund for Aged and Sick Ministers, and the Conference Fund are of this class. There is no church but should share in the support of these branches of the denominational obligation. However large the demands on a church for

the support of its local interests and activities; or however weak a church may be—even to the point of being unable to alone support its local work, it should endeavor to make some contribution to the funds mentioned, and to any work of a general character that may be undertaken by the denomination. It is not good for a church to confine itself to self-support. To do so is narrowing.

Very few churches contribute to all the branches of work that have claims on them. Last year three churches did so. If other churches did, their reports failed to mention the fact. Eight churches contributed to the Students' Fund, ten churches to the Aged and Sick Ministers' Fund, fifty-eight churches to Home Missions, and ninety churches to the Conference Fund. It is a pity that so many churches fail to do their part of the work. The several funds are weaker in consequence, and the work less efficient than it should be. The churches themselves are, also, losers by their neglect—weaker in spiritual life and efficiency.

It ought to be possible to improve this state of things, to induce a much larger number of the churches, and eventually all of them, to share in the support of all branches of the denomination's work. At least an effort should be made to accomplish this much to be desired object.

The question arises whether the churches that have failed to do their part have had the claims of the work presented to them. Doubtless some of them have; more of them have, perhaps, heard very little about the matter. But, whatever may have been done, or not done, in other years, no church should be allowed this year, or ever again, to have the excuse that the claims of the work were not presented, and the duty and privilege of helping made clear. We commend page twenty-one of the Year Book, 1901, to the ministers, and to laymen as so, as deserving careful reading. The facts there set forth may well provoke serious thought, and some action too.

THE INTERNATIONAL SUNDAY SCHOOL CONVENTION.

The approach of the Tenth International Sunday School Convention, to be held in Denver, June 26-30, brings afresh to religious teachers the world over, the entire matter of Bible school instruction. The time is specially ripe for the consideration of many topics relating to this branch of the Church's work. The Convention will attract a thousand or more prominent workers and Sunday School specialists. It is a delegated body representing auxiliary associations, and standing for the organized co-operation of Sunday School interests. The International Lesson System is its chief badge. Under its auspices, ten thousand local conventions are held annually, by which it seeks to promote the best and most practical methods, raise the standard of teaching, and further Sunday School extension.

In view of the election this year of a Lesson Committee to prepare the International Series for 1906-1911, special interest will attach to the convention.

The action of the Convention in this matter will be watched with unusual interest because it has been intimated that there is a desire on the part of some of the present committee to strike out the quarterly temperance lesson.

HONESTLY SKEPTICAL

Not a few persons will not admit that there are people who are honest in being skeptical, but I do admit the proposition. Such ones have inherited tendencies which strongly incline them to doubt the truths of the Bible, especially certain truths. Then, too, in their youth their parents exercised such an influence over them as to develop those tendencies, making it more difficult for them to believe Bible truth and have confidence in personal christianity. Many of this class of people would be glad to heartily believe in divine revelation, but they are held back by the constitutional skepticism. Christians ought to deal considerably with such ones. They should never berate these truly unfortunate people. They should endeavor to encourage them to believe as well as they know how.

During the early part of Mr. Moody's evangelistic work he said: "I have no sympathy with those people who, because a man is skeptical, cast him off and will have nothing to do with him. I was in an inquiry meeting some time ago, and I handed over to a Christian lady, whom I had known some time, one who was skeptical. On looking around soon after I noticed the inquirer marching out of the hall.

I asked, why have you let her go? "O, she is a skeptic," was the reply. I ran to the door and got her to stop, and introduced her to another Christian worker, who spent over an hour in conversation and prayer with her. He visited her and her husband, and in the course of a week, that intelligent lady cast off her skepticism and came out an active Christian. It took time, tact and prayer, but if a person of this class is honest we ought to deal with such a one as the Master would have us." That woman might have been forever lost had not a wiser person than the first worker taken her in hand and treated her in a gentle and patient manner. Nicodemus was somewhat skeptical when he first met Christ in that important interview, but Christ used discretion, kindness and forbearance in dealing with him, and thus won him into the kingdom. The trouble with many of us is, we are prone to ridicule and despise and those who are very backward in believing the gospel. Because it is easy for us to believe divine things we think it ought to be easy for all others to thus believe, but it is not so.

C. H. WETHEREBE.

THE DIVINITY SCHOOL.

Cobb Divinity School (Free Baptist) graduated three young men this year. The Biblical Training School gave certificate to one. The graduation exercises took place on the 20th ult. "Preaching is Primary" was the theme of the address on the occasion by Dr. Howe, Dean of the school. We give a few extracts from the address:

"Preaching should be the primary concern of your ministry. Others of the church can help to minister to the parish, but only you can occupy the pulpit. That 'throne of eloquence,' that seat of power, that coronation chair, is reserved for you. No church committee will venture into your pulpit.

"Consider well, therefore, this your highest office, and remember why, in the list of all your duties, preaching is entitled to the precedence.

"Preaching has a religious power that no other part of worship can have because, back of it stands the living man. There is a vitality in the preached word, that goes to the very roots of character. The printed page has been put forward as a rival of the pulpit, but the book however rich in thought, or brilliant in style, is dull where the same words spoken by the preacher throb with life and power. In preaching, a brother comes forward to speak to his brother on the supreme interests of life. About these themes he has studied, over them he has prayed, on them and him the Holy Spirit, has shed celestial light, so that men are vitalized both through the speaker and through the unseen Speaker, who uses the sermon as his means of persuasion.

"The preacher is one who can adapt his message to his day, an important quality at such a time as this. The new period through which the church is moving, can only be kept Christian and led to a better degree of Christianity, by the pulpit. 'It has pleased God by the foolishness of preaching to save.' Preaching is of his appointment.

It is by an inspired pulpit that we are to have a christian age and a christian land. Therefore, exalt your preaching, make it Christian to the core, have it saturated with Christ's love and modeled after the best types. It is not to a life of leisure that you are called. But the labor of it spent to make your preaching effective, has great reward in two worlds. In this as in all things, aim to do the Lord's work well. That is my last word to you, do the Lord's work!"

DO NOT AGREE.—The Year Book says the Second District Meeting will meet on "the Friday preceding the fourth Saturday in June"—which is the 27th June.

The announcement of honores for members of the Meeting, which appears in another column, gives June 20th as the date of the meeting. We have called the attention of the Clerk of the District and the pastor of the Lindsay church to the matter. Probably the differing dates will agree next week.

POLITICAL NEWS.—It has been rumored that owing to ill health, Sir John Bourinot, Clerk of the House of Commons, will soon retire from office. Among those mentioned as possibly his successor is Mr. T. B. Flint, M. P., from Yarmouth.

Premier Tweedie, of the N. B. government, having gone to the coronation, Attorney General Pugsley is acting Premier.

Two seats in the Senate are vacant by death and one by two years non-attendance.

NOTES ON CURRENT EVENTS.

MORPHINE FIENDS. It is stated in the Medical News that more than 10,000 persons in the United States are victims of morphine, and that ten percent of the physicians of that country are users of opium in some form. And it is declared that the evil is increasing.

FRENCH AND IRISH.

There is still bad blood between the French and Irish Roman Catholics of this Province. Senator Poirier, of Shediac, is credited with making some quite extraordinary statements as to the situation, among them the following:

"While the best of feeling prevails between the Protestants and French Catholics of New Brunswick and while the former show the best possible spirit in dealing with our people in social and political life, we are completely muzzled by the hierarchy of our church.

"The prelates of our church in New Brunswick have always laid a heavy hand upon the French Acadians, and they have from time to time opposed us in our efforts to raise our heads socially, religiously and politically to the same level as the other races around us.

In spite of our numbers, our influence, and the great learning and ability of many of our priests, you know how the Acadian clergy have been deprived of the higher positions in the gift of the church.

"It is a shame to have to declare it, but I have to say that our hierarchy places many obstacles in the way of French Acadians coming to the priesthood, and the reason for this unfair and unjust attitude on the part of the episcopacy can readily be surmised.

"This ostracism has in fact been carried to such an excess that it has become a veritable scandal, and who can tell what the outcome may be? The case has been laid before the papal delegate, Mgr. Falconio, and through him Rome has been made acquainted with it.

MARTINIQUE AND ST. VINCENT.

It is now stated that the lives of all in St. Pierre would have been saved had Governor Mouttet acted differently. He had been given official warning of the coming cataclysm. That warning reached him several days before the disaster of May 8. He chose to disregard it, and even went so far as to order that the warning should be kept from the public. The warning was given by Professor Lande and the despatch to the Martinique executive is still in existence.

The conditions now known to exist at Mont Pelee are believed to be more threatening than those which were observed before the destruction of St. Pierre. Prof. Hill United States government geologist, who has been on an investigation of conditions on Martinique, says Mont Pelee is now ejecting true lava—"molten rock" matter, not unlike that which covered Pompeii. This is the first time that the production of real lava by any of the volcanoes in this part of the world has been noted and the highly important fact may presage terrible results.

The area of devastation in St. Vincent about 12 square miles in northern extremity; population of this area was 8,000 of which 1,600 lost their lives; remainder escaped by flight to Kingstown and other place. Many people to be sustained by public because many escaped. Outside of area devastated no great damage done, but people very apprehensive. This condition will not abate until the volcano which is still active, subsides. Second eruption occurred 18th, but no additional damage wrought.

RECALLED.

It is said that "owing to reports in Canadian newspapers that District Judge Seymour, in a speech in Toronto to last week, declared himself in favor of the confederation of Newfoundland with Canada, the Newfoundland cabinet has recalled Judge Seymour, who was on leave of absence. The cabinet held that a judicial officer should not discuss political issues."

We wonder if this can be true.

A later report quotes Judge Seymour as saying the statement his holiday was curtailed by the government on account of his confederation speech in Toronto is not correct. He asked for a short extension of his vacation, but his request was refused. He says he is in favor of Newfoundland's confederation with Canada, and he thinks the question may soon be a live one. He says there is absolutely no sentiment in Newfoundland in favor of annexation to the United States. No politician would think of facing the people with such a proposal.

The Ontario elections last Thursday were warmly contested, and show the parties to be very nearly of equal strength. On the face of the returns at this writing (Monday) Premier Ross appears to have a majority of

four supporters 51 to 47. Of the votes polled the Conservative party appears to have a majority of about 4,000. Some of the members elected have very small majorities, and recounts may make a difference—either increasing the supporters of Mr. Ross, or reducing it. None of the independent candidates were elected, though their running doubtless affected the result in several cases. Mr. Master deserved a better fate than defeat.

One of the newly elected members—Mr. J. W. Munro (Liberal), of North Renfrew—died Saturday. He had been sick during the campaign.

Bostonians of British birth are arranging for a celebration of their own coronation day—June 26th

The C. P. R. takes flour from Winnipeg to the coast—Vancouver, B. C., and thence to Australia for 50 cent per 100 lbs.

There have been six thousand applications for the six hundred seats allotted Lord Strathcona in the colonial stand by the imperial authorities.

The appointment of Lord Dundonald to the command of the Canadian Militia has been officially announced.

The dominion government has cabled to the governor of the Windward Islands, placing at his disposal for the people in distress at St. Vincent, \$25,000 of the \$50,000 voted. The other \$25,000 was sent to the sufferers at Martinique.

Many Boers in the British concentration camps are studying medicine, law and civil engineering.

There are more Boer children going to school in the British concentration camps than attended school before the war—in fact there is now double the attendance. This promises well for the future.

The University of New Brunswick has appointed W. H. Clawson, B. A. to the chair in English literature and French, vacated by the resignation of Professor Stockley.

Senator Wark has made a donation of \$1000 to the University of New Brunswick.

King Edward, it is said, will appoint the Duke of Fife Lord High Constable for the Coronation, in order to give his son-in-law precedence over the other dukes who are his seniors in rank.

The C. P. R. and its telegraphers have reached an agreement. The telegraphers get an increase, though not so much as they asked for.

Mr. J. H. Barry has been appointed to examine into affairs of the Fredericton Deaf and Dumb School.

Denominational News.

SUNDAY SCHOOL CONCERT.—An interesting S. S. Concert was held at Patterson Settlement, S. C. It was a success in every respect. Miss Ramsey deserves great credit for the pains she took in the preparation of the children. All the children and others who participated in the entertainment acquitted themselves admirably. The amount raised by the concert (\$32.05) is for the school.

[NOTE] The programme which came with account of the concert is not sufficiently complete to be printed.]

FROM REV. JOHN PERRY.—I am always glad and interested in hearing from the brethren through the INTELLIGENCER, and more than glad to hear of revivals. The wise man says: "As cold water to a thirsty soul, so is good news from a far country; and a good report maketh the bones fat; and as iron sharpeneth iron, so a man sharpeneth the countenance of his friend; and as in water face answers to face, so the heart of man to man." So such news is very cheering to me. I have got past visiting much, for I have been on the sick list all the past winter, sometimes not able to leave my room or bed and consequently shall not see many of my friends again in this world, and talk with them face to face. So, I felt a desire to talk a little through the INTELLIGENCER. Perhaps I shall not reach them all through that medium, for all my friends do not take the INTELLIGENCER, and I am sorry to say that some Free Baptists do not. I am convinced they do not realize the loss they sustain. Every good citizen must feel an interest in his country; and I am sure we must feel as much, and towards the church of our Lord Jesus Christ which He purchased with his own blood. And while the Free Baptist body is a part of that one great universal church, and if we have identified ourselves with it, we ought to remember that we stand in relationship to it religiously the same as we stand with our family and household temporarily. The apostle tells us that he who does not provide for his own