

THE WORLD'S PROGRESS.

The year about to close brings us another stage nearer the happy golden age when the whole world shall be under the influence of the Gospel of Peace, and shall move responsive to the eternal love of God. "We are marching on" towards the brighter days to come. It is well that our faces should be towards the heavenly sunrise—the blessed source of all true advance. Through pain and toil and struggle there is constant progress. There is nothing better for us than that we should bear our part in hastening the coming of the kingdom of God. The strongest of us cannot do much; the weakest of us can do something.

Millions are speaking and singing at this season of the year of the coming of the Prince of Peace—His coming as a babe at Bethlehem. We hear sweet and low the song of love and good will with which angels announced the event. It was the greatest event to which the old world could look forward: it is the greatest central fact to which the successive ages since the birth of Christ can look back. The Kingdom of God was founded whenever faithful souls, taught by His Spirit, looked up to Him and sought to do His will. But there was a mysterious and wonderful advance when the incarnation became a veritable reality. There was progress from Bethlehem to Calvary: from the morning of the Resurrection to the mission of the apostles and believers to all lands; to triumphant martyr deaths; to courageous and devoted labor and adventure throughout the Roman Empire and down the ages, till now when we can say the world is dominated by those who bear the name of Christ.

It is something to inspire hope and joy that today there are more of the world's inhabitants under the control of Christian nations than under any other sort of sway. This, notwithstanding all drawbacks and discouragements is a hopeful symptom. The Gospel has free scope through all lands. This fact alone speaks loudly of progress and advancement. In no other age could it be said that the Word of God has been translated into 400 languages, and printed in these languages so that the message may reach all the great nations of the world. More men and women—far more—are going forth in obedience to the Lord's command than in any other age. The purer forms of Christianity are making relatively greater progress than those that bear the imprint of the Dark Ages. The material advance of the nations is not without its hopeful aspects. The world is more within reach than ever before. Swift ships and swift trains bear men to and fro on the errands of the Lord as well as on business or pleasure.

That war clouds and atrocities and cruel outrages are still alarming us is no reason for discouragement, much less for wails of pessimistic despair. As great gales sometimes hasten the incoming of spring and break down the barriers erected by winter, so the conflicts of the nations and the outrages committed by cruel men serve to emphasize our need for the sway of the

merciful Prince of Peace and nerve our efforts to overthrow, overturn and utterly abolish the "dark places of the earth that are filled with horrid cruelty. The past forty years have done more for Africa than the previous thousand years; and more for Asia and Europe too. What may we not expect in the 50 years to come! The Word has gone forth. Overturn—overturn—overturn until He shall come whose right it is to reign over all. In our own day the Mohammedan power has been greatly curtailed, and the temporal power of the Papacy has been overthrown. Monstrous cruelties and atrocities perpetrated in the name of Christ are past, let us hope, forever. The British rule in India has led to many notable reform. So, too, in Egypt, and wherever the British flag has been flung to the breeze. In the United States too there is advance, there is progress, though we hear of too many cases of lawlessness and crime unpunished.

It is easy to point to blots, dark and dreadful, that still mark our Christian civilization. It is still too soon for boasting. All we can claim is progress, marked movement in the right direction. Let every passing year mark the vanishing of some giant wrong, some hateful error, some form of sore oppression, and let it be our joy that we are workers together with our mighty and all-merciful King.—*Presbyterian Witness.*

A TEA WAREHOUSE.—The largest tea warehouse in Canada, and probably the largest in America, is the new warehouse of Theodore H. Estabrooks, on Mill Street, St. John. The building is 110 feet long, and about 70 feet wide, with five floors and basement. The offices, on the ground floor, are the finest, outside of the leading banks, of any business offices in the city of St. John.

The occupation of this new building by Mr. Estabrooks marks another stage in the development of a business that has grown with a rapidity truly wonderful. Nine years ago T. H. Estabrooks had a small warehouse and one clerk. He was then located on Dock street. Later, he moved to the finest warehouse on North Wharf. Now he is in his own building, specially built for the blending, packing and shipping of teas, and has a staff of seventy persons. He employs fifteen travellers, has branch offices in Toronto and Winnipeg, and his trade extends throughout Canada, Newfoundland, the West Indies, and into the United States.

Mr. Estabrooks has ample floor space in his new building to store teas and to carry on the work of blending, packing and labelling to advantage, with the latest and best machinery invented for that purpose.

The name of Red Rose Tea is now familiar to the people throughout Canada, and the new building is the home of Red Rose.

The new building has been designed in such a manner as to facilitate to the greatest degree the work of blending and packing teas, and nothing is wanting in that respect.

Looking back at the small beginnings of nine years ago, and realizing that no less than fifteen clever men are kept busy selling the goods from this establishment, the conclusion is inevitable that Mr. Estabrooks' teas are good teas, and that the merchants who deal with them are satisfied with results.

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NEWS OF THE CHURCHES.

Continued from page 9.

superintendent, Mr. S. J. Hallett, was remembered by the school in the gift of a beautiful alarm clock. Nor were the pastor and his wife forgotten; greatly to our surprise and gratitude, Santa Claus, on behalf of the church, presented us with a beautiful and costly oak Morris chair, for which we feel deeply grateful to the kind donors, who have had nothing but kindness and love for us since coming among them.

In closing, I wish to say I do hope every pastor who entered a new field this year felt as much at home as I did on Christmas day; and thanking the kind friends of our church for their remembrance of us on Christmas day, not only for the gift named above, but many others, I do trust and pray that I may worthily reciprocate the love and trust confided in me. Wishing all the brethren and friends a happy and prosperous New Year.

H. H. FERGUSON.

FROM REV. D. PATTERSON.—I am planning to take up work again the first of the year. Would like to have gotten a place somewhere near home, but none seems to have offered; will, therefore, if the Lord wills, take up my work farther away—up river, perhaps. This pastorate at present seems quite scattered. Why is it that our people let interests go as promising as those which some others have made strong and successful?

D. PATTERSON.

Jenkins, Q. Co., Dec. 25th.

FROM REV. J. NOBLE.—I was at Havelock, C. Co., Sunday, December 20th. The revival under the labors of Bro. Barnes helped the people very much. I had not been there for twenty years. The place has much improved, and the conditions of the people is greatly better. They have a good Sunday-school, and keep up a prayer-meeting.

BEAVER RIVER, N. S.—The Beaver River, N. S., church building is to be repaired. The organization is not strong, but the brethren are determined

to "press forward." They are without a pastor, but a recent visit of Rev. C. F. Cooper encouraged them.

J. NOBLE.

MINISTERS.—Rev. R. W. Ferguson reports the work at St. John, West, moving on encouragingly.

Rev. J. B. Daggett is pretty well recovered from his recent illness.

Rev. John Henderson has been seriously ill with congestion of the lungs. He is recovering, we are glad to hear, though still quite weak.

Rev. T. O. DeWitt is looking after the Geary pastorate. He intends to visit the Upper Gagetown pastorate soon.

Licentiate Bolster has engaged with the Norton-Midland pastorate till the end of the Conference year.

Licentiate Wilson is getting along with his work at Gibson.

Rev. L. A. Fenwick, of Bath, spent Christmas with his father and mother at Apohaqui. He called at INTELLIGENCER office en route. He reports the work in his pastorate as moving along quietly.

Rev. A. D. Paul was home for Christmas, and spent last Sunday at Gibson, Bro. Wilson taking his appointments in Carleton Co.

Rev. A. H. McLeod reports eight baptized recently at Clark's Harbor, N. S.

Rev. J. W. Smith, of the Nova Scotia Conference, continues to improve in health.

Rev. J. B. Merrill reports eight new members recently received into the Stony Island, N. S., church, six of them by baptism.

Licentiate Cochrane spent Christmas and last Sunday at Petitcodiac and vicinity. His appointments were taken by Licentiate Boyer.

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