

TERMS AND NOTICES.

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Religious Intelligencer.

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WEDNESDAY, JULY 27, 1904.

—The Nova Scotia Conference is to meet in Kemptville, Yarmouth Co., August 25.

—A most significant fact is that missionaries living where false religions have been dominant from time immemorial, and hold the people in their firm grip, have the most unshaken faith in the virility and the ultimate triumph of Christianity.

—The matter of pastor's salaries is receiving the attention of the various Christian bodies. The Eastern Baptist Association, at its recent session, passed a resolution directing the attention of the churches to the necessity of such increase, and recommending all churches paying less than \$800 salary to make an earnest effort to increase the amount.

—The true missionary spirit is well expressed by a missionary to Africa thus: "I do not like Africa; I do not revel in the luxury of dirt; it does not make me feel good to mingle with depraved, with brutalized and blasted lives; it is not a pleasant thing for me, but it is right. It is the command of the Lord Jesus Christ. I do not like the work itself, but I find a satisfaction in doing it for Christ."

—Asked by a rum-seller when the churches were going to stop fighting the traffic, a Kentucky minister replied: "As long as there is a boy exposed to the damning influence of the saloon, the Church of Jesus Christ cannot stop. The Church that stops short of that is unworthy Him who broke His heart on a cruel cross to save a lost world." What is your church doing to stay the deadly work? What are you doing to stop it?

—The INTELLIGENCER office had a pleasant call a few days ago from Rev. A. Moore, the associate secretary of the Dominion Lord's Day Alliance. He has just ended a tour of the Maritime

Provinces, during which he held nearly fifty meetings. He reports the work of organization as moving on encouragingly. There are now five hundred and thirty-two branch organizations in Canada, with a membership of 27,000. There is a growing interest in the Lord's Day Alliance, and more thoughtful and practical sympathy with its purposes. Mr. Moore was on his way to Ottawa, called there because of unexpected opposition to Lord's Day legislation now before the House.

—The Pope objects to women as members of church choirs, and has issued a statement to that effect—one which, unless modified, will practically banish them from the service of song in Roman Catholic churches. The Pope's rule is not always pleasing to all his people, and in the United States, especially, some of the bishops and other ecclesiastics are understood to strongly object to it, though quietly. Even Cardinal Gibbon has expressed the hope that the rule may not be rigidly enforced. It is strange, as the *Christian Work* suggests, that the Pope should oppose the singing of women in the churches, considering that nothing can compensate for the absence of their sweet voices which, by the way, were utilized under the theocracy. It is also surprising that women should be denied a place in many of the choirs of Protestant Episcopal churches; yet they are rejected and men and boys officiate instead. One of these days the boy-choir fad—for such it is—will have spent itself, and sweet voiced women will interpret the highest musical compositions of the church.

—The July 12th issue of the *Free Baptist* was the closing number of that paper. It has been embodied in the *Morning Star*, the New England organ of the denomination. The *Free Baptist* was published in Minneapolis, and was devoted particularly to the interests of the denomination in the west. For 22 years it did good work, bravely keeping on its way in the face of great difficulties. It was never a paying enterprise, and was only maintained by the self-sacrificing labors and gifts of brethren whose love for the denomination and its work was much greater than that of the majority of the people composing the denomination. Those who had the responsibility of its publication, and bore the burden, financially and otherwise, hoped that the time would come when the paper would be self-supporting, but after more than twenty years of waiting hope ceased, and, as they put it, "business sense, financial pressure," etc., made a change necessary, and consolidation with the *Star* was resolved upon as the way out of the difficulty. The brethren who carried on the western paper for so many years will be thought of with gratitude by the few who understood the work they were doing and the sacrifices they were making; while the great body of the people in whose behalf the work was done will wonder why the paper has been discontinued, and will, perhaps, say severe things about the brethren who so heroically carried the load as long as they could. We shall

miss the *Free Baptist*, which was always true to its mission, and deserved the full support of Free Baptist people. The editor and others who are now retiring from the work will have the consciousness of having done their duty faithfully. In the new departments of Christian work to which they will devote themselves we wish them the joy of heartier co-operation.

PASTORAL CHANGES.

When announcement is made of the resignation of a pastor some people jump quickly to the conclusion that something is wrong in the relations of that pastor and his people. "There must be some trouble," they say, being quite unable to think of a pastor resigning for any other reason. As a matter of fact, fewer resignations are due to strained relations of pastors and churches than other causes. The majority of pastors are chiefly anxious that the churches they serve may prosper; and for themselves they desire to be where they can do the best work. In denominations in which the pastoral engagement is arranged by the pastor and the church, the transfers of pastors are mostly due to their conviction that the cause to which they have devoted their lives will be better served by the changes they make. That some make the mistake of changing sooner than is wise, and some of not changing soon enough, is doubtless true, but such cases are unusually merely errors of judgment. The majority of changes are, as we have said, with a view to the greater efficiency of the pastors and the greater prosperity of the cause. And men as self-sacrificing as most pastors are deserve to have their actions understood as prompted by the highest motives.

BUSINESS MEN IN THE CHURCH.

At one of the District Meetings recently held, in a discussion of the condition and needs of the churches there were some good things said about the necessity of more business-like methods in their work. In this connection some things said, in the *Christian Evangelist*, by a business man to business men are pertinent. One of the most powerful branches of the church's energy, he claims, is yet to be developed. In an occasional place it can be seen gathering strength. It ought to be more earnestly pushed forward and carefully cultivated. Its help and strength to a church is hardly measurable. No church gets anywhere near to doing its maximum of good until this energy is developed and put into action. Many churches fail to live, and many are barely keeping afloat just because of the lack of that development. Reference is made to interesting the business men of the church in the "Lord's business." There is too much a habit of thinking of the business man in the churches as a distinct class. They are too generally looked upon by their churches as exempt from very active church duties on account of their supposedly imperative business duties demanding about all their time and strength. Even some pastors are given to making excuses for them because they are pressed with business cares that they cannot get out

to prayer meeting, and so fatigued with the week's work that they cannot attend Sunday school or Sunday morning preaching. And for like reasons they are not expected to be on committees or attend business meetings of the church.

"It should be a part of the religion of the merchant, mechanic, lawyer, doctor, and laborer in every occupation and profession of life, in the church of Christ, to save some of the best of his strength and ingenuity for the Lord's work. This habit of beating the bushes for our own game six full days, until we have not an atom of strength left for the Lord's work, is not what the Master will approve. No matter what excuse we may frame to excuse ourselves or to be excused on, it does not answer.

The church services, committee meetings, etc., need wide-awake men, full of the alertness and snap that characterize their daily business. The church is not getting its own if it does not get these. If it is getting the remnants of our nerves, patience and pocketbooks, after we have cut up the whole week's cloth into our own garments, is it any wonder that the church's cloak is short and of many colors, and her financial affairs like a crazy quilt? Remnants do not go with the Lord. The Lord's business deserves and demands the best we have. No really successful Christian business man will fail to agree that, if an employe was as careless and indifferent with his work as we too often are with the Lord's business, he could not "hold his job" a day. He will also agree that if the church's business is to be attended to at all, it ought to be attended to even more carefully and diligently than for own. And the churches having good business administrations are the most powerful spiritually.

ONE LESSON OF THE GALLOWES.

The young man who last Friday, in Woodstock, paid the legal penalty of his crime was, according to his own statement, a victim of rum. One more added to the appalling and ever increasing list of the rum traffic's horrors. He had been drinking a good deal for some time before the tragedy, and on the night of the murder he was crazed with drink, and "would not have done the deed if he had been in his sober senses." This is his own declaration, and is doubtless, true. He told, in his dying statement, that he and some companions were in the habit of sending to a St. John firm every week for a case of gin or whiskey. It would be well to know the name of that firm. Who will deny that they were participants in the crime for which Gee was hanged? All rum-sellers, whether wholesale or retail, are in the same class.

Will the melancholy event be a warning to young men who are learning the drink habit? Let us hope so. Will it have any effect on the men of the traffic? There is not much reason for hope. They seem without feeling as to the damning character of their business.

Will it have any effect on parents—causing them to more faithfully teach their children the awful dangers of the drink habit, and to more carefully guard them against the deadly designs of the men of the traffic? It surely should.