

CHAPEL CARS.

The Baptists of the United States have six chapel cars now employed in their mission work in the west and south. They go into new communities and carry on mission work, helping weak churches, organizing new churches, establishing Sunday schools, etc. Railway officials regard them with increasing favor. They are generally given free transportation, and in some instances special side-tracks are laid for them so that they need not be moved while they remain in a place. It is stated that more than 12,000 persons have professed conversion in the meetings held in these churches on wheels. From the latest reports, up to Jan. 1st of this year, the following figures are compiled: Churches organized, 122; meeting houses secured, 105; value of these meeting houses, \$133,000; pastors settled, 118. Sunday schools organized, 225; baptisms as result of chapel car work, 4,085. More chapel cars are needed, and it is to be hoped to double the number soon.

Temperance Movement in Europe.

The leading European nations are becoming alarmed over the very great increase in drunkenness. The wine producing countries, once held up as examples of the happy effects of wine drinking as tending to restrain the desire for stronger drinks, are now among the most intemperate. The people given to fermented drinks are becoming besotted, and not content with the less exciting drinks take to the strongest. Statesmen, philanthropists, scientists, as well as the churches are moving together in a general effort to reduce the terrible evil. Belgium has increased the tax on spirits. Austria is considering a law that after ten convictions, drunkards shall be sent to the reformatories until physicians certify to their cure. In Switzerland the police are required to arrest every one showing signs of intoxication. The German government proposes a bill forbidding credit by saloonkeepers and requiring that non-intoxicating drinks, such as tea and coffee, milk and lemonade, and cold foods must be kept for sale in the same places. In England there is a strong movement to reduce the number of public houses and to reform drunkards by very positive restraints upon them.

In France great alarm is felt over the increase of drunkenness and over the use of the more deadly absinthe. The deterioration of the people is becoming notable. In Normandy, for example, from which formerly the best men for the army were received, now furnishes low grade men, inasmuch that more recruits are rejected than from any other part of the country. Medical statistics show a great increase in tuberculosis due to alcoholic drinks, and the great majority of the inmates of the asylums are there because of their drinking habits. Recently a great anti-alcoholic congress was held in Paris in which churches, beneficial and philanthropic societies were represented, and statesmen, writers, and physicians were present in large numbers. Commercial in-

stitutions, railroad companies, co-operative societies find it necessary to look after the habits of their employes and members, and are working against intemperance. In the army and navy very stringent regulations have been adopted and are rigidly enforced against the use of intoxicants. As a result of the discussions which have been going on for the last few years social customs are changing, and society no longer enforces the offering of drinks as a part of common hospitality.

It is true that as yet but little has been done toward absolute prohibition, but the change of sentiment is marked. The movement is in the right direction. Religious, moral, civil and economic forces unite, and we may look for widespread and beneficent results in the future.—*United Presbyterian.*

News of the Churches.

FROM REV. J. A. ROBERTSON.—I wish to report a very pleasant time we had on the evening of the 20th of January at Deacon William Short's home, where the good people of Brown's Flat and Oak Point churches met to make us a donation. Although the night was stormy a good number came, the ladies with their baskets well filled. The supper they spread was a most tempting one, and we all enjoyed it. After supper the men handed in their gifts, and in behalf of those present Deacon Charles Gorham presented Mrs. R. and myself with goods and cash to the amount of \$17.25, for which we take this way of expressing our thanks. These good people have shown their kindness to us in different ways. May the giver of all good abundantly bless them.

I am enjoying my work as well as can be expected, my health being poor. The weather is very cold and stormy and the roads have been so bad nearly all winter that it has been hard to get about. Bro. Ganong (Baptist) and I have been holding union meetings of late in our churches here, and we have seen good done; backsliders have been reclaimed and sinners are coming to the Saviour. The weather has been much against the people getting out, but we are hoping to see many more coming into the light. Pray for us.

JOHN A. ROBERTSON.

CLARK'S HARBOR, N. S.—Since my last letter to you I have baptized ten and received nine in this church. Baptism recently was an index of unabated Christian zeal and energy. Our Endeavor Society is growing, a report of which will appear in another column. We have many things to make us glad.

I have read carefully what you said in a recent issue to the ministers. I note that all you say is true. Wish the INTELLIGENCER could give its editor as much ease and help as it gives us who preach were it preaches. I am busy, and live away down on the Atlantic washed shores of Nova Scotia, far from its editorial sanetum, but I will make February a month for INTELLIGENCER work.

A. H. McLEOD.

MONCTON, N. B.—I have nothing of special interest to write. Our church services here are well attended considering the very cold and stormy weather. I received one woman into the church a short time ago. The electric lights recently put into the church are giving good satisfaction. They are paid for, too. We have fine large brass lamps for sale; they can be had for \$8.00 for the five; they are in good condition.

I exchanged pulpits with Rev. B. H. Thomas of the Dorchester Baptist Church on Sunday, 7th inst. Bro. Thomas administered the Lord's Supper in my church, and I enjoyed a like privilege in his church. "Behold how good and how pleasant it is for brethren to dwell together in unity."

I have not been able because of the many storms and the bad roads to attend my regular appointments at Lutz Mountain, but I hope to be able to go there soon. The Lord grant that showers of blessing may come upon all our churches, and many souls be converted.

GIDEON SWIM.

February 12th.

General Religious News.

—The Irish Methodist Year Book reports a membership of 62,000, which represents an increase of over eleven per cent. during the past decade. During the same period, the Roman Catholics, the Protestant Episcopalians, and the Presbyterians all show a decrease.

—According to Dr. Carroll's figures, the New York *Christian Advocate*, the net gains of all the denominations in the United States for the past year amount to 482,459. Of this number 112,946 were among the Methodist bodies; Baptists, 61,146; Presbyterians, 26,506; and Episcopalians, 15,209. The Roman Catholic gain is given as 166,010.

—Twenty-five million Sunday school officers, teachers and scholars make up the world's Sunday school army. An army of peace outnumbering the armies of the world for war footing, which it has been computed amount to twenty-three millions of men. God speed the army of peace.

—The City Missionary and Church Extension Movement in Los Angeles, California, has a unique enterprise on hand. They are planning to erect a portable church, using it in one neighborhood until a society is formed and a permanent church built, and then moving on to some other needy or growing neighborhood. Enterprise and ingenuity may both be consecrated to the service of the church.

—An Italian Presbyterian church was dedicated in Pittsburg in November, the fruit of a mission and school which were begun in January, 1891. Later an evangelist was appointed to work among the Italian population, and was supported by six Presbyterian churches. The fruits of the work are seen even in Italy, where three of the converts returning to their old home have built up a prosperous mission there.

—Rev. A. B. Deter of the Baptist Mission in Brazil reports forty-five baptisms in Rio de Janeiro and vicinity during the last quarter of the year. A

flourishing work has grown up in a mountainous section seldom visited by the Roman Catholic priests. A native missionary has been the instrument in the hands of God of winning many souls. In Rio the churches are full and there is manifested a deep interest in all branches of the work. Steps are being taken to organize three new churches.

—New Year's day saw a gathering of nearly 450 London city missionaries at Exeter Hall. Sir George Williams, founder of the Y. M. C. A., this year gives Lovell's "Life of James Chalmers" to each of the missionaries as his annual gift. During the year over one million and a half visits were paid by the missionaries; seven hundred families were induced to begin family prayer; five thousand persons to attend public worship; nearly seven thousand children to attend Sunday schools; and nearly fifteen hundred drunkards were reclaimed. Even in the slums of a great city the heaven is slowly working.

—The Rev. R. A. Torrey, of Chicago, has been making some interesting comparisons as to religious conditions on this continent, and in the Old Land. One thing has impressed him very much as stated in the following: "I think that at the present time here are in Great Britain and Ireland more leaders in commercial and political life who are men of deep spirituality and intense aggressiveness in soul-winning work than in America. The humility and love for their Master and activity in his service on the part of many members of the nobility in Great Britain are occasions for abundant thanksgiving to God."

Marriages.

MILLS-BURNHAM.—At the Free Baptist parsonage, Salisbury, W. Co., February 10th, by Rev. W. H. Perry, Willard A. Mills, of Puttucodac, and Mary G. Burnham, of Salisbury.

CARL-ANDERSON.—At the parsonage, Sussex Feb. 2nd, by Rev. B. H. Nobles, David Carl, of Havelock, and Olive Anderson, of Studholm.

Deaths.

STEEVES.—At Steeves' Settlement, W. Co., Feb. 5th, Weyman Steeves, in the 60th year of his age, leaving sorrowing widow, three sons and four daughters, together with a large circle of relatives and friends to mourn their loss. Bro. Steeves was a worthy member of the Free Baptist church at Steeves' Settlement. Funeral services at the house, church and grave by the pastor. W. H. PERRY.

COATES.—At her home, Smith's Creek, February 1st, Sussex, widow of the late James Coates, aged 78 years. Two daughters survive her—Mrs. Thos. Davis and Miss Elvira, with whom she lived, and many relatives. Mrs. Coates was a consistent member of the Free Baptist church at Newtown. For years she had been set aside from the regular activities of life on account of ill health, but always steady in her devotion to God and her trust in him. The funeral services were held Friday afternoon, and were conducted by Rev. B. H. Nobles, assisted by Rev. J. B. Gough, Methodist.

REEVES.—At Kemptville, N. S., on the 5th inst. Clyde, child of Mr. and Mrs. Charles R. Reeves aged 4 months. Funeral services conducted by L. A. Cosman.

JONES.—On the 2nd inst., at Brookville, Carleton Co., in the 82nd year of her age, Catherine M. widow of John A. Jones. Sister Jones spent her early life in Wickham, Queens Co., and in her girlhood gave her heart to God, and was his lowly servant to the end of life. About forty years ago, with her family, she moved to Brookville, where she spent her life and breathed her last. It can be truthfully said that she was a good woman. She was held in esteem as a Christian lady by all who were familiar with her. She was very liberal in her religious views, and at the same time wedded to the church of her early choice. She much enjoyed attending the yearly meetings. Many of the ministers and others will very well remember her testimonies, which were always acceptable. She was the mother of twelve children, seven of whom survive her. Fifteen years ago she said to the writer that if he out-lived her she wanted him to attend her funeral; her wishes were carried out. T. S. VAN WART.