

# Religious Intelligencer

BIBLE SOCIETY, MISSIONARY, AND SABBATH SCHOOL ADVOCATE.

E. McLEOD, Editor.

That God in all things may be glorified through Jesus Christ.—PETER.

TERMS.— ONE

DOLLAR A YEAR, IN ADVANCE

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Two very remarkable cases have come to knowledge, illustrating in a striking manner the truth of the above remark.

Some seventy years ago, there lived in Pennsylvania a man, whose occupation it was to discover defects in the land titles of his neighbors—to harass and terrify them, in order to extort their money; and if he failed in these efforts, to continue in some way to turn them out of possession of property for which they had paid its value; on which their families had been reared in comfort; where their children had played in infancy; and where they all expected to be buried—under the lofty oaks of their own plantations. This unfortunate man became emboldened with success; the more tuneful, crick, and tows of the doomed ones fell lifeless on his cold ear, and moved his sordid heart to a drop of pity. He was a tiger roving through the country seeking whom he could devour. The unmitigated scorn and bitter hatred of an outraged community retarded him not in his reckless career. At last the day of retribution came.

He had despoiled and stripped a poor man and his wife of all their possessions, and turned them out on the cold charities of the world. With a broken heart he removed several hundred miles from the spot once held so dear, but bent on revenging the wrong he had endured. Months and years rolled away, while he was encountering the horrors of severe poverty, and he seemed to have disappeared forever in the bosom of the wilderness. He travelled by night the whole distance to the residence of his enemy, who was sitting on his chair in the very room the poor man once occupied. The light enabled him to discern his victim. A shot from an unerring rifle terminated in an instant the inglorious career of the miserable wretch. The injured man then returned to his home, having glutted his vengeance with blood, and was never suspected of the murder. For many long years no discovery was made of the author of this deed. Death at last appeared, and the corpse surrounded by her thunders, forced from the bosom of the perpetrator a full and minute narration of all the circumstances; and then he died immediately; until the disclosure was made, he could not die.

The second case was that of a most peculiar and extraordinary character. In a remote part of Lancashire county, Presley, a young man, once cold and dry, night entered the lonely cabin of a poor woman and murdered her most at once. He fled to Fife, where he was employed in another employment, and concealed himself with his property. Still he appeared restless, fearful, unhappy, and wretched; the worm that never dies was his companion. In June 1831, a man named Markley was executed for the murder of Newry and his companion on the heights which overlook the beautiful city of Fife. An immense assemblage were collected to witness the awful scene. Among them was the ill-fated young man who had murdered the poor woman. He was dressed in a manner the most fearful, clad in the habiliments of death, looking composedly on the piling throng. A minister of the Lutheran Church, who had faithfully attended the culprit during his imprisonment, now addressed the assembly, setting forth the outlines of the plan of salvation; and that the vilest sinner would be pardoned if he repented and believed; the mercy of God was infinite, and urged on his hearers to beware of the crimes which had brought this man to the gallows.

The crowd had not dispersed, nor the body yet been deposited in the grave, ere the miserable wretch, who had killed the woman as before detailed, appeared before a magistrate in town and confessed his guilt, detailing all the circumstances of the deed. The Justice was overwhelmed with astonishment, but committed him to jail. In a short time the Governor of Pennsylvania had him removed to Lancaster, where he was executed after a fair and impartial trial.

These were two cases of pure, unmitigated remorse, unaccompanied by any sign of repentance, so far as I ever heard. But for the unrelenting goodness and lashings of an unappeased conscience, these men would have descended to their graves without the prize or curse of a human being. Had they followed the example of the royal

Psalmist, and like him mourned over “their blood guiltiness,” in the sweet and touching strains of the fifty-first Psalm; have watered their couch with their tears, and then with a broken contrite spirit, looked to the Lamb of God, whose blood cleanses from all sin; acknowledged their guilt and depravity to him who says they had violated; had they sincerely received him in their hearts into righteousness, and lived so long as they remained on earth a life devoted to their Savior, it would have been a case of “repentance unto life not to be repented of,” and all Christians must have hoped for their salvation, although the criminal law could be satisfied by their death only. But there may be upgradings of conscience which will force confession of sin, where there is not the slightest evidence of genuine repentance.

remedies to cure the diseases, and when they are cured, then we expect our children to grow. A tree infested by worms will not grow healthy; nor does the skillful horticulturist wait until it has outgrown the worms, but he removes or destroys them; and then he reasonably expects a healthy growth. And it is God's plan first to free his children from all sin; and then he expects and commands them to grow up into Christ—to go on even to perfection.—Rel. Telescope.

The Grace of God,

SHOWN IN THE LIFE OF A SLAVE.

The person concerning whom I now write is the only colored member worshipping with us at this place. She is about fifty years of age. I believe all who know her regard her as an example of deep and genuine piety. The theme of her conversation is the grace of God—is power to sustain the soul in all conditions of life. In her very expressive language she says, “It is great riches provided for the poorest and lowliest.” Her face shows the marks of former anguish; over this is thrown a calm serenity, accompanied with a cheerful vision, showing the victory of Grace.

I inquired, a few days since, concerning her children. She replied, “Before I tell you of my dear scattered children, I must tell you of the grace of God.” She exclaimed, “Oh the power of prayer! I want to tell it to you—yes, I want to tell it to the world.” Then laying one hand on her sunken breast, she pointed with the other to my youngest child, and said, “What but the religion of Christ could have kept me when I wrapped my babe's clothes up for it to be taken away—it was sold from my breast.”

She spoke affecting of her husband, who had been sold, and sent to the Southern market. She has had nine children; two of those have been sent South; the others are scattered to different masters. She is now living with one of the children of her former mistress, where she receives much kindness. She says there were times in her deep trouble, when she gave up, and ceased praying; “Then,” she said, “how my poor soul withered away, and seemed to die within me.”

She says all she can now do for her children is to pray for them; and she is cheered with the hope that two are now converted. Speaking of her hope of future happiness, she said, “I would be willing to live over again my life of sorrow were it necessary, to secure at last that rest and peace which awaits the faithful in Christ.”

Dear friends, we who labor here sometimes grow sad as we see the apparently slow progress of a pure Gospel; but when we meet such instances of triumphant grace among the unlearned, and downtrodden, I ask myself, cannot we endure to suffer with the lowly; if at last we enjoy the fuller manifestations of God in his blessed kingdom.

M. H. FEE.

Seed not Lost.

Ministers and sabbath-school teachers often mourn the utter fruitlessness of their labors, because they see no ripening grain, and gather in no abundant harvests. But visible results are not always the best test of usefulness. The sower of seed is often hid, and the heart long before its outward working is manifest, and need may be sown in many hearts wholly unknown to the sower. The following touching incident is one of many illustrations of this:

A clergyman had for some weeks seen a little ragged boy come every Sabbath and place himself in the center of the aisle, directly before the pulpit, where he seemed very attentive to the service, and as if eating up his words. He was desirous of knowing who the child was; but he never could see him, as he vanished the moment service was over, and no one knew whence he came or what he did. At length the boy was missed from the usual place in the church. At this time a man called on the minister, and told him a person, very ill, was desirous of seeing him, but added, “I am ashamed to ask you to go so far; yet it is a child of mine, and he refuses to have any one but you. He is altogether an extraordinary boy, and talks a great deal about things that I do not understand.”

The clergyman went. The rain poured down in torrents, and he had six miles of rugged mountain to pass. On arriving where he was directed, he found a wretched cabin, and the man he had seen in the morning was waiting at the door. He was shown in, and found the inside of the hovel as miserable as the outside. In a corner, on a little straw, he beheld a poor creature stretched out, whom he recognised as the boy who had so regularly attended his church! As he approached the bed the child raised himself up, and stretching forth his arms, said, “His own right hand hath gotten him the victory!” and immediately expired.

Hastening To Destruction.

During the time of a freshet occasioned by the breaking up of the ice early last spring, two young ladies crossed Cedar Rapids, bridge, at Cedar Rapids, (a considerable town on the bank of Cedar river,) for the purpose of doing some trading. The river, at the time, was rising rapidly. While they were in town, which was but a short time, large crowds of people had gathered upon the

banks of the river to witness the great height which the water had attained, expecting, eventually, to see the bridge swept away.

The young ladies hastened back to the bridge, and as they were anxious to get home, insisted on re-crossing. They were told by friends that there was danger in crossing at such a time. But all entreaties were in vain. They entered the bridge, they ran, they hesitated as if it were to swift destruction. They had gained the last pier when the bridge fell. The body of one was afterwards found; that of the other has not been heard from since. One of them was looking forward with fond anticipations to her nuptial day, and had purchased her bridal dress and bore it with her as her winding sheet.

It is thus that thousands press forward with anticipations for the future, to sure, and swift destruction. That young man who indulges in the occasional intoxicating cup, leads to destruction. Let him read, in the face of these young ladies his own destiny. He is forming habits which, if persisted in, like the whirlpool, will draw him nearer and faster to sure destruction. His pious parents have prayed for him, and entreated him not to look upon the wine when it giveth his color in the cup: “For at the last it biteth like a serpent and stingeth like an adder.” They have gone, perhaps, to the better land where no drunkard can never enter. If he wishes to meet them there, let their latest warning voice still ring in his ears: “Look not upon the wine.”

Young persons who are accustomed to the use of by-words and set phrases, which at best can do no good, should remember that “for every idle word” they will be called to give an account. Their way leads to destruction. Light, giddy conversation paves a smooth road to profanity and Sabbath breaking. “Thou shalt not take the name of the Lord thy God in vain; for the Lord will not hold him guiltless that taketh his name in vain” and “remember the Sabbath day to keep it holy.” Are two great commands; and he who breaks them has hasty feet that take hold upon self destruction.

“Be ye, therefore, also ready,” is an impressive exhortation to all. We look for the old to die, but those who seem to bid farewell to long life and usefulness, are taken in their stead. The thoughtful, when thinking least, the heartiest, when their health is best, are called to grapple with sudden death. No one can tell the day, or the hour. It becometh us, therefore, to live each day as though we knew it were our last.—Presbyterian of the West.

A Confused Idea.

If we ask some persons whether they are born again, they will hesitate, or say that they are not; and yet if we ask the same persons whether they are at peace with God, they will not hesitate to say they are. In some cases we might get a negative reply to both questions, and yet if we inquired if the persons in hand regarded the Saviour as precious to them above all other objects, we should find at once that they did so regard him. Perhaps we might in other cases have a hesitating or negative reply to all these three questions, and yet find that to some other form of inquiry we might have an unhesitating answer, implying that the person giving it was sincerely devoted to God in Christ Jesus. It is consequently necessary to be very cautious in forming our conclusions regarding the spiritual state of any one, for whose best welfare we may be concerned, from the reply given by him to one or even to two of these questions; and it is also necessary for each one to get rid of confused and wrong ideas of such vital points as concern the safety of the soul. This is of great importance in regard to the reality of a new birth. With very many this change is looked upon in such a way as confines the whole attention of the mind to itself in giving the reply to the inquiry—Are you born again? Certain evidences of this change have been often presented to the individual—all these “evidences” of such a kind as to lead him to search for them in his own feelings without reference to God during the search—he seeks and seeks in his own anxious spirit for these “evidences,” and the longer he searches the less he seems to find. Is this the case with you, my reader? If so, turn your thoughts to John's third chapter, and see how Jesus sought to bring about the new birth in Nicodemus. Be careful especially to inquire the effect of the words of our Saviour as they are recorded from the 14th to the end of the 16th verses. There you see the realities that were intended by Immanuel to regenerate the mind of the inquirer. You see the necessity of his own sacrifice—he must be lifted up. That could not elevate Nicodemus in his own esteem, but in proportion as he believed it, he must have felt himself guilty and vile. Then comes the grand cause of the sacrifice for the sins of men—God so loved the world. No doubt this was fitted to produce great effect on the man, but not such as to lead him to look in and find with complacency how good he had become. No; it still tended to sink him lower in his own esteem, but it secured his supreme admiration and love of God to his guilty spirit, and this was the new birth required. O, look to this great sacrifice made for you, and to this infinite love as felt for you, and you will leave all contemplations of self for the full and everlasting adoration of your Divine Father and Saviour—this is

indeed to be born again. There is no room for confusion here. J. K.

London Correspondence.

London, June 4th, 1858.

Whitsuntide is passed, and Parliament does not seem disposed to address itself heartily and with zest to public business. Bills introduced after the Whitsun holidays are never expected to have much chance of becoming Acts—rather they are like caterpillars long in vain to take the shape of bright and buoyant butterflies, but doomed to perish in their low estate. The only kind of business which does get regularly discharged is that of voting the supplies, and at this operation a mere fraction of the House of Commons assists; discussion is discouraged and tens of thousands are granted amidst the almost unbroken silence of half empty benches. It is only paucity debating which fills the house to inconvenience; and of this there has not been an absence since I last addressed you. The break down of Mr. Cardwell's motion, and the Ministry, and like people of a certain temperament delivered unexpectedly from serious danger, they did not bear their escape with meekness and discretion. Mr. D'Israeli in keeping with the popular abbreviation of his name, grew decidedly “dizzy” with conceit; and at a dinner given to him and his colleagues in the representation of Buckinghamshire, he indulged in a style of oratory which Ministers of State had long ago agreed to discontinue. The only excuse is, that he had prepared a number of rhetorical squibs for the last night of the debate, and was loath to see them wasted; so that he let them off with sundry other ingredients, in the presence of the Buckinghamshire farmers and gentry. This would have done little or no harm as a local display, but the press is omnipresent, every celebrity has a reporter at his heels, and the Chancellor of the Exchequer, therefore, figured as conspicuously in the London papers as he had done at Slough. He soon found that he had got into a slough not easy to emerge from, and both Lord John Russell and Lord Palmerston in the Commons, and the Earl of Clarendon in the Lords, raised debates which did the reputation of Mr. D'Israeli for discretion and veracity no peculiar service. Great indeed was the announcement carried among the decorous and dignified Peers, when Lord Granville stated that the banquet of Slough had been prepared by a gentleman of the name of Bragg. Where a Bragg was, what wonder that a braggart (one skilled in the art of “Brag”) should also be? “Birds of a feather flock together.” The person most injured by the association is Mr. Bragg, who may himself be a most modest unassuming man.

The late news from India will enable the discussions to be resumed with greater confidence than before. The British army has been victorious and Oude is being pacified. Lord Ellenborough's resignation will be an olive branch to the Government in India, and Lord Stanley, (Earl Derby's son,) who has been appointed to the head of the Board of Control will not fall into his predecessor's errors. Sir E. Bulwer Lytton takes Lord Stanley's place in the Colonial office. It is pretty certain that Mr. Gladstone was offered the seals of the Indian Department, and but for old political associations would have accepted them. The Lords have been considering the Commons' reason against their amendments in the Oath Bill, and to all appearances have resolved on sticking to the amendments; but the substance is being surrendered, and with the concurrence of all parties Lord Lyndhurst is to draw up a Bill giving power to each house to prescribe the form of oath to be taken by its members. This will allow the Commons to admit Baron Rothschild at once without risking a collision with the Law Courts. The idea is said to have originated with Earl Lecon of Grinean notoriety—another proof that the happiest suggestions do not invariably spring up in the likeliest brains. The Lords last night carried the second reading of the Chancery Amendment Bill, which for a wonder had the support of all the Law Lords who spoke: any amendment in that Court of Law will be accepted with all thankfulness, and with the hope that in a century or so it will become accessible to all classes who need the equitable interference it professes to afford. But even water would be too dear at a sovereign a bottle. In the Commons the No Popery Qualification Bill has been read a second time by a great majority; and a resolution in favour of the Suez Canal undertaking, rejected by a larger. The Church Rate Bill goes to a third reading next Tuesday morning (a special sitting).

A case of breach of privilege has created some sensation, arising from an article in the *Carlisle Examiner*, of which Mr. Washington Wilks is editor and proprietor, charging Mr. Clive the Chairman of a Railway Select Committee with corruption. Mr. Wilks was committed to the prison of the House (a very comfortable but expensive lodging) and after some days detention has been released on retreating the charge in toto

and expressing regret. One important vote threatens the separate responsibility of the Horse Guards and War Office, but the slight majority of two will encourage the obstructives to resist unless the House takes up the question of one Chief Ministerial head of the army with renewed vigor and resolution. I should have stated in speaking of the Lords, that Earl Talbot has proved his claim to be the closest lineal descendant of the first Earl Shrewsbury, and accordingly he enters into the title and estates, the latter of which are very considerable and had been willed by the late Earl to the infant son of the Duke of Norfolk, under the impression that there was no heir-at-law. Indirectly the Romish Church suffers by this decision, as the Norfolk family is its greatest friend among the nobility of England.

The Queen has been undergoing much mental anxiety respecting her eldest daughter's health, since an unfortunate fall up-stairs in Berlin. It is rumoured on good authority that both mother and daughter expect to present Europe with a royal babe a piece about the same time in the autumn. Prince Albert has gone to the Continent and has seen the Princess Frederick for himself. The Queen has given Professor Faraday apartments in Hampton Court Palace, and is to visit Birmingham the week after next where a grand reception awaits her, to be followed by a visit to Leeds in autumn if no unforeseen circumstance presents.

In reference to the political hemisphere I do not think any sudden or terrible storms are likely to arise. France is now believed to be meditating an assault on Morocco—some say Austria, but Louis Napoleon unless daft will not run the risk of a war which would make France bankrupt and himself a refugee. The plenipotentiaries of the Great Powers have met at Paris to settle the Danubian question; but the Montenegrin insurrection is a serious point demanding settlement, and it is not so clear that Turkey will allow the Powers to do as they please in the matter. It is not known for certain whether Naples refuses compensation to our countrymen, and the whole affair of the *Capigliari* is *in statu quo*.

Our newspapers are now diligently discussing the difficulty which has been raised by the United States Government regarding the action of our cruisers in the Gulf of Mexico. I do not think Lord Derby will diminish our force there unless Mr. Buchanan provides some efficient means of carrying out the treaty for suppressing the slave trade. The American operations for this purpose have been a delusion and a sham; and I must add here, that British public opinion will undergo a rapid change respecting the genuineness of the revival movement, unless it is seen to increase very considerably the anti-slavery sentiment of the States.

The decision of the Tract Society's supporters at New York is provoking many caustic comments. Our Anti-Slavery Society lately held its annual meeting with Lord Brougham in the chair, supported by an influential company. As an interesting audience international sympathy and regard for our unfortunate men of genius, it may be mentioned that a Committee has been formed of some of our most illustrious men to receive subscriptions in behalf of Iarmatine. Will it not be curious, if, which is not improbable, the English contributions exceed that of France? As a nation we might be said to have a fundress for funds testimonial and memorial. £1800 has been collected for the wife and daughter of Mr. Henderson, who with his partner Fox erected the original Crystal Palace. The Indian Relief Fund is rising to four hundred thousands, and Sir Henry Havelock's Fund is yet in progress.

Among minor matters of some interest I may observe, that the Leviathan is waiting to be fitted out in the Thames, which can only be done by raising a large run in shores, and that she is destined to ply between Holyhead and Portland;—that Dr. Bernard the intended victim to Imperialism has lectured at Greenwich with success;—that Judge Coleridge retires from the Bench and is succeeded by H. Hill, Esq., &c.;—that the great Bell has passed examination with *ecclat* and is to swing under the name of “Victoria.” Mr. John O'Connell, the eldest son of the late Daniel O'Connell, has died, leaving but two out of seven sons alive. Like other greater men “Great Dan” did not found a dynasty, he left no one bearing his name and mantle together.

The theological world has lost Dr. Henderson, a distinguished Biblical centre, and Dr. Jenkins author of the much admired and much abused work on the Work of the Holy Spirit—both Independents. Cardinal Wiseman has been ill, but not dangerously, as first reported. The Free Church Assembly of Scotland has been in session and with its 782 congregations is a powerful confederacy. A meeting to take leave of eighty male and female missionaries to Africa has been held in connexion with the London (Independent) Missionary Society, and the Baptists have had a Soiree to raise £5000 for India. Several of the Baptist Association are held in May, and of these the most important are those of Yorkshire, Cheshire and Lancashire. The first has reported 66 churches with 7369 members, 12576 Sunday scholars and 3013 teachers; the latter 49 churches and 5226 members with 13118 Sunday scholars and 1520 teachers. The United Kingdom Alliance held its annual London meeting in Exter Hall, May 21st, and various are the signs of progress in both of that movement for the prohibition of the Li-