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TERMS AND NOTICES.

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Religious Intelligencer.

ST. JOHN, N. B., MAY 12, 1871.

REMEMBER: ONE DOLLAR SECURED TO A NEW SUBSCRIBER THE "INTELLIGENCER" (post-paid) TILL JANUARY 1st, 1872.

STAND NOT IDLE, CHRISTIAN.

"Work" should be the Christian's watchword. The world is busy. Everything is full of stir and activity. The enemy of souls is diligently prosecuting his enterprise of destruction. Aided by the "world and the flesh" he is carrying on a vast work of ruin. Thousands and tens of thousands are held bound by him and led captive at his will. Means without number are already in operation to entice the unwary into his service. New and attractive nets are being constantly woven in which to entrap the young and giddy. Gins and foot-falls with the stamp of intellect upon them are set for those disposed to intellectual pursuits. Paths that seem religious are marked out for those who have strong religious tendencies. For ministers, church officers and church members inducements are held out to go in and engage in pursuits that are apparently virtuous and good, but which are sinful and soul destroying. In every way the enemy of mankind is busy. His emissaries doing his behest are never idle. Morning, noon and night their hands, hearts, brains are employed. They never rest, never cease from labour. Work for their master is to them a delight; the very element in which they live, the substance on which they exist. Sin is a pleasure of which they weary not; and their ambition is to increase the number of pleasure seekers. The man whose whole life is given up to getting "filthy lucre" is wide awake, making the most of every opportunity, never allowing a chance for a profitable speculation to pass him. The man who wants honor is closely watching transpiring events, catching at every straw which will carry him on to popularity, putting himself in the way to be driven along by every breeze that promises to aid him in reaching the goal of his ambition. So in the pursuit of pleasure, and every other purely earthly end, men know no weariness of brain or body, allow no obstacle to be too great, but with an eagerness and persistency worthy a better cause they push on.

Are Christians characterized by a like diligence in the prosecution of the work given them to do by their master? Who doubts that Christians ought to be at work? Who doubts that there is work enough to do? The charge to work while the day lasts is in the commission given to each man, woman and child, who through faith in Jesus Christ becomes his disciple. And dare any one shrink the responsibility? Only at the risk of losing heaven. Yet it is too evident that many who hear the name of Christ, and are anxious—sincerely so—to participate in the blessings He confers, are inclined to do but little in His cause. In this fact lies the reason why conversions are not more abundant—why the world of sin and wretchedness is not being more speedily transformed into a paradise of light and joy.

The Christian has a high and holy mission to accomplish. It was not the only object for which the soul is renewed, that it might have peace and joy here and glory hereafter. God never intended that there should be drowsiness in the Christian life. He would have no idlers in his vineyard. He would employ them in his service. He has a work for them to do. Christ said,—"As thou hast sent me into the world, even so have I sent them into the world." He prayed for them, and not for them only, but for those also which shall believe on me through their word. And why did he thus pray for all believers, but because he sent them into the world, as the Father had sent him? Hence the apostle said,—"We, then, as workers together with him," &c.

The Christian's mission on earth is one with the mission of Christ. He is sent into the world for the same great purpose. Now if we can learn for what purpose Christ came, we shall learn the great object to which, as Christians, we should devote our lives. It was said of Jesus, "He shall save his people from their sins." "For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life." "Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners, of whom I am the chief." From these and numerous other passages of Scripture, we learn that Christ came that sinners might be saved. This was the object of his mission. This was the work to which he consecrated his life. And, as the Father sent him, even so he sends his disciples on this important mission. Christ did a work personally, which he finished upon the cross when he gave up the Ghost. The statement was complete, the middle wall of partition between Jew and Gentiles was broken down, and now God can be just and extend pardon to every one who, with penitence and faith, cometh unto Jesus.

But the gospel of the world is not accomplished. The salvation must be preached in all the world, and to every creature. This is the specific work of the Christian. Thus he may be a worker together with Christ in the world's redemption. Salvation is first, other interests are important only as they directly or indirectly aid in the accomplishment of this great and glorious result. To what dignity and honor God has raised his people! However humble their position among their fellows, however weak and small in their own esteem, God clothes them with a dignity and honor far exceeding all the honors of this world. Instead of its being a cross and a burden to speak for Christ, and invite sinners to his service, it should be esteemed a great privilege to stand up for Jesus.

O Christian be at work for Jesus! "Whoever they had foundeth to do, do it with thy might. Commence now, and cease not till God call you from toil to rest—from battling with sin to reign in glory."

* Money is needed by the Treasurer of the Foreign Mission Society. Let every brother and sister—every friend of Christ and humanity, do something now.

CORRECTION.—Rev. A. Taylor was the writer of the communication concerning Foreign Missions in last week's paper; the compositor thought he managed to change the name to Charles.

LIFE'S RESPONSIBILITIES.

Our life, like the pendulum in a clock, swings to and fro, and upon the use we make of it now, hangs our future destiny. Silent as the moon at midnight in the star-bespangled heavens—sad or joyful, solemn or mirthful, it moves onward in measured tread, penetrating into the misty future, as it speeds its dawns, freighted with weighty cares and momentous events, coupled with incessant responsibilities and duties, and we are led to exclaim, "who is sufficient for these things?" We look back through the countless ages to see when time first dawned over the untrodden shores of this wide world—when the forest-bound wilds, the snow peaked mountains, the magnificent prairies, were unmarked by human footsteps, and undeveloped by human industry and art—when the noble rivers, the broad smiling lakes, and the tumbling waters of old ocean were rolling in their deep basins and dashing against the huge rocks, whose foamy waters chimed to no other sound but their own unobstructed surging, and the gentler ripplings of the brooks and rivulets and the mournful voices of the wind waving the tree-tops of the forest, or speaking in the louder notes of the whirlwind and the tempest—with no gallant ships nor proud-decked steamers, plunging their road through the bounding billows, with white canvas unfurled to the wafting breezes—we search the archives of antiquated records, we plod through early history and investigate all available sources of information, to find the date of the beginning of time, but they give us no clue: we peruse the sacred word, ponder the account of primitive creation, and stand in awe, fairly captivated with wonder at the idea of this vast globe of land and water being once great dark, shapeless, airless, sunless void; and even with this before us, we cannot discover the origin of time. Nor shall we ever be able to find it out: it is a mystery as unresolvable as Deity, profound as eternity, sealed up in the inaccessible secrets of Him who knoweth all things, and doeth all things according to His own inscrutable will. With other subjects vastly too infinite for our feeble comprehensions to understand, we hand this one over to the Eternal Mind, feeling that we would only plunge deeper into the depths of the most awful and inexplicable subjects, rather than throw any additional light on them. The result in the end, I fear, of such an investigation would be equal to the confusion at the beleaguered tower of Babel. There are people who are constantly undervaluing their minds with those perplexing subjects, and if they would only look at them in their true light, they would soon see how utterly useless is such a course; how presumptuous to attempt even to unravel those hidden mysteries, "which eye hath not seen nor ear heard." Instead of burdening the mind with unnecessary and perplexing thoughts, it is of vastly greater importance to examine our relation with the requirements of the gospel and its conditions of salvation, "free to all," and ascertain our duties and responsibilities in connexion therewith; to make such an improvement of the time as will redound to our present and future welfare, and to the glory of our common God and Saviour. Time is the great theatre in which mankind render their lives conspicuous, or obscure and odious, by the manner in which they exert their influence—for good or evil—for all are invested with a certain amount of influence. Time and tide waiteth for no man—it is the same to all, although all don't feel and act alike. To some it brings sorrows and misfortunes, heart-achings and privations; to others every minute seems to usher in new blessings and pleasures, joys and prosperity. We think of the rose-cheeked child of a few years ago, whose youthful cheer and innocent smiling spoke not of the change that time would work, intervening years have elapsed, and now that child is the aged sire or the fond hearted old mother. It is no respecter of persons; it wrinkles the brow of self and lord, furrows the cheek, dims the sight, dulls the hearing, turns ashen hair into locks of silvery grey, and enfolds the once elastic step. With us it is only now—to-day soon becomes yesterday—the future soon becomes the present, and thus one day unfolds another in rapid succession, and we often wonder which is the greatest, the eternity of the past, or the eternity of the future? We live in eternity, solemn as may be the reflection, the dawn of mortal existence is but the commencement of a never-ending eternity. And although death may chill the springs of life, the spirit always conscious lives on in a state of happiness or unhappiness, beyond the dark valley and the shadow of death; evidence of which is not wanting in the inspired word. Every tick of the clock is a solemn warning that we are hastening on to that great and notable day, for which all other days are made, and at which we will be rewarded according to the deeds done in the body, while we lived and acted in the time state on earth. W. D. N.

DEMOMONIAL NEWS.

Rev. T. S. VANWART writes, under date of May 6th:—

"From our last conference until March, I spent my time with the churches at Williamstown, Waterville, Third, Third, Wakefield, Brighton, and thereabouts. I trust my labors under God have been to some profit. On the 25th March we left home for Nova Scotia, I having some convictions to do so. We were detained at St. John two days, which gave us the opportunity of making a number of calls among our friends, and especially the brother of my friends from Kara, King's Co., and heard from more than I was glad to hear from. We arrived at Canning, N. S., the first day of April, and received a very warm reception from Bro. B. Woodworth and family. We found the people suffering under the pressure of grief, brought on by the death of their late pastor, Bro. Sullivan; spent two weeks with profit to all concerned (we humbly trust). Some things connected with our visit to Canning we cannot forget soon, especially the death and burial of the only daughter of Captain J. Loomer. The writer was called upon to attend the funeral, which took place on the 9th of April in the Congregational Meeting House, where a very large and sympathizing congregation met to bury the Word of Life. We had the society of the pastor, Rev. W. Whitman, who took part in the services. Bro. W. and congregation are enjoying a season of revival. We called to see Sister Sullivan a number of times, and found her and family recovering from their protracted illness, and our sister is much sustained by the promises of the Word of Life. With the timely aid of Bro. B. Woodworth we went from Canning to Hall's Harbour, where we found a pleasant home with the family of Deacon S. Whitney, thence to Canada Creek, where we found a welcome home with the family of Deacon M. Margerson. Both of these churches had the promise of part of Bro. Sullivan's labours, but by his death are left disappointed and sad; yet they are not disposed to despair while they remember the fact that Jesus lives. May the chief shepherd direct to them an under shepherd that shall administer to them the Word of Life. The very sudden death of Bro. Bates, one of the acting members of Hall's Harbour church, gave us the opportunity of addressing a very large congregation on the 25th ult. Bro. R. died on the bench while returning from work. He leaves a widow and three children to mourn their loss. We left Nova Scotia on the first of May for home, and arrived on the 4th, found family and friends all well. To God be all the praise for His protecting care over us and ours.

Methodist Churches were built in the United States in 1870, at the rate of four to nearly every working day, the number being over 1,300.

THE SCHOOL BILL.

has triumphantly passed the Lower House. The Legislative Council will probably pass it without alteration. Very little change—none whatever of importance—has been made in the measure as submitted by the Government. After the struggle which took place prior to the passage of the section establishing the assessment principle, the Opposition submitted in the most becoming manner to the force of events, and aided in making the bill as complete and perfect as possible. While they thus have done good service to the country, they have also done themselves much credit. The fears were entertained by many, that through some opening not sufficiently guarded the friends of separate schools might effect an entrance, have also been completely dispelled by the clause moved by the member for Albert, Dr. Palmer—that all schools under this act shall be non-sectarian. The Doctor's motion was carried by a vote, twenty-five to ten. The Freeman pretends to entertain a kind of notion that there is yet a chance for separate schools to be tacked on the bill, insinuating some sort of a test, when it says it is yet doubtful "what the courts may decide that the words 'non-sectarian' mean." There need be no fear, however.

It is gratifying that this Government have so faithfully fulfilled their pledges, and that they have had so respectable a majority to aid in carrying out their purpose. That there are many who cannot yet see that any good will come of the new system cannot be denied; it would be strange if there were not. Many of these are intelligent, well-thinking men, men who love their country and desire its real prosperity; others are of the class who readily imbibed a prejudice against any and every progressive measure. It will only take a little time to convince the first mentioned that they were wrong and the majority right; the other class may be expected to grumble always, and they would grumble about something else if they had not this. That there are defects in the details of the bill we believe: it would be impossible to frame a bill without something defective; but they are of minor importance compared with the great wrong which has been escaped, viz., the establishment of separate schools—and they only require the working of the system to point them out for remedy. Taken altogether, the bill is a great boon to the Province, and a credit to the Government which framed and the Legislature which adopted it. Whatever sins, political or otherwise, may be chargeable to them, we feel disposed to accord them the credit of having done a good, wise and noble work in the present instance; and future generations will remember with gratitude the men who aided in giving them free schools.

NEW BOOKS.

THE CONVERSION OF ST. PAUL is the title of a very new little book published by S. R. Wells, New York. It consists of three discourses by Rev. Geo. J. Geer, D. D., in which the conversion of the great Apostle is discussed as follows:

1. Its Relation to Unbelief.
2. Its Value as a Lesson.
3. Its Relation to the Church.

For sale by J. & A. McMillan. Price 4s.

SERMONS OF BAPTISM—published by E. Stock, 62 Paternoster Row, London—is the second part of a work on Christian Baptism, by Rev. R. Ingham, D. D., the first volume being devoted to a discussion of the Act of Baptism. It only needs a glance at the book to know that the author has furnished an exhaustive work; and a very brief examination of all we have as yet been able to give it convinces us that an immense amount of study has been given to the subject. The subject is treated under the following heads:

Introductory; John's Baptism; Apostolic Baptisms before and after Christ's Ascension; Scriptural references to baptism; Other supposed scriptural confirmation; God's covenants with Abraham; The covenant of circumcision, and that of grace; Supposed Anabaptist Church; On hereditary right; On non-prohibition; On baptism as a seal; On Jewish Proselyte Baptism; On Sponsorial justification of baptism; On infants as believers, servants, disciples, citizens, and church-members; On baptism as a memorial, symbolical, regenerating, degrading, indelible, spiritual; On the essence of baptism; On fitness for baptism and the Lord's Supper; On women's right to the Lord's Supper; On the sufficiency of baby baptism; Historic testimony, inspired and uninspired; On the meaning of infant baptism; On the mode of baptism; On the authority of baptism; Concluding remarks.

The author brings to his aid a mass of scripture proofs, and his historical testimony is immense. No person can fail to derive benefit from the perusal of the work.

LOVELL'S DOMINION DIRECTORY.—We have but just received a copy of this huge book. It has between two and three thousand pages, containing an amount of information that must have cost much labor and money to compile. It furnishes a description and directory of every city, town, village and settlement in Quebec, Ontario, Nova Scotia, New Brunswick, Newfoundland and Prince Edward Island. Information of every imaginable kind, whether relating to population, trade, government departments, churches, newspapers, manufactures, routes of travel, &c., may be found within its covers. It also contains historical sketches of the Provinces. The work is done in good style—good paper, clear print and substantial binding.

A smaller work, embracing only a Directory of New Brunswick, also accompanies the Dominion book. Mr. Lovell's enterprise, as evidenced by these publications, is unequalled in the Dominion and deserves a substantial return. We sincerely wish his Directories—as they merit—may meet with a ready and an extensive sale.

THE NEW DOMINION MONTHLY for May contains Brazil's Civilization, Legends of the Micmacs, Early Scenes in Canadian Life, Newfoundland, Mysteries of Every-day Life, The Story of the Spectroscopic, &c. It also has a portrait—Professor Dawson, Principal of McGill University, Montreal. John Douglas & Son, Publishers, Montreal.

THE JOURNAL OF THE FOURTH ANNUAL Session of the M. W. Grand Lodge of British Templars has just been issued. It contains the minutes of proceedings of the session held in Woodstock in August last, and furnishes statistics of the order up to that date. There were at that time in the several Provinces 31,557 Templars, of which number New Brunswick had 13,000 and Nova Scotia 12,000. The affairs of the Order are in a prosperous condition generally.

THE CATHOLIC STAR is the name of a new paper just published in this city, by Wm. Hogan & Co. It is to be issued semi-monthly, and, as its name indicates, is published in the interest of the Roman Catholic church. The number before us has twenty-eight columns of reading, of the character that will be interesting to, and relied by, those for whom it is intended. It has often been a matter of surprise to us that the Catholics of the Lower Provinces did not long ago establish a paper, devoted especially to their interests. The Star promises much, and confidently anticipates being the means of accomplishing great good. It will, very likely, have an extensive circulation; it has the whole field to itself, and the editor invokes, and will doubtless receive, the influence of the clergy in aiding its circulation. The editor gives his readers view of his belief concerning the future of Protestants. He says:

We have frequently been asked by both Catholics and Protestants, to express our opinion with regard to the manner in which Protestants will be treated in the life to come. This is a very delicate matter, and one which no man should triffling with. However, we have no scruple to give a reply to this very important interrogatory. Our opinion is this, we think, and we believe, and we cannot help believing otherwise, that Protestants, like Catholics, will receive just whatever reward or punishment they deserve. All that we have to say concerning Protestants is, that we would be only too happy to know that their punishment would be little, and that their reward would be great.

He is not very explicit, and the reader would almost be led to believe that there is hope even for a Protestant. That is not what is meant, however, as we learn from an article on separate schools, in which we are told that while Protestants believe there is salvation in the Catholic religion, Catholics hold that the Protestant religion "is impossible to please God, and conscientiously believe, upon the authority of the Holy Scriptures, that in it salvation is nowhere to be found." That settles the matter. We rather like the admission, though it is evident it was not intended to be so plainly made. We hope our new contemporary will be outspoken, so that the Protestants into whose hands it may fall will understand fully the views of the church on all matters of importance. For ourselves, we shall gladly peruse its columns.

For the Religious Intelligencer.

ONTARIO CORRESPONDENCE.

Mr. EDITOR.—I do not know how to apologize for my long delay to fulfil my promise to write occasionally from this distant portion of the Dominion. Perhaps, however, it would be better to omit the apology altogether, and send you a brief communication on matters and things in general.

THE WRITER.

may be said to be "over and gone," though the fields as yet can scarcely be said to "look gay." We have had a few warm days, during which the thermometer is reported to have stood at 75° in the shade. This, however, for the last few weeks has been the exception, the weather, for the most part being cold, changeable and exceedingly disagreeable. The effect upon the health of the people generally is doubly visible. We may have fallen into the common error of judging other people by ourselves; but almost everybody we meet seems to look blue and out of sorts, and indicates a damp, chilly atmosphere upon the physical system, by coughing, sneezing, blowing, and other equally interesting symptoms of a "very bad cold." The farmers have thrust in the plough, and the gardeners have "taken down the rake and the hoe," and all are busy with the usual occupations of the season. The winter wheat, I am told, promises to yield an average return, although in driving through the country the other day, I noticed that, in many of the large fields, considerable portions of it had been "killed out" by the scarcity of snow, and heavy frosts which prevailed during the winter.

POLITICAL MATTERS.

are entirely out of my sphere, and the manner in which they are conducted quite above my comprehension. If half the papers say be true, the present administration is a sorry combination, and their whole career furnishes one dark record of mismanagement and extravagance.

The Resolutions recently passed by the Dominion Parliament, in reference to the annexation of British Columbia to the Dominion, have been commented upon by the *Globe* and other Opposition papers in terms of sweeping denunciation. The importance of all the British North American Provinces being, as speedily as possible, consolidated in one vast Dominion, "bearing away from sea to sea," and "linked together by the iron band of civilization," is acknowledged by all as a consummation devoutly to be wished. This, it is to be admitted, is a subject before which all others which have been engrossing the attention of our Legislative body, fall into insignificance. But considering the conditions of the Union, as embodied in the Resolutions recently discussed in the House of Commons, it is thought the Government are forcing upon the country a scheme, which, if carried out, will involve us in national ruin. The following from the *Brantford Expositor*, one of the most respectable and ably conducted anti-ministerial papers published in Ontario, will furnish as brief and true a statement of the whole subject, as viewed by the Reform party here, as could be given:

"The principal terms of the Union, which the Ministry have told us are in the nature of a treaty, and must be accepted in toto or rejected altogether, are simply these:—That Canada shall be liable for the existing debts and liabilities of the colony; shall pay her five per cent. annually on the difference between the actual debt and the debt of Nova Scotia—that the population of the colony shall be reckoned at 60,000—that Canada shall pay British troops and the support of the government and legislation an annual subsidy of \$35,000, and a grant of 80 cents a head on the supposed population of 60,000—shall pension off those servants of Her Majesty, whose position would be affected by the union;—that she shall retain her present tariff—that she shall be represented in the Parliament of Canada by three Senators and six Members—that Canada shall commence within six months and finish within ten years the British Pacific Railway—that British Columbia shall grant the extension of the railway to the construction of said Railway, for which Canada is to pay her \$100,000 per annum—that the charge of the Indians and the management of their lands is to be undertaken by the Dominion. There is added one condition upon which the British Columbia consents to join her fortunes with ours, and which the Macdonald-Carter Cabinet at Ottawa have agreed to ratify.

"Canada is to subsidize the inhabitants of this small Colony at the rate of \$10 per head annually, to engage to build, within ten years, a railway about 3,000 miles long, over a tract of country as yet almost unknown, at a cost, at the lowest estimate, of 100,000,000 of dollars, and which will likely cost, if the country is to be taken in, twenty millions. No survey has ever been made of the region through which it is to pass. No one knows what engineering difficulties will have to be surmounted, nor is anything known of the character of the land along the route; yet the liability to engage to build the railway to building this road within ten years. The burden which would be placed upon the Dominion by such a course would be enormous. Our total liabilities are at present 114,000,000 of dollars—fifteen millions more will be required to finish the Intercolonial—twenty millions to complete the canal communication—add to this the cost of this railway, and the interest alone upon this debt would cost the country \$15,000,000 per annum. The present income is only about fifteen millions, and the expenditure nearly as much; and where is all this money to come from? Why, it must be borne by the people of this country; while British Columbia is enormously subsidized to give it the privilege of being an integral portion of Confederation. The population of the Province is at present 60,000, while, Indians and Chinese; the fact is, there are only about 10,000 whites in the colony. The Indians, we suppose, will be unrepresented, and pay no taxes—as they are here—and these 10,000 whites will be required to finance the Intercolonial—twenty millions to complete the canal communication—add to this the cost of this railway, and the interest alone upon this debt would cost the country \$15,000,000 per annum. The present income is only about fifteen millions, and the expenditure nearly as much; and where is all this money to come from? Why, it must be borne by the people of this country; while British Columbia is enormously subsidized to give it the privilege of being an integral portion of Confederation. The population of the Province is at present 60,000, while, Indians and Chinese; the fact is, there are only about 10,000 whites in the colony. 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