

## TERMS AND NOTICES.

The RELIGIOUS INTELLIGENCER is published weekly, at the Office of Messrs. BARNES & CO., 39 Prince William Street, St. John, N. B.

TERMS—\$2.00 A YEAR, IN ADVANCE.

All Communications for insertion should be addressed to Messrs. BARNES & CO., 39 Prince William Street, St. John, N. B.

Subscriptions may either be paid to Messrs. BARNES & CO., St. John, or remitted to the Editor, at Fredericton.

## Religious Intelligencer.

REV. JOSEPH McLEOD, EDITOR.

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 20, 1874.

## AMONG THE SANTALS.

Those who are in the habit of reading the letters of Rev. J. L. Phillips, know how earnestly he has desired to be able to devote his labors to the Santals. His fellow missionaries unite in saying that he is peculiarly adapted to the work, and he himself has felt the Spirit of God moving him to it; but, until now, has been unable to leave the duties of the Mission. The recent reinforcements of the Missionary band, has brought him the desired release, and he has been able to move to the new field of toil, as seen by his letter in another column. Many are the hardships—he, his wife and sister will have to undergo; but they are willing to suffer all, if they can but win souls to Jesus. Their desire, so oft repeated, to go the Santals, was not that they might have less labour and more comforts. They leave a familiar field for one new—a known language for one partly known and very difficult. They leave a nice home, which he has taken them years of privation to earn and build, and make comfortable, for a little mud hut, where storms and heat must be keenly felt, and bodily ease and comfort cannot be. Why do they do this? Because they are glad to sacrifice for Christ—glad to submit to any hardships, if only souls can be won to Jesus.

Are the Christians at home doing their part as faithfully? Some say many are not. Do not forget the Mission and Missionaries in your prayers. Do not forget to contribute liberally of your means that the work may be sustained and advanced. It is of God, and its claims must not be ignored.

## CONGREGATIONAL SINGING.

There is a good deal being said just now in certain religious papers about church music. The mania for singing by paid professionals is dying out, and there is a strong feeling setting in in favor of the good old congregational singing. We like good music. Every church ought to be animated to have the best possible consistent with true worship. We do not object to choirs in the way and on the same grounds that some people do. We do not see that the existence of a choir is a hindrance to the work of the church, but rather a help. We have most decided objection to the monopoly of all the praise by a few. A choir is good in so far as it leads and helps the people in singing; but when it shuts out the people from participation in so important a part of the worship, it becomes an injury rather than a benefit. "Let all the people praise the Lord."

## REPRESENTATIVES OF THE PRIESTS.

The six gentlemen recently elected in P. E. Island to seats in the Dominion Parliament, are undoubtedly representatives of Roman Catholic Bishops or Priests, rather than of the people. The Hon. J. C. Pope, a prominent politician of the Island, says the usefulness of contesting an election with all the priestly power arrayed against him, and so declined to be a candidate. In a letter to his constituents, he says that he has learned from a trustworthy source that Hon. Mr. McKenzie had given the Bishop the assurance that his Government will promptly deal with the school question to the satisfaction of the Catholics. He refers to a pastoral which was read in all the Catholic Churches throughout the Island, authoritatively dictating to all Catholics the course which the church requires them to pursue in the elections; and then says that, though he thinks that many of the Catholics have as much confidence in him now as when at former times they voted for him, he should be sorry to ask them to exercise in favour of the priestly rights as electors, when by so doing they would subject themselves to episcopal censures. Is it not the priests of P. E. Island who are represented in the Parliament? Think of it, electors of New Brunswick, and be careful that the priests do not become dominant here as they are determined to be in France.

Referring to the above the *Moncton Times* says: "All the signs indicate the appearance of a mighty political tempest, in which the issue is whether Bishops or Priests, or the free electors, shall rule in this Dominion. No matter on what side we look, the great forces seem to be gathering for the battle. When the Old Year closed the issue seemed to involve mainly the Free Schools of New Brunswick, but the 'Pastoral' of the Roman Bishops has thrown a new light on the situation. The Free Schools of New Brunswick, and the Free Schools of Prince Edward Island and Nova Scotia, where the controversy was supposed to have closed years ago, are now again before us. The issue is now justly increased, and those who slumbered when the 'Costigan Resolutions' seemed directed only against New Brunswick, are now fully awake to the peril that threatens the country. We may as well look the future boldly in the face, and prepare for whatever is in store for us."

## BENEFICENTIAL AID.

NO. II.

The second question is: Are we just with ourselves? The great cry of our churches to day is ministerial help. The recent experiment in occupying new ground shows what might be done if more help could be obtained to help on the work. Free Baptist doctrine is favorably received wherever it is preached. We must engage churches in every town and village throughout the province, but instead of this we have not men enough to hold the ground already occupied, and for want of help churches are slowly it may be, but surely dying. We naturally look for an explanation of this enigma. Will not the "Lord of the harvest" call, through us, labourers into His harvest. Why then are our ministerial ranks so thin? Why our churches left neglected? A knowledge of affairs shows that men enough have actually felt called of God to preach the gospel in our denomination, to supply every vacant church and occupy every new inviting field. Where are these to-day, who have thus been called? Some for want of sufficient encouragement have buried their talents beyond the hope of a resurrection. This class is larger than is generally known; men who, had they possessed the advantages of education, would have been a power in the world, but for want of it have never done the work for Christ they otherwise would. Others have, in the schools of other denominations, obtained an education, and at the same time imbibed doctrines that have alienated them from us, and so are lost to us. Others still, acting consistently, have taken advantage of the kind offer of the Free Will Baptist Education Society, and in the schools of that denomination are pursuing a course of study in preparation for the Gospel ministry. These young men, in most cases at least, unite with the Free Will Baptists well at school, and in this way pass into another denomination. Now, in that denomination is felt an urgent need of more men and Home Mission Societies are calling loudly for help, while at the same time the policy of the Free Will Baptist Education Society is a

silent but potent argument in favor of these young men remaining with them, and a telling appeal to their sympathy and gratitude, while our policy—or want of policy—is as strong an argument in favor of their not coming again to us. It seems that our duty ought, in face of these facts, to appear plain. Let our Education Society do its work and become a success, and the work is met. Its object is to "assist young men in preparation for the ministry." Now, let that Society offer young men the same financial encouragement that the Free Will Baptist Education Society offers, and we will hold them by a tie not easily severed. They must still attend the schools of that denomination, but while there, if assisted from home, will have no need to transfer their church membership or leave our denomination. With an earnest, consistent effort this might be accomplished.

Our Home and Foreign Mission Society is receiving creditable attention, while at the same time it is passed almost silently by. The Education Society formed in 1868 has but one life member as yet, although it costs but ten dollars for males and five for females. It would honor God, to credit ourselves, advance the work we love, and fill the hearts of our tolling, self-sacrificing young men with a new hope, to lay hold of this matter with red. The course that, if pursued, would bring success is plain and simple. Let the Education Society offer to such young men as the denomination approves as called of God to preach the Gospel, while pursuing their studies, financial assistance equal to that offered by the Free Will Baptist Education Society—say two hundred dollars yearly—with the full understanding that they are not to draw from the Free Will Baptist Education Society, nor transfer their membership from us. Then let the required amount be assessed on the churches as for foreign missions, and the matter thus fully brought before the people cannot fail to be accomplished.

The effort made to establish an "Endowment Fund" has not proved an entire success for two reasons: There was no agent to carry the plan to development, but present prospects would not warrant the securing of an agent; also money was needed for present use, while the Endowment Fund had no special relation to the future, and the establishment of a denominational school.

Now, while there is no doubt that this was a step in the right direction, and will at some time be pushed to completion, a pressing need is now felt for immediate action. We have at least six young men needing assistance. The usual benevolent aid has largely decreased, to the great extent of depending on this as a means of assisting them. Some of these young men, if they can be assisted so as to continue at school, will soon be prepared for their life work and ready to return to us. If assistance is not soon rendered they must turn their attention to some other profession until they can earn money enough to enable them to return to school. Our treasury is entirely empty. Will not the churches here and there, and come to the rescue? Will they not give us this to answer our prayer for labourers in our denomination? We have not a single life member, and as many women, who will be able to contribute to the Education Society? We have more than this number who could afford to pay five or ten dollars. Let us hope for an awakening in this important work. D.

## SOME OBSERVATIONS.

BY X. CENTRIC, J. P.

NO. I.

I am naturally of an observing disposition. I did not make my debut into society until late in life; later, that is, than most people of the present age generally do. In consequence of this I was troubled with a sort of an indescribable something, termed by the fashionable gentlemen, and my only remedy to help me through all the paraphernalia of the fashionable society was to observe. I watched how others did, and acted accordingly. Though I have gotten a step above that, and dare now act even without a precedent for the occasion, my faculties of observation so long cultivated are seldom dormant, and I frequently find myself unwittingly taking notes, and making observations from the things transpiring around me, that perhaps another might not notice. I do not feel that I am an entirely free man. I frankly confess that I am not entirely free from it yet, nor do I ever expect to be; and as paradoxical as it may appear to some, it rather delights me to have it so than otherwise. Accepting a very kind invitation, that I at one time received, to be present at a party somewhere within the boundaries of the New Dominion, I dressed myself as required by the customs of the age, donned my tie and kid, and sauntered under the patronage of a gentleman, who came with me, to the house of a friend. While there, I saw several men talking and laughing with each other; some were discussing the merits of the weather, some last week's ball and the latest fashion; while others were greatly concerned about the result of to-night's affair, wondering who would be the belle of the evening; wondering if they hadn't better cut Mr. Snooks, who had committed the unpardonable, by appearing ungloved, and mingling the white tie with the black one, and so on. 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