

TERMS AND NOTICES.

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THE RELIGIOUS INTELLIGENCER.

SAINT JOHN, N. B., DECEMBER 19, 1879.

Attention is directed to the Business Notices on the next page. Our friends will be doing us a favor by reading them carefully and acting upon their suggestions. The INTELLIGENCER is the advocate of a good cause; and it solicits the earnest co-operation of all who sympathize with its mission. Just now there should be an earnest rallying of all its friends. We look to them confidently to give the desired and needed assistance. Do it at once.

Prohibition is thought to be rapidly gaining favour in Great Britain, notably in Scotland. Sir Wilfrid Lawson and some others have recently held large Temperance meetings, and it is declared the meetings have shown that the feeling in favor of prohibitory legislation concerning the drink traffic is receiving more careful thought on the part of the people and is being regarded with greater favour by the Government. The INTELLIGENCER is the advocate of a prohibitory measure, will meet with much stronger support in the House of Commons than its friends have supposed. All this is cheering news.

"That 'men are but children of a larger growth' finds frequent illustration in every day life. The S. S. Times tells that somewhere in a recent effort to pay off a church debt the children in the Sunday-school were asked to each earn something for a special contribution to the fund. A little girl had earned thirty cents. 'I'd like my money all in pennies,' she said, as Sunday approached; 'because then it will make more noise when I drop it into the box.'"

A great many older folks are just like that child. If they have anything to give, the temptation is to make as much noise as possible with it.

"Be ye one another's burdens and so fulfil the law of Christ" is Bible counsel to everybody. It is a rebuke to the too general selfishness of these times. Selfish people are poor people; they have great poverty of enjoyment. Which was the happy man—the Priest, the Levite or the Samaritan? He who helps his fellow in any way makes at least two people happy—the helped and himself. "He that waters shall himself also be watered" is true. Live a helpful life, reader. "To do good forget not." Do some good every day. Lighten somebody's burden, cool somebody's brow, soothe somebody's heart. You will have your reward on the spot.

The excitement in Ireland appears to be dying. The leading agitators have certainly done their best to keep up the excitement, but common sense is prevailing. The farmers and others who have any stake in the country are evidently not disposed to lend themselves to the furtherance of an agitation by which nobody can profit but the loud-mouthed and reckless fellows who have been speculating throughout the country some of whom for solutions utterances have got themselves in jail. The common sense portion of the population understand that such senseless agitation cannot secure the relief of any hardships resulting from a failure in the crops, or the adjustment of any hardship that may be caused by the land-laws. It is to the credit of Ireland that common sense is likely to prevail.

The Christmas time is near at hand. Let it be a time of well-doing. The little folks are looking forward to it eagerly, expecting lots of good things. We hope none of them will be disappointed. We wish them all full stockings and more. Parents make a great mistake who fail to make each Christmas a joyous time to their children. And when they bestow gifts on their dear ones they should be careful to tell them about God's great gift to all the world, which gift Christmas is designed to commemorate.

Then outside the family circle there should be the bestowing of gifts. A correspondent in the column of denominational news makes good a suggestion, which we hope may be acted upon in many places. Then there are the old and poor, the widows and fatherless and the many who seem to be but little thought of and cared for. The burdens and hardships of a whole year, of many years perhaps, have made them believe the world cold and unsympathetic; they think no one cares for them, that every heart is shut up against them. Their hearts may be cheered and their lives brightened by appropriate gifts at this season of the year. It is a blessed privilege to be able to minister to the comfort of the suffering from any cause. Let those who can make the most of the privilege.

Gladstone's visit to Scotland has brought to the surface the fact that a very decided change has taken place in public opinion on the questions that affect the British people, and unmistakably point to a political revolution as inevitable. His journey through Scotland was quite of the character of a triumphal march. Not only in Edinburgh, but everywhere the people thronged thousands to hear his speeches which are characterized as most eloquent and convincing efforts. Lord Rosebery's introduction of Mr. Gladstone to an audience in Edinburgh was a vivid and yet not over-drawn picture of the Rt. Hon. gentleman's journey. Full of years and honours, followed in his career by his country with a strange mixture of tenderness and pride, at an age when body and mind alike invite repose, an illustrious statesman has come down to fight a supreme battle in the cause of freedom. He has passed through one series of well-ordered triumphs from his home in Wales to the metropolis of Scotland. There has been no village too small to afford a crowd to greet him; there has been no cottage so humble that could not find a light to put in the window as he passed. Mothers have brought their babes to lay a hand on his knee, and old men have crept forth from their homes to see him as they died.

If the campaign goes on as it has been, and there is every reason to believe it will, the days of Beaconsfield's administration are numbered.

The Trustees of Dr. Talnage's Church at their last meeting passed a resolution requesting him to withdraw from the Presbyterian Church and establish an independent church, promising that his whole congregation would go with him and stand by him to the last. They based this recommendation on the ground that Dr. Talnage and his church have been persistently "persecuted by certain ministers of the Presbyterian denomination," who, "under the garb of ecclesiasticism" are seeking his destruction. Dr. T. after due consideration of the proposition of his Trustees, has declared his determination to remain where he is and trust the Courts of the Presbyterian Church for his defence and vindication. There can be no doubt that Dr. T. has been quite harshly treated by certain ministers of his denomination, but he has certainly done wisely in resolving to remain in the denomination. His prosecutors—"persecutors" they might properly be called—ought by this time see their mistake in raging war against him. That he is peculiar, and that his utterances are modes of work are sometimes of the most extravagant sort, is doubtless true, but he has done and is doing much good in spite of his peculiarities, perhaps in part by reason of them, and he should be allowed to pursue his work of good doing unmolested.

Rev. J. S. Malone of Philadelphia has left the Reformed Episcopal Church and joined the Presbyterians.

REVIVAL.

We are glad to be able to record good news from some of the churches. The reports from Nova Scotia which have appeared in our column of Denominational News for several weeks past have been very cheering to us and doubtless to all our readers as well. The reports from the churches of this Province have also been gratifying. We hope there are more revivals in progress than we have yet heard of; if so, the brethren labouring in them or some cognizant of the facts will confer a favour by writing us.

Shall there be a general revival of the churches during this winter, and the ingathering of many hundreds of souls? Every lover of Christ must desire this. And there is nothing to hinder, nothing that Christians may not remove. A revival is the work of God and man combined. God alone "giveth the increase" but He does not do that unless "Paul plant and Apollos water." God is always in a giving mood, always waiting to be gracious. There would be perpetual revival were the people as willing to receive as God is to give. If Christians were willing and obedient, every day would be the day of God's gracious power—every day would witness the conversion of souls.

From the very beginning there have been seasons of special revival, not because God was more graciously disposed towards the church or the world at one time than at another, but because the church realizing its low condition humbled itself before God and sought the needed quickening. That such revivals are of the highest importance to both the church and the world, involving spiritual interests for time and eternity scarcely any will doubt. For them there is abundant scriptural authority; in the scriptures there are numerous examples of them; and the history of the church gives warrant to the statement that but for them great darkness would now be greatly prevailing in the earth.

In the Bible records of revivals the fact always stands out prominently that careful, systematic, diligent preparation by the people was necessary. They did not come by accident, nor were they thrust on the people of God against their will; but they came of God's grace when the people humbled themselves and sought the blessing. When the tithes and offerings were brought into the storehouse the windows of heaven were opened and great blessing was poured out. In the history of revivals since the days of Bible record the same fact appears. Who that is acquainted with the rise and progress of modern revivals, whether those that have spread over a continent or those that have been merely local, but knows that careful and prayerful preparation on the part of ministers and people invariably preceded them. Let the reader but review the history of his own church and the fact will be plain. The answer, then, to the question, "shall there be a general revival of the churches this winter?" is yes; if the people who are called by the name of Christ, who are the members of the appointed way seek spiritual quickening, and, filled with the Holy Ghost, will go to work to win men to Jesus. The Lord says: "If my people, which are called by my name, shall humble themselves, and pray, and seek my face, and turn from their wicked ways; then will I hear from heaven, and will forgive their sin, and will heal their land." Here have we stated the proper method of preparation. It is God's method. Being followed, the results desired must be secured. They are promised.

Nor are these things required of ministers only. They must humble themselves, must pray, must seek God's face and favour, must be thoroughly in earnest to win souls from sin to salvation. But all other Christians are under like obligation; they must humble themselves, must pray, must seek God's face, must be thoroughly in earnest to win their fellow-men from sin to salvation. Upon you, Christian brother or sister, stands this obligation. Each Christian will clearly recognize the privileges and the responsibilities of discipleship, and looking to God for direction and help will enter the work, universal revival will prevail. The interests involved are certainly sufficiently important to induce faithfulness. The progress of Christ's kingdom, the growth of individual Christian life, the salvation of precious souls now in the darkness and death of sin, and the glory of God are involved. Christians are concerned for them all. Then let them seek their promotion. God is in heaven. Seek it in earnest. God waits to pour the Holy Spirit upon His people; He waits to cause His pleasure to prosper in their hands. O, that the year upon which we soon shall enter may be one memorable for spiritual activity, one in which an unprecedented number of souls shall experience the power of Jesus to save. God waits to be gracious.

WHY TAKE A RELIGIOUS PAPER.

The *Intelligencer* gives the following half-dozen reasons why every family should have a religious paper. They are good reasons. Others might be given, but these ought to suffice. We commend them to the consideration of heads of families.

1. This is an age of reading; and that family which does not receive a religious paper is behind the age and spirit of the times. It loses acquaintance with the channel of the best thought of the day.
2. A religious paper is an educator in the family, which unconsciously, silently, but ceaselessly moulds the thought, heart, and life of the members of the family.
3. A religious paper is a comforter and friend in the family home, such as can not be denied without loss.
4. It encourages habits of reading and study in the family, and comes with a freshness every week which wins to reading what other books are powerless.
5. The religious paper brings tidings of the work of God in all parts of the Church. It tells what God is doing. Every family ought to know what the progress of God's work is.
6. The religious and church paper furnishes the largest amount of valuable and worthy matter that can be secured for the same amount of money. Preserve your paper, which costs but two dollars per year, and you will have an amount of literary, healthful, helpful blessing has come to your home.

THE TEMPERANCE QUESTION.

A resident of Brooklyn recently obtained a verdict of \$500, under the Civil Damage Act, against the proprietor of a liquor store for furnishing liquor to his wife.

—There are 70,000,000 bushels of grain used annually in the United States for the manufacture of liquor. Were this to go into bread, it would give every man, woman, and child in the country 200 pounds per annum. In Great Britain, statistics show that 80,000,000 bushels are used every year in making liquors.

—The evil and pernicious consequences of wine-drinking were thus depicted and deplored by Shakespeare:

"To be now a sensible man, by and by a fool, and presently a beast! Every inordinate cup is unblessed, and the ingredient is a devil. . . . O thou invisible spirit of wine, if thou hast no name to be known by, let us call thee devil. . . . O God! that man should put an enemy into their mouths to steal away their brains!"

The depths of degradation to which liquor-drinking will bring a man was illustrated in the person of a wretched creature in the Town Court in New York recently. She was charged with habitual drunkenness, and for a month past, for officer said, had been "lounging about the 'stale beer saloons' in Mulberry Street." She had a baby in her arms, "dirty and but half dead." A witness testified that the miserable woman had, "while drunk, dropped the baby in the gutter, and that he picked it up with his fingers." "That is a shocking sample of the 'temperance' (!) which the 'beer-saloon' promotes."

—The dealing of the people of this and other countries with the rum-traffic is about the unwise

possible. They issue licenses to sell the poison to parties who will be sure to be ruined by the indulgence, and in not a few cases be reduced to the condition of paupers, and then expend thousands in the courts to adjudicate the questions arising therefrom, with other thousands to support the victims whom their license system has reduced to beggary. Their poor laws are only a system of rescuing from the river, in a drowning and dying condition, the men and women they themselves have arranged to tumble into the stream a few miles above. To prevent the indulgence in drink, is the prime remedy for the evil, and to keep men out of the river, is better than to keep them out.

—The British doctors have formed a society, numbering now about one hundred members, called the "British Medical Temperance Association," the object of which is to diminish the medical use of alcohol and show how far it can be done away with. They sustain the London Temperance Hospital, in which the success of the non-alcoholic treatment is marvellous. They sustain the publication of the *Medical Temperance Journal*, which not only promotes these views but gives accounts of all discoveries, discussions, and occurrences related to the scientific aspects of temperance.

Dr. Richardson has recently been elected president of this association, and the *Journal* very often contains articles from his pen. Altogether it is very ably conducted and is a very great help to all temperance workers, speakers, doctors, ministers, and teachers. It is an excellent publication to place in the hands of physicians to show them the temperance aspect of their calling.

—Prohibition of liquor selling works well and greatly diminishes crime and pauperism. In Vineland, N. J., where the sale of liquor has never been allowed, we find a community of 10,000 people with a police force consisting of one constable, who, for his duties in that capacity and as overseer of the poor, receives only \$75 a year. In some of its reports show only a single crime, and a poor rate aggregating but \$4. Freeley, Colorado, has 3,000 inhabitants and population; it has no police force, and in two years expended only \$7 from its poor fund. Bavaria, Illinois, a town with the same population and absolute prohibition, reports no drunkards or paupers and no crimes. The figures show that under the prohibition law in Connecticut in 1854, crime decreased 75 per cent. When license was restored in 1873, crime increased 50 per cent. in a single year. In temperance in England is recognized as the oldest of crime. Lord Chief Baron Kelly, the oldest judge now on the English bench, in a recent letter said: "Two-thirds of the crimes which come before the courts of law in this country are occasioned chiefly by intemperance."

INDIA LETTER FROM MISS HOOPER.

MADRAS, INDIA, Oct. 5, 1879.

DEAR BRO. McLEOD:—Early this morning the air was delightfully cool, so we galloped away on horseback for a short distance. Did you ever try this exercise for a tonic? It acts like a charm in this enervating climate. Well, away we went past the rice fields of yellow and green. (As the rice is sown at different times some of it is now ripe, while close alongside the fresh, bright green of that which has been sown later presents a beautiful contrast.) Turning to the right we came home again to the school. Our way was down a hill, bordered on either side with blossoming tree trees. Passing near a large tank completely encircled by coconut palms, and turning to the right suddenly there breaks upon our view the most lovely sight we have seen this morning. Not the group of native huts; no, indeed, but just in the center of the group, the Hindu mothers are allowed this liberty, then building the little huts of the gods and goddesses, and the mothers, sisters and other relatives of these young men were denied the privilege of pure air and the blessed sunshine, and in many instances—in the majority we may safely say—are not allowed to read itself; and we longed for the day when the women and girls of India shall be allowed equal instructions with the young men. When all the Hindu mothers are allowed this liberty, then building the little huts of the gods and goddesses, and the mothers, sisters and other relatives of these young men were denied the privilege of pure air and the blessed sunshine, and in many instances—in the majority we may safely say—are not allowed to read itself; and we longed for the day when the women and girls of India shall be allowed equal instructions with the young men. 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