

TERMS AND NOTICES.

THE RELIGIOUS INTELLIGENCER is published weekly from the office of BARNES & CO., Prince Wm. Street, Saint John, N. B.

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THE RELIGIOUS INTELLIGENCER.

SAINT JOHN, N. B., JANUARY 2, 1880.

The Best Offer Yet

Three Months
FOR
TWENTY-FIVE CENTS.

It is desirable for many reasons to increase the circulation of the INTELLIGENCER. Again and again it has been said that every Free Baptist family in New Brunswick and Nova Scotia should take their denominational paper, and year after year Conference has passed resolutions commending the paper and urging all Free Baptists to subscribe; but neither the statement of the fact in these columns nor the resolutions of Conference have as yet succeeded in getting the subscribers.

It is just as true as ever, however, that the INTELLIGENCER needs them and they need it. How to get these mutually needing ones together is the question we will do our part towards it in the offer we now make:

For Twenty-Five Cents

we will send the INTELLIGENCER for three months to any person not now on our subscription list.

This offer is made simply to give a large number of people not now its readers a chance to judge of the merits of the INTELLIGENCER, in the hope that after three months' trial they will not be satisfied to do without it. Our experience is that at least three-fourths of those who once subscribed remain subscribers.

Every One Can Help.

With this offer canvassing ought to be easy work, and we may confidently expect large results. Two or three or more thousands of new names ought to go on our lists within a month.

Regarding each present subscriber as a friend of the INTELLIGENCER, interested in its success and anxious to widen the circle of its influence, we have no hesitation in asking each one to do something for it. There is probably no subscriber who cannot secure and send at least one new name, while the majority can each send a larger number—two, five, ten, and more, and many, even more. Let our friends go to work at once and the result will be greater than, perhaps, they anticipate. The fact that each one is doing something will, of itself, aside from the new subscribers secured, do more to cheer and strengthen us for the work than we can tell. To the work friends of the INTELLIGENCER, and see who will send the largest list.

The Ministers.

While every friend of the INTELLIGENCER, man and woman, old and young, is requested to aid in this work, the ministers have the best opportunities of successful work, and we naturally look to them to do more than others. It is especially in the line of their calling to circulate Christian publications, and of course they should be chiefly anxious to circulate the one whose mission is identical with their own. To the ministers, therefore, we appeal now to make a thoroughly earnest canvass for the INTELLIGENCER subscribers. There is not a church in the denomination in which there are not many families not subscribers, in some churches there are scores of such families. Cannot the majority of these, perhaps all, be induced to subscribe for at least three months, when the cost to them will be but twenty-five cents?

We are persuaded that in most cases the thing chiefly needed is that the matter be plainly and earnestly brought to the attention of the people. To the ministers the INTELLIGENCER appeals to do from their pulpits and in their visits to the families of their charges. We shall expect large lists from the ministers in both Provinces.

Begin Now.

The work should be begun at once. Let each subscriber after he has read the paper show it to his neighbors, call their attention to the liberal offer we make and solicit them to subscribe. Let the ministers in the public services conducted by their direct attention to the INTELLIGENCER and the present offer, and urge the people to subscribe.

The offer will not be continued very long, and it is highly important that it be taken advantage of at once. No better offer was ever made, and no greater inducement can be offered unless it be to give the paper away.

Let there be an energetic effort all along the line; let it be participated in by every friend of the paper, and the result is sure to be all that can be desired.

Remember.

1. The names must be of persons not now subscribers.

2. The paper will be sent on the receipt of the name and money, and will continue three months from the time the name is entered on the list.

3. The cash must accompany every order. No paper can be sent under this offer on the credit or guarantee of any person. Cash every time is the rule.

4. When less than one dollar is sent in a letter send it in postage stamps. We prefer one cent stamps. Never send stamps of larger denomination than three cents. Postmasters sometimes like to get rid of c. c. stamps and larger ones. Don't let them put them off on you. That no one may mistake we repeat. One cent stamps are preferred by us.

5. The present offer will remain open but a short time. What you do quickly, do earnestly.

Who will send first?

Who will send the longest list?

Three Months
ONLY 25 CENTS!

We wish our readers a Happy New Year. A good way to secure an all-the-year happiness is to do some good every day. Make somebody else happy, and you'll be happy yourself. Try it.

We ought to hear from a thousand subscribers, with renewals enclosed, immediately. Are you one of them? Send it along at once please. Renewals and new subscribers are the kind of New Year greetings we desire, and that will do us most good.

THE INTELLIGENCER commences its twenty-eighth year with this number. We want to make it better in work done and good accomplished than in any of the preceding years. To this end we shall pray and labour; and to this end we ask the prayers and help of all the friends of the paper and the cause it advocates.

We have arranged, as we anticipated in the Prospects for 1880, to publish this year notes on the Sabbath School Lessons. For this week the notes appear on this page, not having come to hand in time to be placed in the outside. But next week they will be on the first page. We hope S. S. Teachers will find them a great help in their important work.

Whenever we hear of revival in a church and conversions are rejoiced. One reason for rejoicing is because there is scriptural reason to expect the new additions to the church will add so much to the aggressive Christian force of the country and the world. There are, however, instances of disappointment. Recently some Christian gentlemen were talking about the large number of conversions which had been reported as having occurred in a certain place, and the question was asked: "What are the circumstances leading to this?" The answer was given: "The church was holding their conversion and connection with the church." The answer was quick and no doubt, too truthful: "Like too many others, sir, just as little as possible."

The same statement will, unhappily, apply too generally.

See to it, Christians, that you do as much as possible for Him who has redeemed you, and by whose precious name you are called.

Many of our readers will remember Rev. Dr. Hurd, who, a number of years ago, used quite frequently contribute to these columns. We are sad to have to announce his death which took place in Burlington, Iowa, at which place he was pastor of the Baptist Church. He died very suddenly last week of heart disease. Dr. H. H. Hurd was a native of Nova Scotia, but spent a good many years in this Province, where he became well and favorably known as an able preacher and an honest and energetic advocate of every cause that won his heart. He was for several years pastor of the Baptist Church in Fredericton, from intimate personal acquaintance we learned to esteem him highly. Since his removal West he has been doing good work with the ministry, and we frequently saw his name in the Western papers among the prominent denominational workers.

Those who knew him best know that in Dr. Hurd's death a good man, a faithful friend, and an uncompromising advocate of good causes has been removed from the stage of action. We tender sympathy to his bereaved widow and family.

Maine is still greatly agitated over the "counting-out" business. Indignation meetings are being held in all the principal towns, and the action of the Governor and Council is being condemned in earnest terms. Of course the great body of straight-out Democrats and Greenbackers justify the Governor; but they too are holding some meetings in which resolutions are passed and speeches made endorsing the "count-out" and vowing to support the Governor at all hazards. What the final outcome of the affair will be nobody yet pretends to know. It does seem a little hard that the men who received the majority of votes should on merely technical grounds be prevented from taking the places to which they were elected. It is not contended that they did not receive a *bona-fide* majority of votes; the contention is simply that the officials who had charge of the elections blundered in making their returns. In throwing out the returns because of alleged blunders the Governor says the law not only sustains him, but that according to the law he dare not do otherwise; while the Republicans declare his proceeding without legal authority. So the case rests; hardly rests either, for the people are wild with excitement. There may be violence before the end is reached, though it is hoped not for the party leaders are counselling moderation.

The Mormon question is receiving a good deal of attention from public men in the United States just now. The papers, both secular and religious, are dealing with it as though they believed to be one of the important questions of the time. There is, however, much diversity of opinion as to the best way of dealing with what all acknowledge is a great evil, and a blot on the fame of a Christian country. If Utah Territory be admitted as a State—and admission is being sought—and is allowed to carry her polygamy with her into the Union there is then no power in the United States Congress to check or abolish polygamy, for the marriage laws are regulated by each State to suit itself. The only effectual way to deal with the matter is before the admission of the Territory. Among the suggestions is one by President Hayes, viz.: to pass a law prohibiting polygamists from the ballot-box. Some one else suggests the passage of a law making polygamy a national offence. There was not a lot to vouch for its truth but there is a statement about in the papers to the effect that Utah's representative in Congress, Mr. Cannon, the husband of several wives—has suggested a plan that will require no legal enactment. According to the *Los Angeles*, he says the simple, old style dress of the Salt Lake women no longer satisfies them. They must be "up to the times," with silks, satins, and high horse shoes and other gewgaws that this perverse generation holds high. Of course, under such circumstances, no ordinary Mormon can think of maintaining more than one wife unless he be President of a gas company or an elevated railroad. Mr. Cannon, of course knows how it is as he has four or five wives and understands all about what such an establishment costs. Special pains should be taken to introduce the latest and most costly styles into Utah that the polygamy business may go to the wall as soon as possible."

But the polygamist Cannon's humour aside, the matter is one of great seriousness to the United States. The nation cannot afford to admit Utah as a State without taking steps to wipe out the nastiness which is its peculiarity and its disgrace. To admit Utah polygamy and all is for the United States to become a justifier of and sharer in the iniquity. The Christian people of the nation need to take strong ground touching the matter and see to it that no compromise is made with so filthy a thing.

A CALL TO ACTION.

The Quebec Branch of the Dominion Prohibitory Alliance has issued an appeal to temperance organizations and the friends of temperance generally in that Province to push temperance work vigorously. Referring to the temporary check of agitation in behalf of the Canada Temperance Act caused by the decision of the New Brunswick Judges, it says in its purpose not to abandon the already well tested principles of the Alliance, but to more earnestly urge continued and persistent effort in harmony therewith. The appeal presents some important facts, facts highly encouraging to temperance workers, some of whom are occasionally tempted to weary of the work. There is no reason for discouragement, while there is every reason to be encouraged. The present position of the temperance cause, the appeal claims, is cause for great thankfulness and encouragement. No other reform has ever secured in the short period of half a century such widespread and general benefit to mankind. The generations born since the work commenced can but feebly appreciate the previous condition of society. Great has been the change, but the consumption of intoxicating drinks though small in comparison to what it would have been

under the former stages of society is still enormous in its cost and prodigality.

The value of liquors imported into Canada in 1878 was \$1,363,615. The value of liquors manufactured about \$5,000,000. The custom and excise duties on these liquors, \$4,555,103. If to these amounts we add 25 per cent. ad profit until the drink reaches the consumer, it shows at the very least calculation that the sum of \$14,000,000 was paid last year by the people of this country for what in the main did them harm. Taking the population of 4,000,000 and assuming that one-half are abstainers, this large sum have been paid by 2,000,000 people, which would be \$7 by each individual; or again supposing that one-third of the families consume it it would be \$17.50 for each family in which no liquor is consumed.

This expenditure of money which must be added the value of the grain rendered useless for food, the cost of maintaining paupers, of detecting and punishing crime, and the loss from accidents occasioned by drink, is sufficient to startle the political economist, whilst the social and moral evils connected therewith should awaken feelings of deepest anxiety in the breasts of philanthropists and Christians of every nation.

Every other branch of trade is injuriously affected by the Liquor Traffic. Drinkers find money for drink when they can find it for nothing else. Retailers of liquors must and will have ready money. Those who deal in the necessities and comforts of life are often compelled to give credit to relieve the wants of families impoverished by the use of intoxicants.

The insolvencies of recent years have led to an examination of the books of thousands of traders. Book debts are a large item in the assets of insolvents, and the principle amount is in the column marked bad. If this column could be marked good, the trader could often pay his liabilities. Now whence comes these bad debts? We affirm that in many if not in most cases they are directly or indirectly due to the Liquor Traffic.

We have been blest with a beautiful harvest. There is a revival in our industries. Money is beginning to flow into the pockets of the people. The drink-sellers know this. They are increasing the attractions of their bar-rooms, they are spreading wider their nets to catch the unwary.

There is therefore imperative necessity that manufacturers, merchants, traders and all friends of good order and social progress should unite in devising and carrying out measures to counteract these evils.

To this end let the temperance organizations devote themselves during the present winter to the revival and extension of temperance work, to convene public temperance meetings in every available locality, and equip the platform with effective and duly accredited speakers, to scatter broadcast the best temperance literature, and to keep the question of temperance and prohibition prominently before the people.

THE MINUTES.

No. 1.

The Minutes of the Forty-Seventh Annual Session of the F. C. Baptist Conference of New Brunswick have been published, have by this time been laid amongst all the Churches, and a copy is now before us. The Minutes have always been acceptable to our people, and it is not likely this year is an exception. Indeed, if we were called to give an opinion we should say that every year increases their interest.

As our work is a growing one, our Conference Sessions will each year be more numerous. At present our Districts are better represented, our churches become more attached and loyal, our denominational influence more extended, our capacity for usefulness more enlarged, and our business more important, the Minutes must each year assume a larger place in our estimation, as exhibiting the character of the work done, giving a synopsis of our methods of labour, and spreading a great amount of information on subjects of general interest to all Christians and of special interest to our own body. Our thanks are always due to the men who make the records and compile them for publication, and our thanks are especially due to him who compiled them this year for the labour bestowed in classifying certain things that needed it very much: See p. 3 where the P. O. Addresses of the Clerks and Treasurers of the Districts are given; Appendix A, where the contributions of the churches of the Conference Fund are classified according to Districts; the condensed statement of the statistical report of the year ending June 30, 1879, on p. 68; and the amended Articles of the Constitution and By-Laws on the last page of the Minutes; all these show that the Clerk *pro tem* has done his work well and promptly. The mechanical work reflects credit on the printers, and indicates that in printing Woodstock can safely compete with other places. On the whole, we are well pleased with the work.

The Annual Report of the Corresponding Secretary of Conference deserves careful reading and study. Examined in connection with the statistical report on p. 68 it reads us a few lessons interesting to all. The lessons are (1) that \$19,816.22 is no small sum to be paid in one year, considering the hard times and how scarce money has been in the year just closed; (2) that, whatever may be said to the contrary, our churches are increasing in number, in influence, and that they are more fully and satisfactorily to their District Meetings than heretofore; (3) that there is a larger amount of money paid by the churches for general religious purposes than formerly, and there is a manifest growth of purpose to do more for God and His cause; and (4) that the amount of money raised in the number of Districts bears a strict proportion to the number of churches. The Districts are classified as follows: (1) the District that paid the most money had the most additions according to its members, and the District that paid the least according to its membership had the fewest additions in the year. This last is an important fact, and teaches a lesson to which all the Churches will do well to give earnest heed.

An examination of the Conference Fund lists shows amongst other things that only 14 of 40 ministers paid anything. The Conference Fund is no small sum to be paid in one year, considering the hard times and how scarce money has been in the year just closed; (2) that, whatever may be said to the contrary, our churches are increasing in number, in influence, and that they are more fully and satisfactorily to their District Meetings than heretofore; (3) that there is a larger amount of money paid by the churches for general religious purposes than formerly, and there is a manifest growth of purpose to do more for God and His cause; and (4) that the amount of money raised in the number of Districts bears a strict proportion to the number of churches. The Districts are classified as follows: (1) the District that paid the most money had the most additions according to its members, and the District that paid the least according to its membership had the fewest additions in the year. This last is an important fact, and teaches a lesson to which all the Churches will do well to give earnest heed.

"Where is he?" Astronomy reports that in the year 747, there was a conjunction of the planets Jupiter and Saturn, three times in the same year. The Magi were astrologers, and this remarkable conjunction excited their wonder, and led them to the quest for a sign. Many nations were then expecting an ordinary; they must have been from the Jews because of the distinctness of their prophecies to that effect. "In the year 747, there was a conjunction of the planets Jupiter and Saturn, three times in the same year. The Magi were astrologers, and this remarkable conjunction excited their wonder, and led them to the quest for a sign. Many nations were then expecting an ordinary; they must have been from the Jews because of the distinctness of their prophecies to that effect. "In the year 747, there was a conjunction of the planets Jupiter and Saturn, three times in the same year. 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