

THE RELIGIOUS INTELLIGENCER.

TERMS, NOTICES, ETC.

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REV. JOSEPH MCLEOD, EDITOR.

SAINT JOHN, N. B., JULY 17, 1885.

THE INTERNATIONAL FAITH HEALING CONFERENCE recently held in London was very largely attended.

A CHRISTIAN is just one who does what the Lord Jesus tells him. Neither more nor less than this makes one a Christian.

THERE ARE thousands of families in this country where every kind of literature is read but which is religious. And the heads of many of these families profess to be Christians! What can be expected from such families?

BE YOUR OWN EXECUTOR. It seems—says the *Moravian*—to be more and more clearly realized that a gift made while living is worth double the one made after death. It is safer, because it is in no danger of being contested, divided, or misapplied. The giver can personally see that it goes directly and immediately where he intends. This is often not the case with posthumous gifts. It is more satisfactory, because the giver can himself enjoy the good his gift is doing. It is more just and righteous, because properly speaking, only what a man has while he lives is his own; when he dies, it no longer belongs to him. It is more purely selfish, more truly Christian, because he denies himself of what he might have used. After death he has no more use for it. To give to Christ, causes only what we have no more use for ourselves is not the highest form of charity. Therefore, do not wait till death, but give while you live.

HAVE A beautiful thought about the Bible from the *Illustrated Christian Weekly*: An organ sits at his instrument to perform a fugue of one of the masters. With a clear, resonant solo stop open, he gives out the theme. He adds a stop, and the theme, with increased tone, is repeated. So gradually he plays on till with the full power of his instrument he is stirring every heart with the magnificence of the composition. Every stop is speaking, one answering another, but in all the mass of sound you can still hear the organist's labor as it is thus interblended and interwoven with variations of its own self.

IT IS JUST so with the Bible. It began its strain with the simple announcement in the garden—the offering of a Saviour as soon as there was sin—the promise that the woman's seed should bruise the serpent's head. The strain has gone on gathering melody with the ages. Each book of revelation, like each stop in the organ, gives a new tone to the old harmony, and the complete Bible, like the full organ, plays the grand symphony of redemption.

IT IS EASY to hurt a pastor in his feelings and in his influence. It is quite as easy to help him to make him enjoy his ministry and to make it successful. Here are some hints as to how we may do this:

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—WHEN THE COMMONS refused concurrence in the amendments to the C. T. Act made by the Senate it was hoped that the latter body would not attempt again, at least during this session, to obstruct the law. Such hope, however, has been disappointed. When the Bill of Amendments as passed by the Commons was returned to the Senate that body proceeded to again add the wine and beer clause, refusing to listen to reason or remonstrance. The effect is to make no effect the Bill of Amendments designed to remove uncertainties caused by the judgments of the N. B. Court, to strengthen it at several points, and to make its enforcement less difficult. The Act remains as it was when the session opened—neither strengthened nor weakened. The persistency of the Senate's opposition has awakened deep and widespread indignation. That an irresponsible body should presume to set itself to oppose the constitutionally expressed will of the people is more than the country will endure, and the Senate need not be surprised to find that the already strong feeling against its existence as at present constituted is intensifying rapidly. If the Senate is to allow itself to be used as the tool of the rum crowd nothing is safer than its death. Nor is the day of its death very far off either. The plea of the promoters of the wine and beer amendment that it is in the interests of true temperance is worse than hypocritical. The fact that the rum and whiskey men are its promoters is enough to stamp it with its true character and to make clear its design.

ALL THESE STRUGGLES, including the occasional apparent temporary victory for the rum crowd—are forwarding the cause of reform. It is marching on steadily and strongly. Victory is sure.

—THIS BEING THE time of year when, by appointment of their conferences, many Methodist ministers are gathering upon work in new fields, the *Guardian* gives words of caution and counsel to the churches that are receiving new pastors. While much of what it says is peculiarly adapted to Methodism, a good deal of it is well suited to all churches. We make some quotations: "It is of the first importance that the people receive and welcome the new minister in a way that will make him feel that he is among a people that by their sympathy, prayers, and co-operation will help him in all his efforts to build up the cause of Christ among them. Do not act as if you were young to stand at a distance and criticize everything that is done. Do not keep constantly talking about the virtues and excellencies of the last minister. This may be well meant, but it is not in good taste; and even a good man, may be made to feel that he is being disadvantageously compared with his predecessor. The best human workers need words of cheer. Even the character of the preaching of the preacher is largely determined by the sympathy of the people. Comparisons between the new minister and his predecessor are apt to be unjust. The late minister had time to bring out and prove his strong points; the new minister has not yet had a chance to develop his resources. The new pastor may not be equal to the retiring pastor in some things, and yet may be superior to him in others. Every man should be left free to work on the line of his own individuality.

The new minister may make mistakes as well as the people. It is a mistake for a new minister to put himself in the hands of any one man, or party, and to take his views from such a source. It is a mistake to wait till some future time, before beginning to look for results. There are great possibilities in the first pastoral visitation. The minister's ignorance of persons and circumstances, for some reasons is a positive advantage. It enables him to make enquiries that he could not without apparent indecision make at a later period. It is also of great importance that the new minister should not become discouraged, when he finds things less propitious than he expected. Many a pastor has found that a discouraging beginning has been followed by a successful pastorate. If minister and people work together faithfully and harmoniously this year, the success of the past year will be surpassed in the coming year.

men feel that he is among a people that by their sympathy, prayers, and co-operation will help him in all his efforts to build up the cause of Christ among them. The visit of Miss Hooper to the churches in the District last autumn did much good. . . . At the close of the Missionary Meeting the District business was transacted and the session continued till about 7 p. m., when all was done. Five delegates to Conference were appointed. A committee to settle a church difficulty—the only case in which help was asked—was appointed. A vote of thanks to the people of the community for hospitable entertainment and various kind attentions was passed. . . . The next meeting is to be held at Penobscot. . . . There was preaching Saturday evening by Rev. A. C. Thompson; it was a meeting of deep interest. The Sabbath dawned bright and warm. Till towards evening it was exceedingly warm—quite hot at times. There was notwithstanding, a very large gathering of people. The services of the day began with a prayer-meeting at 8 a. m. It was a season of quite unusual interest and intercession. There were three preaching services—at 10:30 by Rev. J. McLeod, at 2:30 by Rev. F. Babcock, and at 7:30 by Rev. G. W. McDonald. Following the sermon by Bro. R. Bookbuk the Lord's Supper was administered, and it was a blessed waiting before the Lord. An overflow meeting was held in the school-house near by at the hour of the morning service. From the opening of the early morning meeting till the close of the last one of the day the Divine presence was very manifest. Not is there throughout the Sabbath alone. The session throughout was marked by signs of God's presence and working which touched and deeply moved many of the Lord's people. Of the three District Meetings we have attended in the last three weeks we must say that the one of which we now write was the best in those things which most gladdened the Christian's heart. A number of brethren remarked that it was the best District Meeting they had attended in a long time. We believe that the effect of the truth of the Gospel message to the people of the District will be far-reaching. Let us pray to God for the success of our mission.

The work enlarges on every hand. Deputations of professors and students from this matriculated University have given the Gospel message to the universities at Glasgow, Aberdeen, and St. Andrews. The power of God is equally manifested in all of these places. Hundreds of the best young minds of the country are becoming consecrated to God. It is claimed there has been no such evident and powerful work in the spirit in Scotland since the days of John Knox.

Prof. Simms, of Edinburgh, has been on an evangelistic tour abroad, and addressed large meetings of students in Rome, Naples, and in Paris. The various faculties of science and arts, medicine, theology, and law have been represented, and by many nationalities, including Great Britain, Germany, Mauritius, the West Indies, Russia, Poland, and Armenia. It promises to be world-wide in its reach. The effect is to have of larger blessings enjoyed in the District this year. It is very evident that the Lord is calling His people to a higher place in the Christian life and, in that, to more faithful and efficient services. May they respond and be blessed.

GOD IS LOVE.

Between the close of the Fifth District and the beginning of the Sixth there were several days, which we spent in and about Sussex. We were much pleased to meet Rev. A. Kinney, who was exchanging with Rev. J. W. Clark for Sunday, 5 h inst. Not having seen Bro. Clark since the Conference in October last there was, of course, much to talk of. He is well, and looks what he is. He has had good success in Halifax; there are constant indications of good which cheer him in his work. In a recent visit to Beaver River, Yarmouth County, he says he found that Lieutenant G. F. Currie, who succeeded him, is doing well, and is highly esteemed for his work's sake.

In Sussex and the other parts of his pastorate the work under Rev. G. W. McDonald is prospering. There are many encouraging signs. He recently baptized several converts in Sussex, among them two sons. Five by baptism and several by letter have been received into the church. All over the pastorate there are what we must regard as indications of spiritual quickening.

Rev. J. W. Clark is getting along well on the Norton and Midland pastorate. He has been blessed with some revival during the year, and regards it as, thus far, one of the best years, spiritually, in his ministerial experience.

The 8th District Meeting was held at Lewis Mountain. It embraces a good section of farming land along the North River in Salisbury, Westmorland County. Twelve or thirteen years ago we were there attending a similar meeting. Since then the church has been much changed and improved. It is now a neat and pleasant place of worship. The remodelling and new furnishing are certainly creditable to those whose thought and interest and money accomplished them. The change in the settlement in the immediate vicinity of the church is not so apparent. The farming area has not been materially enlarged nor the buildings particularly improved so far as a glance at the exterior enables one to judge. There has, however, been much done a little farther away. In a drive of twelve miles there is a great deal of building, work, and improvement.

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was taken and killed, and from the first the hush of silence sobs—but it does not follow any more that it is because of certain sins—but it is because of a certain social condition, may be political. A revolution is to come that will give all honest and capable men a fair change. Society is not always owing to be responsible for the manufacture of poor and drunkards, or of prostitutes either. The social revolution on both sides of the Atlantic, has nobly supplemented their labors, and still continues his God-given and God-blessed efforts. A young man of thirty-three years of age—a master of science, he is admirably adapted to this field of activity. A scientific evangelist, with a philosophy all aglow with the fire of the Holy Ghost, he strikes at the educated mind. Prof. Drummond has just had a series of scientific evangelistic meetings for skeptics in the hot-pot palaces of the Duke of Westminster, in London, and with great success. Many of the first students of the university, leading scholars, are relaxing in the peaceful bliss of retirement. Professors are gradually co-operating. I am a member of the "modern Athens," nine illustrations who are testimony to this wonderful work of God, and he has been a witness to the many meetings he has attended, and it was a blessed waiting before the Lord. An overflow meeting was held in the school-house near by at the hour of the morning service. From the opening of the early morning meeting till the close of the last one of the day the Divine presence was very manifest. Not is there throughout the Sabbath alone. The session throughout was marked by signs of God's presence and working which touched and deeply moved many of the Lord's people. The services of the day began with a prayer-meeting at 8 a. m. It was a season of quite unusual interest and intercession. There were three preaching services—at 10:30 by Rev. J. McLeod, at 2:30 by Rev. F. Babcock, and at 7:30 by Rev. G. W. McDonald. Following the sermon by Bro. R. Bookbuk the Lord's Supper was administered, and it was a blessed waiting before the Lord. An overflow meeting was held in the school-house near by at the hour of the morning service. From the opening of the early morning meeting till the close of the last one of the day the Divine presence was very manifest. Not is there throughout the Sabbath alone. The session throughout was marked by signs of God's presence and working which touched and deeply moved many of the Lord's people. The services of the day began with a prayer-meeting at 8 a. m. It was a season of quite unusual interest and intercession. There were three preaching services—at 10:30 by Rev. J. McLeod, at 2:30 by Rev. F. Babcock, and at 7:30 by Rev. G. W. McDonald. Following the sermon by Bro. R. Bookbuk the Lord's Supper was administered, and it was a blessed waiting before the Lord. An overflow meeting was held in the school-house near by at the hour of the morning service. From the opening of the early morning meeting till the close of the last one of the day the Divine presence was very manifest. Not is there throughout the Sabbath alone. The