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Religious Intelligencer.

"THAT GOD IN ALL THINGS MAY BE GLORIFIED THROUGH JESUS CHRIST."—Peter.

VOL. XXXIII.—No. 24.

SAINT JOHN, N. B., WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 25, 1886.

WHOLE No. 1697

JOURNALISM IN JAPAN. Interesting statistics are just published in connection with the Japanese press, the newspapers and periodicals being arranged in accordance with the subjects with which they deal. It appears that there are thirty-seven publications devoted to educational matters and these have a circulation of 42,649 per month. There are seven medical papers, with a monthly circulation of 13,514; nine relating to sanitary matters with a circulation of 8,195; two on forestry and two on pharmacy. There are seven journals devoted to the various branches of science, with a circulation of 2,423; and to these must be added twenty-two papers engaged in popularizing science, with a total circulation of 70,666.

INFANT SPRINKLING. The *Christian Commonwealth*, of London, says it honestly believes that no other religious question contains more interest for the people than the question of infant baptism, and adds, "If infant baptism is of God, it cannot be urged too earnestly, and if it is not of God surely it is high time the practice was discontinued." Pedobaptist papers in this country have little to say on this subject and appear to deprecate its discussion. It will not always be so, however. We heard lately of a Congregational church that has taken action to discontinue the practice of baptizing infants. When a few score of such churches do the same, the subject will compel attention and no one will be able to suppress the discussion of it. Infant baptism is not in the New Testament, and it has no better origin than the majority of the strange devices of the Church of Rome.—*M. Star*.

EARTH AND HEAVEN. As John Eliott was once calling on a merchant, he saw his counting-room ledgers and account books on the table, while some religious and devotional books were laid up on the shelf, and remarked to his friend: "Sir, here is earth on the table, and heaven on the shelf. Pray do not think so much of the table as to altogether forget the shelf." We are too prone to put heaven on the shelf, and so busy ourselves with this world that we forget the next. But the things that are seen are temporal; and how soon they must all pass away! A little while and every earthly delight and possession will have passed forever beyond our reach; and there will be nothing left for us except the unseen and the eternal. Let us then occupy ourselves most with the things that are enduring. Let us lay up our treasures where they cannot be stolen or destroyed; and let us seek first the kingdom of God and His righteousness, knowing that all needed things will be added unto us.—*The Christian*.

ORIGIN OF GOLD. The question of the origin of native gold always has been and is quite likely to remain a disputed question among geologists and mineralogists. Prof. J. S. Newberry now contests the theory that the grains and nuggets found in placers are formed by precipitation from chemical solution. He holds that geology teaches, in regard to the genesis and distribution of this precious metal, that it exists in the oldest known rocks, and has been thence distributed through all the strata derived from them; that in the metamorphosis of these derived rocks it has been concentrated into segregated quartz veins by some process not yet understood, that is, it is a constituent of fissure veins of all geological ages; where it has been deposited from hot chemical solutions, which have reached deeply buried rocks of various kinds, gathering from them gold with other metallic minerals, and that gold has been accumulated through mechanical agents in placer deposits by the erosion of strata containing auriferous veins. According to the report of Special Agent Clarence King, of the Census, based upon information directly from the producers of bullion, a comparison of the annual output of different states, shows that the United States produce 35.13 per cent. of the gold yield of the whole world, 50.59 per cent. of the silver, and 40.91 per cent. of the total. Of the aggregate supply of the precious metals, North America furnishes 55.78 per cent.

PRECIOUS FRUIT. A Bible colporteur travelling in Germany, and meeting here and there, like his fellow-workers, with resistance and discouragement, stopped to read and pray with a dying youth, and several others in the house heard him speak of eternal things. After seven years he had again occasion to visit that neighborhood, and a woman greeted him joyfully with the tidings that she had long been a believer, and her daughters and son were also converted. The colporteur's words since had led her to seek the Saviour, and though he had himself forgotten the incident, he was greatly cheered when one of the daughters reminded him she had been then a little girl, and like the rest of the family she was in much distress, but her heart had treasured the beautiful German lines the visitor repeated to them. The colporteur realized how much blessed fruit unknown by us will be visible hereafter, and he laid again to heart the verse with which he had comforted them:

"Wait my soul upon the Lord,
He will hear thy faintest word;
Till Him all thy soul's desires—
He in grace will surely bless."—*Quiver*.

CONCERNING SOME THINGS THAT GROW.

BY KNOXONIAN.

Many things have grown considerably since we talked with the genial readers of *The Canada Presbyterian* on plants and planting, seeds and seedling. Each bushel of wheat put into the soil last spring is growing into, perhaps, twenty-five. Other grains are growing in proportion. That collection of highly useful vegetables comprehended under the general term "garden sassa," has done well. Of course the usual number of chronic grumblers who say that "the crops are a failure" are to the front. They are always in the front while the grateful men are too frequently in the rear. A healthy specimen of the grumbling class might have been found last year who would complain about the crops while everybody knows that the low price of wheat was brought about by the fact that there were many millions more of bushels in the world than the human family could consume. A man who has cultivated the delightful habit of grumbling—whose mouth has, through long practice, taken such a shape that it cannot utter anything but a whine—will always grumble. No hope for him.

Good things are growing in abundance. Let us all be thankful. There will be enough for man and beast and plenty to export. There is a serious offset, however. Many things not good have been growing and things not good grow with marvellous rapidity. There is nothing in Canada that grows like a Canada thistle. Somebody got an Act of Parliament passed a few years ago to exterminate the Canada thistle. The thistle cared as little for the Act as some liquor sellers care for the Scott Act. It wouldn't be exterminated. Those good, domestic husbands who hoe every evening and morning in the garden know how quickly weeds grow. No flower can keep within sight of them. The good man's heart fairly breaks when he comes home after a few days' absence, and sees how the weeds have got the start of him. Weeds and thistles grow quickly and without any coaxing.

Passing from the world of nature to the world of morals, we find the good and the evil vigorously growing. A larger number of men heard the Gospel last Sabbath than ever heard it on any one day since the Gospel was first preached. Probably ten times as many sinners were converted last Sabbath as were converted on the Day of Pentecost. The effects of the Gospel are felt in a greater degree and over a wider area than they were ever felt before. The poor are more kindly treated. The deaf, the dumb, the blind, the insane and the helpless of all classes are better cared for than they ever were in any period of the world's history. Human life in all civilized countries is better protected than it ever was. The liberty of the subject is enjoyed in some countries until there is danger that liberty may degenerate into license. In short, the good is growing all the world over. Slowly, indeed, in some places, but still it is growing. The general trend is toward the right. The evil is growing too, land, like the evil in the world of nature, it

grows easily and quickly. Dr. Ormiston used to tell a good story to illustrate how easily evil seed grows. A Scotchman left his native isle, and went to one of the British Colonies. Like many other Scotchmen who have emigrated, he grew rich. During the years of colonial life he was grieved because he saw no Scotch thistles. His heart yearned for his native "thussle." Having amassed a fortune he paid a short visit to the land of his fathers. When leaving Scotland for his colonial home, he put a little package of thistle seed in his pocket. He planted them carefully in his garden. Of course they grew. Where is the spot on this earth on which a Scotch thistle will not grow? When the thistles ripened the seeds were blown over into the gardens of the Scotchman's neighbours. From the gardens they spread to the adjoining farms and from the farms were scattered over the whole colony. Future generations of farmers cursed the memory of that patriotic Scotchman. Fact or fiction, the story will illustrate the easy and rapid growth of evil.

There is nothing that grows faster than a lie. The nod of a practised old liar often grows into a story long and base. The mere wink of a slanderer often grows into a huge slander. The leer of a lecherous ruffian may grow into a scandal. A base, cowardly innuendo often grows into a damaging report. An insinuation, made with that skill which the devil always gives to his dutiful children, sometimes grows into a matter requiring judicial investigation. There is no man in society who can do such a large business on such small capital as an experienced liar. His dollar grows into a million with the least possible effort. By his dollar of course we mean his nod, or his wink, or his insinuation, or his innuendo, or whatever he uses to start his story. If people who might and ought to know better were not so willing to listen, a lie would not grow so fast.

Covetousness grows very fast. If a man once allows the love of money to master him he is probably a slave for life. Every dollar he makes strengthens the chain that binds him. Covetousness grows by that on which it feeds. You might as well try to extinguish a fire by putting on more fuel as kill covetousness by making more money. The more the victim gets the more he wants. The desire grows faster than the pile. Money is a good thing, and may be a power for doing good. The man who has a fair share of it has opportunities for doing good that poorer men may be excused for envying. A reasonable desire to make money is not a bad thing, but it is a desire that needs watching.

Selfishness grows fast. A boy who thinks his father's house was made exclusively for him is very likely to develop into a biped who thinks that the world was created for his special benefit. The little miss that imagines that father, mother and all the other members of the family were born to wait upon her is certain to grow into the belief that everybody should wait upon her. These children always get a rude awakening when they grow up. Selfishness is a bad weed.

The love of strong drink usually grows fast. One of the chief dangers of drinking moderately is that the desire grows more quickly than the person ever thought it would. He is often caught before he knows. The only way he could have measured the strength of the desire was by stopping, but he didn't stop. He tried to stop, perhaps, when it was too late, and found the love of alcohol had grown so much faster than he expected that it had mastered him. Hundreds of other bad things grow easily. A bad temper usually becomes worse. The habit of grumbling grows with fearful rapidity. Meanness grows more mean. Sensuality grows more sensual. Dishonesty often increases into crime.

Whilst it is true that these and many other bad weeds grow quickly, and easily, it is also true that all good plants also grow with proper cultivation. Liberty in giving grows by giving. The more a man gives the more as a rule he can give. Cheerfulness grows by the habit of looking on the bright side of things. Gratitude grows by thinking of the many things we have that we should be thankful for. The power of doing good grows by doing good. Every good plant may be cultivated.

Moral: Cultivate the good plants and stamp out the evil.—*Canada Presbyterian*.

TOBACCO: ITS INFLUENCE ON THE HUMAN SYSTEM.

HENRY T. CHILD, M. D.

Tobacco was found on this continent in 1492, when the Europeans first came here. They reported that it was in general use among the natives, and its soothing effects (being a narcotic) led them to speak of it as an emblem of peace, and after a cessation of their bloody wars they were in the habit of smoking "the pipe of peace." When a council of the chiefs met, they had a large pipe, which was passed around, and each member was expected to take a deep inhalation of tobacco smoke.

The plant grows over a large part of this continent; it belongs to the family of *solanæ*, among which we find the potato, tomato and other wholesome plants, and a number of virulent poisons, such as the deadly nightshade. It contains a powerful narcotic poison. It has sometimes been used in medicine; but the uncertainty of its effects, and the fact that many persons have habituated themselves to its use, has led to its general abandonment.

There are two ingredients in tobacco—*nicotine* and the *oil of tobacco*, both of which are poisonous; the latter sometimes accumulates in old pipes, and is dangerous. Its effects upon the human system are different in different individuals, and at various periods of life. It is used as snuff, powdered and taken into the nostrils, or rubbed upon the skin; also by chewing the prepared plant, and by smoking. Snuff-taking has nearly passed away. The effects of tobacco are the same when taken in either of these ways; but smoking is the most powerful and general mode.

The first effect of tobacco is to produce nausea and vomiting. In some cases, it is a long time before the stomach will tolerate it. After this sickness, if the use is continued, narcotic effects are manifested; first, exhilaration, which is the object of taking it, but which is very transient and illusive, and is followed by depression. There is a fascination about all narcotics which destroys the judgment and produces self-deception by paralyzing the nerves to a greater or less extent.

Soon after the habit of smoking is formed, there is a marked loss of the fine sense of respect for the rights of others, which should be always retained and cultivated, first indifference and then recklessness. The smoker will intrude himself into the presence of delicate, sensitive persons, without regard to their feelings, and if any illusion is made to this he will say: "If you don't like it, you can get away."

The nerves of smell pass through small openings in the floor of the skull, and are distributed over the lining membrane of the nose. Their function is to detect odors, and to convey to the brain the refining influence of the aroma of flowers, of oxygen, and ozone, which is oxygen in its purest state. The narcotic effect of tobacco destroys this power by partially paralyzing these delicate nerves, and thus interfering with one of the most refining influences, as well as laying the foundation for several diseases.

One of the effects of tobacco is a tendency to produce fatty degeneration of the tissues, nearly all of them being subject to this. The popular notion that the use of tobacco will prevent corpulency is a deception, except as it interferes with healthy nutrition. A very general effect is fatty degeneration of the muscles, especially those of the heart. Persons whose systems are saturated with tobacco, are very slow in recovering from sprains or bruises of the muscles, nor do they bear surgical operations well. Surgeons have learned to be cautious in the performance of serious operations on those who use tobacco largely, and physicians have found that such persons are much more liable to suffer from many diseases, and that recoveries are generally slower. But the most serious effect is "tobacco heart," which is a rupture of this organ from the deposit of fat cells in the fibers of the muscles, which destroys their integrity, and is immediately fatal. It occurs mostly in young persons. Boys between eight and twenty years are most liable to this disease, the growing system being much more susceptible to the deleterious influence of this plant. Tobacco changes the condition of the blood, reducing the discs, which in the healthy condition are round like a coin and regular, to

about two-thirds their natural size, and making them rough and wrinkled, and interfering both with the power of these to carry nourishment to all the tissues of the body, and also of carrying out the effete matter which should be constantly removed from the system. The result of this is a low condition of vitality, making persons susceptible to many diseases, and but poorly able to cope with any.

Tobacco is, probably, the most prolific source of cancerous affections, especially those about the mouth and throat. This is a hereditary disease, and the tendency to it may be transmitted to children even where it has not been fully developed in the parents. This accounts for numerous cases which occur in females who have never used tobacco.

Fat is the lowest healthy tissue; its object is to store up food for use, and to fill in the interstices of the muscles, and give rotundity and beauty to the body. A little lower than fat, we find cancer cells in the blood, and in the various tissues.

The case of ex-President Grant is a striking illustration of the effect of tobacco, first on the muscular system, as he was for months unable to walk from a fall, and lastly, in the fatal cancer which terminated a strong and vigorous life.

The noble heroism manifested by this distinguished man furnishes an example worthy of all commendation. When told by his physician that "he had better gradually diminish the quantity of the tobacco used, smoke half a cigar three times a day," he asked, "Do you think tobacco is hurting me?" "Certainly," was the answer. "Then," said he, "I will never touch it again;" and throwing away his cigar, he never used tobacco afterwards. Solomon said, "He who ruleth his own spirit is greater than he who taketh a city." General Grant had taken many cities; but this was the greatest act of his life.—*Nat. Baptist*.

AN INTERESTING STORY.

The Baltimore correspondent of the *Chicago Standard* tells the following interesting story of a colored minister—G. D. Gayles—and his work:

He was pastor of a church on the island of Boco Del Toro, not far from Aspinwall. This church was one holding Baptist principles, but had no ecclesiastical connections, and was, indeed, but imperfectly acquainted with the regular practices of our denomination. Mr. Gayles himself was not ordained. Feeling their isolation, and longing to be more closely affiliated with the Baptists of the United States, they sent Mr. Gayles to this country to study Baptist usages, and secure ordination. They asked for no financial aid. On the other hand they paid Mr. Gayles' expenses both ways and while here. Last week a council was called to examine the brother with a view to ordination. The story he told of himself and his work was singularly interesting. He was born thirty-four years ago in the island of Jamaica, and as he grew to manhood, received something of an education there. At the age of eighteen he became a Christian, and almost immediately began to preach. About six years ago he went to Central America. After spending three years in Aspinwall, he went to Boco Del Toro where he found the people for whom he is now ministering, not then Baptists, but inclined to hold Baptist views. During the three years he has labored there he has built up a church of 300 members. He preaches both in English and Spanish, is superintendent of a Sunday-school of 300 scholars, teaches a day school, and, with members of the church, manages a large plantation, or glebe, which, eventually, he thinks, will do much to support the cause.

The members of the council were greatly pleased with Mr. Gayles' statement of his experience and call to preach, as well as with his views of doctrine. The latter were singularly clear and were given for the most part in Scriptural language. The manner of the man is full of sincerity and simplicity, and his style of speech, while quaint, exceedingly attractive. He seems to us here a sort of apostle, raised up to do a great work in a hitherto almost unapproachable land. I should not be at all surprised to hear of his planting Baptist churches throughout the priest-ridden country from which he comes. His energy, humility, and evident experience in the truths of the gospel have won our hearts.

His ordination took place last Sunday. He will return to Boco Del Toro the latter part of this month. The Publication Society have made him a grant of English and Spanish Bibles, a minister's library, and numerous Sunday-school helps. May the Lord of the harvest bless him.

Among Our Exchanges.

HIS KINDEST.
The devil sometimes does his very kindest. Just then, be careful.—*Harvester*.

CONSCIENCE AND CONDUCT.
Live up to your conscience, and let your conduct correspond with your prayers.—*Telescope*.

ALWAYS A CHANCE.
There is no one who cannot find Christian service to perform if he wishes it; if his abilities are small he has the greater opportunity, for the little things are infinitely more in number than the greater ones.—*Presbyterian*.

REAL MAGNANIMITY.
It is not the most conclusive proof of magnanimity to speak well of a rival when he is dead. It is the rival who is still alive and active that tries a man's magnanimity. Men who spit on graves are few.—*Western Ad.*

LOST SIGHT OF.
We raise the question: Are not more new converts lost sight of than ought to be? After the meeting and the hosannas, how much care is taken to feed the young flock over whom the doxology was sung with uplifted voice?—*Western Ad.*

HOW TO "RETAIN" THEM.
"What can be done to retain the larger boys and girls?" Get them converted before they get large, and let the church "retain" them. A Sunday-school that aims only to "retain," and not to convert, will fail both in retention and conversion.—*Western Ad.*

GIVE THEM GOSPEL.
It is only a small minority, even in congregations considered "cultivated," that can follow a metaphysical discourse, and that minority, weary of law books and philosophical discussions, prefer to hear from the preacher of their choice the law and the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ.—*Pres. Observer*.

GOOD ADVICE.
Never deceive a child. Of course some questions are asked which cannot be answered understandingly, but remember the answers to a child's question often furnish instruction to a man or woman in embryo. Reply in a manner you would be perfectly willing to have reproduced several years later.—*Golden Rule*.

CHURCH LOYALTY.
Commonly it is a serious evil to any one—works mischief in his spiritual life—to have a slender attachment to the church with which he has connected himself and a wistful eye upon some other. Seldom does any one mature as a Christian who is half-hearted in this way. If this be so, it will be seen to be the part of wisdom to put a church paper into the hands of the newly saved, and such other aids to steadfastness as all need in the formative stage of Christian life.—*Episcopal Methodist*.

THE BEST FRIENDS.
The best friends of the working-class, and of all classes, will advise them to look not to political changes or government influence, or any outside help, but to their own industry, frugality and temperance. Let them shun whiskey, rum and tobacco. Let them be steady and economical, and they will do more for themselves than all the resolutions and subsidies, and tariffs, and policies in the brains of all the agitators in America.—*Pres. Witness*.

WELL BUILT.
A well-built Christian is harmonious in all his parts. No one trait shames another. He is not a jumble of inconsistencies, to-day liberal to one cause, to-morrow niggardly toward another; to-day fluent in prayer, and to-morrow fluent in polite falsehoods. He does not keep the fourth commandment on Sabbath and break the eighth on Monday. He does not shirk an honest debt to make a huge donation. He is not in favor of temperance for other folks, and a glass of toddy for himself. He does not exhort or pray at each of the few meetings he attends to make up arrearsages for the meetings which he neglects.

THE FELLOWSHIP OF LOVE.
The fellowship of the believer with the Father of spirits is a fellowship of love, of which revealed truth is the medium. On its Divine side is the Holy Spirit impressing on the man's heart the fact of God's love as shown in the gift of His Son. On the man's side this amazing fact is so taken into his life by faith that it begets a responsive love, which exclaims, "I love Thee, O Lord, because Thou didst first love me!" In this fellowship the believer's life develops into aspirations after purity, and thus love becomes, in the words of Bailey:

"The heart's deep gulf stream, that with warm wave
Sun-gilded, soothes the abysses of our life,
And makes us feel
In loving God, the soul re-creates its source,
Being to being, the answering, name to name."
—*Zion's Herald*.