

Religious Intelligencer.

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

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SAINT JOHN, N. B., WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 24, 1886.

WHOLE No. 1710

The Intelligencer for 1887.

Important Announcements!

REDUCTION OF THE PRICE!

\$1.50.

For several years friends of the INTELLIGENCER have occasionally expressed the wish that its price could be reduced.

We, also, have desired to see the way clear to make a reduction, but our observation and experience have caused us to hesitate to incur the risks involved.

But, encouraged by the assurances of the brethren that the circulation of the paper would thereby be greatly increased, we have resolved to make the venture.

From this date therefore, the price of the INTELLIGENCER will be

One Dollar and Fifty Cents a Year.

Our objects in making the reduction are (1) to meet the objection to the higher price which ministers and others say they have always to meet in canvassing for subscribers, (2) to put it within the reach of every Free Baptist family, and every other family, too, in the Provinces, and (3) by its larger circulation, to increase the sphere of its usefulness.

To Justify the Change

We must have a very large increase of subscribers. That the number required may be secured if the proper effort is made we have no doubt. And we are looking with some confidence to the ministers of the denomination and other friends to interest themselves actively in its behalf now.

There are in New Brunswick and Nova Scotia about

Two Hundred Churches

Of the Free Baptist denomination. There is not one of these churches in which every family takes the INTELLIGENCER. There is not one but in which at least ten new names ought to be got, and in many of them there are scores that do not, who ought to subscribe for it. With judicious canvassing it ought not to be difficult to put it into

Two Thousand Homes

Where it does not now go. This is the figure at which we aim, and to reach which we ask the immediate and earnest co-operation of all the friends of the paper. Without a large increase the burden of support and management will be unbearable.

The "Intelligencer's" Claims

on Free Baptists are strong, and have been recognized again and again by votes of the Conferences of New Brunswick and Nova Scotia.

It is the only Free Baptist paper in Canada. It alone gives the news of the denomination, and advocates and defends the views and practices peculiar to Free Baptists. For thirty-four years it has gone to and fro on its mission as a Free Baptist paper.

While it is interested in and endeavors to help all Christians and Christian work, its special aim is to build up the people called Free Baptists in the faith of the Gospel, and to extend the work and influence of the denomination.

Of its general character it is enough to say that it will continue to be a paper safe and profitable to put into every family. What it has been in spirit and aim it will continue to be.

It is especially suited to those who cannot take more than one paper, for it gives each week a carefully prepared summary of all the important news of the world.

Now, to the Work!

This is the best time of year to introduce THE INTELLIGENCER. People are now determining what papers they will have for next year. Tell them of this one. Tell them of the reduction in the price. Ask them to subscribe.

But a few weeks remain of the year. If they be allowed to pass without the work of canvassing being done, a great deal will be lost. Let all the friends of the paper push the canvass vigorously through these closing weeks of the year.

The Things to be Done.

Let the work be immediately begun and patiently and earnestly continued on these lines:

- 1—The immediate payment of all arrears.
- 2—The prompt renewal of every present subscriber.
- 3—The securing of Two Thousand new subscribers by Dec. 31st.
- 4—Every minister bringing the matter before his people in public and also by private solicitation, with a view to the introduction of the paper into every family in his charge.
- 5—Every present subscriber securing at least one new subscriber, and as many more as possible.

With a hearty effort all along the line of the INTELLIGENCER's friends—each doing his part—the end aimed at can be reached. With fifty or sixty ministers and hundreds of other friends at work great things ought to be done.

REPORT QUICKLY.—We hope to have immediate and cheering reports from every part of the field.

The paper will be sent to new subscribers from the time of receiving their subscriptions.

MISSIONARY INTELLIGENCE.

At the Annual Meeting of the Woman's Foreign Mission Society, Mrs. Simon McLeod submitted a Report on "Missionary Intelligence." It was adopted, and ordered to be published in the Minutes, and also to be sent to the RELIGIOUS INTELLIGENCER. It is as follows:

MRS. PRESIDENT AND CHRISTIAN FRIENDS:—As we submit the Yearly Report on Foreign Mission Intelligence, we do so with pleasure, knowing there is much that is hopeful in the record of the past year's work. And although our hearts are often pained at the indifference of some of the people of our own Christian land toward the precious Word of God; they bound with delight as we read of the victories gained in heathen and Catholic countries. And never in the world's history has there been such strong, earnest and self-sacrificing efforts made for the spreading of the knowledge of the glory of God as the world witnesses in these last years of the nineteenth century. Men and women, inspired by the Holy Spirit, having submitted their all to God, go to carry the Gospel to the wretched and oppressed. They find darkness, moral and spiritual misery, cruelty and barbarity. It is true they sometimes die and see none of the fruits of their labor, but the seed sown springs up, and the harvest comes. Light, peace, and happiness and civilization are witnessed, and the people rejoice in the light, bearing precious seed, shall, doubtless, come again with rejoicing, bringing his sheaves with him.

The first missionaries sent from America to any heathen country, sailed in 1811. The experiment was then considered very doubtful, and for many years was talked of by a large majority as a hopeless undertaking. But to-

day the Christian Church unitedly praise God for glorious success given, for the salvation brought to benighted souls, and for the benefits which come to the home Church, as their hearts were warmed with love toward those who were in darkness.

A worker in India says:—"The influence of mission schools, in leading to the study of the Bible at home, is widely noticeable. The Bible reading of Zenana teachers is telling for good in Hindu and Mohammedan families." A lady worker in Madras says:—"In our sixty Zenanas of over eighty pupils, as far as we can see, the interest taken in the Word of God is most striking. We visit no Zenana without the Bible, and where a pupil cannot read it is read to her, and explained. Each pupil has a portion, some have several, and not a few, by their own request, have a whole Bible. I have reason to believe that in many cases the Bible is read every day, not only with, but without a teacher. Many have learned the Lord's Prayer, and use it in prayer."

Over a quarter of a million of Bibles are annually distributed in India. Recently three whole villages at the foot of the Himalaya mountains renounced idolatry and were baptized into the Christian faith. Some of the brightest lights of the Christian Church have given their lives to India; and blood-washed souls will praise our Redeemer through all eternity, because they made the sacrifice.

A great work is being carried on in China. Recent statistics give the number of laborers in Protestant Missions of 875. Speaking of the manner of their work Mr. D. Thompson, evangelist, says: "Work has been carried on for the past three years in a shop. The rule is for two evangelists to go about 3 p. m., and, standing in the open door, invite passers-by in until they have a good gathering. I preach a little every day, and really have returned home at 6 or 6.30 so full of joy that I could not eat. When the Holy Spirit has been present the poor people had seemed unwilling to retire, wishing to hear more of the 'Old, Old Story.'"

Although few in number, God is blessing Christian workers in China, and recently a number of converts at Poochow have volunteered to go to Corea as missionaries. This is the first instance of a Chinaman leaving his own country to spread Christianity in foreign countries. A report from Baptist work says: "Against our work in China Satan is stirring up his hosts, but it is because he sees that the day of her redemption draweth nigh."

It is fifty years since the first two missionaries landed in Zululand, South Africa. There are now more than 5,000 converts in full communion, and a Christian population of 20,000. For centuries past darkness has reigned upon the people of Africa, now even upon them the day of gospel light is dawning. And as the country is being opened to commerce missionaries in large numbers, both men and women, are going to carry to the millions of Africa the Word of Life. "The Congo Free State is a tract of country equal in size to two-and-a-half of Europe, with a population equal to that of the United States, and is open to civilizing agencies and missionary enterprise." Africa has been called the white man's grave, but we are glad to be able to say that Bishop Taylor's missionaries have been wonderfully preserved the past year, and we learn from their last letters that they are all in good health. Another band for the same mission sailed recently from New York, and with them another member of our own Society has gone. We refer to Sister Louise Hartley. May God use her for His own glory, and make her the means of leading many precious souls to Christ.

Recent intelligence from Fiji speaks of a gracious outpouring of the Holy Spirit. In one place one hundred and fifty gave their names as seekers of salvation. It is fifty years since the gospel came to these islands, now there are 900 Wesleyan churches, 55 native preachers, 1,785 local preachers and 26,889 communicants. The population is 100,000. The British and Foreign Bible Society sent, last April, a consignment of sixteen cases of Bibles, in the Fijian language, to these islands, but so eager was the demand that the supply failed to satisfy it.

One hundred years ago there were not more than 30,000 Christians in pagan countries, now the number is very near 2,000,000. It is said that at no period since the first century have conversions from Judaism been so frequent as at present.

Of Japan it is said: "The hope of Japan is in the Bible of her Christian people. Missionaries are welcomed and respected. The millions are feeling after God, if happily they may find Him. Looking into the contending lights and shadows we think we see a bright day dawning for the 'Sunrise Kingdom,' and hope her future may be filled with vigor from her life in Christ. Japan is calling for God's Word as a literary toy, but we know that is sharper than a two-edged sword, and will cut right and left through every false theory."

The Churches in some heathen countries are awake to the importance of giving toward the support of the gospel. We notice from the population of three of the Society Islands, with a population of 3,400, the amount of \$2,940 was raised, and yet there was no resident missionary among them. The native Christians of Madagascar have given more than four millions of dollars for the spread of the gospel within the last ten years. Is there not a lesson in this for us? Do we give as we ought? Freely we have received, do we freely give? Mr. Talmage is responsible for the statement that the American Church gives \$1,000,000 a year for the evangelization of the heathen, and American citizens spend \$5,000,000 in tobacco. How must this look in the sight of Him who paid the price of our redemption on the cross. May we have our hearts open to the searching power of the Word and Spirit, that even the habits of our lives may be changed, if in any way they grieve the Spirit or hurt our usefulness.

"It is the caste women of India who hold the nation in idolatry, and every effort to redeem them is a blow to break the fetters and set the people free." The various missions are giving much attention to the education of women in Asia and Africa. Darkness and sad gloom has long been hanging over them. We praise God, for their sakes, that we see the dawn of a brighter day, and pray God to hasten the time when, socially, they may know the benefits of the gospel, and millions of them may have the 'joy of salvation' in their hearts, and know the blessedness of a personal Saviour in our Lord Jesus Christ.

A great contest is going on between Satan and the King of Kings. Satan is witnessing against God, and millions are believing his testimony, and one by one are stepping into eternity. The Lord calls on the Christian Church saying, "Ye are my witnesses that I, even I, am God, and beside me there is no Saviour." Shall we be true and faithful witnesses? and when the voice comes saying, "who shall we send, and who will go for us?" respond quickly, "Here am I, Lord, send me."

We have great cause for thanksgiving to-day that God has heard and answered our prayers, and has given us three missionaries to send to India this year, called of God and anointed by the Spirit for His work. And while we rejoice, there is rejoicing in another land far away. Sister Miss Hattie Phillips writes: "News too good almost to be true has reached us, that ten new missionaries are to sail this fall." She tells of a teachers' meeting held next day, before they took up the lesson. They had a short season of prayer. She then said, "Has any one special cause for thankfulness? If they will mention it, we will praise the Lord together." Good old Kemal Nayok rose and said, "Yes, we have reason for praise. I hear there are three missionaries coming out this year." When Miss Phillips said the number was ten there was a sensation. And with beaming countenance old Kemal threw up her head and hands exclaiming, "Praise the Lord!" The news is received with rapture.

A wide door is being opened to us in the foreign field. We have men and women to go. We surely have money to send a larger number than we are sending. There are the millions waiting, hungering for the bread of life, and perishing without it. Let us pray the Lord of the harvest that He will send forth more laborers into the harvest.

ENCOURAGE YOUR CHURCH.

Our churches have been frequently exhorted to encourage their pastors, which is a very good thing to do; but perhaps it would be quite as well to exhort the pastors to encourage the churches they serve. I do not suggest this on the supposition that it is an unheard of thing, nor that pastors are all at fault about it; but it may be that some of them might be profitably reminded that they could accomplish a great deal more than they have done, if they were to exert themselves in giving timely encouragement to the members of the churches. Unfortunately, some pastors are in the habit of

scolding their brethren and sisters because they do not come up to their standard of excellence in Christian character and practical efficiency. It is very likely that some of them are deserving of reproof; but is it not true of some pastors also? Now, let those pastors who have been somewhat thoughtless about this matter, form the habit of speaking encouraging words to those, especially, who are easily discouraged. When a brother or sister says something in the prayer-meeting, which offers any fair opportunity for an encouraging illusion to it, let the pastor throw out a word of endorsement at the close of the remark; or, if the remark has imparted

any comfort to the pastor, let him, at the proper time and place, either publicly or privately express an appreciation of it. No flattery should be used by the pastor. Such a thing is despicable. But he should show a kindly consideration towards the effort of his people, by making judicious and appropriate remarks, which are calculated to encourage them to repeat their efforts, in speaking and praying, in the social, religious meetings of the church. Let him give close attention to what each has to say, while attempting to speak. The brother who is timid, and feels unequal to speak, is helped along, if he sees that his pastor is paying careful attention to his remarks, as though he thought they were worth listening to. This goes a great way with some, towards encouraging them in their duty. The members of churches have been advised to tell their pastor of the good they have received from his sermons, and I know of no reason why this thing should not apply to the pastor. Whatever he can do to encourage his brethren and sisters, will ensure a reflex influence upon himself; for the effect of his encouragement of them, will, in greater or less degree, re-act upon him, in the way of encouragement and blessing.—*Can. Baptist.*

POWER OF CHRISTIAN SONG.

The churches are only beginning to wake up to the power of Christian song, as an agency in evangelistic work. The hearty inspiring singing of a large choir during the recent labors of Sam Jones in this city (Toronto) was one of the most attractive and helpful features of the services. Here is a power that may be used more widely and effectively in reaching the neglected classes. We have received a circular from the "Song Service Committee" of New York, directing attention to this subject. From this we learn that systematic efforts have been put forth in New York to promote the use of singing as a means of reaching the unconverted masses. From this circular we learn that the Rev. C. C. Goss, for twenty-five years has been working and experimenting among the masses of the city of New York, in respect to the best means to be employed for their moral and spiritual elevation. For some time he has had so much faith in the power of sacred song, that he has made it the most prominent feature of his services. And so satisfied is he that the song service has more favor with the masses than any other, and hence better adapted to benefit them, that he intends hereafter to devote himself more fully to this department of mission work.

A great deal may be said in favor of this means of increasing the interest of all our religious services. We may sing the Gospel as well as preach it. Hymns sung to simple, stirring tunes have always attracted the people, and always will do so. Sacred music has had inspiring and attractive power in all ages. The Jews loved it, were trained in it, and every musical instrument was pressed into sacred uses. The Greek and Catholic churches attract the crowds by the inspiring influence of music, while many others are waning and dying for want of it. Early Methodism gained much by the influence of the stirring melodies, in which the people so heartily engaged. Luther's hymns influenced the people as much as his sermons, and Charles Wesley's awakening and inspiring songs were as potent as his brother's discourses.

Sacred song has done much, in modern times, towards the success of the evangelistic meetings, which have been held all over the Christian world, especially those in connection with the Moody and Sankey movement, and the more recent services of Jones, Small, and others. The impressive solos and inspiring choruses have drawn together thousands who scarcely ever thought of entering a church edifice. Many of these have been converted and become active members of churches. We should learn the lesson which the facts teach us.

In every neighborhood there is musical power enough, if utilized, to do efficient work for Christ. Many are anxious to use their talents, but are diffident. Others would gladly fall into line if opportunity offered. The want in every community is a few leaders to seek out these willing ones,

organize them, and work with them. It is hoped that ministers, Christian workers and others interested in the elevation of the masses, will enter heartily into this work, in their respective localities. Why should the gatherings of Christians be less attractive than the places where the ungodly congregate?—*Guardian.*

GOOD NEWS FROM THE CONGO.

The latest from the Congo Baptist missionaries, says the *Chicago Standard*, reminds one of that which came from the Karen country long years ago, and later that of the Telugus. The God of missions has granted His seal to the work undertaken by American Baptists in the valley of the great river. Rev. H. Richards, one of the missionaries there, writes of a work in one of the valleys in which almost an entire heathen community has become Christian. He writes to Dr. Murdock, "The glorious fact is this, that Banza Mantika, the name of the district, 'is no longer a heathen country, but more Christian than any I am acquainted with.' The converts at the time of writing already numbered more than seven hundred. It is not so sudden a thing as might appear. Much faithful work had been given to the field at that point, and there had been signs of awakening. Sixteen had been baptized. Then there came what seemed like a Pentecostal outpouring. The missionary's heart is made glad, and his brethren everywhere will sympathize in the feeling which makes him say, 'All praise and glory to God our Father; the 'Nkimbis,' the 'Nkises,' the poisoning, the throat-cutting, the demoniacal yells, the diabolical dance, and witchcraft are things of the past here, 'Old things have passed away and behold all things are become new.' Now this part of Ethiopia stretches out its hands to God, and sends out its heart and voice to him in thanksgiving and praise." He was to begin baptizing very soon. The additional tidings promised will be looked for with great interest.

Among Our Exchanges.

HOLINESS.

Follow after holiness, without which no man shall see the Lord. If you would live with the holy in the life to come, now is the time to die unto sin. Let the work be a thorough one.—*Telescope.*

No Good.

The church member who shouts himself hoarse at a political meeting at the low wit of the small party politician, will not likely open his head in the prayer-meeting. He should not think it strange if the pastor can not use him in the revival.—*Telescope.*

A Low Level.

One very great difficulty of the pulpit is the low level of much of Christian life. If a man thinks small thoughts and indulges petty emotions six days in the week, he will not be easily lifted several miles on Sunday. The preacher must either go down there into the dirt or leave this class of hearers behind when he speaks the truth of the Gospel.—*Northwestern Advocate.*

BAPTISM OF FIRE.

That the Holy Spirit gives His baptism of fire to every one who earnestly desires it, is as certain as the truthfulness of the Lord Jesus. Did not our Great Teacher solemnly declare His Father's more than paternal willingness to "give the Holy Spirit to them that ask Him?" Why, then, O Christian, art thou without that baptism of divine fire? God's answer is: "Ye have not, because ye ask not, or because ye ask amiss." What is thy answer?—*Zion's Herald.*

A NARROW IDEA.

If a man pretends to be so utterly absorbed in his religious duties that he has no time for secular obligations, then he has failed to get more than the narrowest idea of what religion is. The day of devotees is past. The good missionary is not he who gives himself to praying and fasting and meditation, but he who can not only teach the ignorant what are the principles of religion, but can also teach them to aspire after the arts of civilization. In this day it is an exploded notion that to be religious one must be a recluse. That is the best religion which comes right down into the market place, the shop, the popular assembly, and there serves, doing secular duty on Christian principles. So genuine religion not only makes better pastors, elders, deacons, but better merchants, carpenters, bank officers, legislators, and judges.—*Independent.*