

Religious Intelligencer.

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

VOL. XXXVI.—No. 9.

FREDERICTON, N. B. MARCH 6, 1889.

WHOLE No. 1827

RENEW NOW!!

If you have not already renewed your subscription for 1889, please do so now.

A good many are yet due. We are desirous of hearing from them at once.

We do not want to part with a single subscriber. We trust all desire to read the "INTELLIGENCER" during 1889.

Prompt renewals will be regarded a great favour.

Send by the next mail if possible.

Now is the time. Do not delay.

NOTES AND GLEANINGS

FAMINE.—The famine in China is said to be on the appalling scale which almost always marks calamities in that country. The English Baptist Missionary Society has been informed by one of its missionaries stating that in his district the people are dying by thousands of starvation, and urgently appealing for funds. The Lord Mayor of London has already remitted some hundreds of pounds by telegraph, but contributions are still sorely needed. The President of the Wesleyan Conference and the Chairman of the Congregational Union have joined the relief committee.

CIVILIZED.—The Christian Standard directs attention to the Cherokees as a proof that Indians are capable of civilization. There are, it says, about 25,000 of them in the United States, of whom half are full blood. Thirty-five per cent. of their income from the nation is spent upon schools, and fifteen per cent. upon asylums. They have a written language, and claim that every citizen can read and write. Besides the common schools they have four excellent academies, and each child is allowed a large sum each year for its schooling. Think of a city among us with 25,000 inhabitants thus equipped for education! They have no saloons and boast of less drinking among them than among a like number in any other community.

AUSTRALIA.—Dr. Dale, who is now visiting Australia, is writing some impressions of the country in the Contemporary Review. He mentions some interesting facts, as that elementary instruction is free in Victoria, Queensland and New Zealand; fees are paid in New South Wales, South Australia, and Tasmania, but in the absence of large masses of extremely poor parents the collection presents no serious difficulties. That which most strikes a visitor on entering an ordinary elementary school, is the bright and prosperous appearance of the children. "All of them look well fed; nearly all 'are well clothed.' The manners of the children are easy and free without being 'free and easy.' One fact will startle some of those who are constantly haunted by dread of innovations. In scattered districts of New South Wales 'free railway passes' are granted, and trains pull up at places where there are no stations for the convenience of half-a-dozen children going to and from school.

JAPAN'S PROGRESS.—The rapid progress of civilization in the East is nowhere more manifest than in Japan. Says the Advocate: Japan has within a few days laid aside the yoke of absolute monarchy and adopted a constitutional form of Government. This great transformation has been accomplished as if by magic without war and bloody revolution, but by the peaceful triumph of intelligent conviction and the voluntary concurrence of the emperor himself. It is not a violent change wrought by impulse and passion, but a gradual and easy transition accomplished by thoughtful discussion. Eight years ago it became apparent to the emperor and his counselors that the old form of Government was behind the age, and by an imperial edict the people were assured that in the year 1890 a constitutional form of Government would be adopted. Ample time was afforded for research that the best Constitution might be prepared. After a careful examination of the

theory and practice of the principal modern Governments, the Japanese statesmen have framed a system of Government resembling that of Germany, one in which the representative principle will be the chief corner-stone, and in a short time it will go into operation. The example set by Japan will be followed by other Asiatic countries. Thus the results of Missionary effort are not measured by the number of souls converted, but the way has been prepared for wholesome national transformations now being developed.

OF CONSUMPTION.—An English doctor, in a treatise on consumption, maintains that it is due chiefly, if not entirely, to the habits of life induced by modern civilization. His argument may be summed up in the assertion that we do not give our lungs fair play. We take too little exercise, we live in over-heated rooms, and, consequently, pass continually through opposite extremes of temperature, and we handicap our lungs by the clothes we wear. Braces, and stays, tight-fitting waist-coats and dresses, prevent the proper expansion of the lungs. The result of all these follies is partial disuse of the lungs, and by Nature's inexorable decree the step between disuse and disease is short.

He declares that the cure of consumption lies in the reversal of the above conditions. 'Country air and a bracing life' is his formula. Send patients to Davos, if you will, but do not, by coddling and muffling them there, undo with one hand what you do with the other. Give the lungs free play, take plenty of exercise in the open air, and reduce the temperature of the rooms you live in. This will be better than a cure: it will be the 'prevention of the disease. No one can say, 'Physician heal thyself,' to Dr. Hambleton, for he is the son of consumptive parents, and in early manhood his lungs were affected. He has already healed himself, and his treatment has been very successful in the case of others.

A PLUCKY PRIEST.—Father O'Hare is the priest of a Catholic church at Greenpoint, N. Y. It is said to be one of the worst cursed run-holes in the vicinity of New York. He has entered upon a vigorous crusade against the curse of his people. The Independent says:

The leading men in his congregation and choir are saloon keepers, and he is driving them off to other churches or making them bitter enemies. All this is nothing more than the fate to which all reformers are liable; but he has added a bit of pathetic humor to his struggle which is quite new. Watching in front of the saloons which occupy almost every shop in a block of houses he saw numbers of the little children of his parish bringing pails to be filled with liquor at the bar. He forbade them to enter the saloons and told them to inform their parents that he would not let them enter. The next Sunday he gave those parents from the altar a very plain piece of his mind as to the impropriety of sending little children into such places. Success to him.

A FRENCH SWINDLE.—A Swindle practised on deaf people by some Paris charlatans is thus described:

First they examine the ear of the unfortunate patient with an electric light, and then 'prod' his tympanum with a peculiar apparatus. Next the operator asks through a speaking-trumpet, 'Do you hear me?' but in a low voice. Then more prodding, and the same question repeated. When this process has gone on long enough, the swindler shouts the question with all his might, and the delighted patient hears at last, pays his fee, buys the medicines and injections he is directed to take, and a patent highly-recommended silver ear-trumpet to boot, and goes on his way rejoicing, only to find his hearing more hopelessly destroyed than ever. The police have caught one of these ingenious rascals, and hope shortly to capture the whole gang.

INTERESTING FIGURES.—What travellers we mortals are in spite of our frailties! Every 24 hours we travel in one direction 24,000 miles. As if that were not enough we travel in another, round the sun, at the rate of more than a million miles a day of 24 hours. And still more marvellous, in every 24 hours we travel nearly another half million miles with the sun and all the planets in a vast circle of which Aloyone in the Pleiades is the centre. Think of it, 24,000 miles, 2,000,000 miles, 400,000 miles—all these spaces traversed so silently every day since the world began! The revolution of the earth round its axis is performed in one day; the revolution round the sun, in 365 days; the revolution with the sun round Aloyone in perhaps 50,000 years! Then, no doubt Aloyone with the whole vast multitude of suns of which it is the centre, moves round some vaster unknown centre in the abysses of space.

The Resources of Canada.

While some of our own people are so blinded as to run down their country, and work at the ruin of its institutions, it is a special compensation to find broad-minded and disinterested Americans laying the facts about Canada in their true light, and publishing them to the world with honorable truthfulness. At a late meeting of the Institute of Albany, New York, Professor Ralph W. Thomas read a paper, from which we have nothing else to do but to quote, the matter being altogether statistical and authentic.

The question asked is: "What is Canada?" Geographical Canada has an area of 3,360,000 square miles, of which the Basin of the Hudson's Bay alone is 2,000,000 square miles. Canada is forty times as large as England, Scotland and Wales. It is equal to three British Indias, and fifteen times as large as the German Empire. The excess of its area over that of the United States is greater than that of the whole area included in the thirteen colonies joining the Declaration of Independence. A country of magnificent areas; unmeasured arable plain and prairie; of mountains rich in minerals; of lacustrine systems dwarfing those of the United States; of majestic rivers, wholly within her own borders, measured on the Missouri-Mississippi scale. This is Canada.

Industrial Canada is great in agriculture and minerals. Ontario raises the finest barley in the world and some of the finest draught horses. The vast Northwest includes 466,000 square miles of the wheat field of the world. From its situation it has two hours more daylight than other wheat-bearing regions on this continent. This means two hours more of forcing power every day. Droughts are never feared. Manitoba claims 75,000,000 acres of wheat fields. The Canadian wheat crop for the first ten months of 1888 was valued at \$5,000,000. The Northwest regions are capable of supporting a population of many millions, and immigrants are already pouring in. Alberta is the ranch of Canada. Its climate is so mild, on account of the warm currents on the Pacific, that cattle and horses roam over the pastures all the year round, and are found in spring to be in good condition for market. The Canadians exported \$10,000,000 worth of cattle during the first ten months of 1887. All these advantages are to be reinforced by transportation. The Hudson's Bay route is promised, by which Winnipeg is brought 783 miles nearer Liverpool than by way of Montreal, and 1,652 miles nearer than by Chicago. By this route Liverpool would be brought 2,136 miles nearer to China and Japan than via New York and San Francisco. If this route succeeds, Canada will hold the key to the markets of the world. Coal exists throughout Canada in abundance, the entire coal area covering 97,000 square miles.

The copper deposits are pronounced to be almost beyond human belief. The Calumet and Hecla vein is twelve feet thick; the Canadian vein is 1,000 feet thick. The Geological Survey has located 557 deposits in the Eastern Townships alone. Gold and silver exist in great plenty, chiefly in Nova Scotia and British Columbia. In the latter province \$50,000,000 have been taken from the ground by unimproved methods, and this seems to point to vast deposits in the mountains.

In Beaver mine, at Port Arthur, discovered in March last, there is in sight, by actual measurement, \$750,000 worth of silver. Like bonanzas have been reported in British Columbia. Such exposures are unprecedented. Iron is found in unlimited quantities and of the best grade. Near Ottawa there is a hill of iron estimated to contain 100,000,000 tons. The railroad up the Trent runs through a continuous iron belt for 150 miles. Mr. Wiman is authority for the statement that at New Glasgow in Nova Scotia, within a radius of six miles, there are found hundreds of tons of iron ore, of the best quality, side by side with limestone chemically pure, coke in seams 30 feet thick, all directly on the line of the Intercolonial Railway and within six miles of the Atlantic Ocean. This ore could be put on the wharf in Boston for \$150 per ton, which, to-day, costs from \$5 to \$6 per ton. The Ontario Government has recently sold 150,000 acres of land for \$2 an acre, covering an iron belt seventy-five miles across.

Commercial Canada has not as yet acquired that prominence which might be expected when the resources of the country are considered. Yet, in her merchant marine, Canada ranks fourth among the nations of the earth. Commerce is now being fostered by the Government, and it 1881 the American trade with Canada amounted to \$89,000,000. These facts partly answer the question "What is Canada?" and we hold with the Professor that they vindicate the Canadian's claim for the greatness of his country's destiny.

The Pacific coast is already buying 300,000,000 tons of Canadian coal every year, in spite of the duty. American manufacturers are compelled to go to Malta and Spain for iron, when it exists within a few hours' ride of their own borders. Dominion Illustrated.

WOMAN'S FOREIGN MISSION SOCIETY.

"Rise up ye women that are at ease." Isaiah 32: 9.

[All contributions for this column should be addressed to Miss LYDIA J. FULLERTON, CARLETON, ST. JOHN.]

The Elevation of Women in Persia.

Gospel work for Mohammedan women in Persia is not yet well opened up. The access afforded to harems, and the welcome given to the lady visitors are the most favorable conditions. The lack of religious liberty, the impossibility of taking Mohammedan girls into the schools, and the fear of the women to come to the public services, are the greatest hindrances.

Two influences promise well for their amelioration.

First.—The spirit of the age, operating powerfully to this end in Christian lands, is also influential in Persia. It is shown in the system of Babism a sect, in some respects a revolt from Islamism, in others a reform of it. It accords woman a much higher place in society, it would have her throw aside her veil, and appear in public without fear or shame. The beautiful and accomplished Gourret-il-Ayn, or Consolation-of-the-eyes, who first personated this idea by the charms of her person, and her eloquence of address did something to disarm prejudice. She died a martyr to the cause. The doctrines of the sect are received by more than 100,000,000 Persians.

Again European customs are having effect upon society. They have powerfully operated upon the Armenian ladies, so that their mouth wrappings and head coverings are being thrown aside. They are beginning to dress as Europeans, to receive men as callers, and arrange for their own betrothals.

Second.—The spirit of the Gospel is working for the elevation of woman in Persia. Through the Christians it is making its influence felt upon Mohammedans. In the worship of the Sabbath congregations, hundreds of Christian women may be seen reading from their Bibles, and singing the songs of Zion, forgetful of the fact that but fifty years ago, scarcely one of them could read. At the Jubilee celebration at Oromiah, in answer to the call for all women capable of reading to rise, 600 arose in that one assemblage. Take a look into the homes of the protestant Christians of Persia. There is mutual love and confidence in the family; the wife is the companion, not the slave; daughters as well as sons, are sent to school and nurtured in the fear of God, and the family altar renders up its morning and evening incense.

The increase in church membership in ten years from 800 to 2,000, the majority of whom are women, indicates how the Gospel influence is working upon the women of Persia.—Star in the East.

CHINA.

It is estimated that this vast empire contains nearly one-fourth of the population of the globe, and one half of the heathen world. By a proclamation in China in 1886 the whole of this territory was opened up, and made free to the work of the missionaries, this must be considered as one of the leading events of this century in the work of Christian evangelization. All the doors of this shut in nation are now hospitably open to the followers of Christ and the preaching of the gospel.

Throughout China there are 476 lady missionaries. At the close of the last year there are 17,000 female church members; besides thousands who are influenced by the gospel; 40,000 children are taught in the various mission schools. There are 100,000 patients treated annually in the eighteen Hospitals.

During 27 years 30,000 Christians have been enrolled in Northern China.

Yet in many cities and villages of this great and interesting country, no Protestant Mission has been established; leaving millions of its inhabitants without the gospel. A Missionary says "I have often heard of China, of its large cities, its teeming population and its idolatry; but now I see them—and I have often felt as if my heart would break to pass city after city, containing thousands of immortal souls, and no one in any of them to tell of

Him who came into the world to save sinners."

There ought to be one thousand missionaries put into China this year. Would this not be done if the Christian church were awake to its duty and responsibility?

Com.

Time Wasted with Bad Spelling.

Dr. Gladstone has made elaborate investigations in the schools of England and other countries to ascertain the time devoted to teaching spelling. He finds that 720 hours at least are lost to each scholar, that an Italian child of nine years will read and spell as correctly as English children at thirteen, though the Italian began his lessons two years later. It is about the same with the Germans and Swedes. This extra time is given to civics and useful sciences. The illiteracy of English-speaking nations is startling. There were 5,658,144 persons of ten years and over who reported themselves illiterate at our census of 1870, 6,239,958 at the census of 1880. The nearly illiterate are probably as many more. England is worse off than we are. But the other Protestant countries of Europe have almost none. One of the causes of this excessive illiteracy among English-speaking people is the badness of English spelling. The reform of spelling is a patriotic and philanthropic reform.—Forum.

MANHOOD.—There is more manhood to the square inch in the young man who swings the scythe in the meadow than in the one who dawdles a cane on the boulevard," sagely remarked a wise speaker at a recent gathering. His aphorism contains more than enough salt to keep it sweet. There is no great objection to the dude considered simply as such. Often he is not positively vicious. He is too busy considering the cut of his waistcoat and the width of his trouser-legs and the shape of his finger-nails and the polish of his shoes to have much time or brain to spare for real upright or downright villainy. In one aspect he is a very harmless individual and, as in the case of the celebrated Mr. Toots, what he does and says is of "no consequence." Think of your Abraham Lincoln in a loud suit of checked goods, a flashy necktie and a monocle, tipping his hat back so as to show a straggling curl beneath the rim! Think of Ben Franklin accompanied by a great dog (in dude vernacular a "pump") sticking his elbows out at right angles to his person and swaggering down Washington street or Broadway! The very incongruity of associating such manners with men of serious and earnest purpose shows how diametrically opposed to real earnestness are such characteristics, in fact, how little manhood there is about them. As a disease, dudism while it is held up to constant ridicule, may not be alarming; as a symptom of prevailing and increasing effeminacy and lack of manly character it may be no trifle. What young Americans need to cultivate is "more manhood to the square inch."—Golden Rule.

RELIGIOUS SENTIMENTALISM.—Many people do a kind act only when they feel like it, and others again take it all out in feeling. The Levite, we are told, in the parable of the Good Samaritan, came and looked on the stranger who lay bleeding in the road, and then passed by on the other side. He fastened his eyes perhaps on the horrible spectacle, just as you will see children crane their necks to catch a view of the interior of a passing ambulance. He allowed his feeling to be stirred by the pathetic spectacle, but nothing came of it. There are people who weep so many tears over the imaginary griefs depicted in novels, that their eyes and hearts are quite dry in the presence of the real miseries which meet us on every hand. A gentleman was once telling an old Quaker of a man in deep distress, and ended with the words, "I could not but feel for him." "Verily, friend," replied the Quaker, "thou didst right, in that thou didst feel for thy neighbor; but didst thou feel in the right place? Didst thou feel in thy pocket?"—Dr. Judson.

Many men who clamour loudest about liberty are themselves the most abject slaves. They will not wear the yoke of Christ because they profess to love liberty. They fight against string-laws whereby vice might be held in check because they hold such restraints as an abridgment of their liberty. Their arguments prove that they are ignorant of the nature of true liberty. Mr. Beecher once said: "There is no liberty to men whose passions are stronger than their religious feelings; there is no liberty to men in whom ignorance predominates over knowledge; there is no liberty to men who know not how to govern themselves." The restraints of righteousness are essential to the freedom of manhood; the yoke of Christ confers the most perfect liberty.

JERUSALEM AND BETHLEHEM.—In Jerusalem and Bethlehem, says the Independent, no less than five new churches are being erected at the present time. Among these the most important is the magnificent Russian Palestine Association. This society, which numbers among its membership some of the highest aristocrats of Russia, has an income which enables it to spend 15,000 francs each month for its work in Palestine. The Russians are remarkably active there now, especially in building churches, convents, etc., etc. Their great tower on Mount Olivet, from the top of which both the Mediterranean and the Dead Sea can be seen, is the highest modern structure in the entire East. The monophysitic Abyssinians, who belong to the old Coptic Church of Egypt, are erecting an immense dome-like church near the Russian church. In Bethlehem two churches are in process of erection—one a Roman Catholic or Latin, which is half completed; the other a Protestant church, of which the foundation has just been laid. The Greeks recently stole a march on the Latins, who conjointly control the Church of the Holy Sepulcher. They, during the night, fastened a golden Greek cross to the top of the cupola. The Latins were not a little excited about the matter, as, according to Oriental ideas, a cross over a building decided the ownership of the building itself. What the Latins will do in retaliation has not yet appeared.

SAMOA.—Where is Samoa, and what kind of people are the Samoans? are questions which have been frequently asked since the difficulty between Germany and the United States arose over the government of the place. Here is an answer.

The Samoan Islands are midway between Australia, New Zealand, and the Hawaiian group, and are in the direct line of American trade. The people of the Samoan group are regarded as the finest race among the Polynesian Islands. They have a soft and musical language, as shown in the names of the ports and towns. They are graceful, pleasing in appearance, and of a good physique. They have been converted to Christianity, and are very moral and honest. On Sunday no work is permitted on shore, nor are natives allowed to labor on board ships in port. The sale of liquors is positively prohibited.

But little more than a half century ago sailors steered clear of Samoa, lest they should be cooked and eaten, and no nation regarded it with any commercial interest. "It was not until Christian missionaries won the people of these islands from savagery and superstition to Christianity and civilization that they were supposed to have any commercial value."

Among Exchanges.

THEY GIVE NOTHING.

When you hear persons decrying foreign missions, and saying that we must spend all our money in home missions, and that foreign missions amount to nothing, you can at once set it down that they give nothing, or as near nothing as possible, either to home or foreign missions.—Telescope.

VERY LAZY.

The laziest preacher we ever saw was one who would not make a talk in prayer-meeting for fear of consuming material which would do for next Sunday's sermon.—Chris. Standard.

NOT TO-DAY.

Few persons will confess that they are wrong to-day. They were wrong yesterday, they may be wrong to-morrow; but now, this time, they must be right.—Herald.

TOO EASILY DISSATISFIED.

Many a pastor is dissatisfied with his situation and anxious for a change who is sure to be still more discontented after his change comes. Every position has its peculiar disagreeable features, and no one can see them so clearly as the incumbent himself. A few months ago a Denominational paper in Boston published an announcement of a vacant pulpit, and stated that although the salary was not large, yet it was a field in which a suitable man could soon achieve success. Among the answers received was one from a minister who stated that it was just such a field as he had been looking after for six months, and it turned out that this eager applicant was the very man who had recently vacated the church. It is much easier to see inviting features in other fields than our own. The hardships one encounters in a position were not manifest before he entered it, and the quarter to which he looks with strong desire is beset with as many ills as the one from which he fain would flee.—Chris. Advocate.