

Religious Intelligencer.

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

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NOTES AND COMMENTS.

THE POPULATION OF FRANCE does not increase. The reason is found in the families. Out of over ten millions households there are over two million in which there are no children, two and a half millions with only one, two and a half millions with two, and one and a half million with three. Late marriages and small families are the explanation of the decadence of France.

IN GERMANY there have recently been frequent suicides and attempts to commit suicide by children. Some German physicians who have been looking into the matter, attribute these cases to long school-hours, the pressure of which on young minds and bodies is believed to produce a nervous condition tending to insanity. Sundry evil effects follow the high pressure which is sometimes put on young children in the public schools. The work they are required to do would never injure them, but the bad ventilation, crowded school-rooms, intense excitement awakened by numerous examinations, and other unfavorable conditions unite with the work to break down both body and mind.

A SPECIFIC for Cholera is said to have been discovered in India. The name of the drug is *salol*, and out of eighteen patients treated with it not one died although some of them were in a state of collapse when the drug was administered.

AND NOW it is proposed to drug murderers before execution, so that they may not have mental torture on account of being pinioned to the scaffold, and may remain in merciful unconsciousness of pain or trouble. Of which proposal the "N. Y. Advocate" says,—"This is maudlin. The papers are filled with the horrible accounts of murder; yet when the murderer is justly convicted the agonies of his victims are forgotten, and the plan seems to be to make death, which all must endure, more painless and easy for the murderer than for any one else. It has gone far enough. If electricity is to execute the capital sentence painlessly, leave something for the criminal to fear: the majority care nothing for what is after death."

STANLEY says that during his last African expedition he came across a new and interesting race of blacks, the Wanoumas, who were absolutely European in type and very intelligent. They appeared to be descendants of the ancient Ethiopians, who settled in some way not known to him in equatorial Africa. These people never intermingled with the aboriginal races, but kept their blood intact, considering the ordinary negroes beneath them.

IN ONTARIO they put old people, who are unable to provide for themselves and are friendless, in jail. From Sarnia a case is reported of a woman 94 years old who has been sent to jail because she has no home. She is not charged with any offence; she is simply poor and homeless. The people who permit such an outrage should be ashamed of themselves.

THE BEST AUTHORITIES give 1,400,000,000 as the present population of the earth. Some writers on the classification of the population of the world according to the religion professed, have estimated the number of Christians of all denominations—Protestants, Roman Catholics, and Greeks—to be 420,000,000. This leaves nearly one billion, or, as it might otherwise be expressed, nearly 1,000,000,000 to be followers of other religions. The most widely diffused non-Christian religions are the Mohammedan, the Brahminical, and the Confucian, the Buddhist and Fetich worship. The number of Buddhists in Siam, Thibet, Burmah, Ceylon, India, Mongolia, Manchuria, China and Japan is estimated to be 80,342,407.

HERE is some information about icebergs. A report made to the naval department of the United States, says: They originate in West Greenland, which he calls the "great berg factory." The ice massed in the interior is gradually forced out to sea by glacial movements on the land at the rate of about fifty feet a day. When once in the water, the glacier is broken into masses. A berg is from 60 to 100 feet

high, and has from 300 to 500 yards of exposed surface. Those bergs found on the transatlantic route have had a trip of four or five months. The ice in a berg is specially brittle, and they are often easily broken by concussion from the report of a gun, or even by a blow from an axe. On the coast of Labrador in July and August, when it is packed with bergs, the noise of rupture is often deafening. They assume a multitude of shapes, and are often crowned with spires, domes, minarets and peaks.

THE TEMPERANCE HOSPITAL in London has just made its 17th annual report. It is shown that during the year there had been 753 in-patients and 50 deaths. In only one exceptional case during the year was alcohol prescribed, and that in the form of spirits of wine. The Temperance Hospital, the directors declare, has led to it being generally regarded in other hospitals that alcohol is no longer an effectual or potent element in the treatment of disease.

IN THE NEWFOUNDLAND matter, one of the points presented to the Imperial Authorities by the delegates from the Colony is that the French claims cut off the larger half of the island from civilization, and they can no longer submit to desolate its northern and western coasts, to abstain from constructing railways, from working its own mines and from developing its industries. The seven French ships and 500 men who are employed in the controverted fishery amount to only a small fraction of the 500 vessels and 25,000 men whom France sends annually to the cod-fisheries at the Great Bank. This being so, the amount of damage done to the islanders is so disproportionate to the gain derived by France that some settlement ought certainly to be come to.

PHILADELPHIA, it is said, has four thousand women keeping rum-shops.

ONE OF STANLEY'S suggestions about dealing with the slave-trade in Africa is to keep gunpowder of the country. One reason, he says, why the Arab slave-traders are able to carry on their business is that their arms are superior to those of the Negroes. Let their supply of gunpowder be cut off, and they would be compelled to use the same weapons as the Negroes and would be annihilated. Of course, this plan does not contemplate withholding gunpowder from regularly organized soldiers and the employees of commercial companies. It is to be hoped that the several great nations specially interested in Africa will combine to effect this object. No man who has heard of the horrors of this nefarious traffic in human beings can be indifferent concerning it without degrading his own soul.

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.]

To the Officers and Members of the Auxiliary Societies of the Seventh District.

DEAR SISTERS,—As we are all, no doubt, aware, the time for the closing up of affairs in connection with our Foreign Mission work for this year, is speedily drawing near, and as, owing to many reasons, I have failed to communicate with the officers of the different Auxiliaries, as I should have, and would have liked to have done, I take this public way of drawing the attention of the Societies to a few things that are of importance in our work.

And first I would mention the need of prompt reporting. The secretary of each Auxiliary should send as full a report as possible of the work done in her Society during the year to the District Secretary not later than a week before the time of holding the Annual Meeting.

Again, money raised by local Societies, or in any other way, should be paid to District Treasurer before the Annual Meeting. As can be readily understood, it is quite impossible for the Treasurer to lay before the Society a statement of the finances, when, perhaps a number of Societies have not been heard from in that particular.

According to the District Constitution adopted by our Society, some

years since, money paid in after the Annual Meeting has to go in the accounts for the ensuing year. The reason why, is, that our year's work ends with the Annual Meeting and the accounts for the year are or should be closed.

In the past the Constitution in this regard at least has not always been strictly adhered to but it makes extra work for the officers, besides being unsatisfactory in other respects. So we hope that this year we may take an advance step and every society and church that has raised money, and we hope there may not be one that does not do at least a little, may hand it to the Treasurer not later than the Annual Meeting.

Last year our District forwarded to the Parent Society almost Two Hundred Dollars (\$200.00). Why not pass that limit this year? There are several ways of getting the money.

1. Regular subscriptions.
2. Collecting, any amount from 5 cents upwards.
3. A missionary prayer-meeting, and take a collection.
4. A missionary concert with a collection.

We certainly ought to do especially well this year as a thank offering for the special blessing, that is being bestowed upon our mission field as well as for the unnumbered blessings we ourselves enjoy.

Respectfully,
LYDIA J. FULLERTON,
Sec'y Treas., 7th District.
St John, West,
July 24th, 1890.

SIXTH DISTRICT SOCIETY.

On Saturday, July 5th, at half past nine a. m., the tenth Annual Meeting of the W. M. Society, of the Sixth District, was held at Upper Millstream. Meeting opened by singing and reading of Scripture by Vice President, Mrs. A. C. Thompson, prayer by Mrs. Thompson and a number of others after which President Mrs. C. W. Weyman, having arrived, took the chair, and business was proceeded with. Minutes of last meeting read and approved. Sec'y. Treas. report read and adopted, representatives of Local Societies called on and responded. Very few Societies hold regular meetings, these that do keep up their missionary prayer meeting have a live ring in their reports. Meeting adjourned to meet again at half past two and met at that time. Meeting opened with prayer by Mrs. Vanwart after which the election of officers by ballot was proceeded with and chairman of scrutinizing Committee declared the old officers elected. Several committees were appointed to visit weak Societies and churches where no Societies exist, hoping thereby to strengthen the interest in Missionary work both Home and Foreign. Mrs. James Hugheson, Mrs. Ezekiel Danfield, and Mrs. John Keith to visit Lower Ridge, Graves Settlement, Portage and Petcodiac in connection with the Pastors' wives of those churches. Mrs. Abraham Perry, to associate with herself someone to visit the churches to which her husband preaches, namely Wheaton Settlement, Lewis Mt. and Eagles Settlement.

Mrs. T. S. Vanwart, Mrs. M. Fenwick, Mrs. D. Long and Miss J. A. Weyman to visit Upper Millstream, Snider Mt. and Millstream Mt.

Miss Bertha Lew, of Moncton, was appointed Vice President of that church. Mrs. John Roach to be Vice President of Sussex church. Considering the very unpleasant weather during the day our meetings were well attended and we trust good will follow. The public meeting in the evening was good. We do pray that the good and true things said by the brethren will be believed and acted upon.

J. A. WEYMAN,
Sec'y Treas.

The Secretary-Treasurer's Report.

DEAR SISTERS:—Another year has passed away and we meet again in our Annual Meeting and feel that we have much cause for gratitude to God the giver of all our blessings for so mercifully keeping us while surrounded by sickness. During the past few months death has brought sadness to many homes. We now have 25 Vice Presidents in this District not one has been called from our ranks to join the assembly above since we met last year.

And we pray that each one of these Vice Presidents may feel the responsibility that rests upon them in this department of christian work. We believe money can be collected from the sisters in every church of this District if the officers appointed to do the work are faithful to the trust reposed in them.

Many of us are weak, spiritually, for want of exercise. The Lord's Word, says the way of the slothful man is a hedge of thorns but the way of the righteous is made plain.

Jesus as He taught in parables asked the people "Why stand ye idle all the day," they say, "No man hath hired us," but we cannot answer thus for we know if we are born of the Spirit we are His servants to do His bidding while He permits us to stay here in His vineyard, having this promise that we shall receive the reward of our labour. Many of us have experienced the truth of this scripture, "It is more blessed to give than receive." And we are thankful to have the privilege of assisting in the grand and noble work of sending the gospel to the heathen. The last report we had from our Societies' missionary, Miss Hooper, her health was much improved and we hope and pray that she may yet be restored to her former health. What she has passed through during those severe attacks of illness without home or friends near her none but our God and Saviour knows. Sisters don't forget her when you pray. For her and for payment of native teachers engaged by her, our parent society appropriated \$900 also \$45 to Mrs. Boyer for Bible women last fall. Our Women Mis. Soc. has never been without funds on hand and with the blessing of God on our efforts we never intend it shall be. We have not collected quite as much money in this District this year as we have for some years past but this does not discourage us, for our motto is "If God be for us who can be against us."

In April I wrote and sent blank forms to all the Secretaries of Societies in the District and to Vice Presidents of the District Soc. in churches, where no Societies have been organized, twenty-five in all. Eighteen have been returned with money as follows:

Taylor Village.....	\$10.62
Dover.....	8.65
Coverdale.....	10.00
Petcodiac.....	4.30
Tower Ridge.....	7.00
Corn Hill.....	20.00
Graves Settlement.....	2.35
Portage.....	1.00
Penobscis.....	16.85
New Town.....	3.25
Sussex.....	24.00
Dutch Valley.....	7.15
North River.....	1.00
Apoahqui.....	12.31
Norton.....	4.50
Midland.....	8.43
Millstream.....	16.50
Snider Mt.....	2.70
Part of collection at Dis. Meet.	2.81
Total.....	163.42

RELIGIOUS OPPRESSION IN RUSSIA.—Russian law concerning religious teaching is in the interest of the orthodox Russo-Greek Church. So long as the priests are not interfered with, or proselytes directly made from that Church, little disturbance is made; but if their revenues or congregations are interfered with, or their attention attracted in the slightest way, they can put the machinery of persecution in operation. At this time, in Wytsepsk, several men of the best character are in the inner secret prison, where they have been held during the whole of the present year. Their only offense is they have tried to spread the evangelical teachings of the Gospel among their acquaintances. They are now told that they will probably be deprived of their property and rights, and some will be imprisoned as common criminals, and others banished either to Siberia or beyond the Caucasus. Their final trial and sentence are to take place in June or July. Not till the whole Constitution is changed can aggressive Protestant work in Russia be effective.

Queer Criminals.

In 1386, a judge at Falaise condemned a sow to be mutilated and hanged for eating a child.

In 1389, a horse was solemnly tried before the magistrate, and condemned to death for having killed a man.

In 1694, during the witch persecutions in New England, a dog exhibited such strange symptoms of affliction that he was believed to have been ridden by a warlock, and he was accordingly hanged.

"Criminal" animals frequently expiated their offences, like other malefactors, on the gallows, but subsequently they were summarily killed without trial, and their owners mulcted in heavy damages.

During the fourteenth century, oxen and cows might be legally killed whenever taken in the act of marauding, and asses for a first offence had one ear cropped, for a second offence the other ear, and, if after this they committed a third offence, their lives became forfeit to the Crown.

In the fifteenth century, cocks were somewhat credited with the power of laying accursed eggs, from which sprang winged serpents. In 1474, at Basle, a cock was publicly accused of having laid one of those dreadful eggs. He was tried, sentenced to death, and together with his egg was burned by the executioner in the market-place, amid a great concourse of people.—*Exchange.*

CHRISTIAN ENDEAVOUR SOCIETIES.

The recently published statistics of the Christian Endeavour Societies show a large growth during 1889-'90. It has been found that societies exist in every State and Territory in the Union and in every English-speaking land in the world. In all there are 11,913 societies with 660,000 members, a gain of 3,341 societies and 135,000 members in eleven months. New York leads the list with 1,795 societies; Pennsylvania follows with 818, then comes Massachusetts with 813, Illinois with 809, Ohio with 681, Iowa with 494, Connecticut with 442, New Jersey with 414, and Michigan with 408.

The society is making gratifying progress in the South, Maryland, Kentucky and Florida having the largest numbers. In the Provinces are 413 societies. So far as can be ascertained an average of about seven from each society have joined the evangelical churches during the year or a total of 70,300; a number equal to about two-thirds of all the associate members at the beginning of the year.

An interesting development of the movement is the "Floating Christian Endeavour Societies," recently formed on some of the revenue cutters and other vessels.

ENERGY OF THE SUN.—If we could build up a solid column of ice from the earth to the sun, two miles and a quarter in diameter, spanning the inconceivable abyss of 92,000,000 miles, and if then the sun should concentrate his power upon it, the column would dissolve, not in an hour, nor in a minute, but in a single second. Of course, of this enormous quantity of heat the earth receives but a very small fraction. What we do receive is equivalent to about fifty tons raised a mile high yearly, or to one horse-power continuously acting, to every thirty square feet of the earth's surface.

YOUNG GIRLS FOR MORMON HAREMS.

—A powerful argument for the maintenance and enforcement of United States laws against polygamy is found in such items as the following: A party of one hundred and twenty Mormon immigrants, who arrived at New York one day last week on the steamship Wisconsin, afforded an interesting study to a number of missionaries and contract labor inspectors. The immigrants were principally English, with a few Scandinavians, and among them were a number of young girls. The latter seemed to have little idea of the life they were to lead in Utah. Efforts to dissuade them from their purpose were unavailing. Among them was a pretty young woman named Mary MacIvane, who came from the North of Ireland. She was twenty years old. She said all she knew of Mormonism was that a nice man met her in Birmingham, England, and told her that she would have good times in Utah. Another party consisted of a man, his wife and two pretty girls of fifteen and thirteen years respectively. One of the contract labor inspectors engaged the father in conversation and asked him what he thought would become of his daughters. The man answered that they would be married within a year to bishops. The inspector told him that they were going to do the devil's work. The father thought not, but the elder of the girls acquiesced in his opinion. Nevertheless she was taken on her way to Utah.

ALARMING.—The most alarming feature of the Louisiana lottery rascality is the fact that with the \$25,000,000, out of which it annually fleeces the people, it is not only able to buy up the legislature of the state, but to so manipulate and paralyze the powers of the United States Government as to prevent the passage of laws that would obstruct the carrying on of its business through the United States

mails. The swindling monster would be comparatively harmless if the national government were to restrict its operations by preventing its use of the United States mails, as it could easily do, and as it would speedily do, were it not for the influence of those \$25,000,000 upon our incorruptible (!) law-breakers. Mr. E. G. Rathbone, chief of the post-office inspectors, says, "I firmly believe that if congress will pass a law making the offence continuous from the point of mailing to the point of receipt and intermediate points, and exclude from the mails all newspapers containing lottery advertisements, this hydra-headed monster can be put down." Can not the good people of the United States bring sufficient influence to bear on congress to secure the enactment of such a law?—*Telegraph.*

WELL DONE.—Mr. Justice Cave, of London, has condemned to a term of imprisonment a solicitor who had sought to defeat the course of justice by screening wealthy offenders against morals, and by helping to place inconvenient witnesses beyond the jurisdiction of the English Court. The judge properly commented in terms not at all too severe on the complaisant acquiescence of the Attorney-General, who was prosecuting on behalf of the Treasury, in a suggested lenient treatment of the culprit at the bar.

A FOOLISH SHOW.—The exhibition of the Salvation Army a few days since, and especially last Sunday, was by no means edifying. They marched through the streets on Sunday morning making a show of three or four Asiatics dressed in outre Oriental garb. Why those unfortunate strangers should be led about the streets on a hot Sunday morning one would hardly care to ask. Particularly pitiful was the case of the Asiatic woman who went lurching along as best she could to the sound of the Sunday drum and brass band. Why this woman or those men, should be brought all the way from India, except for show purposes, we cannot tell. It is an unworthy business which we hope will be given up. Preach the Gospel, but do give up these shows. They are a desecration and a degradation, and they do no possible good. The heathen are greatly given to processions, shows, and noises. The Gospel is promoted by other and more comely means.—*Haitian Witness.*

The same show has been in this city this week. It is certainly not particularly wise as a christian exhibition.

At the recent International Sunday school Convention, President Harris spoke at length on work in the field. He said: "All over the country Sunday-school work is in a more prosperous condition than ever before. People are dropping denominational prejudices and are realizing more and more that if this country is ever to be saved the Sunday-school must be the means; and not only Christians but thinking men of all classes are looking to this institution as the mainstay of our nation. We have about half of the children of this nation to day in our Sunday-schools. In all parts of this country and Canada, increased interest in Sunday-school affairs is reported, and large additions are being made to the membership."

Among Exchanges.

A BOY'S CELEBRATION.

A small boy in Indiana had the most glorious "Fourth" yet recorded. He set off \$2,000 worth of fireworks, and it didn't cost him a single penny either. A sun glass directed upon a bunch of firecrackers in a dealer's window created the entire disturbance. Of course both store and stock were ruined, but the small boy didn't care for that. He enjoyed his pyrotechnic display while it lasted, and then discreetly withdrew into the crowd. He has not yet reappeared on the scene of his misadventures.—*Ex.*

A WRONG CUSTOM.

There is a growing custom of asking more than one minister to attend funerals to assist in the service. This is an unreasonable demand upon the time and sympathies of clergymen, and should not be encouraged.—*Herald.*

CHINESE DEFINITIONS.

Command us to the Chinese for clear definitions of theological terms. "What is the meaning of righteousness?" said a teacher to her pupil. "Righteousness is at good, no bad, at all." To the question, "What is a hypocrite?" "All good outside, all bad inside." You don't know him sometime, bimby find him out.—*The Congregationalist.*

CHURCH QUARRELS.

The only way to stop a church quarrel is for everybody to absolutely stop talking. That is a sure cure. Change is in constant progress. Nothing remains to-day what it was yesterday, and nothing will be to-morrow what it is to-day—and the swift fingers of time are not long in substituting every fibre of the old with the new. All one has to do if dissatisfied in church relations is to wait. They will come right of themselves.—*Interior.*