

Religious Intelligencer.

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

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FREDERICTON, N. B., AUGUST 27, 1890.

WHOLE No. 1904

NOTES AND COMMENTS.

ONE OF THE PUBLIC SCHOOLS of Cambridge, Mass., has as Principal a lady of apparently pure African blood. She has white teachers on the staff, and white pupils in the school. She is a skilful and successful teacher that prejudice against her colour is overcome.

THE CATHOLIC TOTAL ABSTINENCE Union did not have complete harmony in its recent convention in Pittsburgh, Pa. Some of the priests did not approve of the strong total abstinence position taken by the Union, and constantly interjected objections. But the feeling of the members was strongly in favour of abstinence, and the objecting priests were treated to groans and hisses.

THE RAISIN industry in California has increased at a remarkable rate in the last ten years. In 1880, it is said, the number of pounds produced was 1,500,000; last year it reached 32,678,000, and the estimate for the present year is 45,000,000 pounds. The vines are planted in rows, fourteen feet apart, artificially irrigated, and by the second or third year are in bearing condition. The cost of planting and cultivating a vineyard is calculated at about \$60 per acre for the three years; the original price of the land varies from \$50 to \$300 per acre. The packing and grading of the raisins is done, not by the growers, but by wholesale companies, who erect warehouses and pay cash to the producer on delivery. Last year from five to six cents per pound was paid. The market seems to keep pace with the growth of the industry, which is becoming enormous.

THE RETURN of the Jews to the Holy Land is remarkable. Bishop Blythe, of Jerusalem, says that in 1841 there were only 8,000 Jews in Palestine. In 1883 they numbered 23,000, but now 70,000, nearly double the number that returned from the Babylonian captivity. Further, the fertilizing rains, known as the "latter rains," which had been withheld since the times of the exile, had been granted again during the past two years, and everything seemed to show that land was being prepared for the return of the Jews to their promised inheritance.

OUR CANADIAN brethren in the North West cannot too soon nor too earnestly bestir themselves in regard to the Mormons who are settling amongst them. A Calgary despatch says:

"The Mormon question is agitating the people of Southern Alberta to a considerable extent, apparently with some reason. Their village or settlement is situated adjacent to the Blood Indian reserve, and the Indians already call them 'men of many wives,' and claim that the Mormons have been telling them how good a thing it is to have more than one wife. The Government and missionaries have been trying for many years to impress on the Indians the principle of one wife, and here comes an influence directly in opposition to this doctrine. It is suspected that polygamy is practised among these people now settled in Southern Alberta, although no proof can be brought forward, and it will be a hard matter to prove it at any time. Still, what is to be done? They have got a foothold, they are increasing rapidly, and soon they will be an important factor in the southern district. If a man goes to the land office and asks for a homestead entry, he will be refused."

THE RAILWAY now in process of construction between Jaffa and Jerusalem is the first railroad in Palestine. It is said that three engines, named "Jaffa," "Jerusalem" and "Ramleh," built in Philadelphia, have been shipped for this Palestine railroad. This road is no doubt but a beginning of such roads in Palestine. The Holy Land will lose much of its sacredness when a net-work of railroads, with stations with new names, are spread over its surface. New customs will come, and old customs will pass away.

A JESUIT PRIEST has been sentenced at Strasburg to three years' imprisonment for inducing a lady to commit perjury in order to secure a legacy of \$6,000 marks for the Jesuits.

THE PEACE CONGRESS, held in London in July, drew together a fine assemblage of men of intellect and philanthropy. Mr. David Dudley Field, of New York, presided. The

statistics of the standing armies of various nations show how fearful is the waste of human energy and national resources in time of peace. It was shown that the strength of the Russian army in 1889 was 2,579,000 men, that of Germany 2,900,000, that of France 8,226,000, that of Austria and Hungary, 1,150,000, that of Italy 1,090,000, the whole making an aggregate of about 11,000,000 men certain to be called into the field at once in the event of a war between any two of the European nations, and to be followed by at least half of that number in addition before the close of the conflict. The Congress adopted a resolution urging the international treaties of arbitration, by which nations shall agree to submit to arbitration the settlement of all difficulties arising between them; and also the settlement of disputes by arbitration where treaties providing for it have been found difficult of realization.

FRANCE evidently intends to have a share of Africa. A French expedition has been organized to explore Central Africa, its main purpose, it is said, being to survey a line for the construction of a railroad to Lake Tchad. A railroad already runs to Biscara, in Algeria. From this point it is proposed to build directly across the Sahara desert to the fertile regions beyond.

A CENSUS TAKER in South Carolina reports that he found on Kiamah island, off the Coast of that state, a colony of negroes of about one hundred and fifty souls, and that he there struck a region, the only one in the world, in which all the inhabitants were English speaking, reading, and writing negroes. Every negro he met could read and write. Every child of suitable age could also read and write, and the women were just as intelligent as the men. All were prospering under the wise rule of a mulatto cacique named Queen Stephens, who was responsible for the education of the people in her eight year's residence.

Another Blow to Slavery.

On August 1st, Zanzibar was placarded with a decree in Arabic and English, signed by the Sultan, abolishing the slave trade in his dominions. No notice had been given of the intended measure, which is the most important ever taken by a Mahomedan ruler against slavery, and cannot but be regarded as connected with our recent assumption of the Protectorate. The decree was well-timed in its appearance. The first of August was the fifty-sixth anniversary of the final abolition of slavery in the British Empire. By his decree, which consists of nine articles, the Sultan absolutely prohibits the sale and exchange of slaves from that day forward. The houses used for this purpose are to be closed, and slave-brokers are rendered liable to deportation for carrying on their traffic. At the death of their present owners, slaves are at once to become free unless the deceased leave lawful children to inherit them, and they cannot be willed away or sold after the owner's death. Ill-treatment is to be punished by a heavy penalty and the liberation of all the offender's slaves. Every subject of Zanzibar marrying a British subject is declared incapable of possessing slaves, and all slaves in possession of such persons are forthwith to be liberated. Lastly, every slave is to have the right of purchasing his own freedom at a reasonable price. That the decree is not intended to be a dead letter is shown by the clearing out and closing of the houses which had been used for the traffic. The decree has been submitted to with a good grace by the native population. But, despite the air of complete satisfaction which marks the telegraphic despatch announcing the Sultan's action, we doubt if the British nation will accept this half-measure as a sufficient compliance with the demands of civilization in a country which is declared to be under British protection.

The Rabbit Plague in Australasia.

A recent report by the United States consul at Sydney, N. S. W., gives a vivid idea of the extent of the rabbit pest in Australia. The extraordinary fecundity of the animals under the climatic conditions there prevailing have caused the

country to be completely over-run with them. Vast regions are devastated, and the grass and other herbage is devoured. The government has spent immense sums to destroy and repress them. New South Wales has spent nearly \$4,000,000. Several thousand miles of wire fencing has been erected, and large amounts in bounties for scalps have been paid. The bounty has varied from two cents a scalp to twenty-four cents according to the number of rabbits in the district. The rabbit hunters have earned from \$20 up to \$50 a week. The natural consequence has been that the extermination of rabbits has been the last thing desired by some of these rabbit hunters, and the bounty began to take the form of a practical subsidy or protection for the very animals it was desired to destroy. The employment of the rabbit hunters was made compulsory on the owners of land. The determination has at last been reached to discontinue the payment of such bounties.

Wire fencing has been found of use. A height of 3 feet, with 1½ mesh and No. 15 wire, has been found effective in excluding them. A wooden picket fence is also noted as giving good results.

The figure of five million is given as the possible increase of two pairs of rabbits in three years. Yet even this is a low estimate of the possibilities of reproduction of rabbits. The average life of a rabbit is put at about nine years. The doe may have young eight times in a year, averaging eight each time. The first litter is produced when but four months old. The progressions based on these figures lead to astonishing results. For three years the possible progeny of two rabbits has been calculated as over thirteen millions, and for seven as fifteen hundred millions. Of course these estimates may exceed reality, but they indicate the impossibility of killing off the foreign invader. Fifteen million skins have been exported from New South Wales in one year, yet the rabbits are not diminished. The climate of Australia seems to be such that no extraneous limit is placed to their propagation. In other lands they do not increase to any extent, and in settled places often become extinct. Instances of their destructive power are only too frequent in the antipodes. At a place called Terganynia, in 1886, 60,000 acres of grass were destroyed by them, although a million were killed on this identical tract.

At present the southwestern part of the continent is most afflicted. Curiously enough, tame rabbits will not spread. In the early history of the country they were introduced, but did not thrive. The origin of the present evil is traced to a single pair of wild brown rabbits liberated in Victoria. The first enactments against them were passed in 1879.

While their destruction would seem hopeless, in view not only of the figures given above, but on account of the experience of the past decade, attempts are still in progress. Poisoning is extensively used, of course unfitting the animals for food. This is held to be an advantage, as any utilization of the animal is in the line of opposition to its extermination. It is largely on account of poisoning that many canning factories started to utilize rabbits as a food product have been abandoned. Ferrets are found useful, but they have already done much harm to poultry and some of the interesting indigenous birds. Traps that kill the rabbits kill ferrets also, so the use of wire pounds to capture them in quantities alive is advised.

It will be remembered that a reward was offered by the government of New South Wales for a method for the destruction of rabbits. Up to the end of last year about 1,500 methods have been proposed and examined, but none answered the requirements. No less than 115 were for the destruction by disease. One curious scheme consisted in the killing of the females and letting the males escape. This, it is claimed, will bring about a preponderance of the males, who will worry the females to death. This plan is actually under trial now.

M. Pasteur, the eminent French biologist, proposed to introduce chicken cholera by inoculation. He reserved as his secret the method of preparing the virus, which secret he agreed to divulge only when the reward was

given him. The method was tried most carefully under the superintendence of M. Pasteur's own assistants. Rodd Island, near Sydney, was chosen for the work. The commission reported adversely, holding that practically the virus was little or no better than arsenic or other known poison. Thus the reward of \$25,000 remains in abeyance, while the rabbits continue to be as bad a plague as ever.

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.]

Women's Interest in Missions.

It is natural that women should take an especial interest in the work of sending the gospel to the heathen. They have reaped the greatest advantages from the gospel. Much as Christianity does for men it does far more for women. It raises woman out of her degraded position up into social equality with man, in addition to all the other inestimable blessings it confers. Let the women of our Christian America look upon the pitiable condition of women in heathen and Mahomedan countries, and reflect on the fact that this would have been their situation if it were not for the gospel. Gratitude for the blessings experienced through the gospel, and pity for their degraded sisters, ought to blend together in inspiring in every Christian woman's heart a deep interest in missions.

It is a matter for devout thanksgiving that within the past few years women have been taking a deep interest in this work, and are doing noble service. This is one of the most hopeful signs of coming prosperity. We are living in a missionary age. The future is bright with promise. By no means the least hopeful indication of the speedy progress of the gospel throughout the world is the effective activity of women in the work. They are in the majority in our churches and have power, perhaps even greater than they realize, of creating and intensifying the general sentiment of the whole body on a question of this kind. They are in a position, to a great extent, to foster the missionary spirit. The missionary enterprises of the coming generation depend largely on the Christian women of to-day. It is their privilege, as well as duty, to mould the minds of the children in the home, the Sunday school, and the mission bands, so that the coming generation will exhibit an activity in mission work such as the modern world has not yet seen. Deeply as our Christian women are interested in this great work, do they fully appreciate this great privilege of intensifying the missionary spirit and giving momentum to the missionary activities of the next generation. Would that the thought of this grand possibility might prove a fresh inspiration to the readers of the Woman's Column.

[For the Children.]

ULEDI AND HIS SUBSTITUTES.

The poor Africans are much abused, and often treated as if they had no noble elements of character, and were more like animals than men. Mr. Stanley tells a story which shows quite the contrary. In his heroic journey across Africa with his youthful band of followers, he arrived at Moroa, on the Congo river, sad, weary and anxious; for they had little left, and their supplies of beads and cloth for buying things of the natives was nearly used up.

He was much distressed, one day, to discover that a large bag had been opened and nearly all the beads stolen, and still more grieved to find, on enquiry, that the culprit was Uledi, the coxswain of the boat—a brave generous man, much beloved by the others, several of whom he had rescued from drowning.

A Council was called to determine what should be done to the man who had committed such a crime, and at such a time, when the lives of all depended on these stores. "It is a hard case," said Uanwa Sera, when urged to give his views on the matter, for this is Uledi, whom we all love; had it been another, I would have said we should hang a great stone to his neck,

and pitch him into the river. But it is Uledi; let him receive a thorough flogging, to deter others from repeating the crime." Many agreed to this, and cried out for "flogging." Then Stanley turned to the boat's crew, and said, "Now you boys, who know Uledi so well and have followed him through a hundred tough scenes, speak, what shall we do with him." Upwapa, one of the most reliable and steady men, replied: "Well, Master it is a hard question. Uledi is like an elder brother; but I think he should be beaten—only master, for our sakes, beat him just a little!" Shumari, Uledi's younger brother, a kind-hearted boy, was next appealed to, and after pleading earnestly, concluded by saying, "But please, master, as the chiefs say he must be flogged, give me half of it; and knowing it is for Uledi's sake I shall not feel it." Last of all, the question was put to Saywa, his cousin, who threw himself at Stanley's feet and said, "The master is wise; all things that happen he writes in a book. The master forgets nothing. Perhaps if he looks in his book he may see something about Uledi; how he saved men; how he worked harder than any; how he has been the first to listen to your voice always; how he has been the father of the boat boys. Shumari he will take half the punishment, then give Saywa the other half and set Uledi free." Stanley could not but consent to these touching requests, and said Uledi, by the voice of the people, is condemned, but as Shumari and Saywa have promised to take the punishment on themselves, Uledi is free; and feeling unable to punish the substitutes, added, Shumari and Saywa are pardoned. Uledi was penitent and humbled and came forward and said, "It was the devil which entered into Uledi's heart. Uledi will be good in future, and if he pleased his master before, will please him much more in future."

Thus Jesus took the sinner's place, To set the sinner free; And God provided, by His grace, A substitute for me.

Then, Lord, released from Satan's power, In humble joyful love, Help me to serve Thee every hour, My gratitude to prove.

THE NAME OF THE QUEEN'S CHILDREN.—Mr. Henry M. Meridew, writing to a London paper, says: "At a dinner, at which some distinguished notables were present, the conversation lapsed as to the correct surname of the Royal Family. The question was put to a celebrated historian who was present, who replied, 'Guelph, of course.' It was pointed out that although the Royal Family are Guelphs by descent, Her Majesty's marriage with Prince Albert must have the effect which the marriage of a lady has in all other cases and that the surname of the present house must be the Prince Consort's. 'But what is the surname of the Prince Consort's family?' Simple, but staggering. No one knew. All guessed and all were wrong. It transpired, however, that the correct name was 'Wettin'. Of course, no one had heard of it before, and all smiled at the idea of the Guelphs being reduced to 'Wettins'. The point was referred to Theodore Martin. 'You are quite right,' said the biographer of the Prince Consort. 'Wettin is the family name of the house of Saxony, to whom the dominion of Saxony came in the year 1420.'"

DENOMINATIONAL NOTICES.

NOVA SCOTIA CONFERENCE

The Free Baptist Conference of Nova Scotia will hold its annual session with church at Centerville, Cape Island, Shelburne Co., beginning at 10 a. m. Thursday, Sept. 11, 1890. See Minutes of Conference 1889, p. 20, for basis of representation. EDWIN CROWELL, Clerk.

DISTRICT MEETINGS.

The Third District Meeting to be held with the Church at Lower Canterbury, on the third Wednesday in September. Ministers to attend—Revs. C. T. Phillips, G. F. Currie, and Joseph Noble.

The Fourth District Meeting to be held with the Church at Tracy Station, on the second Saturday in September. Ministers to attend—Revs. John Perry, J. T. Parsons, and J. N. Barnes.

NOTICE.

A meeting of the Executive of the Free Baptist General Conference of N. S., will be held in the F. C. church

at Centerville, Cape Island, Shelburne Co., on Wednesday, the tenth of September, at 10 o'clock a. m. W. C. WESTON, Moderator.

Aug. 21st.

NOTICE.

A meeting of the Elders of the Free Baptist General Conference of N. S., will be held in the church at Centerville, Cape Island, Shelburne Co., Wednesday, the tenth of September, at 2 o'clock p. m. W. C. WESTON, Moderator.

Aug. 21st.

NOTICE.

The Annual Meeting of the Woman's Foreign Mission Society of the 4th District will convene during the session of the District Meeting. The Secretaries of local societies and Vice Presidents of each church will please send reports to me at as early a date as possible. It is also requested that a representative of each Society be at the meeting, as business of importance is to be considered.

Mrs. THOS. ALEXANDER, Secretary-Treasurer, Fredericton Junction, Aug. 23rd.

S. S. REPORTS.—The Corresponding Secretary of the Sabbath School Executive begs to acknowledge reports from the following Sabbath Schools:

FROM 2ND DISTRICT.

Windsor, C. J. Connelly, Supt.; Knox, Geo. O. Knox; Tracey Mills, C. L. West; Knowlesville, R. H. Kenney; Bumfrah, D. Boyce.

FROM 4TH DISTRICT.

Waterville, Daniel F. Brown, Supt. FROM 5TH DISTRICT. Upper Hampstead, S. L. Peters, Supt. Little River (Hampstead) A. Palmer, M. P. P.; Jerusalem Stephen Smith; Helder, Samuel J. Holder; Belleisle Bay, James E. Jones; Shannon, John A. Jones; Wickham, L. S. Vanwart.

7TH DISTRICT.

Seal Cove, J. W. Worster Supt.; Wilson's Beach, George N. Newman; Chocolate Cove, Oliver S. Fountain; Grand Harbour, Judson L. Guplett; White Head, J. D. Harvey; Portland, St. John, D. W. Clark; Waterloo St. St. John, Wm. Peters Supt.; Grand Manan, James Lawson.

Acknowledgments will be made of others as received.

S. L. PETERS, Corresponding Secretary, Queenston, Queens, Co. Aug. 21st. 1890.

N. B. District Meetings Clerks who have received reports from S. Schools in their District will confer a favour by forwarding them to the Corresponding Secretary.

FOREIGN MISSION FUND.

Received from— Church at Moncton, \$ 8 00 " Seal Cove, 1 35 " Grand Harbour, 2 53 " Carleton, 1 45 Abner Mercer, 50 Church at Wilson's Beach, 10 60 " White Head, 5 00 One half collection at 7th Dist. Meeting, 6 79 W. PETERS, Treasurer.

The Carleton Co. S School Convention will be held on Tuesday next Sept. 2nd.

UNIVERSITY.—The President of the University is expecting a large class of matriculants this year.

MR. MICHAEL COLTER, one of Fredericton's oldest citizens, died on Friday, at the age of 85. He had for several years been in poor health. He was fifty years in business here, and had a reputation for integrity. He was a prominent member of the Methodist church, and held in respect by his fellow citizens.

LUMBERMEN.—In a few weeks more numbers of our men throughout the land will be getting themselves ready to follow their usual pursuit—lumbering. It may be worth something for them to read the advertisement of Fred B. Edgecombe's in this paper. He keeps a large stock of lumbermen's goods and camp supplies, both whole sale and retail.

Mrs. ELDER, widow of the late Hon. Wm. Elder, died in St. John on Friday. She had been in poor health for some time, but her death was not expected till within a few weeks. She was in her 69 year. She is spoken of as an amiable lady, beloved by her family and a large circle of friends. Five children survive her, three of her first marriage, and two daughters of Mr. Elder.