

Religious Intelligencer.

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

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WHOLE No. 1889

YOUR RENEWAL!

If you have not yet sent your renewal subscription for this year, kindly forward it at once. The money is needed—needed now. Do not delay longer.

NOTES AND COMMENTS.

SELLING PAUPERS is still practised in some parts of the Province. In Buctouche a few days ago, two men were sold. Until very recently the same thing was done in Kings Co., and we are not sure that the wretched custom has been discontinued. It is an abominable thing, discreditable to the communities permitting it.

WORD COMES that reports from all parts of Manitoba and the Northwest territories, received up to April 24th, were to the effect that fully two-thirds of the seeding had been done. The acreage sown is about 20 per cent. greater than last year. Press drills have been used extensively this season and have done good work, except on wet clay soil. In some places, particularly on Portage plains, the grain has sprouted and is one foot or two inches above the ground.

HOMAGE to Stanley is the order of the day wherever he goes. If to be received with almost royal honours can compensate him for the hardships he has undergone, he will be fully compensated.

SO FAR five hundred and forty-seven families, each composed of twelve or more living children, have applied to the Quebec local government for 100 acres of crown lands in conformance with the bill passed last session.

DR. PIERSON in the *Missionary Review*, writing about the general lack of missionary information, illustrates his points with these two incidents:

A lady in Edinburgh apologized to a Cambridge graduate, who was a public man and a Doctor of Laws, for her inability to take part in a certain meeting because she had her "Zenana mission" to attend to; and he very innocently inquired: "Where is Zenana? I have often heard of it, but I confess I do not know its locality!" This was almost as bad as the old lady in Dundee, who, when applied to for a subscription for "Old Calabar," asked if that "wild man was yet living," for she had given to him forty years ago.

THE LOTTERY EVIL is doing more deadly work than many suppose. Here is an illustration: Wm. H. Wheeler, who recently committed suicide in New Orleans, left a note addressed to the Louisiana Lottery company, requesting it to bury him, as he had spent his last dollar for lottery tickets.

VERMONT, in the farming regions of the state, has been so depopulated by Western emigration that efforts are now being made to settle Swedes on the abandoned farms. The *Herald* says: The first instalment of twenty-seven Swedish families has already reached Vermont, and been divided into three colonies and assigned to different sections of the State. It is a very pathetic sight, in travelling over the State, to see large farms, with complete buildings, entirely deserted, in many cases not far distant from other farms which are well cultivated. The Swedes are to have these farms for nominal sums, and credit and assistance of various kinds are to be extended to them.

AMONG the petty gossip that circulates concerning Stanley and Emin Pasha, the latest is a reported statement of Stanley's regarding the real reason why Emin refused to leave Africa. In reply to a question he is said to have alluded to the exquisite charms of an Arab belle, for whose sake Emin was about to plunge once more into the mysterious depths of the Dark Continent. The story is too improbable, however romantic it may sound, to be readily accepted. Mr. Stanley himself is credited with having declared that for twenty years he has wanted a wife but has never had time to look for one. Emin, by all accounts, has been equally busy with natural science when he was not otherwise employed.

EX-PRESIDENT CLEVELAND, to whom the Chief Justice and another of the judges are indebted for their position

on the Bench, was, last week, admitted by the court to practice therein as a lawyer. He took the requisite oath and paid the usual ten-dollar fee.

THE EDUCATION of girls in France was formerly entirely in the hands of the convents, and was in every respect different from that of boys. But secular schools for girls have been founded, especially since 1870, and there are now fifty-one such high schools in France. One was opened last year in Paris whose buildings cost about \$400,000. It has twenty-two teachers, and takes girls from twelve to seventeen years old. Sewing and house-keeping are taught. The regular course is five years, and a teacher's diploma is given for the studies of a sixth year.

THE BISHOP of Peterboro, England, has been speaking in denunciation of the now quite general system in that country of child insurance. He says it is one of the great social evils of the time, and that he knows of medical men who refuse to attend children whose lives are insured. The crimes resulting are appalling.

THE SALVATION ARMY people in Toronto recently advertised:—"Two Days with God," and added at the bottom of the page,—"Silver collection. Reserved seats 25 cents." Many of their announcements are of this grossly irreverent character.

Some Notable Persons.

MRS. JEFF. DAVIS.—The widow of Jefferson Davis, since his death, signs her name "V. Jefferson Davis." Many persons doubtless suppose she had added the name Jefferson to her Christian name Varina. But this is not the proper explanation. V. is the abbreviation of *venue*, the French for widow, and it is the custom in Louisiana, and perhaps in other parts of the South, for widows to place that letter before the Christian name of their husbands. V. Jefferson Davis simply means the widow of Jefferson Davis.

A YOUNG QUEEN.—The future queen of Holland is a fair-haired, slender, inconspicuous maid of nine, who is most carefully brought up by her sensible mother, Queen Emma. The clothes and diet of the Princess Wilhelmina would be condemned as quite too plain and common by the average American child of her age, as the quietness and regularity of her life would appear "too awfully slow." Nevertheless, as the only reigning queen of the future, she attracts already as many suitors for her hand as troubled the fair Portia.

BELL.—Alexander Graham Bell, inventor of the telephone, was in impecunious circumstances fifteen years ago, and people to whom he talked about his invention put him down as a visionary.

BISMARCK.—Prince Bismarck, according to a newspaper gossip, is aging fast. April 1st was his seventy-fifth birthday. Like many men of strong character, he believes that he has been privileged to know the date of his death. He will not die he is convinced, until 1891. He will not be living beyond 1894. Life for him is no indefinite vista, stretching out into the distant future. He will have done with it for good and all before the end of 1894.

EDISON.—Edison is a count, a millionaire and the most famous living inventor. His present wealth, which amounts to many millions, is as nothing compared to what it will be in the next few years; but he still works away in his laboratory, and comes forward to greet you in just such a suit of clothes as he wore twenty years ago. As compared with Edison's dingy little shop of twenty years ago, out at Menlo Park, in which he used to eat his bread and cheese seated on an old packing-box talking over the work in hand with two or three workmen, the present surroundings are fabulously luxurious. Everything shows unbounded means, which may be the case, when we remember that his famous laboratory costs \$200,000 a year to maintain. But the master mind is still the same. When he works it means work for his men. In the old days at Menlo Park it was no uncommon thing for him to remain at the

bench for forty-eight hours at a stretch, sending one of the boys for crackers and cheese when he felt hungry, and not giving up until his assistants had actually fallen asleep standing up. To-day he is just as interested.

KING OF SWEDEN.—King Oscar, of Sweden, who is well known as an author, has turned his pen from political to military themes. He has just published a minute study of the Swedish Army, based on his observations during the autumn maneuvers.

Prohibition in Maine.

How poor and miserable the people were in those old days! How poor and miserable, also, was the state—the poorest state in the Union. The houses' shingles off the roof; the clapboards on the walls loose and rattling in the wind, old rags and old hats in the windows instead of glass; miserable hide-bound horses and cattle in the cold winters, shivering in the wind under the lee of the dilapidated barns. In the summer everything about the farms and farm houses slovenly to the last degree; the pigs in the garden, the cattle in the corn; the farmer and his boys at the country grocery. That's how it was in Maine in the old rum-time. Everybody and everything went for rum. But a better time was coming; it was near at hand. On the 2nd of June, 1851, the wires carried the glorious news through the state and all over the country that at nine o'clock on that morning, Monday, Governor Hubbard had signed the Maine law, which had been enacted on the Saturday by the legislature to take immediate effect. Instantly the fires of the distilleries were extinguished; not one remains—nor a brewery. Country groceries and taverns were purged of their rum, and remain so to this day. In far more than three-fourths of the State, containing far more than three-fourths of our people—that is to say, in all our rural districts and in our smaller towns and villages—the liquor traffic is practically unknown. An entire generation has grown up there, never having seen a grog shop or the results of liquor drinking. Our people now save, directly and indirectly, more than twenty-four million dollars annually, which but for the Maine law would be spent and wasted for drink, as in the old rum time. The mortgages are lifted from the houses and farms; no more leaky roofs, rattling clapboards, old hats and rags in the windows. No more dilapidated barns and shabbiness and slovenliness everywhere. Maine, from being the poorest State in the Union, is now one of the most prosperous, having snatched from the grog shops more than twenty-four million dollars annually. Its houses and farms, and barns and school-houses, and town-houses and public buildings, and churches are no longer shabby and dilapidated as they were formerly, but are in excellent condition and good style of architecture. Everything in and about the State testifies to ease and comfort, and better ways of living among the people, indicating industry, enterprise and thrift among them. —*Neal Dow.*

The Mennonites.

There are several thousands of the people known as Mennonites in Manitoba.

A correspondent of the "Interior" gives the following description of this peculiar people:

They are followers of Simon Menno, who was born in 1496 and who died in Holstein in 1561. In the year 1780, after many wanderings and bitter persecutions in Germany, they accepted the invitation of Catherine II. to settle in southern Russia. The Russian Government gave them lands free from taxation for twenty years, with exemption from military service and freedom to worship God according to their own convictions. They were also provided with lumber for their houses and money and implements of agriculture to aid in commencing life in the land of their adoption. For protection against robbers and for schools and churches, they settled in villages, as their descendants still do in the British Northwest. The favours granted by Catherine were continued eighty-five years. Then by a cruel edict they were required either to submit to military service or leave the Russian Empire. They determined to leave. Five years were granted them in which to sell their lands and clear out bag and baggage. In that time a great many Mennonites emigrated, some to the United States, others to Canada. July 23, 1873, Henry Wiebe and Jacob Peters secured a grant of a reserve in

Manitoba from the Dominion Government at Ottawa. The area of this reserve is forty-eight miles by eighteen, the finest wheatlands in Manitoba. In 1875 the colonists came from "Rushland," and settled upon it. In that year they had ten villages. This year, 1890, they occupy fifty villages west of the Red River. They number 6,000 souls. To help them emigrate and settle, the Dominion Government loaned them \$100,000 for ten years at six per cent. This large amount was all repaid in 1889.

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 Call From India.

BY E. L. POORE.

My heart is stirred within me
As I hear from o'er the sea,
From India's plains and mountains,
A voice that's calling me.

Yes, me it calls—I listen—
"Come o'er," I hear the cry.
What! go to that land of darkness
To labor and to die?

Yes, I the Father wills it;
But I hear aright,
'Tis not that I shall carry
Myself the torch of light.

For when I hear, "Come o'er,"
The Spirit whispers low,
"Those whom the Lord has chosen,
And only those should go."

"But go to that far country
In your thoughts, your prayers, each day,
Help fill the empty coffers,
And work as well as pray."

And shall we heed the calling,
And send true men and brave,
Whose souls are all in earnest
The perishing to save.

Christianity in Fiji.

In the year 1874, the Fiji Islands were annexed by Great Britain. All the great chiefs then signed the deed of cession, and Fiji passed from the dominion of mis-rule to the orderly position of a British colony. Then Cakobau, the king, presented his war-club to Queen Victoria, sending with it this message: "The king gives her Majesty his favorite war-club, until lately the only known law of Fiji. By this emblem I submit to her Majesty's rule." This powerful and beautifully wrought club is now in the keeping of Mr. Franks of the British Museum. Not forty years previous to this incident, missionaries from the British Wesleyan churches came to Fiji, then in a state of savage heathenism; and, but for their labors, there would be no British Fiji to-day. Fiji is an archipelago containing about eighty inhabited islands, some of which are of considerable size, and upwards of one hundred and fifty uninhabited islands. The climate is unusually healthy. Nature has done much for these islands.

The most wonderful thing, however, connected with these islands, more extraordinary than all phases of nature, is the strange change that has come over them since the first Wesleyan missionaries, Messrs. Cargill, and Cross, landed upon them. Then, in the year 1835, those devoted men, at the risk of their lives, carried the holy faith of Christianity to those ferocious cannibals. What faith and courage were theirs, landing in the midst of these bloodthirsty hordes, witnessing such scenes as chill one's blood even to recite them, now to hold on in proclaiming the gospel! Oh, that those who sometimes sneer at Christian missions could see those islands to-day, and compare their condition with the past! Seventeen short years ago every man's hand was against his neighbor; there was no rest from inter-tribal wars; foes, without respect of age or sex, were eaten when taken in battle; prisoners were fattened for slaughter; dead bodies, buried a week or ten days, were dug up and cooked in the form of puddings, arms and legs were cut from the living, and cooked and eaten in the presence of the victim; the sick were buried alive; widows were strangled on the death of great men; living men were buried beside every part of a chief's new house, and stood clapping it while the earth was heaped over their heads; others were laid on the ground as rollers, when a chief launched a new

canoe, thus doomed to an excruciating death; there was no security for life or property; and whole villages were depopulated to supply their neighbors with fresh meat! Ah, the tender mercies of those heathen were cruel! Yet, what a change has been wrought! Now, you may pass from isle to isle, sure everywhere to find a kindly reception; every village on the eighty inhabited isles has built for itself a neat church, and a house for the native minister, for whom also the village provides food and clothing; there are nine hundred Wesleyan churches in Fiji, with crowded congregations in every one; schools are well attended; and, passing from island to island, from village to village, from house to house, the traveller may now hear, at morning and evening, the sound of hymn-singing, and the voice of prayer, lifted up in praise and in petition to the one true God, and to Jesus Christ, the Prince of Peace! Now, let cavilers at missionaries, and at Christian missions, answer these questions.—What power has swept away all traces of idolatry from the Fiji Islands; has abolished the heathenish customs of centuries; has taken the war-club from king and chief; has given security to property and life; has changed the battle-cry into the religious hymn, and the feast of human flesh into the holy communion?

Progress of Languages.

Italian is now used by 32,000,000 people, instead of 18,000,000.
Portuguese is now spoken by 33,000,000 people, instead of 8,000,000.
Spanish is now used by 44,000,000 of people, against 30,000,000 in 1890.
Russian is now spoken by 68,000,000, against 30,000,000 at the beginning of the century.
In the case of French, the increase has been from 34,000,000 to 46,000,000, or 36 per cent.
English, which at the commencement of the century was spoken by only 22,000,000 of people, is now spoken by 100,000,000.
In 1891 German was spoken by only 35,000,000 of people; to-day over 70,000,000 talk in that language.

Revival in Midnapore, India.

Rev. M. C. Miner, one of the Free Baptist Missionaries in India, writes to the *Morning Star* of revival in Midnapore. He says:
"The church in Midnapore has just enjoyed a revival. Like the churches at home, the churches here get into a low spiritual state and need a revival. A native preacher living in Calcutta called on us about a month ago. We learned that his work was that of evangelist. His manner was such that we felt that he was a good man and was in his proper work. He said that he thought he could come to Midnapore and hold a meeting. After he had gone home, we sent him an invitation and he came. A few days' meeting resulted in reviving the church very much. Some who had been doing but little, now seemed filled with the Holy Ghost and the spirit of work. For some time we have been praying in the missionary meetings for a revival. We have been especially burdened in this direction. It is a source of great joy to us that it has come, and that very much of the former coldness of the native workers is gone. A revival here does not mean exactly what it does at home. There we expect the church revived, and sinners converted, but here the most that we can expect is to have the church revived. In the last few weeks some of the missionaries have had wonderful showers of grace. The country work was attended with a very precious presence of the Divine Master. Never before did I realize how much of the Holy Ghost is needed to do Christ's work. At home one can get along with a formal religion, but not so here, if anything is to be accomplished. The heathen are hard-hearted and set in their belief. The only way that they can ever be moved is to compel them by an overwhelming fullness of the Spirit of God that they cannot resist."

—Owing to the reaction against foreigners in Japan, the number of baptisms in the Protestant missions fell off from 4,730 in 1888 to 3,086 in 1889. The Protestant Christians in Japan now number 27,719; Roman Catholics, 28,326; and Greek Christians, 17,025.

NOT YET.—One of the papers says the Temperance Societies of this city purpose inviting Rev. Mr. Little of Sussex to deliver an address here on the Scott Act. This is probably some newspaper man's joke. Mr. Little will have to learn more about the Act before he can properly discuss it. He might, though, find out something about how "unworkable" it is by visiting this city.

STANLEY.—It is stated that the Queen is going to make Mr. Stanley a Commander of the Most Distinguished Order of St. Michael and St. George. This would make his title Sir Henry M. Stanley, K. C. M. G. The treaties which Mr. Stanley has made throughout his route from the west to the east coast of Africa with the native chiefs and people are now lodged in the Foreign Office awaiting ratification by the Government. If his work in this line bears its legitimate fruit the great explorer will have done great service to England politically, and in a general way to the whole English-speaking world.

C. T. ACT NOTES.—The law is being better enforced against rum-sellers in St. Stephen. One fellow, Tyrell, was sent to jail last week for a third offence. Other cases are on hand.

In Moncton \$500 was collected in fines last month. To put some of them in jail will have a better effect.

Four of Fredericton's "respectable" rum-sellers are in jail. Coleman and Grieves are still out of the country. There is a place for them when they return, if ever.

OF MINISTERS.—We regret to learn that the health of Rev. E. Evans, pastor of Centenary (Methodist) church, St. John, continues so poor that he has been compelled to resign. Bro. Evans is both an able and devout christian minister. We trust that a period of rest from the work will fully restore him to his old time vigor. Rev. B. M. Shaw recently appointed to the Baptist mission in India, is soon to sail for his chosen field. It is said that Rev. J. A. Gordon (Baptist) formerly of St. John, now of Charlottetown, will receive a call to a church near Boston. The Centenary will endeavor to get Dr. Sprague as successor to Rev. E. Evans.

PERSONAL.—Mr. G. Clowes Van Wart, youngest son of Geo. H. Van Wart Esq., of Lower Queensbury, returned last week from Philadelphia, having completed his course in medicine and taken the degree M. D. He intends returning to Philadelphia soon to take a position in a Hospital there. Rev. Dr. McVicar has resigned the chancellorship of the Toronto Baptist College, owing to ill health brought on by overwork. He will retain professorship of the college, however. Sir Leonard Tilley has just passed his 72nd birthday. He is in good health, does not expect to be reappointed Governor after the expiration of his term in the Autumn, and has no intention of re-entering public life. Deacon Stephen Smith of Hampstead, Q. Co., died Sunday morning. He was 83 years old, and had been in failing health for some time. A suitable notice will appear later. Fifty years ago, says the Saint Andrews Beacon, "Adam W. Smith was a gay young bachelor." Next Saturday he with his worthy wife, will celebrate his golden wedding. Mr. Smith is probably the oldest newspaper man in the province. Hon. Owen McNerny, of Kent Co., died on Friday. He had been a member of the Legislative Council for about 20 years, and attended the last session.

W. C. T. U.—Miss Willard is expected to visit the Maritime Provinces during the summer, probably in June. The young women's branch of the W. C. T. U. in this city gave a very interesting entertainment in the Temperance Hall last Thursday evening.

CARRIAGES.—Attention is directed to the advertisement of D. A. Grant & Co., Carriage Makers, Woodstock. This firm has steadily enlarged its business, till now its work goes in every direction. It has a reputation for doing good work at reasonable prices. Mr. Grant, a practical mechanic, gives personal supervision to the work of the establishment. The number of carriages made and sold in this season will be larger than ever before.