

Religious Intelligencer.

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

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THE INTELLIGENCER FOR 1890

NOW FOR RENEWALS!

We desire to retain every present subscriber. We are hoping that not one will feel willing to give up the paper.

NEW SUBSCRIBERS!

This is the time to get new subscribers. We are dependent almost entirely on the friends of the INTELLIGENCER and the work it is set to do, to push the canvass for new names. They are the paper's agents.

We earnestly request their co-operation just now to still further increase its circulation.

Now is the time for the best work!

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To help our friends in the canvass for new names we make the following special offers:

1. TWO SUBSCRIBERS—One renewal and one new one—FOR \$2.50.
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All larger numbers of new subscribers at the same rate as in the last offer.

No. 4. By new subscribers we mean those not now on our list.

These offers will be good for only a limited time.

There are, we think, hundreds of our subscribers who can use one or another of these offers to advantage.

There are few who cannot get at least one new name.

Let there be a prompt and sharp canvass all over the field, participated in by every one who desires the larger usefulness of the INTELLIGENCER, and the greater prosperity of the denomination and the cause it represents.

NOTES AND GLEANINGS.

THERE is always much and distressing poverty in places of large population. The poverty in England is often mentioned. It is gratifying to know that the poverty there which has to have relief is steadily diminishing. A quarter of a century ago, when the population of England was somewhat over twenty millions, the paupers receiving relief numbered fully a million. Now, with nearly thirty millions, the number of paupers is under seven hundred and fifty thousand. It is said by those who are watchful that even the great misery in London is abating under the constant and earnest administration of numerous Christian charities.

THE DEBAUCHERY which rum has brought in Africa is appalling. A missionary writes:

I never saw such poverty among God's people as there is in Liberia. The Christian nations are pouring rum and gin upon this poor people. The steamer that brought us from Hamburg had on board 10,000 cases of rum (each holding from 30 to 60 gallons), 11 cases of gin, 460 tons of gunpowder and 14 missionaries—all on their way to Africa to convert the heathen. The German line has nine steamers that ply monthly between Germany and Africa. They always have the same kind of a load, with the exception of the missionaries. I learned that much of this rum came from Boston.

Yet the United States Government refuses to join with other nations to secure the prohibition of the traffic in Africa.

FANATICISM in the extremist and most inexcusable form has frequent illustration. The N. Y. Advocate relates a Brooklyn case. A child about seven years old died of diphtheria lately. During his illness his father persistently refused to give remedies prescribed by the physician, saying: "He is God's child, and He will take care of him. If He wants him, He will take him." After the death of the child the father was arraigned before the police justice on a charge of violating the law relative to contagious diseases, the penalty for which is a year's imprisonment in the penitentiary or \$500 fine, or both. He was found guilty. Doubtless there are believers in Christian science and faith-cure who are sincere; nevertheless laws for the protection of the community against the spread of diseases and the lives of individuals against criminal neglect are wise and wholesome, and should be enforced.

ARCHDEACON FARRAR, in a recent public address, said: I am more and more lost in astonishment when I consider how many leaders of thought in church and State, leading lights of the non-conformists and in the Church of England who live in the odor of sanctity, but although they know that drink is one of the deadliest curses in

England, never lift a single finger for the cause of temperance or subscribe one single sixpence to it. * * * It seems to me in God's battles slackness is infamy. * * * But for the temperance associations we should soon be immersed in such an ocean of immorality, violence and sin as would make this country uninhabitable."

AUSTRALIA is really a great and rapidly developing country. There are large cities with great universities, and an excellent school system, with compulsory attendance, blesses the people. Railroads, telegraphs, telephones and all the conveniences of modern life are as common as on this Continent. And says the "Journal and Messenger," the intellectual life of the people is perhaps as high as that of any people on the globe. Years ago, English convicts were sent to penal colonies, but this practice was discontinued in 1839—fifty years ago—and the leading portions of the country were never used for this purpose. The country has been settled in the main by English emigrants.

WHEN PARISIANS were forced to eat horse meat during the German siege, we pitied them. When it came out that Berlin has thirty horse-meat markets, we rather sneered at their taste. But there is a horse sausage factory in New York, for the product of which purchasers are readily found, and the Bologna sausages which are imported so largely are also said to be made of horse meat. There is nothing especially astounding in this fact, as horse-flesh has been pronounced excellent food, and, if healthy, as nourishing as beef and pork. It is more a matter of sentiment and habit than anything else.

ABOUT THE VALUE of a religious newspaper an eminent man has written the following which we find in the *Star*. It may well be pondered by the heads of families:

"Give up many things before you give up your religious newspaper. If any one that ought to take such a paper does not, I hope some one to whom the circumstance is known will volunteer the loan of this to him, directing his attention particularly to this article. Who is he? A professor of religion and not taking a religious newspaper! A member of the visible church, and voluntarily without the means of information as to what is going on in the Church? A follower of Christ, praying daily, as his Master, 'Thy kingdom come,' and yet not knowing, or caring to know, what progress that kingdom is making! But I must not fail to ask if this person takes a secular paper? Oh, certainly he does. He must know what is going on in the world, and how else is he to know it? It is pretty clear, then, that he takes a deeper interest in the world than he does in the church; and this being the case, it is not difficult to say where his heart is. How can a professor of religion answer for discrimination in favor of the world? How defend himself against the charges it involves?"

OVER 9,000,000 of Germans live outside of Germany, 7,000,000 of them are in the United States.

THE CHINESE COAST, 2,000 miles in extent, is lighted at night by as complete a system of lighthouses as the shores of any civilized country.

Jerusalem Awakening.

Anything indicative of an awakening and a revival of energy in the Holy Land, especially at Jerusalem, must be of interest to every Christian who is watching the "signs of the times." A correspondent of the "London World" now visiting the Holy City for the seventh time, finds many suggestive and encouraging changes:

On approaching the city from the west, in former years, there were, he says, scarcely any buildings except the Russian Convent and the Montefiore Almshouses to intercept the view of the city walls; now the whole plain is covered with private residences and colonies of Jews, whilst near to the Jaffa Gate are large numbers of shops already tenanted and numerous others in course of construction. This extension beyond the walls has become necessary, on account of the rapid increase of the population. I am informed by Mr. Moore, British consul here, that within the last three or four years about 20,000 Jews have come to Jerusalem for permanent residence in and around the city and that of the entire population of about 70,000, it is estimated that nearly 40,000 are Jews. He also stated that the influx of Jews into other parts of Palestine during recent years has been entirely without precedent. The principal streets which, but a few years since, were almost impassable in rainy weather, have been paved with stone, a new wide street has been opened up through a densely-populated quarter, and five hotels are now open for the reception of the annually-increasing number of visitors and traders from all lands. Public works of importance have been executed, and others are in progress. The road from Jaffa to Jerusalem, at one time all but impracticable, has been reconstructed by an eminent engineer—over its own and other carriage services are in full operation—a good road has been formed from Jerusalem to Bethlehem, and another from Jerusalem to Hebron; several others are rapidly approaching completion—from Jaffa to Nablous (Shechem), 40 miles; Jerusalem to Jericho (20 miles), Caipha to Nazareth (20 miles), and Nazareth to Tiberias (18 miles.) Jerusalem has hitherto been almost wholly dependent for its water supply upon its large underground cisterns for the reception of rain water, which after a summer's drought often prove insufficient in quantity, and almost unfit for use. The Government is now about to introduce an unending supply from a spring of pure water beyond Solomon's Pools—about nine miles distant. A large flour mill having proved both a great benefit and a financial success, others with large steam power are in progress of erection; soap factories have commenced operations, and at Jaffa steam saw-mills have been established. Colonies of Jews following agricultural pursuits, stated to be successful, are located, one about five miles from Jaffa and a larger one at Limerin, near Caesarea, originated and assisted by the Rothschild family. The before-named road to Jericho is being constructed by the Government, who have taken up all the land available in the best parts of the valley for the development of an extensive scheme of agricultural operations, which, with such a temperature, so fertile a soil, and well-watered by the copious stream from Elisha's fountain, should promise abundant and remunerative crops. Grapes, bananas, sugar-cane, cotton, and various fruits and vegetables have for some time past been cultivated here with much success. The increased amount of rain which has fallen the last few years in Palestine has had a most marked effect in larger and more abundant harvests than hitherto known.

Shall the Heathen Teach Us?

Public attention, the world over, has within a year or two been directed to those Samoan islands, touching the occupancy of which by Germany there were certain exploits of international diplomacy. Being thus lifted into special notice, it was discovered, to the surprise of many, that for a considerable period the Samoans have been a Christian people, and that of a high type. Their morality is said to be superior to that of some of the most favored nations. Not a village is without its school and church. No instance of Sabbath breaking is tolerated. But we wish to call particular thought to the fact, that they put to shame those peoples which have long boasted of their supreme civilization, in enforcing laws that are absolutely prohibitory of the sale of intoxicating liquors. All this is very remarkable, as signaling the character of a population which, not many years ago, was sunk in the darkest night of heathenism. We can hardly suppress an expression of the wish, that our own country could be placed under the control of a missionary influence like that which has wrought such wonders in these pacific islands. We are almost ready to call upon our Samoan brothers and sisters, to come hither and teach us, amongst other things, how to frame laws that shall suppress the liquor traffic; or how, supposing such laws to be generally passed, they may be enforced with a rigidity which will leave nothing to be desired. Would it not astonish our citizens, were they to listen to the preaching of those who have just emerged into light of the Gospel, upon the subject of true sobriety? Their simple story might be heard with effective interest.

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.]

Interesting Notes.

—The first two American-born ministers have just gone out to the Baptist Mission on the Congo, viz., Rev. J. C. Hyde of Trenton N. J., and Rev. C. Hartstock of Indiana. Mr. Harstock is to be supported by the students of Brown University.

—The origin of the Baptist Telegu Mission, which is one of the most successful in the world, having more than 30,000 converts, can be traced to the acts of a young Sunday-school teacher, a poor seamstress, who one Sunday gave a rough street boy a shilling to go to Sunday-school. This boy Amos Sutton, was converted, became a missionary to India, and was the means of leading the Baptists of America to begin the Telegu Mission.

—Miss West of the American Board opened a school for older girls last September in Oorfa with 12 pupils and it has since increased to 36. Oorfa is a city east of the Euphrates and three days distant from Aintab, and has 30,000 inhabitants. Protestant work was begun three years ago, and a church membership obtained.

—Bishop William Taylor, writing from Loanda, Africa, July 20, says, I made my walk of 300 miles, back and forth between Dondo and Malenge, with less fatigue than a similar walk cost me four years ago. The last two days of my journey I made 26 miles in one of them and 25 in the other. I don't speak boastingly, but to let you know that I am not dead yet, and don't propose to die until the Master tells me to die, and then die as quickly as I can." He had been visiting the five Angola Stations, and was just then taking passage for the Congo by the Portuguese mail steamer.

—The Woman's Executive Committee of Home Missions of the Presbyterian Church, announces that its receipts for the last year amounts to \$320,000. An advance over last year of \$94,000.

Dec. Miss. Review.

MOSES AND REBECCA.

Mr. Wilkie, a Presbyterian missionary, writes from Indore, Hindustan, to the *Presbyterian Review* telling the story of a Hindoo Christian wedding.

One evening on my return home I found six or eight people waiting for me, led on by my catechist, who explained that one of them—Moses by name—wished to marry our ayah, Rebecca, a Christian. When I asked the intending bridegroom if he had spoken with Rebecca on the subject, he said he neither had nor felt the necessity for doing so—that if "the sahib" was willing, why should he trouble further. Knowing well that the ordinary native custom is to throw on the missionary all the trouble and responsibility in connection with marriage, and then to blame him if all does not turn out quite satisfactory, I clearly told him that they must assume all responsibility, and advised him to see her before going any further. To this he agreed, and waited till she returned with the children.

She, of course, through a third party, had already heard of the intention of Moses, and of the proposed interview with me; and yet on her return to the house, passed by the waiting ones in the most indifferent way as if she had no interest in either them or their doings. I followed her into the house and in a jocular way asked what this meant, when she in an astonished way asked "What?"

"Are you not thinking of getting married?"

She—"I will do whatever the sahib says."

"Have you seen or spoken to Moses yet?"

She—"Why should I? If the sahib is willing I will marry him, but if not willing, I will not do so."

I then tried to show her how foolish such a course was, as she, not the sahib, would have to live with him afterwards, and told her I would do nothing further till they were both quite satisfied with each other. She agreed then to see him, but I am quite sure I not in the slightest degree influenced them in the matter; but rather made them yet further wonder at our strange ideas as to marriage. Did he not want a wife? Was she not willing to take him, and had he not asked me who was her ma-bap (mother and father)? What more then was necessary? After we were satisfied that Moses had not a wife somewhere else, and that otherwise he was satisfactory, the day was fixed (January 1st), the bride retaining the same utterly indifferent air—even going on with her work till within a very short time of her marriage.

At last they stood before me. Moses was asked to repeat some words after me, but refused, saying, "I will give her her bread and water. Is that not enough?" and in this, too, only conforming to the current idea whilst expressing the fear they so naturally have of binding themselves to do what may have a deeper meaning. The ceremony ended without any further hitch, without the bride, however, being saluted in the usual way, or at all affected, and soon after Rebecca slipped home and went on as usual

with her work, though I should say she went away later on to the big dinner that had been prepared in honor of the occasion.

Sometimes the missionary is not only asked to agree to the marriage, but also asked to secure a bride or bridegroom, as may be needed—though this office I have invariably declined. You need hardly wonder if sometimes an obligation so lightly undertaken is as lightly regarded and broken, and that hence missionaries have sometimes sad hearts. It is useless to expect that ideas that have been received in their earliest years and that are still so fully believed in by the great mass around them, should not continue to exercise a very decided influence even in the Christian Church. Oh that those who talk so loudly in praise of Hinduism could see it as it is—not as it seems to be, stripped of all that is vile and impure! I have often asked the Hindus which one of their sacred books would they put into their child's hands, as its only guide to morality and good living, and have invariably been told there was not one. Beautiful thoughts are to be found in them, it is true, but unfortunately the few nuggets of precious truths are powerless to stem the torrent of villainess that for ages has swept over Hindustan.

MISSIONARY PROGRESS.

In less than fifty years the Sandwich Islands were turned from savagery into a Christian nation, sending Christian missionaries into other lands. In fifteen years the cannibal Feejeans were one-half decent church-goers; 22,000 were church-members; 27,000 children were in the schools. In 1861 the church of Madagascar, which had only known missionaries for forty years, having passed through a terrible persecution in the meanwhile, in which 2,000 were martyred, had from fifty converts that were left grown into 5,000; and since then has increased to the number of 42,000 communicants. Forty years ago not a Protestant was within the bounds of the Chinese empire. To-day nine provinces of the empire are supplied with mission stations, and forty societies have their laborers in the field. Schools are opened and the gospel is preached 7,000 times a year; and in one quarter 13,000 communicants in a community of 40,000. Only a partial report from South Africa gives 180,000 adherents of the various missions and 35,000 communicants. In 1878 more than 60,000 converts were gathered into the Protestant mission churches of the world. Sixty thousand in one year a number equal to the whole number of converts fifty-five years ago. The missionary work is the most hopeful work in the world to-day. The Church at home meanwhile grows earnest in proportion to the way in which she throws herself into the field. God help us to rise to our responsibility.—Rev. Dr. W. N. McVicar.

Paper Railroad Ties.

Steel-tired paper car wheels are in use on nearly every railroad in the land. Before many years, it is probable, the tracks themselves may be laid upon paper and held together by paper ties. The inventor of a paper tie says that he can utilize in this way the ordinary paper board which is made from straw, grass, or any cheap and coarse fibrous material. The straw boards are cemented together and pressed in molds, making, he claims, a fire-proof and water-proof tie which is not affected by atmospheric changes, holds the spikes firmly, is sufficiently elastic, and will outwear five wooden ties.—Exchange.

OUR CLIMATE.—It is quite evident to every observer of our seasons that the character of our winters has become very different from what it was even a few years ago. In this district of the Province, and, indeed, all along the shores of the Bay of Fundy, both in New Brunswick and Nova Scotia, the winter is much milder and more open now than it used to be when our middle-aged men were boys. Then, we used to have heavy snow-storms and long-continued spells of severely cold weather. Now, we seldom have more than three or four cold days in succession, and most of our snow-storms are followed by heavy falls of rain. There seems to be a good deal in the theory advanced to account for these results, that they are produced by a deflection of the Gulf Stream toward our shores, bringing nearer to us a great continuous flow of warmer water. Not only here, but all along the Atlantic coast of North America, the present winter has been so far as it is advanced, most remarkable for its mildness. We in St. John have in truth, had but four or five really cold days; and we have no snow worth speaking of lying in our streets or anywhere in the adjacent country.—Globe.