

Religious Intelligencer.

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

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NOTES AND COMMENTS.

THE FEELING that a Canadian should be appointed to the position vacated by Genl. Middleton is evidently general and strong, judging by what the papers say. In England, too, the same feeling finds expression.

THE POPE—says the "Christian Leader"—has certainly stolen a march upon Lord Salisbury in Malta. Not only are mixed marriages between Roman Catholics and Protestants to be subject to papal approval in the future, but the dispensation from the Pope will be necessary to give legal validity to such marriages as have been already consummated. Thus, such a couple lately married by a Baptist minister at Malta will not be legally man and wife till the tie is sealed at Rome. In these negotiations Britain has given everything and Rome nothing. For the consent of the Pope to recognize marriages between Protestants was not necessary; such have always been valid under the civil law. The whole affair reveals in a microcosm what papal assumption used to be the world over; and suggests that a Protestant government ought not to consult the Vatican as to its laws—certainly not, if it is to be led by the nose as it has been in this case.

THE CZAR of Russia is said to be the owner in fee simply of 50,000,000 acres of land; and yet with all this vast possession added to his imperial power, he is probably the most frightened man in all Russia. He trembles every moment for his life.

DR. HERBERT SNOW, the head of an English Cancer Hospital, says mental worry is the chief existing cause of cancer. The most serious increase of cancer during the last few years, is due, he says, to the worries caused by the accelerated rush of modern life. In 1864 the proportion of cancer sufferers was 385 to the million; in 1888 it had risen to 610—the number of deaths in the latter year being 6,284 males, and 11,222 females, or 17,506 in all. Until society emerges into some calmer sea, declares Dr. Snow, a progressive increase in the prevalence of cancer may be predicted as a matter of course.

THE TRIUMPH of the Lottery Company in the Louisiana Legislature is clearly a case of the triumph of money over convictions. The promoters of the dishonest and debasing scheme spent money in the most lavish way. As showing how members of the Legislature were handled, a correspondent of the Voice writes:

"A leader among the 'anti's' told me yesterday he had been given to understand he could have one hundred thousand dollars for his vote. The very next 'anti' whom I chanced to meet said: 'They are offering \$100,000 for votes, and I have no doubt when it comes to the point where only one more vote is needed they will give a million dollars for that. The strain has been too great for some of the members. One said to another: I am a ruined man. I am bound to vote for this accursed bill and I know I ought not to do it, but they have a hold on me and won't let me go. I had rather be dead. I had rather be stabbed with a thousand daggers.' Fifteen minutes later he fell to the floor in what was supposed to be an attack of paralysis, but which proved to be nervous prostration. Rumor says that for one member who dares not return to his outraged constituency should he vote for the Lottery charter a home has been provided in another State and a comfortable income assured for life."

THE ROYAL MINT of England coined last year the largest amount of silver ever issued in a year, the total value being \$48,732,140. The mint made a profit above expenses of \$4,000,000.

AT THE CONVENTION of the Societies of Christian Endeavor, recently held, Wisconsin reported that a society had been organized in the State Penitentiary, with fifty-three active and forty-seven associate members. It is the only society of the kind in the world. Its Secretary sent a touching letter to the Convention, to which a fitting and cheering reply was made.

DR. PARKE, Mr. Stanley's companion, in an interview, said:—"Our general costume was a shirt, knickerbockers, stockings, and boots. Sometimes at night we wore a coat. The natives have a constitutional objection

to clothes, and decline to wear them on any pretense, although on the whole I regard the savages as a moral people, and I think, so far at least as we were concerned, we regarded the low-necked dresses in London as less reputable than the African style."

ITALY is heavily burdened with the cost of its warsystem. A writer says: The country is in a dismal financial plight; land and income are over-burdened with taxation; every article of common necessity is taxed; many industries are ruined; the annual State deficit is enormous; the financial strength of the cities, as Naples, Rome and Milan, is on the verge of exhaustion; while the Prime Minister announces that more taxes must be imposed. "The newly proposed tax on the importation of rice, added to the tax on imported grain, is a direct tax on the food of the very poorest, who, limited already in the quality of their food, must curtail the not too abundant quantity."

THE CENSUS RETURNS in the United States are, it is stated, making some changes in the relative positions of some of the great cities. Chicago now stands second, and Philadelphia third. Brooklyn is fourth. The enormous increase of the urban population is bringing some weighty problems to the front. The municipal system is the weak point of the United States politics, especially by reason of the foreign element surging it on the most populous centres. In New York, Chicago, and three or four more of the great cities the forces of corruption are appalling. The rule of the rum power was never more threatening.

EARL NELSON has been a life-long ritualist. He has his reward by seeing three of his sons joining the Church of Rome. Three sons of William Wilberforce became Roman Catholics by first becoming "High." A daughter and a son-in-law of Bishop Samuel Wilberforce are among the "verts." A grand daughter of John Wesley has gone the same way. The Bishop of Rochester's only son is a Roman Catholic. Many other families of note have contributed of their members to the same body. But after all, the Church of Rome in Great Britain is relatively weaker than she has been for twelve hundred years.

College Students' Christian Convention.

The Convention of College students at Northfield, Mass., is now one of the events of the year. Northfield, is the home of Mr. D. L. Moody, and the seat of the schools which he has established, and the place where the students' christian convention is held each summer under the superintendence of Mr. Moody. There are now about four hundred college students there. They are from all parts of the world, including Chinese, Japanese, Alaskans, Swedes, Indians. They are Christians of the muscular type—deeply devout, earnest, consecrated, Christlike men. Perhaps there is no better indicator of the type of the future man of Christian culture than these young men. The person and life of Christ fills them. To be like Him—unselfish, useful, serviceable—is their paramount desire. There has been a delightful freedom from cant, from conceit, from anything morbid, in their devotions. They sing, pray, and talk with a zest and freshness that is most exhilarating and convincing. It is a healthy, robust and genuinely Christian type of piety that these young men have accepted.

An account of the convention work, which we condense from "Zion's Herald," says that there are two regular services each day—at 10.30 a. m., and at 8 p. m. Each commences with a service of song. Sankey is here. He has aged, as have most of the men we have known in such work, but sings, by special request, with all his old-time impressiveness. The Bible is greatly magnified in all the services, most of the young men following the references as they are given. A large attendance of ladies is present; and here we saw for the first time young ladies, not a few, carrying their Bibles with them, taking notes, and showing very deep interest in the addresses.

The missionary spirit is ardent in the young men, which is an evidence

of the depth of their piety. Missionary conferences are held daily for addresses, which are mixed with much prayer. Many are pledging themselves for the foreign field. These young men stirred us very deeply as they laid upon their mates the Christ-obligation to go where the darkness was deepest and the need greatest. Young men in groups, and oftentimes some young man alone, are found with Bible in hand under some tree or in earnest prayer upon their knees asking God to make the way of duty perfectly clear. Many, in the faithful opening of the Word by these critical Bible teachers, and in the illumination of prayer, will find here a larger and more specific mission in Christian service. The glad fact which impresses us most as we listen to Mr. Moody, his helpers, and these students, is their easy familiarity with the Bible. Here the evangelist is better furnished than the ordinary minister. The evangelist preaches the Word because he knows the Word. He does not reason so much as he declares. "Thus saith the Lord" is the decisive utterance.

RECREATION.

The afternoon is given up to recreation. Mr. Moody is wise in his appreciation of the physical needs of the students. He said at the close of one morning service: "Now go to your games this afternoon. Don't hold any meetings; don't talk religion; sleep and rest. If you do not take such relief," he says, "you will soon be worn out entirely, and then we cannot get the best address into your heads." We must say here for the benefit of those who think that it is obligatory to attend services ten and twelve hours a day at camp-meetings for a week or more, that we wish some of Mr. Moody's wise judgment in consideration for the body could leave the thought of the people.

MR. MOODY.

Of Mr. Moody himself it is said, He looks a little older than when we last saw him; he is not a little stouter; but he is the same frank, hearty, sensible and enthusiastic servant of God. He is a manager of men, a born leader. Other men may speak as impressively, but they lack this quality of wise management. There is nothing fanatical about him. He sees things in their relationship. He rides no religious hobbies. He reads men at sight, and he will not give any place to the religious bore. The two schools which he has here founded, and which are so thoroughly equipped, have for their purpose real Christian culture—not a thin veneer of it, but to rear men and women who shall begin to live out here the principles of Christ. Here is the seminary for girls, and across the river four miles away is the Mt. Hermon School for boys. In these two schools are annually gathered 600 pupils from all parts of the world. These schools are Moody's best monument. He was wise enough to see that if he would do a permanent work, it must be accomplished through the youth by the best and most devout Christian training. It hardly need be written that he is greatly beloved by these favored pupils. A touching illustration of his relation to the schools is found in the fact that when in Los Angeles last season, each of the three hundred girls at the seminary wrote him a letter, and his wife read each letter to him. We doubt if he was ever doing work with larger results for Christianity than that which is being exerted upon these college students. These young men catch his own spirit, and will go from these conventions to do better work for Christ all through life.

HIS MOTHER.

Our grateful admiration for this man gave us the strongest desire to see and speak to the mother whom he has so greatly honored. She lives in the house next to where we room. "Go and see her," said our kind host. "She will give you a most cordial welcome." She kindly bade us come in as she opened the door. We sat at her side. She looks much as we had anticipated. Her large and expressive face, with pleasant, genial eyes, beautiful gray hair and intellectual head, indicated at once where Dwight L. obtained the strong qualities of sound sense which have always characterized him. She was eighty-five years of age the 5th of last February. We sat in the very

room in which Dwight was born fifty-three years ago. His birthday falls on the same day as the mother's. She is a remarkably interesting lady, modest, simple, frank, with the joy and zest of life still unblunted. She was born in Northfield, and was left a widow with a large family of children forty-nine years ago, and with the little house heavily encumbered with a mortgage. The story of that early struggle to rear those children in honor is too sacred for public recital. We said, "Dwight has done the great religious work of the century." And she answered, giving God the glory, "Yes, he has been used as an instrument for much good." We had heard that most touching story of another son who went away for twelve years, and how, though the mother did not hear from him, she believed him alive and that he would come back. "Yes," she said, "I always believed that he would return." That son lives an honorable man, at Northfield. He was converted at a Methodist altar, and this experience sent him home to the yearning mother. She told us that her mother, too, was a Methodist, and her mother's parents were also both Methodists. May there not be something more of hereditary descent along this line than we have hitherto known? Seven children are still left her—one son a prominent and active Methodist in Gardner, Kansas. We could write a volume about this elect woman and her children, but must refrain.

A Noble Calling.

The Philadelphia *Evening Bulletin* speaks of nursing as "a noble calling for women."

Within the past two or three weeks several hundred young women have received certificates from various medical institutions, testifying to their knowledge and skill as nurses of the sick. All these young women will be certain to obtain employment at a rate of compensation much higher than is commonly paid to their sex. A good nurse can readily command \$20 to \$25 a week for her services in the sick-room, and is likely to be sought for all the year round. In fact, the demand for trained nurses is much greater than the number of those who are competent to perform the duties of the calling. Young women who are anxious to earn a livelihood in which they will obtain good pay cannot do better than to turn their attention to the training schools which produce nurses. Two years' experience in one of these institutions is all that is usually required in order to receive a certificate or diploma. The girls who can give up this time to the practical instruction which our best equipped hospitals now provide for them will never have occasion to regret it, for in no other profession they may follow will they be likely to be so well remunerated or so great a degree feel the consciousness of playing a useful part in world. To smooth the fevered brow, to bind up the wounds of the stricken, to ease the pains of the body and the anguish of the mind, to console, to brighten, to comfort, to cure, and to send out into the world again with the priceless blessing of health the helpless sufferers committed to their hands, is a task which noble and exalted minds may well contemplate as a fit object of pure and unselfish endeavor. Nowhere else are the fine qualities of womanhood seen to greater advantage; and the woman who loves to do good and whose heart goes out to others in their suffering has here the chance to perform honorable and exalted service in the cause of humanity.

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.]

Mite Societies.

On the 2nd. inst. we met at Third Tier and organized a Mite Society. Opened meeting by singing "Over the ocean wave," and reading scriptures about the lad, by the blue sea of Galilee, with five barley loaves and two fishes, with which Jesus fed five thousand. This illustrated the fact that Jesus was just as able to bless our

small offering to the conversion of many heathen children as he was to bless those loaves and fishes.

After prayer the officers were elected as follows:

President, Miss Mabel McArthur; Guardian, Miss Carrie Kimball; Secretary, Lena Kimball; Treasurer, Miss May Palmer.

At our next meeting in August the children were requested to answer to the roll call by repeating a verse of scripture which they had committed to memory. The membership is 15 with a prospect of as many more. The object is not so much the collection of money as the instilling of good principles in the minds of the children. We could but notice how their faces brightened as we asked them the object of the meeting, and the reply came to give something, to teach heathen children about the true God, and in this way do something for Jesus.

At our Annual Meeting a year ago a resolution was passed requesting the Vice Presidents of the various Aid Societies, to take up the work of organizing mite societies or Mission Bands. Only three bands have been organized in our District, during the year, of which we have a report, viz., at Woodstock, Windsor and Coldstream. This work among the children lays at the foundation of future success in our mission work. Will not our sisters all along the line of our societies and churches; any sister who is interested in the welfare of the young, whether she be Vice President or not, engage in this work? It is a fact that any subject which absorbs our interest; as a rule, we will find ways and means to bring it to a successful issue. So if we would interest ourselves in working, in this way, among the children, doubtless, the good developed would exist, and bring forth fruit, when we have gone to our reward. What more ennobling than to make sacrifice for others sake? What more like our Great Example than to forget self, and expend thought, time and labour to make the world better?

"We plead for the little children
Who have opened their baby eyes
In the far off lands of darkness,
Where the shadow of death yet lies.

But not to be nurtured for heaven,
Not to be taught in the way,
Not to be watched o'er and guided,
Lest their tiny feet should stray.

Ah, no! it is idol worship
Their stammering lips are taught;
To cruel, false gods only
Are their gifts and offerings brought.

And what can we children offer,
Who dwell in this Christian land?
Is there no work for the Master
In reach of each little hand.

Response.

Oh, surely a hundred tapers,
Which even small fingers can clasp,
May lighten as much of the darkness
As a lamp in a stronger grasp!

And then as the line grows longer,
So many tapers, though small,
May kindle a brighter shining
Than a lamp would after all.

Small hands may gather rich treasures,
And e'en infant lips can pray;
Employ, then, the little fingers—
Let the children learn the way.

So the lights shall be quicker kindled,
And darkness the sooner shall flee,
Many "little ones" learn of the Saviour
Both here and far over the Sea." R. A.

\$200,000 FOR A BIBLE.—A syndicate of wealthy French Jews has offered \$200,000 for the Hebrew Bible in the Vatican. For this book, generally conceded to be the most valuable in the world, the Hebrews of Europe have more than once made offers in the century past, one of the offers being its weight in gold for the famous Bible, but it is understood that the pope can not legally sell it without the authority of the Congregation of the Propaganda.

ANTI-INFIDEL LITERATURE.—An incredible amount of cheap and poisonous infidel literature has been, and still is being scattered throughout the entire English speaking world. India, Japan, Australia, Ceylon, and other portions of the world where the English language is spoken, are being infected by this evil literature, which is being sent out in vast quantities from England and America. H. L. Hastings, of 47 Cornhill, Boston, has set himself at work to antagonize this influence by issuing not only a number of

respectable volumes on the subject, for thoughtful readers, but an immense quantity of cheap tracts and small pamphlets, which are furnished at 5 or 10 cents each, and which are peculiarly adapted to meet the difficulties of skeptics, and quell the rising doubts of those who are harassed and perplexed by infidel objections. Persons who wish well to humanity can hardly do a better service than to scatter these cheap publications broadcast among the young, placing them in Sunday School Libraries, and distributing them among their friends, and thus guarding them from the evils which follow in the train of doubt and unbelief.

A Costly Habit.

Who would think that over a million of dollars a year are spent in America for chewing-gum? It is a good deal of money to put out in the indulgence of a habit which some regard as positively injurious, and which is, at any rate, a luxurious practice, and one which most boys and girls outgrow as soon as they perceive that it is not accordant with the best of manners. The custom, however, has prevailed ever since the Indians took the spruce gum from the trees and taught the white man to roll it in his mouth. And the desire to chew something seems to prevail in other quarters of the globe, for the Chinese chew a pungent bean, and the Turks and other Eastern races use beeswax. The manufacture of chewing-gum has become quite an industry. In Brooklyn, one large six-story building is devoted to this purpose.

GOVERNMENT BY RUMSELLERS.—The following is the concluding portion of Dr. Howard Crosby's trenchant article on this subject in the "Forum" for May:

"There is but one remedy—the destruction of the rum-shop. But how can this be effected if the rum-seller rules? Let us ask, Why does the rum-seller rule? Is it because he represents the majority of our people? Surely not. He and his followers form a small minority of the whole. Their rule is the rule of an impudent oligarchy."

"This is the most important question now before the American public. Tar, if, railroads, the Negro, fisheries, Canadian reciprocity, Pan-American Alliance and the silver question, are all of secondary consequence when compared with this matter of the fundamental morals of legislation and society. It would be well if the attention of our citizens could be diverted from all other questions and concentrated on this until it should be settled that rum is not to rule our land and spread its filth and corruption over the glorious potentialities of the heritage with which a gracious providence has endowed us."

Religious Miscellany.

—A revival season, in which hundreds have been converted, has been prevailing the Nestorian churches in Persia.

—In 1888 there were seventy thousand Jews in Palestine; about the number of people who came up from Babylon.

—Along the valley of the Nile, from Alexandria to the first cataract, there are seventy mission stations and seventy Sunday-schools, numbering 4,017 scholars while the boarding and other schools have over 5,000 pupils.

A congregation near Pittsburg have "struck oil." The church was debt-ridden, but it has grown enormously rich by the discovery of oil in the churchyard yielding 1,000 barrels a day, and producing a royalty amounting to nearly £17,000 a year.

A movement is on foot in the Evangelical Church, England, to make total abstinence a test of membership, on the ground that it is illogical to exclude the liquor-vender from fellowship, while admitting the person who purchases and partakes of intoxicating liquors.

—A Methodist layman, as reported, spent last year \$145 for tobacco and sixty-six cents for church extension. Such laymen are not confined to the Methodist body. We fear that a large crowd of guilty sinners could be collected from all denominations if this test were applied.