

The Religious Intelligencer

—for 1891.—

Thirty-ninth year of Publication.

The first issue of the INTELLIGENCER bore date January 1st 1853. It will therefore, complete with this month thirty-eight years of publication.

We have before us the issues of the first year. It was then "a little fellow." The original intention was to issue it monthly. But the first issue met with so much favour, that it was at once resolved to issue it fortnightly. It continued a semi-monthly during the first year.

January 1st 1854 it made its bow as a weekly, and since that date, with the exception of one issue, it has gone each week to its readers. The one number which did not reach subscribers was that of the week of the great St. John fire, when, in common with other papers, it was burned. Several times the size of the paper has been enlarged. It has kept pace with other religious papers in enlargement and in space given to reading matters, and in improvements in its form and make-up. No other religious paper of its size in the Maritime Provinces contains more reading, and none are published at a lower price.

For nearly twenty-four years it has been under the same management, both in its business and editorial departments. This year we will be able to give even more attention to it than before, and hope to make it increasingly acceptable and helpful.

In 1891 all the features that have made it a welcome visitor to so many homes will be continued. In no respect will it fall below the standard and there will be a steady endeavour to introduce new and improving features.

This is a time of great and increasing christian activity everywhere. Wonderful things are being accomplished in the name of the Lord. The INTELLIGENCER will give due attention to all christian undertakings, and will furnish regularly carefully prepared reports of what is being achieved in all parts of the world by the missionaries of the cross.

The interests and activities of the denomination which it represents will receive special consideration. Home Missions, Foreign Missions, Education, Sabbath Schools, the work of the ministers and churches, and everything in which the denomination is engaged, or ought to be engaged, will be advocated and reported.

We expect to have every week a full department of Denominational News. Besides, the editor expects to visit many of the churches during the year, and will furnish notes of his observations of their condition, work and needs.

The notes on the International series of Sabbath School lessons will be continued, and will be, as in the past, a help to teachers.

The general religious reading, poetry &c. will be carefully chosen and arranged, with a view to being in the largest degree instructive and encouraging.

The young people will be provided for liberally. Home hints, Scientific miscellany &c., will have their place.

The INTELLIGENCER has no politics. It has no part in the wranglings of parties.

On every question, however, which involves a moral issue it claims the right to an opinion, and will express it.

On the Temperance question it has from the first been most pronounced. It will always be so.

It regards the drink traffic as a monster curse; and believes it should neither be tolerated nor compromised with in any way. Prohibition of the evil thing—absolute and eternal prohibition of it—is the INTELLIGENCER's position. To the accomplishment of this it will continue to use all its influence. And it is against whatever and whoever hinder the success of the crusade for the delegatization and de-

struction of the infamous traffic—the despoiler of numberless homes, the destroyer of numberless souls.

We have reason to believe that the INTELLIGENCER never stood better with its readers than now. The many good things said about it by those who know it best are encouraging to the editor. And he will spare no effort to keep it worthy the commendations it receives, and a true friend and helper in the thousands of homes it is privileged regularly to visit.

To Free Baptists in the Provinces especially the INTELLIGENCER is important. It is a branch of the denomination's work. It is the only journal published in the country by them and for them. It is the medium through which ministers and churches learn of each other and their work. And it alone is set for the advocacy and defence of the doctrines and methods peculiar to them.

The testimony of pastors is that it is a help to them in their work. This testimony is gratifying, for to be a pastor's assistant in every church, and a missionary where there is no minister, is our aim.

We are hoping that 1891 will, in extent of circulation and good done, be better than any previous year in the history of the INTELLIGENCER.

We want to retain all present subscribers, and to add many new ones.

RENEWALS NOW!

Now is the time for renewals. They should never be delayed till the time paid for has expired. It is better to renew a little before the old subscription has run out.

Subscriptions expire every month, indeed every week in the year. But a very large number expire this month. And from all these we would like to hear, with remittances, at once.

Let each reader of this whose subscription has expired, or will expire this month or in January, send a renewal by the next mail.

Prompt payments will help the work of the paper much. Do not delay your help.

TO PASTORS.

The ministers can help very much by speaking to their congregations about the paper, urging that renewals be made promptly, and offering to receive and forward them. Will the brethren kindly do this in behalf of their assistant and the work at large?

NEW SUBSCRIBERS.

There are hundreds of families that do not now get the paper who ought to have it.

The Conferences of New Brunswick and Nova Scotia have repeatedly passed resolutions expressing the wish that every Free Baptist family take the denominational paper, commending it to them, and urging the ministers to solicit them to subscribe.

We have to thank the brethren for their efforts, successful in so great degree, to extend its circulation. Every year is adding to the number of the homes it enters.

But looking over the list of subscribers in the several localities where our people are in the Provinces we are satisfied that there is scarcely a congregation in which at least ten more subscribers could not be secured, and in many it ought to be possible to get even a larger number.

Will our brethren arrange to canvass all the non-subscribing homes in their congregations? What they cannot do themselves they might get some interested members to do. If this is done the result is sure to be good. Let us all seek to have the paper go to every home that needs it.

And now is the time to do this work. During the next four or five weeks is one of the best times of the year for a canvass of this kind.

Every present subscriber is asked to aid in increasing the number of INTELLIGENCER readers. Many of them have done so, and will continue to, we are sure.

We have an offer to make them. It is this:

TWO FOR TWO-FIFTY.

Each present subscriber who sends a new name with his renewal, may enclose \$2.50, which will pay for both, one year.

We will be glad if every subscriber will take advantage of this offer.

NOW TO THE WORK!

Give the INTELLIGENCER a boom for 1891. We are workers together, brethren. With an active effort all over the field, great things can be done.

Renewals and new subscribers should come in quickly and in large numbers.

SEND THEM!

SEND THEM NOW!

TERMS, NOTICES, ETC.

The RELIGIOUS INTELLIGENCER is issued every Wednesday, from the office of publication, York St., Fredericton.

Price \$1.50 a year, in advance.

Not paid in advance the price is 2.00 a year.

New subscriptions may begin at any time in the year.

When sending a subscription, whether new or a renewal, the sender should be careful to give the correct address of the subscriber.

If a subscriber wishes the address of his paper changed, he should give first the address to which it is now sent, and then that to which he wishes it sent.

The date following the subscriber's name on the address label shows the time to which the subscription is paid. It is changed, generally, within one week after a payment is made, and at latest within two weeks. Its change is the receipt for payment. If not changed within the last named time, inquiry by card or letter should be sent to us.

When it is desired to discontinue the INTELLIGENCER, it is necessary to pay what is due, and notify us by letter or post card. Returning the paper is neither courteous nor sufficient.

Payment of subscriptions may be made to any Free Baptist minister in New Brunswick and Nova Scotia, and to any of the authorized agents as named in another column, as well as to the proprietor at Fredericton.

Items of religious news from every quarter are always welcome. Denominational news, as all other matter for publication, should be sent promptly.

Communications for publication should be written on only one side of the paper, and business matters and those for insertion should be written separately. Observance of this rule will prevent much copying and needless confusion and mistakes.

All communications, etc., should be addressed RELIGIOUS INTELLIGENCER, Box 375, Fredericton N. B.

Religious Intelligencer.

REV. JOSEPH McLEOD, D. D., EDITOR.

WEDNESDAY, Dec 10th, 1890.

—SPURGEON is again suffering from an attack of his old enemy, the gout. He has gone to South France for rest.

—SENT TO JAIL. The "Presbyterian Witness," Halifax, tells of a man who was lately sent to jail because he had not paid for his church pew, and refused to give it up.

—CHANGING. American Quakers are changing their customs. Instead of sitting in silence, in many places, especially in the west, they now have a constant succession of talking, interspersed with the music of organ and singing. The English Quakers are quite tried by these departures of their western brethren from the old paths.

—APPROVES. Cardinal Manning has expressed his approval of General Booth's scheme for "the way out of Darkest England." He says: "You have gone down into the depths. Every living soul cost the most precious blood, and we ought to save it, even the worthless and worst."

—NOT WELL STERRED. The "Hebrew Standard" says what is, unhappy, too true of christians as well as Jews, when it says,—"There are lots of people who mix their religion with business, but forget to stir it up well. As a result, the business invariably rises to the top."

—SABBATH OBSERVANCE. The christian people of the United States are protesting with great unanimity against the opening of the World's Fair on Sabbath. It would seem that the earnest petitions of so many ought to have effect. We hope so.

—THE MEMORIAL FUND. The Young Memorial Fund is closed. About \$2500 were contributed. As no subscription was more than \$1.00 that being the limit allowed, and many were less, it is seen that a large number of people have expressed an interest in the movement and a desire to have part in honouring the memory of the brave boy. What form the memorial will take is yet undecided.

—BATES COLLEGE. For the Catalogue for 1890-91 of Bates College (Free Baptist) we are indebted to the President, Rev. Dr. Cheney. There are in attendance one hundred and forty-six students, twenty of whom are in Cobb Divinity school, which is connected with the college.

Bates is evidently doing good work, and is an institution highly creditable to the denomination.

—PAY SMALL BILLS. If every one would promptly pay the small bills he may owe, great relief would be given to many people, and business generally would move on more easily and be more profitable. You owe your neighbour a dollar or more; pay him; he will then be able to pay the small bill he owes; and the benefit will go from one to another almost indefinitely. If this were done there would be less worry and less cry of hard times.

—THEY DO HERE. The N. Y. "Evangelist" says: "Rumsellers cannot hide behind the Supreme Court of the United States."

Perhaps they cannot, over there; but they do here. Here are some cases which prove it: In June last Sheehan of Fredericton Junction was convicted; the case was taken before the Supreme Court on appeal, and it is there yet.

In April Coleman and Edwards, of this city, were convicted of a fourth offence, and the case has been before the Court ever since.

In the same month (April) the case of Barker, who refused to give evidence in a rum selling case, was argued before the Court, and no judgment has yet been given.

Surely, the people are long-suffering—where the rum men are concerned.

—PREMILLENNIAL. A Premillennial Conference was held recently in Brooklyn. The Second Advent of Christ is no new doctrine as some might be led to infer from the talk of some of the premillennial brethren. Christians generally, from the first, have believed that Christ will come again in person. But the time of His coming is unknown. All talk about "signs" of His coming is unauthorized and misleading. There has not been an age since Christ's ascension that there have not been people who were sure that the signs of the times all pointed to His immediate advent. To say the least of it, it is a waste of time and thought to make calculations about His coming. The thing to do is to faithfully serve Him, and then it will not matter when He comes.

Dr. John Hall, preaching on the subject of Premillennialism, said—the second coming of Christ was to take to Heaven those who loved Him. It was a coming for judgment; it was not a coming to set up a throne on earth. It was for "concluding purposes." It was to bring his kingdom in its present form to an end forever. He would then deliver up that kingdom to the Father. If he did not have that kingdom today he could not deliver it up. That was the only Second Advent which the Bible taught.

—PRAYER. In a recent sermon Dr. Parker spoke of the shallow, pointless criticism of prayer which speaks about giving God information and telling, as the vulgar phrase it, the Almighty things that He knows already. And he says if that criticism were to prevail we should never open our lips to our Father. He loves to have the intelligence from us. Explain it as we may He loves to hear our little feeble hesitant speech. He knows all we are going to say, but our saying it is a spiritual education. Take out of the glorious Psalms all that God Himself knew before they were uttered, and where would the Psalms be? It is not that God does not know, but He wants us to hear ourselves in the music of prayer. There is an education in speaking aloud. When we can criticize prayer we have forgotten to pray. He prays who does not know the form of prayer, but feels the pressure of the need, and the desire for communion.

—WANING. In the English-speaking world the aggressive forces of infidelity were never so weak as now. A contemporary cites the case of New Zealand as a sample of the waning power of infidelity. Eight years ago there were in that colony twenty infidel societies; now there is only one.

—PARNELL. The struggle between Parnell and the members of the Irish party has engaged much of public attention the past week. Parnell has been making a desperate fight to retain the leadership of the party; and he has much support. But the majority is against him. But whatever the result of the struggle so far as the leadership is concerned, the Home Rule cause has, it is feared, received a serious blow from which it cannot recover for a long time.

—A CHRISTIAN WORK. A few days ago a gentleman handed us a cheque for \$20.00 to be used in sending the INTELLIGENCER to old people who desire it, but are not able to pay for it. The same brother and one or two others have made contributions for a like purpose in former years. By

such christian thoughtfulness the paper is sent to a number who could not otherwise get it, and to whom it is a comfort. We mention what has been done, thinking that, possibly, others may see in it an open door for christian work.

—NO DISTINCTION. The Free Methodist church in the United States has formally declared in favour of the ordination of women to the ministry. At its Conference in Chicago it passed a resolution that "the Gospel knows no distinction by nationality, condition or sex, in the agencies which it employs for the salvation of mankind; therefore, no person who is called of God and who is duly qualified, should be refused ordination to the ministry of the Church of Christ on account of sex, race or condition."

The December Instalment.

The announcement by the ex-Treasurer for Foreign Missions that his successor had to provide the money for the last remittance to India is not a pleasant bit of news. When the new Treasurer, immediately on taking office, found a remittance due and nothing in the treasury with which to make it, he may have wondered just how much is involved in holding such a position. He proved equal to the situation, however, and the money was provided and sent forward. But he should not be required to do it again. And he need not be, if the churches attend promptly to their duty.

The amount required for Foreign Missions this year has been estimated, and each church has been notified as to the portion desired from it. The assignment was made by the District Meetings in which the churches were directly represented; and it was sought to ask of no church an amount larger than it could easily raise.

It has, also, been requested that payments be made quarterly, if possible—in December, March, June and September. Of course contributions, whether from churches or individuals, are always in order. But if the churches will get into the habit of attending to this matter quarterly they will find it much easier for themselves, as well as more satisfactory to those having charge of the work.

The December instalments from the churches and everywhere should be forthcoming at once. Perhaps some of the churches have already attended to the matter. Those that have not done so, will help on the work and relieve the officers of both anxiety and financial burden by collecting and forwarding their contributions as soon as possible.

This is not by any means the least important part of our christian work, brethren. The Lord expects it of us. We ought not to be careless in it.

Officers—Old and New.

In another column Bro. Wm. Peters tells of his retirement from the two Treasurerships which he has held for so many years. For more than thirty years Bro. Peters has been Treasurer of General Conference. The duties have never been light, and sometimes they have been quite onerous. He has also been Treasurer for Foreign Missions ever since the organization of the F. M. Society in 1864—a period of twenty-six years. In both these positions he has discharged his duties with faithfulness and to the entire satisfaction of the denomination. As treasurer for Foreign Missions he has had frequently to advance funds when remittances to India were due; and sometimes the work might have suffered but for his thoughtfulness and his readiness to take the risks of advancing the needed funds.

For two or three years he has talked of retiring from one or both these offices, feeling, as he says, that it is well to initiate other brethren into the work. The Conference was reluctant to have him relinquish the offices, and yet could not well decline to accede to his request. The fact that he still continues a member of Conference as Clerk of the Seventh District Meeting, made it easier to accept his resignation of the Treasurership. His services are highly appreciated, a fact the Conference is sure to express, in fitting terms at its next meeting.

The brethren who succeed to the offices held by Bro. Peters are young men, of good business knowledge and habits, and interested in the work of the denomination.

On the next page, amongst denominational notices, will be found a list of the Secretaries and Treasurers of Conference and the several executives, with their P. O. addresses. We publish them that ministers, church officers and others who need to have correspondence about or make remittances for any branch of our work, will know whom to address. Remittances for Conference and for Foreign Missions have for so long been made to Bro.

Peters, that it may be necessary to emphasize the change thus: Send money for the Conference to F. M. McLeod, Sussex, N. B.; and send Foreign Mission money to E. W. Slipp, St. John.

The Power of Prayer.

NO. IV.

"These all with one accord continued steadfast in prayer."

The incarnation, death and resurrection of our blessed Lord had become matters of fact and history. The ascension had been witnessed from the heights of Olivet. The disciples with pious women including Mary the Mother of Jesus, and his brethren assembled in the upper room in Jerusalem. For ten days between the ascension and Pentecost had found them there, with one mind and with one purpose. Their one great aim was to know the will of God in relation to the redemption of men through Jesus Christ their ascended Lord and Master. Their period of doubt had passed—they did not speculate as to the future—they did not dwell on preconceived or opinionated beliefs. They waited for a revelation of the truth. It was a new and an untried field which fell to their lot. They were left alone—left to their own resources. It became them to be united for many were their fears within and bitter was the enmity without. They realized their need of help and guidance, therefore were they steadfast in prayer.

In this incident we have the key to the efficacy of prayer. Day succeeded day, and this devoted and united band prayed on. "Wait ye in Jerusalem rang in their ears" and Pentecost with its spiritual outpouring came as living fire from heaven. Shall we say as the result of this season of prayer? We can safely affirm that this remarkable pentecostal revival followed a season of united prayer and concentration of religious effort. And further that on no occasion in the history of the church has a christian revival taken place which was not preceded and accompanied by seasons of devout earnest humble contrite prayer. And hence the inference that if the church desires a revival of religion it must as a matter of course resort to the means which God has instituted to bring about such a result. Unity of purpose and steadfastness in prayer will prepare the hearts of God's children for the right receptivity of the gospel of Christ when the church faithfully sows the seed and carefully waters it, God is sure to gather in abundant harvest.

Do we desire a revival in our respective churches? If so, let us learn from this Pentecostal lesson. Secret prayer is the life of the individual. The family altar is the life of the family. The weekly prayer-meeting when all are present—in one accord, and steadfast in prayer is a convincing evidence of the life of the church. On the day of Pentecost they were all in one place—the place of prayer. There was no scattering of force, but a centralization of effort. They stood shoulder to shoulder and were steadfast in prayer, and prayer prevailed—and must ever in similar circumstances.

The church is as dear to the heart of God to-day, as it was on the morning of Pentecost, and He is as ready to give his Holy Spirit now as then. Are we praying as the disciples did for an outpouring? If so our prayers will have power with God.

Correction.

In justice to the facts of the case in the article in the issue of Nov. 26th under the caption "An Open Door," in my reference to teachers' science and gold, it was intended to be understood that, at the expiration of four years, there was abundance of ability in the teachers left, and the depths of science were not fathomed. The miracle of the meal at Zarahaph is peculiarly appropriate to the teachers since such are able to give liberally without apparent loss. As to "abundance of gold being left" after four years, when there was but a limited supply to start with, such would be misleading, to say the least! It would not be so much a reproduction of a "lost art" as it would a production of a new art. Furthermore, it might add unduly to the items in the external call to the ministry! This explanation is not intended as a reproof to type men or proof reader; the wonder is how they can intelligently read some of us at all.

B. A. S.

C. T. ACT NOTES. The Barker House this city, was last Wednesday charged with violation of the C. T. Act. Mr. J. A. Van Wart appeared at the Police Court for violator. A fine was imposed.

Another vote on a petition to repeal the C. T. Act will take place in Charlottetown, P. E. I. January 8th.

Since April, 65 prosecutions have been begun in Moncton, and 37 convictions have been secured. \$1700 have been collected in fines.

Dear INTER that wonderful friends was rec the mail gres a few words of f kindly contrib you how precio can I tell you many little on remembered the needs, of the d little folks out to write to the work. It show Bessie out here. I damaged in long time since people during muca, and w vacation. Tak not a very ple tell you about at home now— seems doubly sence. We have the pleas us in which to Bessie is gett and Aurilla r nicely that I The resche since getting one exception nicely. In have taken the table, and there were. A to these who Indian work His sake.

Oct. 27th 1

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WM.

Saint John

Dec. 2nd

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