

# Religious Intelligencer.

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

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WHOLE No. 1913

## NOTES AND COMMENTS.

TWENTY STEAMERS now ply on the Congo. And five hundred miles above its mouth an enterprising Englishman is about building a ship-yard for their repair.

A GREAT CHANGE as to the use of organs in churches has come over the Presbyterian body within a few years. The *Halifax Witness* says; In 1866 the Synod met in St. John, N. B., and the chief (or only) case before it was an organ case. The Synod condemned the use of a poor little organ and ordered it silenced. There was a long discussion, and one good brother at least felt himself very hardly used. Even in 1877, when the General Assembly first met at Halifax Dr. Robb attempted not without some success to silence the organ in St. Matthew's. But all this is changed. We have not only a sweet organ but also a cornet to help us at the Synod of 1890, and no one doubts that the singing is helped thereby. No feelings are hurt; and many a heart is stirred with hallowed emotion. So at least one fondly hopes.

THE GOVERNOR of Turkestan, China, has asked for leave to resign his high position that he may devote his whole attention to the care of his grandmother, to whom he is strongly attached.

A "SOCIETY OF FRIENDS of Russian Freedom" has been formed in England. Stepniak and other Russian political exiles show the need of it in *Free Russia*, the Society's monthly organ. The party of reaction has just obtained ukases setting up a District Commander, who must be an hereditary noble, over the village councils, with powers of prevention of discussion and veto of resolutions that entirely destroy local autonomy. In Finland the bureaucrats have begun a systematic attempt to destroy the contrast its partial freedom presents to Russia proper by introducing the most rigorous censorship of the Press. The four or five million Jews throughout the Empire are insulted, and allowed to be robbed and tortured with impunity, while they are shut out from the professions and confined to the towns. Thus the Government of the Czar is hastening the inevitable revolution, which, when it comes, may shake Europe from end to end.

THE SUM of \$525 has been placed in the hands of the trustees of the United Society of Christian Endeavor to be used for prizes for essays on the following topics: 1. How can Christian Endeavor Societies Promote and Stimulate the Systematic Benevolence of Young People for Missionary Purposes? 2. How can Christian Endeavor Societies Best Promote the Introduction of Religious Journals and other Wholesome Reading into all the Families of the Congregations, with which they are Connected? The Christian Endeavor Society: Its Adaptability to all Denominations in Promoting: (a) The Fellowship of Young Christians; (b) Their Allegiance to Their Own Churches; (c) Their Activity in all branches of Christian Effort. These essays not to be more than 1500 words in length; to appear in the columns of this or some other religious paper before April 1, 1891; the judges to be eminent clergymen and others of different denominations; the successful essayists to be announced at the international convention in Minneapolis, July 10, 1891.

THE PRESBYTERIAN SYNOD, in session at Moncton, adopted a strong report on Temperance. It noted the signs of advance, expressed regret at the apathy of Christian men in the enforcement of liquor laws, and closed with the following recommendations:

(1) That synod reaffirm judgment of last and previous years regarding evils of intemperance, and the duty of Christian communities therewith.  
(2) Synod gratefully acknowledges the favorable change in views and practice of many of our people in recent years regarding use of intoxicating liquors, and cordially commends to all the broad and safe ground of total abstinence.  
(3) That our people be encouraged to employ every legitimate means within their reach to procure effective legal provision for suppression of the existing liquor traffic, and for the sale of liquor for necessary purposes under proper restriction.

(4) That the moderator and clerk be authorized to sign the petition forwarded by the Dominion Alliance in the name of the synod, and that the petition so signed be forwarded to the proper authorities.

A PARLIAMENTARY blue book shows that during last year 125,000 people were convicted in police courts of drunkenness in Great Britain, of which number 14,000 committed the offence on Sundays between noon and midnight. London furnished the largest number of convictions, 21,000; Liverpool came next with 16,000, and Manchester with 15,000.

THE PASSION PLAY at Ober-Ammergau impresses spectators very differently. Here are two statements concerning it. Dr. Clifford of London says: To me that day stands out with luminous distinctness as the one on which more than on all others I felt the reality of the Christ of the Gospels, the depth of his matchless patience, the greatness of the price he paid for the world's redemption. I was overcome by the sight of that serene Spirit, insulted, wounded, suffering, obedient unto death, "even unto the death of the cross," and wished to get alone to think and pray.

From the first note in the morning to the great shout of triumph in the evening there is nothing that indicated aught but the most deeply religious spirit. The stain of insincerity was not seen upon any face. They all seemed to be pervaded with the thought that it was an act of homage to God; and in this spirit of entire and absorbing religiousness they gave scene after scene. Moreover, there is a marvellous fidelity to fact in the story. The actual words of Jesus Christ; events as they are described for us in the four Gospels, are presented to us with unswerving faithfulness.

On the other hand, we find Mr. Frank Harris, editor of the *Fortnightly Review*, declaring:

As a Christian, as a believer in the God-man and in his divine mission among men there is no place on earth I should so carefully avoid, no place where my deepest feelings and tenderest susceptibilities would be so put upon the rack, as in that bare, boarded theatre at Ober-Ammergau. Can a Christian bear to witness the crucifixion? bear to see a Roman soldier, dressed as for a Gothic pantomime, carefully insert the point of his spear into a bag of claret placed underneath the flesh colored shirt, while the dying man breathes forth the divinest words in any language, words of God-like pity and forgiveness? And yet English and American clergymen throng to Ober-Ammergau to witness the degradation and abasement of their ideal, to assist at the vulgarization of the world-drama.

THE FOLLOWING is a will left by a drunkard of Oswego, New York State: "I leave to society a ruined character and a wretched example. I leave to my parents as much sorrow as they can in their feeble state bear. I leave to my brothers and sisters as much shame and mortification as I could bring on them. I leave to my wife a broken heart—a life of shame. I leave to each of my children poverty, ignorance, a low character, and a remembrance that their father filled a drunkard's grave."

Not many men write such a will, but a great host leave nothing better for their families.

THE "METRODIST TIMES" of London, England, gives an account of a rich man who through gambling was reduced to poverty, starvation, desperation, and suicide. In a letter left by the unhappy man he ascribed his ruin to three things: gay companions, the turf, and the gambling table. He expressed his horror of the race-course in the warmest terms, describing it as a perdition on earth, a place where ignorant and foolish men are cheated and become the prey of low and cunning scoundrels. Another touch to the sad picture is given in the letter in which the unfortunate man says that while he had plenty of money to spend he lunched with dukes, princes, and lords; but when all was gone, not one of these faithless friends could be found to render him the slightest aid or rescue him from starvation. How similar are the devices of Satan on both sides of the water. It is a lamentable fact that the secular papers devote far more space to the races than to the churches. These snares of the devil are paraded, advertised, and encouraged by newspapers which claim to be agents of reform. Young men by scores are ruined every year by them, and when they have spent all, those sinners who flattered and fondled them will neglect and despise them.

## Pulpit and Politics.

With mere party politics the pulpit can have nothing to do. With questions as to who shall rule, what measures shall be adopted to carry on the Government, what policies as to commercial and mechanical interests shall prevail the pulpit has little to say. Those are questions outside of its legitimate field of exploration and discussion. A minister working for this party or that, using his holy office to advance the interests of this clique or that is a pitiable spectacle. It matters not to the pulpit, as far as mere party goes, whether Whig or Tory, Republican or Democrat, prevails. The pulpit is to teach all parties and all men to do right. The kingdom of Christ is to be preached in the house of God. But there come times when great moral and religious questions become mixed with political issues. Parties become the advocates and defenders of unrighteousness. They clash with the law of God. The Caesar of the caucus attempts to trample down the golden rule of the Christ of Nazareth. It was so when the great parties of this country were found bolstering up the huge system of human bondage, which went down in war and blood. It is so now when politicians are fastening on society the curse of drink. When righteousness enters into the issue the pulpit must speak. To have been silent on the slavery question would have been a sin. To be dumb now in relation to the deadly work of the rum shop is a greater sin. If politicians put themselves and their parties in the way of the march of Christ they must expect the pulpit to thunder. The time when the pulpit must speak cannot be mistaken. The line is very clear. Silence when great moral principles are at issue makes the pulpit faithless to Christ and useless to the world.

The war of society on the saloon is a legitimate subject of pulpit discussion, and Sabbath discourse. The saloon has taken the seat of empire and reigns from the Atlantic to the Pacific. And terrible the reign is. The sorrow made by the saloon in families beyond computation. Its domination of our politics is a disgrace to our civilization. Well, society is fast awaking from its guilty sleep, and a war on the saloon has been declared, which is destined to grow hotter and hotter until the saloon is driven out of the nation. People came very slowly to see the sin of slavery, so they came very slowly to see the atrocities of the liquor traffic. But Freedom's battle once begun, Bequeathed from bleeding sire to son, Though baffled oft is ever won.

Society will triumph, the saloon will go. The order of its going is not yet apparent to us, but that it must go is fast becoming the verdict of society. Looking at the liquor trade as a business sanctioned and licensed by Government we see no way of meeting it but by prohibition. The arm of the law must dash the saloon to pieces. Until that comes we ought to accept all we can get—local option, partial means, restrictive laws—but the end must be prohibition. The war of society on the saloon means just that.—*Inquirer*.

## Greater Canada.

Canada is by far the largest of all the British possessions, comprising nearly one-half of the British Empire. It covers more than one-fourteenth part of the earth's surface, and therefore holds no mean position in the affairs of men. The whole continent of Europe is only 146,000 square miles larger than Canada. The area of the Dominion is estimated to contain 3,610,257 square miles. It is nearly thirty times larger than Great Britain and Ireland, and about 18,000 square miles larger than the United States, including Alaska. Greater Canada lies west of Ontario. Toronto has the centre of civilization for the Dominion, but that is already changing, and no more appropriate advice can be given to our college graduates, enterprising men of business, and farmers' sons, than "Go West, Young Man!" The centres of population must remain for some years east of the great lakes, but these too will follow the centres of land areas and civilization. The city of Winnipeg lies nearly midway between the oceans and may for all practical purposes be fitly called "the hub of the Dominion." The introductory sentence in Principal Grant's "Ocean to Ocean" brings this forcibly to our minds. He says: "Travel a thousand miles up the St. Lawrence; another thousand on great lakes and a wilderness of lakelets and streams; a thousand miles across prairies and up the valley of the Saskatchewan; and nearly a thousand miles

through woods and over great ranges of mountains, and you have travelled from ocean to ocean through Canada." Great ignorance prevails in Great Britain and the United States, and even in eastern Canada, respecting the area of the Dominion, and especially of that part of it which I have designated Greater Canada. Let us see what the land areas contain. Manitoba has an area of 60,520 square miles; this is larger than England and Wales, which contain 58,764; it is larger than the State of New York which has 47,000; it is 4,000 square miles larger than Michigan with 56,243. Pennsylvania has an area of 46,000 square miles; it is much greater than Illinois, which contains 55,405 square miles. The District of Saskatchewan has an area of 114,000 square miles; this is nearly as large as Italy, which has an area of 114,410; it is 8,000 square miles less than Nebraska, which has 122,007; it is larger than Colorado, which has an area of 105,818; it has a larger area than the combined States of Massachusetts, Connecticut, Maine, New Hampshire, Vermont, New Jersey and Delaware, which contain 113,307; it is nearly as large as New England, New Jersey, Delaware, Maryland, and South Carolina combined, with an area of 116,987. Alberta has an area of 100,000 square miles; this is larger than Illinois and Ohio, which together contain 95,369 square miles. It is nearly as large as Oregon with 102,606. Colorado has an area of 105,818. Assiniboia has an area of 95,000 square miles; this is larger than Great Britain with 88,534; it is nearly as large as Minnesota, which contains 95,274.

## 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.]

### Home Secretary's Report.

[Presented to the W. F. M. Society at its annual meeting.]

Dear Sisters:—In presenting my report of this year's work, I must necessarily be very brief. As I have been waiting for reports from some of our Districts, and two are behind yet, but as this is the eve of Conference, I cannot wait longer. I can scarcely realize that another year has passed into the eternal past. The opportunities for usefulness have gone, they can never be recalled. Mrs. D. J. L. Phillips said, the saddest loss next to a lost soul, was a lost opportunity for good. I regret that I have not done more in the work that lies so near our hearts, the work that cost the Son of God His life, and the life of many of His dear children.

The Secretary of 1st District writes. I regret that I cannot report as encouragingly as last year, although throughout the district there is a general interest in Foreign Missions, but we need more united organized effort to get that interest into practical use.

The amount of money reported is as follows:  
Wicklow, .....\$ 6 50  
Bath, ..... 4 00  
Perth, Arthuret, Long Island, 6 00

Total .....\$16 50

The Secretary of the 2nd District sends a very encouraging report. She says many of our sisters have awakened to the urgent need of also taking up the Home Mission work. May the dear Lord speed the day when the Sisters in our denomination will engage actively in helping the destitute at home. Woodstock has raised \$46.89, \$39.46 for Foreign Missions \$7.43, for Home Missions.

May the Lord abundantly bless them in their "Doreas Society," for fitting poor children to attend Sabbath School.

Tracy Mills Society is reported as having done nobly in contributing:  
Lower Brighton, .....\$ 31 44  
Connell, ..... 14 07  
Third Tier, ..... 10 65  
Knowlsville, ..... 8 50  
Victoria Corner, ..... 8 00  
Hartland, ..... 6 70  
Waterville, ..... 4 00  
Gordonville, ..... 3 20  
Brookville, ..... 3 07  
Palmer Settlement, ..... 2 35  
Rockland, ..... 5 80  
Charleston, ..... 2 10  
River Bank, ..... 50  
Lindsay, ..... 2 50  
Upper Brighton, ..... 1 00  
Friend, ..... 45

Mission Bands organized by Miss Gayton at Windsor, Knowlsville and Coldstream, ..... 13 39  
Collection which was granted for current expenses, ..... 3 55

Total .....\$170 24

The report from the Third District is very meagre and unsatisfactory only four Societies reported, namely, Fredericton, Keswick, Upper Hainesville and Southampton.

In each of these except one the amount raised is considerably less than last year. None of them except

Fredericton held meetings during the year. Amount raised in Districts, \$41.25.

No report of the 4th District to hand, but I think the amount raised was \$20.60.

The Secretary of the 5th District says—I am sorry I cannot send a more encouraging report. We have five Societies on 5th District, only three have reported.

Hampstead holds no meetings, have raised by subscription, .....\$11 10  
Upper Hampstead, ..... 16 25  
First Church Johnston, ..... 2 50  
2nd Wickham Society, ..... 8 40  
6th Wickham Society, ..... 3 20  
1st Church Greenwich, ..... 1 00

Total .....\$42 45

The Secretary asks that 5th District be remembered by the Sisters in their prayers.

The Secretary of 6th District says—We do not feel satisfied with our year's work. Although the membership of some of the Societies has increased, for this we are thankful.

Taylor Village, 9 members, \$ 10 62  
Dover, 4 " 8 65  
Coverdale, 7 " 10 00  
Petitcodiac, 2 " 4 30  
Lower Ridge, 6 " 7 00  
Corn Hill, 20 " 20 00  
Penobscus, 14 " 16 85  
Newtown, 3 " 3 25  
Sussex, 21 " 24 00  
Dutch Valley, 2 " 7 15  
Apoahqui, 9 " 12 31  
Milstream, 14 " 16 50  
Snider Mt., 1 " 2 70  
Norton, 3 " 4 50  
Midland, 7 " 10 43  
Graves Sett., 1 " 2 35  
Portage, 1 " 1 00  
North River, 1 " 1 00  
Collection ..... 2 81

Total .....\$165 42

Although the money raised on 6th District falls below that of other years, yet we cannot but look upon it as in a very encouraging condition.

The Secretary of the 7th District writes—Notwithstanding the work on our district has gone backward instead of forward, yet there are features of encouragement, one is, St. John Soc. has had 16 added to its membership. She also adds, what is needed in our district is some one to visit the different auxiliaries, more knowledge of missions and mission work, also more devotion to Christ and his cause.

St. John, 35 members, \$ 43 10  
Carleton, 18 " 28 18  
Beaver Harbor, .. 8 35  
North Head, .. 23 60  
Wilson's Beach, .. 7 00  
Collection ..... 6 79

Total .....\$116 83

In looking over the field, we have much to regret and much to be thankful for. We surely need more consecration, more individual work. Could there not be seven sisters found who would visit the District and with the Lord's help stir up the minds and hearts of some who may have become indifferent, and awaken an interest in some who have not yet enlisted in this grand and glorious work of extending the Redeemer's Kingdom. I cannot close my report without expressing my deep regret in not being able to meet with you in your Annual Session, but hope an abundance of the spirit may be with you to direct in all your deliberations.

Respectfully submitted  
E. S. BABCOCK,  
Home Secretary.

### Temperance Notes.

—I impeach intemperance; and I accuse it of the murder of millions of souls.—*Dr. Guthrie*.

So do hundreds who go right off and vote for men who they know will use their influence to deepen and widen the streams of intemperance. What is the use of impeaching intemperance and accusing it of murder if you then go and sell it a license to make drunkards and commit murder? The rum-seller and the man who votes to license him are in one boat, and "Murder" is written on the bows.

—It is reported on good authority that there is no liquor to be found in the towns of South Dakota. Rum was once the curse of every mining town in the Black Hills, causing many crimes and domestic and social calamities. The Prohibition law has produced a revolution. Saloon-keepers who did not abandon their business voluntarily in obedience to the law were compelled to do so by legal process. Thirty-eight of these institutions were closed by injunction in a single town. The benefits which have resulted from this law in this State are worth more than the good fruits of any other single legislative act.

—A Saloon-keeper in Utica, Neb., inserts the following in the local papers:

"To whom it may concern: Know ye, that by the payment of \$1,527.40 I am permitted to retail intoxicating

liquors at my saloon in this city. To the wife who has a drunkard for a husband, or a friend who is unfortunately dissipated, I say emphatically; 'Give me a notice of such cases in which you are interested, and all such will be excluded from my place. Let mothers, fathers, sisters, brothers, uncles and aunts do likewise, and their requests will be regarded.'

And there are people who think such a fellow is a superior kind of rum-seller, and should be commended. He won't sell to those who have become confirmed drunkards, but he will take the innocent and weak and turn them into sots. Such a creature is the most dangerous kind of a rum-seller.

—Three thousand business men of Nebraska have signed an appeal for the prohibitory amendment now pending in that state. The few remaining days before the election should be devoted to earnest work in behalf of the amendment. The present opinion among thoughtful men in the state that the amendment will carry should not lead any one to slacken his efforts. The enemy is in the field. He is wily and unscrupulous. He will not surrender till the last ballot is cast on the coming election-day. Eternal vigilance is the price of liberty now as in the past.

—The saloon is, indeed, the inveterate foe of the Church. The *Southern Star* says by actual count last fall, in one hour's time, six leading saloons in Atlanta, Ga., beat six prayer-meetings in point of attendance of young men by a score of 1,008 to 114. It is also the foe of the home. The prayer-meetings will send voluntary attendants home to be better sons, husbands, and fathers. The saloons send them back with every natural good quality obscured or distorted, and every evil passion intensified. A few years ago Atlanta had Prohibition; to-day the law sustains these nets and gins for the feet of young men. Besides these there are hundreds of other saloons and grogeries in that city, probably twenty to a prayer-meeting.

### Concerning Women.

—A Cleveland hotel man says he never before saw so many women travelling alone as during the present summer.

—Mrs. Emily Pfeiffer, the English traveller who died recently, bequeathed almost her entire estate of \$350,000 to charitable and educational establishments for women.

—Sister Rose Gertrude, the young English nurse who created such a sensation a few months ago by volunteering to go to the Molokai leper station, has given up the work because she is displeased with the local management of it.

—Mrs. Livermore, during two of the hottest weeks of August, travelled thirty-five hundred miles, and gave eleven lectures at Chautauqua assemblies, beside attending "conferences" on temperance, woman suffrage, nationalism, and physical culture.

—The Empress of Germany, like other European ladies of position, dresses with extreme plainness for church. She wears, usually, a wool walking dress, wool jacket or ulster, a simple round hat and dark gloves, and is so inconspicuous a person, that but for her place in the royal pew of the great Domkirche she would be supposed to be some young country matron on a visit to the city, rather than the wife of the Emperor.

—Queen Victoria's family circle now numbers fifty living descendants, including sons and daughters, grandsons and granddaughters, great-grandsons and great-granddaughters. Besides these she has four sons-in-law, four daughters-in-law, five grandsons-in-law, and one granddaughter-in-law. The Queen has lost one son and one daughter, five grandsons, one granddaughter, one great-grandson and one son-in-law. If these were living, her family would number seventy-four.

—When Montreal fell into the hands of Great Britain in 1761 it had a population of 7,000. In 1781, it contained 27,297; the population increased 7,715 in 1852; in 1857, to 90,323; in 1863 to 100,000; in 1871 to 107,225; in 1872 civic census, to 117,865; in 1881 to 140,737; in 1886, civic census, to 189,542, or with suburbs, 230,790. By a civic census just taken the population is 233,000, or with suburbs 283,000. The gain in the last ten years has been very large, and every year adds to its size and prosperity.