

# Religious Intelligencer.

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

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## NOTES AND COMMENTS.

To any subscriber sending us three new names and \$4.50 we will give credit for one year's subscription.

RUMSELLERS have a new grievance, and are protesting and threatening about it. Insurance companies have for many years regarded drinkers as dangerous risks and refused to take them. Now they have refused to take risks on the rum sellers because the death-rate among them is higher than in any mercantile pursuit. And now the rum-men are talking of organizing an insurance of their own.

DR. RUSSELL, of the Edinburgh Royal Infirmary, claims to have discovered the cancer parasite. Soon we may hear that cancer may be cured as Dr. Koch proposes to cure consumption.

THE PEKIN ANTI-OPIMUM SOCIETY has sent forth an appeal to "all lovers of virtue in Great Britain, from which the following is an extract:

"We could humbly state that since opium came to China it has been like an evil ulcer, daily spreading and putrefying, infecting the whole body from head to foot until there is scarcely a sound piece of flesh thereon. We think you have only heard a vague report. At present six men in ten smoke opium. If so many now are infected by it, to what will it grow if not prohibited? Alas! there is no virtuous or benevolent Chinaman who is not sick at heart at the ruin of opium. Men all say that the wretch who robs and murders should not be left alive. But the evil poison of opium robs a thousand myriads of their goods and ruins the reputation of myriads on myriads. Who will say, 'It should be left in China, and not prohibited?' Frequently, men say of the missionaries, 'Your words exhort us to virtue; but your heart conceals poison since you kill us with opium and carry our money to your own country.'

THE EMPRESS FREDERICK is taking great interest in Dr. Koch's consumption remedy.

MR. STANLEY declares that he has no confidence in the project of Cardinal Lavergne to drive out the Arab slave-traders from the Dark Continent by force of arms in the old crusader style. He calls it a "mad project," and predicts its utter failure. Mr. Stanley believes that the only thing to be done in order to secure the overthrow of the slave-trade is for England, Germany, France, Portugal, South and East Africa, and Congo State to form a solemn combination against the introduction of gunpowder into any part of the continent except for the use of their own agents and soldiers. He shows clearly that if the Arab slave-traders could get no gunpowder they would be powerless before the native tribes of the continent. This plan appears to be both simple and reasonable enough, and the indorsement of Stanley should carry with it very great weight.

THE ATTEMPT to open up a new trade route with Central Siberia by sea appears to have been successful. The honour of the achievement rests with Capt. Wiggins. Says the London World:

For several years past he has persisted in exploring the Arctic seas and the estuary of Yenisei, with full confidence that the common belief regarding them would be found exaggerated. He has proved that for a short period in the year the passage is open, and that if a ship leaves London not later than the first week in August it may be expected to reach the mouth of the Yenisei in time to do the homeward journey the same season. In the present year valuable cargoes have been sent from London in July, and landed at Yeniseisk, 1,500 miles up the Yenisei, and at the end of October, cargoes which left that place three months before were safe in the London Docks. From the known resources of Siberia, great expectations of profitable trade with this country are entertained, expectations which nothing but the obstinacy of Russian officialdom seems likely to disappoint. The Yenisei is navigable for over 2,000 miles, and a vessel of light tonnage can ascend to within a short distance of the Chinese frontier. Travellers have described Siberia as possessing immense mineral wealth, besides having the largest forests in the world, and a soil eminently fitted for growing cereals.

THE HUDSON BAY COMPANY'S report this year chronicles a smaller collection of furs and falling off in the sale of farm lands, but an increase in the sale of town lots during the seven months ending October.

THOUSANDS OF FAMILIES in the United States west are in want. It has been sought to conceal this fact lest the credit of the region might be damaged. In Western Nebraska the

Governor has reports showing that there are in that state 10,000 destitute families. Supplies are being sent to them.

THE POPULATION OF CHINA two centuries ago was less than 200,000,000. It is now nearly twice as great, or, to be accurate, about 382,000,000. With the extension of railways and the development of new resources, it might easily double itself once more without any danger of treading on the heels of supply. The actual increase is 4,000,000 per annum—a rate that speaks to the economist of resources still capable of large expansion.

THE INTELLIGENCER will be a good Christmas gift to your son or daughter away from home.

## The Christmas Festival.

"Christmas comes but once a year," runs the old song. But how different the coming! Not in the spirit and purpose of the glad festival, but in life's experiences. The Christmas days of youth, so merry and glad, with no tinge of care, no shades of sorrow,—how unlike the day's of larger experience and maturer responsibilities! Yet, each to each are joined, and form one complete whole. Each has its distinctive joys, and life—true life—is never less but ever more. The glad days are the present in christian thought, and the angel's song is for all the days. "Glad tidings of great joy" come with each dawning day, and all of life is arched with hope. Memory needs marked days, and life particular seasons, to recall "bright hours of vision," and to renew and refresh the Spirit with joy and hope. It is good to live over again the days that are past, and to dwell amid the flowers of memory, fragrant and fair, to be uplifted by the charm and graciousness of the joy bells of the world's hope, and to feel the quickening of the sweet tenderness of home and life; and once more to be able to look upon faces and hear voices that have been the light and joy of the old home. All these and more the great feast day of the year means. It is a festival above all others in its significance and influences, influencing life in its many relations. It is a home, life, world and church festival. Entwined with it are the most sacred memories, and the dearest hopes; the deepest thought and the most cherished associations cluster around it.

The light of Christmas is the unfading, undying light of eternal love. It speaks of a revelation of grace, of mercy seeking a pathway to heaven for man. "Not to condemn but to save," is the golden light, the centre and sun of "the day of days." Ringed around it are the priceless joys, and the manifold "sweet charities" that brighten alike "cottage, home and palace beautiful."

How poor the world without its Christmas! And how poor is life without the Christ of Christmas! What is the feast without the King's Emanuel! God with us, born into humanity, "full of grace and truth." Oh that each may be born in Him, be saved from guilt and sin, possess His Spirit, share His nature, and be made perfect in His Love.

"Hark! the herald angels sing,  
Glory to the new-born King;  
Peace on earth, and mercy mild,  
God and sinners reconciled."

The Gift of God! The angels adored Him, and hailed His coming; the Shepherds who "watched their flocks by night," rejoiced, "praising God;" and the "wise men" brought gifts and worshipped Him. "They that honor Me, I will honor." "Me" in the needy and those "who have no helper;" in those beneath the hard pressure of life, whose lives can be brightened by gifts of love, in His name, for His sake. So make "the Christmas feast a festival of love and kindness. And over all may benign, peaceful Charity spread her wings and cause each to rejoice in the rest and calm of heavenly love.

T. H. S.

## Faith Cure Missionaries.

The British Minister has transmitted to the Department of State in Washington a letter from the Governor of Sierra Leone, together with a report from the Colonial Surgeon at Freetown, Dr. Palmer Ross, concerning nine American missionaries. The story of this mission not only illustrates

one of the developments of a certain theological conception, but also it should serve as a warning to deter the establishment of any such mission and the support by Baptists of any such movement. Those who encourage such missions are responsible in good part for the awfully sad results of this faithless folly. The story, well authenticated in every fact, is briefly this:

February 27, 1890, the superintendent of this particular mission, Mr. Kingman, arrived in Africa. He was followed on the 18th of June by Mrs. Kingman, Miss Dick, and Messrs. Helmick, Jaderquist, Coddling, Trice, Gates and Harries. Immediately upon their arrival the missionaries began to live in the native fashion, eating native food cooked by themselves, collecting their own fuel, even though it was the rainy season. On July 9, two of the party died, less than one month after their arrival. No doctor had been called in, the missionaries all believing in "faith healing." No medicine had been given. Both died of the African fever. Mr. Kingman reported these deaths, but did not tell the surgeon that there were others sick in the same house. The next day the surgeon went to see the sick and found that Mrs. Kingman had been ill with the fever nine days. She died on the evening of the 11th. On the 10th, Mr. Kingman was found to be ill, but he refused to take any medicine. The doctor, after waiting a day or two, then told Mr. Kingman that he and his party were endangering the health of the whole community, that he would isolate the house and send the rest of the party back to America. Mr. Kingman then consented to receive the surgeon. He was treated and has recovered.

From another source we learn that the Governor of Sierra Leone has announced to the public that "the climate of the country is not suited to those who trust alone to 'faith healing,' and who ignore the means placed by Providence at their disposal for the relief of suffering humanity." And, in view of this fact, he decides that for the safety of the community, the sick will be compelled to submit to medical treatment. The Governor proposes to teach the fanatics a little common sense.

Is there not some old pilgrim whose life you may brighten by sending the INTELLIGENCER a year?

## 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.]

## For the Children.

### THE BROKEN JARS.

Teacher, teacher! will you give me a penny for another jar? cried a little Hindoo girl between her sobs to a missionary lady one morning.

It was in India. The lady was just entering the yard in which stood the schoolhouse, a few acacia-trees, and some rose-bushes in full bloom. Twenty brown-faced, bright-eyed girls were playing there. But at sight of their teacher all play ceased, and touching their foreheads with the right hand as a sign of welcome, they ran before her into the low building made of sunburnt bricks which served as a schoolroom. Here seated upon the floor, they waited until school should open with a lesson from the New Testament.

But the lady did not open the good book this morning. She came slowly in, leading the weeping Tara.

In the corners of the bare, cheerless room, stood black stone jars filled with water. In a third, pieces of a broken jar were scattered around, which when the little girl saw she wept afresh.

Tara, said the teacher, is this your jar? Who has broken it?

I smashed it myself, sobbed the child.

You did it yourself purposely, and yet you cry! said the lady with wonder. Shantee touched it with her hands and made it unclean, so I did as our holy books tell us to do, I broke it. O teacher, will you give me a penny to buy another? And Tara looked up through her shining tears.

Poor little girl, said the teacher, smoothing the long tangled hair, obedience to such commands does not bring happiness. My child, does your book tell you who made the world and the people?

Yes, said Tara, one god whose name is Brahma made the world and all the people in it. He made the people from his own body. From his head he made wise men, and from his arms and shoulders he made strong men, like soldiers, and kings; merchants

and others he made from his loins, but poor men and servants came from the feet of Brahma.

And from which part were you, do you suppose, Tara?

My father is high up, he is a merchant, but Shantee's father is a servant, so when she touched my jar it was polluted—my nice new jar—and now it is broken—O dear! Her little heart was aching with real sorrow, not that she had broken the jar, for that she thought right, but that it had been made unclean as she termed it.

Sit down, Tara, said her teacher, and when you are quiet we will talk.

In obedience she turned away, but, half-blinded with tears, she fell over a rude bench that served as a table. It gave way, and she was thrown to the floor, when striving to disentangle herself from the broken bench and torn frock she incautiously caught hold of one of the remaining jars. Instantly a girl of twelve or fourteen years started up with words of abuse falling thick and fast from her lips, and before any one could prevent had dashed the jar into a hundred fragments upon the ground.

Tara, Tara, she screamed, thou daughter of a merchant, why hast thou touched my jar?

Many bitter words would have been spoken by the two girls but the teacher bade them be silent. It was then explained that the oldest girl was of high caste, and none of her inferiors might so much as lay hand upon, much less drink from, the jar she called hers. As the low-caste Shantee had broken this rule of caste in regard to Tara's jar, so in the same way had Tara offended the high-caste Saluse.

It is too true that in India all the people are divided into separate classes or castes that never intermarry, never eat or drink together nor may they even touch the vessels belonging to another. Should a vessel be touched by a low-caste person, it must be purified by fire if it be of brass or copper, but if only cheap earthenware, like these penny jars, they must be broken in pieces.

Three different castes were represented in this mission school. They were all Hindoos and strict in obeying the commands of their so-called holy book. The missionary teacher could not forbid this, for they would have left the school had their idolatry been interfered with. So easily are these little things brought to bear the breaking of caste, that Tara declared she would rather die than drink from Shantee's jar, which, of course, would not have been true had death been really at hand.

A few days previous the girls had asked for a few pennies to buy water jars. Willingly the request was granted, for in that hot country the little ones wish often for a cup of cold water. There were no wells near. All the water was brought from a river that flowed by at a distance from the school, but too far for little feet to travel in the burning sun, so it was well that fresh water should be kept in the schoolroom. Accordingly these jars were purchased, and this was the first day of their use. Half an hour before three of the girls might have been seen coming from the river-side, the jars poised easily on their heads, while they sang the new hymn their teacher had taught them.

Now two of the jars were broken. That one belonging to the lowest caste alone remained. No fear of any one polluting their jars.

Here was the beginning of trouble to the new teacher. Caste, that fatal obstacle to all good, to all progress in India, met her on the threshold. What should she do! Knowing the power of music she said quietly to her crouched school, Let us sing our new hymn.

Clearly, sweetly, and in unison rose the words, Let us love one another. Then she read how God made of one blood all nations, how Christ came, the prince of peace and God of love; and the noisy lips were still while in a few words she asked that peace and love might be given to them. Although none of the young hearts were converted, yet there stole over them a sudden quiet, and when asked, Who shall have the remaining jar? for it was still unused, the generous Tara said, There is no one else like me, I will drink at home before I come, and the angry high-caste, forgetting her pride added, And there is no one like me. I am big; I will go to the river let the out-castes have it. And thus the last were first. The twenty girls of inferior caste drank from one jar; and though the caste of each remained unbroken, the school became a house of peace, for they loved one another, and to-day the broken jars are forgotten.

But from this anecdote may be seen how strong is the influence of caste even among children. It is directly opposite to the spirit of Christ, yet it prevails every where in heathen India. How thankful ought all the little readers of this story to be that their home is not there! But take care, little ones, that you do not cultivate the caste spirit even here. St. Paul says, "In lowliness of mind let each esteem others better than themselves."

—George Muller, of Bristol, has travelled 170,000 miles by sea and land since he commenced evangelizing tours in 1875. He is now on a tour through Germany, where large numbers crowd to hear him.

Every Free Baptist home needs the INTELLIGENCER. Will you help introduce it to some of them?

## Temperance Notes.

—Mr. John A. Nichols has been organizing prohibition clubs in the Maritime Provinces. He has organized a dozen or more in the last two months.

—Inquiry through the United Kingdom Alliance shows that of English mayors elected last month at least thirty four, probably more, are total abstainers.

—The Russian Duchy of Finland has a Temperance League, a Blue Ribbon movement, a form of Good Templars moulded by Government orders, and a coffee-house movement.

—The Blue Cross Total Abstinence Society, Switzerland, originated twelve years ago, now numbers several thousand members, and has branches in Belgium, France and Germany.

—Rev. John McNeill, preaching in Regent Square, London, recently said:—

"There is not enough of united pitch among us to shut the whiskey shops on Sunday, though that we could do in a month if we were united. We could so go before Parliament, that if there is any Christ in it, it would yield, and respond, and answer; but the public apathy when our wives and children are being butchered before our eyes is the amazement of heaven and the joy of hell."

—Mr. Joseph Malins reports that Norway has reduced its consumption per head of intoxicants by more than one half, and thereby effected a vast reduction in intemperance and crime. Sweden has suppressed household distillation and given local option to town and county municipalities, which enabled the Gothenburg Town Council to take over the drink-shops, suppress one half of them, enact Sunday closing and early week-day closing. From Christiania and other Scandinavian parts come equally cheering accounts.

The ministers might take this copy of the INTELLIGENCER into their pupils next Sabbath and speak of it to their people, and solicit renewals and new subscribers. Try it, brethren.

## Scientific Miscellany.

THE WALK OF ANIMALS.—Spiders, says Mons. F. Hement, have eight legs, but previous to the ingenious experiments of Mons. Carlet it was not known how they walk. The learned professor of Grenoble made a comparative study of the walk of four, six and eight footed animals. Among quadrupeds, for example, the giraffe ambles, that is to say, alternately advances the two legs of the same side, while the horse has two gaits, for it can amble or alternately advance one of the fore legs with the hind one of the opposite side. The movements of lizards, frogs and turtles in no wise resemble that of the quadruped mammals, despite the fact that they have the same number of limbs. Insects simultaneously and alternately advance the odd legs of the same side (first and third) with the even leg (second) of the opposite, while they are resting upon the three others. The three points of support are the apices of a triangle. They walk like two quadrupeds that would have the two middle legs in common, one possessing the four first, and the other the four last. Finally, spiders walk like two quadrupeds in a line with one another, that is to say, by advancing the legs of uneven number (one and three) on one side, and, at the same time, those of even number (two and four) on the opposite side. Suppress two legs of the same rank, two odd or two even, but one on one side and the other on the opposite, so as to reduce the number of their legs to six, as in insects, they immediately begin to walk like the latter. Remove two more legs, they walk like quadrupeds. There is, then, a general law of walking among living beings that assures stability during the motion.

A MUSICAL NOVELTY.—The so-called "bowed piano" invented by an Austrian manufacturer is really a case resembling a piano-forte frame and containing six violins, two violas, and two violoncellos, the strings of which are tuned to different notes. Circular bands connect the instruments, and are brought into contact with the strings by means of the keyboard. A fine tone, soft or powerful, is said to

be produced, but the tuning of the gut strings is a serious difficulty.

SQUEAKING SAND.—The sonorous sand found in many parts of the world is shown by recent investigations to be of two kinds, one of which yields a musical sound when disturbed, and the other a harsh squeak. The musical sand is quite common, but in a large number of specimens of sand from different places in the United States, only two (both from so-called boiling springs—one in Maine and the other in Kansas) gave the squeaking sound. The harsh sound seems to be due to attrition of the particles; the musical tones, to oscillations of particles of uniform size separated by elastic air-cushions.

EARS OF LOW RANGE.—Modern science has recognized the probability that lower animals perceive shrill sounds far beyond man's hearing. But the human ear has not always the same capacity. A remarkable illustration is the case of Mr. Edwin Cowles, a former editor of the Cleveland Leader, who was deaf to some of the consonants and about one-fourth of the sounds of the human voice, never heard a hissing sound, a policeman's whistle, or the higher notes of a musical instrument, and grew to manhood in the belief that the singing of birds was a poetical fiction.

MALAGA, Europe's hot place, is warmer even than the Algerian coast. The mean daily maximum is 66.4° Fahr, that of August is 80.8°, and the absolute maximum is 110°. The minimum in the cold year of 1885 was 32°. The year has only 48 rainy days.

IN A FEW YEARS, Sable Island, in latitude 44° north, and longitude 60° east, has been reduced in length from 40 miles to 20 miles. Of three light-houses built on it since 1880, two have been washed away, and the third will soon be engulfed.

COTTON PLANTS.—A German botanist finds that three species of cotton are known, viz.: 1. *Gossypium barbadense* L., which is a native of America, and has seeds which are easily separated from the fibre. This species is known as "sea-island cotton." "Barbados cotton" or "New Orleans cotton," and the cotton of Peru is a variety. 2. *G. arboreum* L., which has an especially white fibre, seeds separated with difficulty, and purple-red flowers. This species has long been grown in Egypt, Arabia, and India. 3. *G. herbaceum* L., which has filament-coated seeds like the last, but yellow flowers. This cotton was introduced into the United States from India a little over a century ago, and is the one now so extensively cultivated in the former country. Its earliest cultivation dates from more than 2600 years ago, since which time it has produced a number of varieties, including one with a yellow fibre known as "Nankeen cotton."

ANOTHER UTILIZATION OF WASTE.—Plate glass, as is well known, is ground by means of quartz sand moved over the surface under iron-faced wooden plates. The sand is soon worn out, when it contains about 15 per cent. of glass particles and 2 per cent. of iron. This mixture has been hitherto discarded as worthless material, but is now formed into valuable bricks by drying, pressing into molds, and subjecting to a high temperature. These bricks have a specific gravity of only 1.5, resist frost, and are not attacked by acids. They are perfectly white, but the mixture of suitable materials with the sand will give enameled bricks of beautiful colors.

PHYSIOLOGISTS have been unable to discover that the passage of an impulse through a nerve causes heat to be evolved, though Rolleston has recently investigated the subject with an electrical resistance thermometer so delicate as to indicate one five-thousandth of a degree. In dying a nerve evolves heat, in some cases one-fourth of a Fahrenheit degree in a frog's sciatic nerve.

THE USE OF DIAMONDS in the sights of fire-arms is said to enable the user to take quick and correct aim, even in bad light. The idea was lately patented in England.

We hope our friends will earnestly press the canvass for new subscribers.