

Religious Intelligencer.

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

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NOTES AND GLEANINGS.

THE ARGENTINE REPUBLIC is practically bankrupt. Of the immense sums borrowed in England for internal improvements, the lenders are not likely to get anything.

TEMPERANCE is gaining ground in Germany. Speaking of a bill prepared by the Prussian government and approved by the Emperor, a leading German liquor paper says it fears that a general law for the suppression of inebriety will be enacted and put in force in all the States of the German empire before the year ends. Ever since the Emperor succeeded to the throne he has been collecting statistics and evidence concerning the effect of drinking upon the industries, upon health and morals, and this bill decreeing the withdrawal of saloon licenses and the imposition of fines for selling to drunkards is the result of his convictions based upon the facts thus gathered.

THE CANADIAN PACIFIC Railway Company has now 5,500 miles of road, and manages another 1600 miles.

THE CZAR has recently discovered a new method of torturing his Protestant subjects. It has been decreed that the pastor of a congregation must be of the same nationality of which the majority of his congregation is composed. This will virtually depose the bulk of the Protestant pastors in the Baltic provinces, where the clergy is predominantly German but the common people are Lithuanians or Estonians. The law will have similar results on the Catholic churches of Poland, where the priests as a rule are Germans.

IN SIXTEEN CITIES of Virginia the negroes own property worth \$3,324,542, the greater part of which is in real estate. In Richmond their possessions amount to \$820,138.

THE CHRISTIAN SCIENTISTS have been split into two factions on the question of marriage and its obligations. The extremists would banish marriage, while the rationalists look upon it as one of the noblest institutions of man.

IN A SUIT in Newark, N. J., the other day, to recover possession of a child it came out in the evidence that the sale of babies is a common thing amongst the Italians in that city. The price for a boy is \$20.00, and for a girl \$10.00.

APRIL 18th is regarded a day of jubilation in Germany. From the Emperor down the people observe it. It is the anniversary of the day in 1521 when Luther uttered the celebrated words, "Here I stand, I cannot do otherwise; so God help me."

OF THE SANDWICH ISLANDS, the Presbyterian Witness says,—"A preliminary summary of the population, shows a total of 90,046. The net increase from 1884 to 1890 is 9,463. It is also learned that for the first time in the history of the kingdom the native Hawaiians, including all of either pure or mixed blood, are an absolute minority of the whole population. This is due partly to the decrease of natives, who have fallen off about eight per cent., but still more to the increase of Hawaiian-born foreigners and foreign born who have gained over 13,000, or about thirty-six per cent. It seems a great pity the natives should fade away before the European races as they are doing in nearly all the isles of the Pacific. The dying out is due partly at least to vile diseases."

A LAWYER tells the following story concerning a client, something of a wag in his way, with whom he had long kept an account. When the latter was finally made up, the bill, mostly for trifling services, covered several yards of foolscap, as the items enumerated the most minute details. When the client came around to settle, he refused to enter the office, but stood in the door, and holding one end of the bill, unrolled the voluminous document in the direction of his legal adviser, with the request that he receipt it. "Come in," said the lawyer, in his most cordial tones. "Not much," replied the client: "you'd charge me rent if I did."

ZURICH, in Switzerland, is an exceedingly clean town. It is not the outside of the cup and platter only which they keep clean: everything smells sweet and even the people have a cleaner appearance than is generally found in large towns. The drains are regularly flushed, not simply by running water down the gutters, but also by inserting a hose in offsets attached to the water conductors of the houses, set at an oblique angle to the conductors, which offsets stand at about three feet above the level of the pavement, so that the nozzle of the hose can be easily inserted.

EPISCOPALIANISM is not so popular in some parts of England as might be expected. One rector in Cornwall writes to a church paper of the decline of attendance at church. He says: "In the absence of my family on Sunday last, my congregation consisted, as usual, of the bell-ringer and myself." In the afternoon he went to help a neighbor who was ill. His neighbor told him "that his morning congregation had consisted only of his and the schoolmaster's families, together with two tourists. Returning home, my evening congregation consisted only of my own family, the bell-ringer, and a young man engaged to be married to my servant." This is what might be called home missionary work.

Destructive, Obstructive and Constructive Men.

BY KNOXOVIAN.

In one of his recent books the late Dr. Austin Phelps tells us that

In every great revolution of opinion three classes of men are the chief belligerents. They are the resistants, the destructives and the reformers. The resistants are the men who hold on to things as they are. They resist change because it is change. The destructives are the men who would break up society to get rid of its abuses. They are men of one idea. The reformers are men of balanced ideas, who look before and after. They are tolerant of evils which are curing themselves. They labour patiently for bloodless revolutions.

Fortunately for the human family, great revolutions are seldom needed and seldom take place in civilized countries. In times of ordinary progress, however, a keen observer can see three classes of men at the front just as distinctly as Dr. Phelps sees them in the great revolutions. These may be classified as

DESTRUCTIVES, OBSTRUCTIVES and CONSTRUCTIVES.

The destructive men, as Dr. Phelps observes, are always ready to destroy things for the sake of putting an end to real or imaginary or grossly-exaggerated wrongs. They fix their minds on something that they consider wrong in either Church or State, and in order to put an end to that wrong they are willing to wreck the State or blow the Church into fragments.

Now it must be confessed that the methods of a tempestuous destructive, if carried out, are singularly effective. If you sink a steamer in mid-ocean because the air in her staterooms is not good, you certainly rid the world of the foul air. If you cut off your finger to get rid of a wart, the wart certainly goes. Destroy a congregation to get rid of a choir or an elder, or a minister, and the riddance certainly comes but the congregation as certainly goes. Overturn a farm by an earthquake to get rid of Canadian thistles, and the thistles will certainly die, but you may have some difficulty in raising crops on a farm with the lower side up. Wreck Canada to get rid of a difficult political problem, and the problem will no doubt be abolished, but the Dominion will be abolished along with it. Destructive methods are always effective in the same way that an overdose of arsenic or strychnine is always effective—they remove the disease by killing the patient.

The role of a destructive is always comparatively easy. It requires neither brains nor sense. A mental imbecile can burn a house or break a gold watch just as easily and quickly as Socrates or Plato could. A healthy crank can disturb congregations faster than John Hall can build them. There is no merit in destroying a good, useful thing to get rid of an evil connected with it. If that is the right way to get rid of evil, the whole world should have been destroyed several thousand years ago.

How would it do to try the destructive method on the destructive himself? There is always some evil in him. Quite frequently there is a great deal. Supposing society should blot him out of existence to remove the evil. Society might not lose much by the operation, but the destructive might possibly object to taking his own medicine.

OBSTRUCTIVE MEN

are not so belligerent as the destructive. They merely stand in the way and try to stop things. If they tried to stop only those things that ought to be stopped—and there are a good many things in the world and Church that ought to be stopped at once—they might do fairly good service, though not always service of the highest order. To put an end to an evil is a good thing to do, but it is a better thing to put something good in the place of the evil. Our Saviour came to this world to put an end to sin, but He put righteousness in the place of sin. The trouble with a genuine obstructive is that he merely obstructs. He does nothing, suggests nothing, helps nothing. What would the world and the Church come to if a majority of people turned obstructives?

That is a fine paragraph in Principal Grant's review of "Canada and the Canadian Question" in which he defends his eloquent countryman, Joseph Howe. Mr. Howe did obstruct the Confederation scheme in Nova Scotia, and so far as his own Province was concerned, defeated it. With one exception every Confederationist was routed at the polls.

But one province could not turn the scale, and the scheme went on. Mr. Howe appealed to England, but he might as well have appealed to the man in the moon. The Imperial authorities were in favour of the scheme, and would, of course, do nothing. Well do we remember the graphic and almost pathetic description given by Howe of the scene in the House of Commons, when, after months of weary working, he succeeded in getting his case before the Imperial Parliament. There was barely a quorum present, and those who were there scarcely took even a languid interest in the matter. Just a little colonial squabble everybody seemed to think. That night Joseph Howe went to his lodgings with his hopes crushed and his heart well nigh broken. The only power on earth that could keep his Province out of the Confederation compact would not interfere. What was Howe to do? Go home and call Nova Scotia to arms? Principal Grant says that the people would have risen to a man—that man was probably Tupper, the only Confederationist who managed to get a seat. To the honour of his memory, Joseph Howe refused to lead his people to bloodshed. He knew what very few men know—when to stop obstructing and begin building. He did what only a statesman can do—he accepted the situation, and when he could no longer serve his people by obstructing he served them by getting better terms. Any mule could have obstructed to the end, but a statesman could see the scheme had to be tried. Joseph Howe could not stop the train, but, like a wise man, he got his people on board and secured for them the best seats.

CONSTRUCTIVE MEN

are men of the highest order. They may have to act as destructives occasionally, and sometimes as obstructives, but their main work is to build. Constructive men in the State develop and build up the country. Constructive men in the Church open mission stations, found colleges, organize congregations and carry on every kind of work that is carried on. They are out of all sight the highest order of men. The highest order of constructive mind is one that forms plans that can be successfully worked.—Canada Presbyterian.

Britain And Portugal.

Of the trouble between the English and Portuguese in South Africa, the Montreal Witness says,—"The responsibility will not rest altogether on one side or the other. The Portuguese have probably the best claim to Eastern Mashonaland where Momba is and where the conflict took place. On the other hand, the Portuguese authorities of Mozambique have, against all treaties, provisions and law, seized British steamers on the Pungwe river and turned back British goods destined for the settlers of Mashonaland. By the terms of the *modus vivendi* neither Portuguese nor English were to make

further advance on Mashonaland; the boundaries of each country's possessions were to be settled by treaty, which was completed just about the time the conflict occurred, and which may fall through as a consequence. The London newspapers seem to blame the British Company, taking it for granted that the British wished to hinder or prevent this treaty from being carried out. No doubt the British company holds that it will gain all it wants by force if the British Government can only be persuaded not to tie the Company's hands by diplomacy. The result of this conflict shows that their confidence was not altogether without foundation. But it is not to be believed that they would provoke a conflict in cold blood for the express purpose of preventing an international agreement. In fact, the Portuguese seem to have been the aggressors; they were advancing at the time of the conflict, and, though within their own lines, had, it appears, opened fire upon the British Company's men. Time will probably settle in the Englishmen's favor the question of the occupancy and ownership of Mashonaland. The Portuguese seek to own and control without occupying or in any way developing African and Asiatic countries. The English introduce law and order, manufactures, and, where the climate permits, they occupy, settle, own and till and trade.

The Salvation Army.

Canon Farrar, in Harper's monthly, has an interesting paper on the Army, in which he says,—

Whether the Salvation Army will live or not, as a separate organization, it is impossible to prophesy. We may at least learn something from its sincerities, and we may be certain that if it has done any harm, it will also leave behind it a treasure of valuable experience and a legacy of permanent good. It has been partaker of affliction, and has been tried in the fire. But let the powers of evil, even when they enlist on their side a "soulless clericalism," gnash their teeth and learn their own impotence, when they see that their very opposition is turned into a source of strength to their enemies.

The four simple principles of the Salvation Army, as stated by its founder, are: (1) Going to the people with the message of salvation; (2) attracting the people; (3) saving the people; and (4) employing the people, as far as possible, in religious work. No objection against the "Army" is more common on the lips of supercilious people than that which complains of its shouting and howling and blaspheming and vulgarity. Well, we must make up our minds that the people of our slums will never be won by a rose-pink religionism. The children of the street must worship the Father in street English, which may sometimes be "quite shocking" to the female mind. The overpowering joy which some poor creature shows, who has been rescued from the neglect of the respectable, who, shrugging their shoulders, have left him to the tender mercies of the publican, is one of the striking characteristics of these humble converts. I sometimes think of these Salvationists in the words of Robert Browning:

"Well, less is more, Lucrezia. I am judged. There lives a truer light of God in them. In their vexed, beating, stuffed, and stopped-up brains, Hearts, or whatever else, than goes to prompt This low-pulsed forthright craftsman's hand of mine. Their works drop downward, but themselves, I know, Reach many a time a heaven that's shut to me, Enter and take their place there sure enough, Though they come back and cannot tell the world."

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.]

Prayers and Answers Concerning Missions.

Prayer is appointed to convey The blessings God designs to give; Long as they live should Christians pray; They learn to pray when first they live.

'Tis prayer supports the soul that's weak Though thought be broken, language lame; Pray, if thou canst or canst not speak; But pray with faith in Jesus name.

Depend on him; thou canst not fail; Make althou wants and wishes known, Fear not, his merits must prevail; Ask but in faith, it shall be done.

"Pray ye therefore."—Matt. ix:38.

I never prayed sincerely and earnestly for anything but it came at some time; no matter how distant a day, somehow, in some shape, probably the

last I should have devised, it came. Pray for missions. Pray and pray. DR. JUDSON.

William Carey, the founder of Modern Protestant Missions, was never heard to engage in prayer without interceding for the conversion of the heathen.

David Brainerd wrote in his diary; God enabled me so to agonize in prayer, and my soul was drawn out for the salvation of multitudes of heathen souls.

Robert McCheyne said: "Give me a map that I may kneel on it, and pray for the whole world."

Of Gossner, that wonderful missionary, it is said: "He prayed mission stations into being and missionaries into faith."

John Hunt the devoted missionary to Fiji, said: "Oh, let me pray once more for Fiji."

An aged woman said to her minister: "Sir, I read the missionary magazine through, and whenever any special request for prayer is made, I write it on my prayer list in my closet, to be remembered daily."

JAPAN.

A few years ago the condition of things in the Training School at Kyoto and elsewhere in Japan, was such as led missionaries and others to continue in earnest supplication after the usual Week of Prayer. They sought especially an outpouring of the Holy Spirit.

About the first of February an appeal was sent to over two score colleges and theological seminaries in the United States, asking for combined intercession in behalf of the school and churches in the city above named. That appeal reached the various places of its destination not far from the 10th of March. On the afternoon and evening of the 16th of March 1883, came a remarkable answer. No special sermons were preached on that Sabbath, but the whole school was mightily moved. Of the nearly two hundred young men, scarcely one closed his eyes in sleep that night. In almost every room there was a prayer-meeting. Not a few young men were prostrate on the floor in deep contrition for sin, such as had not before been witnessed in Japan. This continued for a week or more. There was no preaching or exhorting, prayer was the constant resort. Nearly every one came under the influence and was converted or greatly quickened. The work spread to most of the other churches in the field, and changed the whole character of missionary work. From that time onward the churches of Japan have been in a state of almost constant revival, and the membership of all Protestant churches has increased at the rate of about fifty per cent. a year a fact, without parallel in modern times.

INDIA.

In 1853 the Baptist Missionary Union, at its meeting in Albany, after a long discussion decided not to abandon the Lone Star Mission among the Telegus, and it was made a subject of earnest prayer, and afterwards came a harvest of souls at Ongole, more remarkable perhaps than any similar ingathering since the day of Pentecost.

AFRICA.

Mrs. Robert Moffat of South Africa wrote in her journal: "The Spirit of God has commenced his operations, and surely will go on. Oh for a more general spirit of prayer and supplication! I hear that the very time of the awakening here was the season of extraordinary prayer among the churches at home. What an encouragement in prayer."

PERSIA.

Most of the revivals in the female seminary at Oroomiah, Persia, began on the day of the monthly concert of prayer at home, a day specially observed in behalf of missions. But there was another centre of prayer and that was South Hadley.

While souls were earnestly seeking Christ in Persia, Mary Lyon and her school were remembering Miss Fiske and her seminary. Pupils at Oroomiah were devoting every leisure moment to prayer. On one Sabbath it was literally true that not a voice was heard all day save the voice of prayer. The voice of prayer was the last sound at evening, and the song of the dawn, and often in the night was the prayer heard. No wonder that in nineteen

years in the history of this school, there were twelve seasons of special revivals, when more than two thirds of the pupils were brought to Christ.

PARLIAMENT.

There was opposition to allowances to the high commissioner. The discussion took a wide range.

The items under discussion passed. On the item for the exchequer court, Mr. Mulock said the complaint was common that this court gave large verdicts against the crown.

The minister of justice replied that such feeling might prevail, and he himself as guardian of the public interests had sometimes felt it his duty to appeal. He believed, however, that Judge Burbridge was a man of the highest integrity, with great skill and fitness.

On the vote for salaries of judges and officers of the vice-admiralty courts, the minister of justice explained that it was the intention of the government to continue in the positions of admiralty judges the same men now presiding over the imperial vice-admiralty courts in the various districts.

On the item of justice, Mr. Mulock pleaded for an increase of judges' salaries. Sir John Thompson said he sympathized personally with the plea. What stood mostly in the way was his friend beside him (Mr. Foster), who had charge of the finances.

The Tarre-McGrevey investigation was begun in the privileges committee Tuesday morning. The Quebec harbor commission papers which had been moved for, and those required from the department of public works relating to the McGrevey contracts, have for the most part been brought down.

The nineteen present did not quite constitute a quorum of the Committee. Sir John Thompson, however, proposed that as some witnesses were present the hearing should be begun by consent of all parties—Agreed to.

The secretary of the harbor commission of Quebec was on the stand. The examination was mostly devoted to fixing dates, producing records of the commission, identifying papers, etc.

The Wednesday session was devoted to motions and questions, and the house adjourned to Friday, Thursday being one of the numerous holidays which interfere with public business here.

Hon. Mr. Foster moved the house into committee to consider the following resolution:

Resolved, that it is expedient to provide that the time for the completion of the works of the Chignecto Marine Transport Railway company, Limited, shall, as respects their title to receive the subsidy hereof authorized, be the 1st day of July, 1893, instead of the 1st of July, 1890; Also, that all penalties, forfeitures and deductions incurred by the company under section 2 of chapter 4 of the acts passed in 51st Victoria be remitted, and that said section 2 be repealed.

Replying to Sir Richard Cartwright, Mr. Foster recalled the fact that in 1888, when the present act was passed, the time allowed for completion was extended to July, 1890, with an option to July, 1892, under certain penalties. The present scheme extends the time of completion to July, 1893, and frees the company from the penalties. The minister of finance stated that nearly all the excavation was completed, and that steel rails for the whole line were on the ground. Hydraulic machinery had also been provided, and the grading was about completed. The sum of \$3,000,000 had been expended, while \$2,500,000 would complete the work. The company was as anxious as the country could be to have the work completed and could not take undue advantage of the delay, which would cost the country nothing.

Mr. Davies would not oppose the motion, but desired to say that the enterprise was not popular in the maritime provinces. There had been no desire for it and no petitions.

Hon. Mr. Tupper said, Parliament had adopted the enterprise and voted subsidy and on the strength of that capitalists had put a large sum of money in it.

After a long and general talk the resolution passed without amendment. On motion to go into supply, Mr. Laurier moved the following:

That all the words after "that" in the following be struck out, and the following substituted therefore: "The conduct and language of Sir Charles Tupper, high commissioner of Canada in England, in interfering with the recent election, and imputing treasonable and disloyal motives to a large proportion of the people of the Dominion, and also in assailing and vilifying the managers of the G. T. R. Co., and reflecting upon the position of the said company is a breach of the duties of the office which he fills, and is calculated to destroy the efficiency of the said office and to injure the credit of the Dominion, besides damaging a very important corporation whose shareholders have invested large sums of money in the work of promoting and extending the railway system of Canada."

In a fluent speech the leader of the opposition stated his case. He declared that the high commissioner occupied a position essentially the same.

The discussion on this resolution was interrupted by the announcement of Sir John Macdonald's critical condition, and the house adjourned till Monday.