

# Religious Intelligencer.

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

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## NOTES AND GLEANINGS.

A ROMAN CATHOLIC PRIEST, Rev. J. C. Kenney, has just abandoned his church and joined the Methodist Episcopal church in Chicago.

ONE OF NEW YORK'S rich men, Elliott Roosevelt, has had to be confined in an asylum, having been made insane by excessive drinking. He is still a young man. Rum is no respecter of persons.

OF FATHER MOLLINGER, the priest who attained so much notoriety in Allegheny city, Pa., early in the summer, the *Converted Catholic* says: He has come to grief. Thousands flocked to his church and were treated by him with a look at their maladies, a prescription for each one, written beforehand, a sprinkling of holy water and a view of certain holy relics, and then dismissed, after they had left large sums as votive offerings to the Church. Some nervous persons thought they were cured, but before they reached home they suffered from the same complaints. Father Mollinger says he did the best he could for the sufferers, but if the "cures" are not permanent the spiritual benefit may be lasting, especially if the good Roman Catholics visit his church again next year with more faith and more offerings. They may be cured then.

HERE is a statement about the progress of "woman's rights" which the "Christian Advocate" thinks ought to satisfy the minds of the most ambitious advocates of woman's emancipation from traditional customs. A young lady of excellent family proposed marriage to a young gentleman, and the proposal was promptly accepted. The marriage ceremony took place last week, a woman Justice of the Peace officiating. There is nothing antiquated about the young and rising State of Kansas, but whether such novelties will advance the cause of woman's rights in the eyes of the sober and intelligent people of that State remains to be seen.

SAYS the New York Independent: Scarcely anything has on it such a patent look of absurdity and humbuggery as the experiments which are now making, under the authority of Congress and the United States Department of Agriculture, to produce rain by explosions. It is well to have the experiments made, we doubt not, though not for their effect upon the atmosphere, rather on the brains of those who secured the appropriation.

HERE are some facts about coloured men in the South, only a little ago slaves, which will probably surprise many:

Among the richest citizens of the Southern States today are several colored men who began active life under most adverse circumstances. Mr. Silvester, of Galveston, is said to possess real estate and personal property valued at more than \$350,000. His wife employs only white servants. Milton Sterrett, of Houston, is one of the most successful men in that town. He owns a fine house, surrounded by beautiful grounds, which are cared for by a landscape gardener, and several plantations in Texas. During the civil war he was a waiter on the boats running between Galveston and Houston. His fortune, estimated at \$400,000, was made in real-estate speculations. Senator C. N. Burton, of Fort Bend County, Texas, was born a slave. He is now the enviable owner of the plantation of his former master and three other farms in the most fertile parts of his native State. He cares tenderly for his mistress, who, like so many of her kind, has been reduced to poverty. He sent the good woman back to her old home in Virginia, where she still lives. For fifteen years she has received \$150 a month from the man who was once her slave. His success, he declares, is due to her alone. Senator Burton is a good lawyer, and is popular with the members of both political parties. Henry Black, the ranchman of Tom Green and Pecos Counties, is also worth \$500,000. Mrs. Harvey, the widow of a mulatto who died a few years ago, is one of the richest women in the State.

THE DISCOVERY of a new mineral in Texas, which possesses many valuable properties, is—says the *Herald*, an event of no little importance. It is stated that it is "impervious to water and unaffected by heat, acid or alkalis." It is, also, "the most perfect insulator yet discovered. It may be made into a paint or varnish that will remain undisturbed under all atmospheric conditions." The claims

for its use in many different directions seem fabulous, but they are vouched for by persons whose evidence is unimpeachable. It meets the conditions of India rubber, and will transform wood pulp into something like ebony or horn. In electricity its use is wonderful. Fortunately it is found in great abundance.

PROOF READERS in Germany appear to be responsible for the contents of the papers on which they are employed to an extent that seems strange to us in this country. An exchange says that a proof-reader in that country is now serving a term in prison for not having killed an editorial which the authorities deemed improper. Such a law clothes proof-readers with great honor, and exposes them to grave peril.

VALUABLE TESTIMONY to the practical efficiency of Maine's Prohibitory Law is given by the *Brewers' Gazette*—an enemy of all prohibition. It says:

The new amendments to the Maine liquor law, which have gone into effect at the beginning of last month, are the most radical measures yet adopted for the purpose of enforcing prohibition. Under them the vendor, be he druggist or pocket peddler, is almost sure of conviction, which means involuntary board and lodging at public expense, and the common carriers will find no loopholes by which they could carry liquors into the State.

## Miracles of Missions.

BY REV. A. T. PIERSON.

"If you want most to serve your race," said Mary Lyon, "go where no one else will go, and do what no one else will do."

We propose to draw in profile the outline of one of the most wonderful and fascinating stories of modern missions—the narrative of the founding of the Huguenot Seminary at Wellington, Cape Colony.

Wellington, about forty miles from Cape Town, is a gem set in a ring of mountains—the Drakenstein and Paarl ranges. It is now more than two centuries since some three hundred Huguenots, who had fled from France to Holland after the Revocation of the Edict of Nantes, accepted the invitation of the Dutch East India Company, and settled at the Cape. What the Puritans were to America, these devoted refugees became to the Dark Continent.

By law Dutch was the language of the colony; and so, in a few generations, the French ceased to be their language, and almost the nationality of these refugees was lost. Early in this century the colony passed into the hands of Great Britain, and the Dutch Reformed churches, already established, became largely supplied with Scotch Presbyterian pastors.

One of these was Rev. Andrew Murray, who was settled over the congregation at Graaff Reinet. He married a Germano-Huguenot lady, and five of their sons, now preach in the colony, while four of their daughters are wives of ministers. The second son, also called Andrew, is the pastor of the church at Wellington, and the now famous author of the most precious devotional books which perhaps during the past half century have been issued from the English press.

This man of God, Andrew Murray, nearly twenty years ago, buried two young children at his African home; and as Mrs. Murray expressed it, "their hands seemed emptied and ready for some work with which the Lord was waiting to fill them." The bereaved husband and wife went in December, 1872, to the seaside to rest, and there they read together the marvelous life of Mary Lyon. So thrilled were they by that story of heroism, that they sought to obtain everything that could further inform them of the subsequent history of the Holyoke Seminary and its pupils, and eagerly devoured the story of Fidelis Fiske, the Mary Lyon of Persia.

Just at this time the descendants of those Huguenot refugees living at Wellington were proposing to build some monument or memorial to their ancestors; and Mr. Murray was strangely and strongly impressed that the best memorial they could rear was just such a school for their daughters. The schools scattered through South Africa were neither such as the mind nor morals of the girls needed, few of them were fitted to train immortal souls for service here or glory hereafter. Every indication of human need and Divine

Providence seemed to point to this as the time and place for a new Holyoke. And, after much thought, consultation and prayers letters were written to the Massachusetts Holyoke, asking for a graduate to found a similar school at the Cape of Good Hope.

Their letters awakened unusual interest at the parent seminary, and were put into the hands of Miss Abbie P. Ferguson, a graduate of the class of 1856, who was at that time conducting a very successful work in New Haven, Conn. Her mind was so deeply impressed that God was calling her to Africa, that she could not rest until she had laid herself at the Lord's feet, to go wherever he might lead. She breathed a prayer, that if He was indeed calling her to Wellington, another might be found to share the work; and just then Miss Annie E. Bliss, of the class of 1862, offered herself as a companion in labor. Just at this time, across the Atlantic, special prayer was arising that Jehovah Jireh would provide a teacher, and so once more prayer and its answer joined, in a blessed harmony, man's performance and God's purpose. Before the letters reached Wellington, telling of the decision of these teachers, Mr. Murray, with characteristic faith, had sent passage money to America; and when the news of the decision of Miss Ferguson and Miss Bliss reached the colonists, the open letters were bedewed with the tears of thanksgiving. They had asked one teacher, and God had given two.

Mr. Murray rehearsed the whole story of this marked leading of God, commended the proposed work to the Lord in prayer, and pledges were given on the spot to insure the support of the new school. Though not a rich people, in a few weeks \$6,000 had been given by the Wellingtonians alone, one widow giving one-sixteenth of the whole amount—all her little patrimony.

Miss Ferguson and her companion sailed for Africa in September, 1873, and arrived at Cape Town in about eight weeks. They found that a large building with grounds had been bought for the school, the life of Mary Lyon had been translated into Dutch, and many young people were ready to enter as pupils into the new Huguenot Seminary, or as teachers, to seek higher fitness for their calling. The seminary was formally opened January 19, 1874, and the large assemblage which that day prayerfully committed the work to the Lord will never be forgotten. . . . In 1880 eleven schools had already been established in South Africa. No words can express the blessing which has come through this period of almost twenty years to the whole of Africa, through these grand Christian schools.—*Missionary Review of 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.]

## Mission Bands.

In these days when so much is being done to interest young people in various Christian and benevolent enterprises, it seems unnecessary to discuss the importance of organizing the children in Mission Bands.

These young people's societies are doing much good, but still there are churches where the children are not reached, and nothing is being done to develop their Christian activity, and teach them how as they grow older, they may best assist in the work of the church. Such care naturally falls to the Woman's Missionary Society.

First. Because it fits our province to look about and see how women may work for women. We realize that our best way to help our sisters in all lands and in future times is to train the children. The next generation will believe what the children are taught to-day; for as a dwelling is built so is character founded, and the ruling principles that govern men and women generally, may be traced to impressions, although perhaps unconscious to their teachers, that have been awakened in their childhood. Seeds of right and wrong are implanted in the child's mind. They are matured and developed, but seldom sown, in young manhood and womanhood.

Second. It is woman's province to

train the children. This point needs no discussion. The world accords to women the highest position as educator. Shall we, as a Woman's Mission Society, neglect this duty, nay privilege, of educating the children, in church mission, philanthropic and temperance work? Shall we leave undone to-day that which will perpetuate our sins and our prayers in the years to come. It is pertinent that we should think of this seriously, since many of us are teachers in secular and Sunday-schools.

Third. We must leave our work for some one else to carry on when we can no longer do it, and ordinary business policy would suggest that we inspire the earnest, ardent children with a love for that which we hold sacred, and for which the best efforts of our lives are devoted.

As mothers and teachers we love our children with a love desiring their highest welfare; as Christians we love that hope of helpfulness to humanity for which Christ suffered; as a Missionary Society what higher work can we do, what greater legacy can we leave than by precept and example link the next generation to the service that for almost nineteen centuries has been the blessing of the world?

The facts being granted that our Missionary Society should look after and organize the children into Mission Bands; in those churches where there is no provision made for them, the practical question arises, How can it be done?

I would like to see in every M. A. Society one appointed officer whose business it should be to teach the children practical Christianity. In almost every church and community there is some one or more who has a natural love for children, such a one could devise ways and means to stimulate in busy planning ambitious, childhood, love for christian work. When there is a thing to be done, the earnest heart will find a way to do it. As a society, care should be taken, that every child in our denomination, have in some way, a connection with our denominational work. Are we, and have we not been neglectful there? and does not this in the present age, come to us as our direct work to do now?

There are Normal Mission Lessons published by Mrs. E. J. Meader. 24 White St. Pawtucket R. I. These contain lessons on the geography and history of the decades of the Free Baptist Foreign Mission field. Examination papers will be published and diplomas will be awarded. Can obtain the series of six leaflets for ten cents. Six sets or more to one order for five cents per set. These are also contained in *Missionary Helper*, a study of which, by the way, would indeed be a great help, in diffusing information and keeping up the interest in children's as well as Aid Societies.

Dear sisters, time is flying apace, another year will have closed, will we not engage at once and carry forward this very important work?

## Changes in Rome.

Here are pointed out the effects of recent legislation in Rome:

"The laws for the suppression of religious guilds and fraternities which have existed for centuries, and for the abolition of chaplains in hospitals, asylums and prisons, began to go into effect February, 1891. The result is extraordinary. Until two Sundays ago there were 5,300 masses celebrated in Rome every Sunday. The number is now reduced to 800. One hundred and fifty-two churches are to be closed at once and their altars demolished.

"The pictures and statues, except such as the state thinks proper to reserve for public galleries, are to be sold by public auction. In the rest of Italy they will be destroyed and not even remote villages will be exempt from this stern decree. Steps are also to be taken to prevent officers and soldiers from attending mass on Sundays, military duties being imposed on them during church hours. All sacred names are being erased from the school books and sacred emblems are removed from the school rooms. These laws have created the utmost bitterness among the clergy. The Pope is resolved to spare no efforts to assist emigration to America and Africa. An enormous number of ecclesiastics who have been receiving salaries from religious institutions are now suppressed."

## Alcohol and the Brain.

Dr. Norman Kerr, at the late annual meeting of the British Women's Temperance Home, held in London, gave an address upon inebriety among women, in which he said:

The reason I have insisted so strongly on the physical part of the question is that, in making observations on dead bodies, I have constantly found in the skulls of those who drank certain conditions. Now, the brain is a set of thinking-cells, set in a tough framework of tissue. All goes well as long as these two kinds of tissue—the outward envelope and the inward contents—are in proper proportion to each other and to the size of the skull. Alcohol, however, has the effect of thickening the binding and connecting tissues, thereby diminishing the space allotted to the thinking-cells, so that they shrink and become unable to do their work. Thus, if you come from a port-wine, or champagne, or still worse, a beer-drinking ancestry, you do not possess the conditions of brain which God intended you to have; and the result cannot be modified at once, though in course of time it may be done. I do not care in what shape spirit is used, the effect is the same.

## Scientific Miscellany.

(Prepared for the INTELLIGENCER.)

USE OF DISTANT POWER.—It has been generally questioned whether power could be conveyed electrically from Lauffen to the Frankfort Exhibition, as was proposed some months ago, and the suggestion has been made that, if the project were otherwise practicable, leakage would consume the entire current in damp weather. The results, however, have demonstrated the important fact that high tension alternating currents may be successfully, and in many cases economically, transmitted to great distances. On a rainy day 200 horse power has been passed over the line, a distance of nearly 112 miles, with an efficiency of about 75 per cent. The current was raised by transformers to the high potential of 13,000 volts, before passing over the wire, and then reduced by other transformers to a lower voltage before being utilized in the motor.

PICTURES OF MOVING OBJECTS.—The photographic analysis of rapid movements has made great progress. In a recent series of instantaneous photographs, Anschütz, of Liess, has secured 24 successive impressions of a dog in the act of making a single jump over a low bush, and each impression is not a mere silhouette, as was the case with Muybridge's first attempts of this kind, but a little picture showing half-tone and detail. Some of the attitudes, never caught by the eye, seem quite amusing. This is true at the commencement of the jump, when the dog's hind toes only touch the ground; and the end of the jump, when his legs are gathered together in a heap.

LUNAR STREAKS.—The Astronomer Royal for Scotland states that when the moon is half full its brilliancy is not nearly one-half as great as when it is quite full. He attributes the brightness of the full moon to the bright streaks which are then seen over the lunar surface, starting from the craters. He supposes these to be convex or concave, and largely invisible under cross light and brightly illuminated when the sun shines full upon them.

THE ELECTRIC MOTOR is said to have now found a use in connection with nearly 300 branches of productive industry.

PICOTET'S FLUID.—Solid carbonic acid has long been used for producing great cold, and has been rendered more effective by mixing with ether. A more manageable compound has lately been made by M. Raoul Picotet by liquefying a mixture of carbonic and sulphurous acids by cold and pressure, the resulting fluid giving, by its rapid volatilization, an extremely low temperature. Nitrous oxide is readily liquefied by the cold from this so-called "Picotet's fluid," aided by a mechanical pressure of 4 to 10 or 12 atmospheres. The use of the liquid nitrous oxide gives a still more intense cold, and, under pressures of 150 to 200 atmospheres, hydrogen, oxygen, nitrogen and common air are rendered fluid. The fluid air, with a temperature not far from 300° below zero Fahr., has a blue color, and forms a quickly-disappearing blue cloud if allowed to escape into the open atmosphere.

PRESERVING POTATOES.—A prize of 1000 francs was not long ago offered by a French association for a method of keeping potatoes and other vegetables. Some isolating substance, such as wood ashes, sawdust, or rye-straw with sand, was used by four of the five competitors. The plan of M. Schribaux, who gained the prize, is to put the potatoes for 10 hours in a 1 per cent solution of commercial sulphuric acid, when, after being thoroughly dried, they will keep without alteration more than a year. The same solution may be used many times.

A NEW MEAT EXTRACT, called "Oxin," is prepared in France, and made into tablets which are said to be as digestible as raw meat. Lean beef,

free from fat, bone and tendon, is pounded to a pulp, mixed with sugar, and heated to about 100° Fahr., when the mixture is converted into a saccharine extract. Further heating gives this any desired degree of concentration.

CONSUMPTION has been produced in guinea pigs by inoculation with tubercle bacilli obtained by Herr Prausnitz in the dust of cars often used to convey patients from Berlin to Meran. The number of bacilli is supposed to have been small, but the necessity of disinfecting the cars used by the sick is shown.

AN ELECTRIC ORGAN.—A musical novelty, called the "Electro-magnetic Palsiphone," has been brought out in France by Messrs. Guerre and Martin. The sound is produced by a sonorous body, which is vibrated very rapidly by the interrupter of a Ruhmkorff coil. An electro-magnet is placed underneath with the interrupter outside, in such a way that the gong, or sonorous body, vibrates between them and becomes the vehicle of the current. The sound is continuous, resembling that of an organ-pipe and is said to be very pleasing. The arrangement may be used for electric bells, substituting a grave note for the harsh rattling, while it is anticipated that the principle may be applied without difficulty to the production of an electrical organ.

A NEW ADULTERANT.—Artificial bitter almonds are now produced at a trifling cost, and with such deceptive skill that they can scarcely be detected when used as an adulterant of the genuine. They consist chiefly of grape sugar. This is flavored with a very small quantity of nitro-benzole, and when pressed in molds the product is made to resemble the natural seeds very closely.

DR. M. C. COOKE, of London, finds that 4500 species of mushrooms and toadstools are now known to science, 1400 of them being found in the British Isles. Only 134 can safely be regarded as edible, while 30 are decidedly poisonous.

THE FOURTH EDITION of the Russian Pharmacopoeia is soon to be published, and will describe 808 substances used in medicine. In the third edition the number was 1026 of which 318 have been discarded, while 100 have been added.

A GERMAN SUBSTITUTE for leather in some of its uses consists of thin boards with wire netting between, the whole glued together and pressed. The material is tough and pliable, and suited for trunks, etc.

MR. F. WALTER claims that an alloy of 95 per cent of tin and 5 per cent of copper will strongly cement glass to metals.

## Among Exchanges.

STRAINED A POINT.

One of the clergymen who conducted service in the Spurgeon pulpit during the great preacher's illness, a few Sabbaths ago, strained a point, we think. When praying for Mr. Spurgeon's recovery he said, "Thy church, Lord Jesus, can hardly do without him." Spurgeon is a great man, the greatest preacher in some lines that this century has produced, but the Church of God can do without him. The Church can do without Paul, and several other men who were even more eminent than Spurgeon. The Church of God can get on without any man. Men may come and men may go, but God's work goes on forever.—*Presbyterian*.

## DANCING PROHIBITED.

The Duke of Saxe-Coburg-Gotha, who belongs to the most aristocratic family in Europe, has issued a decree that parents shall not permit their sons under seventeen or their daughters under fifteen years of age to attend public balls. This experienced man of the world has seen the ruinous effects of this dancing business upon the young, and proposes to stop it if he can. Parents who disobey the decree are to be fined. Why would it not be a good plan to fine American parents who permit their children in their teens to run into vicious habits? Thousands of them would be treated to the new sensation of responsibility, and would find some means of controlling their offspring.—*Chris. Standard*.

## TAUGHT A LESSON.

A minister staying over Sunday with a shrewd layman asked his host when the congregation was larger. Being told the evening was twice as numerous as the morning, he flippantly answered, "Then I shan't lay myself out till night." The layman conducted him to the church, but turned at the door and went home. Nor did he go in that evening. After breakfast next day the preacher, sorely put about by such treatment, said: "Were you not well yesterday?" "Never better, thank you." "I did not see you to hear a man who in the morning does not intend to lay himself out, nor in the evening to hear a man who thinks so little of the Gospel ministry as not to do the best that is in him whenever he has got a hearer."—*Chris. Advocate*.