

Religious Intelligencer.

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

VOL. XXXVIII.—No. 11.

FREDERICTON, N. B., MARCH 18, 1891.

WHOLE No. 1933

NOTES AND GLEANINGS.

THE MORTGAGES in the United States, as ascertained by the last census, number 9,000,000. The average per mortgage is about \$600, making the total mortgage liability \$5,400,000,000.

SIXTY THOUSAND JEWS have been settled in Palestine during the last few years. At a meeting in aid of the Syrian Colonisation Fund of the Society for the Relief of the Persecuted Jews, it was stated that the Jews make good agriculturists. One speaker said while he did not encourage the movement of Jews to Palestine, they would go, although the country was not the best for colonisation.

ATTENTION is being drawn to the decline of monasticism in Russia. But the latest report of the Holy Synod on monastic establishments shows that whatever may be the measure of this decay of monasticism, the number of monasteries, of monks and nuns, of novices and neophytes is still very considerable. There are altogether 681 monasteries in the Russian Empire—479 for monks and 202 for nuns. The number of monks is put down at 6,950 fully consecrated, and 4,711 either preparing for consecration or in their novitiate. Of fully consecrated nuns there are 6,289, and in their novitiate or in preparation 16,865 more. The total number of both sexes is 34,635. It is not generally known that monks and nuns in Russia do not lead the comparatively active life of the modern Roman Catholic conventist. They do not study or visit the sick, or engage in any useful duty in life. When they are not engaged in weary rounds of ritual, they are sitting in their cells in apathy and utter idleness.

THAT DANGER to health and life lurks in many textile fabrics, wall-papers and paste-board boxes, by reason of the use of arsenic by manufacturers to set the colors and preserve them, has been clearly brought out in recent discussions in the leading medical societies. Sufficient evidence has already been furnished to show the imperative need of some law to regulate or prohibit the use of this deadly poison in domestic articles. Much depression, peevishness and unaccountable illness are plainly traceable to this unsuspected cause.

THE SEARCHERS for Egyptian antiquities have been rewarded by an important discovery at Deir Elbahi, near the plain of Thebes. About sixty-five feet below the surface, in a large chamber excavated in the limestone rock, were 163 mummy cases, and a number of boxes containing rolls of papyrus, which had been apparently placed there in a hurried manner, presumably in some time of tumult, to prevent their destruction. The mummies are found to be those of priests and priestesses, the latest belonging to the 21st dynasty. The whole collection has been sent to Cairo, where experts will be employed in deciphering the manuscripts.

THE METHODIST "TIMES" says attention has just been called to the fact that at the last census there were 25,975,000 people in England, and that out of these the Established Church provided accommodation only for 6,250,000, rather less than one-quarter of the population.

TRANSPORTATION to Transcaucasia or banishment to Siberia is the fate gradually falling on all Stundist leaders and preachers. Almost every week ad detachments of these harassed Stundists, after enduring months of vile treatment from their orthodox fellow-countrymen, and incurring heavy loss by the breaking up of their homes, depart for regions a thousand miles away, there to begin anew the struggle of life. It is a disgrace to humanity that these banished brethren when unable to travel such long distances at their own expense, although convicted of no offence in any court of law, are yet sent to their destinations clad in prison clothes and with their wrists or ankles in irons. But, in spite of these trenchant measures to suppress it, this great revolt against the corruptions of the National Church gains ground; the "infection," as the priests call it, is spreading from village to village and from province to province. Priests and bishops, officials,

judges, merchants, peasants discuss it, and ask one another its meaning and its object. Either we are about to witness the victory of right over might, and the establishment of the right of free conscience in Russia, or else we are on the eve of one of the most heinous persecutions that has ever disgraced Christianity.

VOLAPUK, which, according to the idea of its inventor, was destined to become the universal language, appears to be falling into oblivion. Of the twenty periodicals which formerly appeared in Volapuk, some in Europe, some in America, the greater number have already disappeared.

THE SCHEME to smuggle Jews by wholesale out of Russia for emigration to the United States has, according to a Berlin despatch, already resulted in bloodshed. The Russian authorities have been keeping a close watch for some time on the frontier of Prussian Silesia, and the Russian side of the boundary is patrolled by Cossacks on the lookout for any who may try to leave Russia without permission. A few days ago a force of Cossacks on the watch opposite the town of Myslowitz, in Prussian Silesia, discovered 300 emigrants crossing the frontier. Several of them had already got within Prussian jurisdiction, and were therefore safe from the Cossacks, but the large majority were still on the Russian side of the line when the half-savage cavalry of the Czar came dashing down upon them. The Cossacks speared them without mercy, and trampled them under their horses, killing quite a number before the remainder allowed themselves to be driven back.

Newman Hall On Home Rule.

Rev. Newman Hall, like Rev. William Arthur, takes a firm stand against "Home Rule" for Ireland. In a recent article he gives his reasons. He has been a steadfast Liberal and a friend of Mr. Gladstone. He greatly admired Gladstone and stood by him when he put Parnell in prison, with hundreds of others, on suspicion of conspiracy. The whole of the Liberal party were then united against Home Rule. After a few months Mr. Gladstone actually introduced a Home Rule measure. This measure Mr. Newman Hall, in common with a majority of the House of Commons, disapproved of. He felt that the supremacy of Parliament and the unity of the Empire would be endangered by it. One third the Irish population was opposed to it, comprising more than one half the industry, wealth and intelligence of the country. Many seemed to support it who were driven to do so by the League and other agencies. This ministry could not be safely left at the mercy of a parliament controlled by the Land League. He resented and denounced the violence exercised in Ireland in the interest of Home Rule. He was astonished at Gladstone allying himself with the chief leader of a movement stained with crime. Gladstone's change of views were not shared in by a large group of the soundest Liberals in the Kingdom. Mr. Newman Hall gives an account of his last interview with John Bright—how Bright distrusted Parnell and regarded it as insanity to concede Parnell's demands—how he had himself pleaded the cause of Ireland before Mr. Gladstone and learned the plans of the Irish party and that the Home Rule they sought would aggravate the disease rather than prove a remedy. Mr. Hall says that he was present in the court when Parnell upon oath declared that he had lied in the House of Commons in order to mislead members. He regards him as morally guilty of the offences committed in connection with the Home Rule movement. "Surely the nation owes a debt of gratitude to the Unionists for having preserved Ireland from a home rule which, if carried two years ago, would have made Parnell and his co-conspirators the actual rulers of Ireland."—*Halifax Witness*.

St. Patrick and the Serpents.

The 17th of March, (yesterday) was St. Patrick's Day. Whatever he may or may not have done, he is reputed having done some things worthy of his saintship. Ireland was infested with snakes. There were, doubtless, many of them poisonous, all of them unpleasant to the sight, and without value to the land they infested. There were, also, no doubt, a great many of them;

and, so far as we may judge, no part of the island was free from their presence. Besides being useless in every particular, a large bill of expense, no doubt, was yearly charged to their account, suffering and loss of life being no inconsiderable items. St. Patrick loved his country. He nobly resolved to rid her of her enemies. He therefore resolved to make war upon the snakes. Of the exact state of affairs we have no account. The snakes may have had their friends among the inhabitants. They were an evil which no ordinary mind could see the end of. It would have been strange if some one could not have turned their power for evil to unholy gain. Snakes have been worshipped before now. They have also been used as medicine for the cure of disease. It may be Ireland had costly temples dedicated to snake worship. In these temples, robed priests may have offered sacrifice. It may be that there were many learned doctors also, who made great gain out of those bitten by the reptiles. Of course, this is all conjecture; but it seems to be an illustration, of "the scientific use of the imagination." But whatever may have been the circumstances connected with these snakes, that practically held all Ireland in subjection, St. Patrick vowed they should die or flee the land. There are no snakes in Ireland (they say); and Patrick, the humble peasant boy, is second to no saint in the calendar. Patrick took no middle ground: he entered into no compromise with the snakes. He exterminated them, they say.

Of such stuff are not all our leaders of to-day. Worse, infinitely worse, than a land infested with snakes is a land cured by the traffic in alcoholic liquors. Our land groans under a measureless burden of ignorance, crime, poverty, and pain, caused by the drink traffic. Oh for the wisdom and virtue of St. Patrick, to fill the minds and direct the actions of those who hold high places, and who are to a large degree responsible for the world's advancement! No, it is not a question. It is settled; the selling of wine and beer, licensed or unlicensed on every day of the week, is a crime.—*Register*.

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.]

Indian Opium.

By Nellie M. Phillips.

The opium of India is grown and manufactured in two special tracts. These are (1) the valley of the Ganges (about Patna and Benares) in the Bengal Presidency, and under British rule; (2) a fertile tableland in Central India, which is chiefly under the rule of native princes.

The white poppy only is cultivated. The culture is carried on chiefly in the rich lands surrounding the native villages. It is often the second crop of the year, the vegetables having been raised during the rainy season, after which the land is cleared and prepared for the poppy seed, which is sown broadcast in November.

The poppy is of course grown exclusively for the gum opium, which exudes from the capsules. Every part of the plant, however, has a money value to the cultivator. The petals are made into "plates" as described below. From the seed an oil which is used for lamps and for cooking. The oilcake is fed to cattle or made into a kind of bread eaten by the very poor. The dried stems and leaves crushed into a coarse powder called trash, are sold as packing for opium cakes. The poppy grows to its full height of about three or four feet, and is in full bloom in February. The cultivator very carefully gathers the petals, which are made into "plates" by gently heating them on an earthen plate and pressing on one layer after another, the petals adhering by their own glutinous juice. These "plates" are carefully dried, and kept to be used as casing for the opium balls sent to the China market. Soon after the removal of the petals, the capsules—of which each plant may have half a dozen about the size of a duck's egg—are fully developed, and the cultivator passing through the field in the afternoon, with a little instru-

ment called a "nashtar" scarrifies them. During the night the milky juice exudes, forming drops which are called "tears." In the morning the "tears" which are partially dried are collected. The scarrifying may be profitably repeated from two to six times.

The crude drug being gathered in jars, each cultivator, on the day appointed by Government * brings his accumulation to the opium agent, who roughly tests the contents of the jar, when, if the opium is found satisfactory the cultivator is paid in part, and his jar properly labelled is forwarded to the opium factory. Here the opium is subjected to a final and very careful test before its full price is paid.

(To be continued.)

* In the Bengal opium district which is directly under Government control.

Fredericton Junction Legion.

The Royal Legion of Temperance of Fredericton Junction has about fifty members, who have taken the triple pledge against intemperance, tobacco and profanity.

The Society met at the church on election day. There was a short address, stating the solemn and important work before them, of saving somebody's brother or father who, on that day, might start on the road to a drunkard's grave. After imploring God to help them in their first temperance effort, and make it a blessing to some one, the three captains gave orders to March, and with flags (having such mottoes as "Tremble King Alcohol, we shall grow up!" "Boys, rally around the temperance standard!" "Prohibition," &c. &c.) and banners of red, white and blue waved by each member, they started for the village, singing a temperance song. The order was given to halt at the places where the electors were assembled, and temperance pieces were sung. They returned to the church with beaming faces, feeling they had done what they could. We never had so quiet an election in Gladstone, or less drinking on a similar day. One of the children remarked, "I think we did some good; and if we are as successful in the future, as in the past, to get members to join our order, there will be no one to keep up the rum shops in this place when we are men." Spontaneously we exclaim, "Lord save the strangers as well. Are they not somebody's boys?" If properly trained, surely fifty of the coming men and women of Fredericton Junction will be a power to remove the temptation from our midst.

On the 12th inst., the Legion gave a concert in the Hall. It is considered one of the best given in this vicinity, all performing their parts in a very creditable manner. Several young ladies and gentlemen helped much by solos, dialogues and recitations. The children's pieces were chiefly on temperance, and will doubtless leave their impress.

The Legion holds its session every alternate Sabbath, soon after Sabbath School. The boys and girls are very much interested, and are profitably instructed by Mr. Samuel Alexander, on the influence of alcohol on the human system. The proceeds of the concert were \$12.75, with which we hope to purchase literature, and thereby to make the Legion more attractive. This organization was the result of a visit from a few earnest christian workers of the W. C. T. U., from the Capital. Sow thy seed beside all waters, and you shall come bringing your sheaves with you.

A RESIDENT.

Pay Of English Editors.

F. C. Burnand gets \$15,000 a year for editing *Punch*.

The *London Standard* allows its editor a salary of \$15,000 per annum.

Mr. Pollock, of the *London Saturday Review*, receives a salary of \$10,000 a year.

On the *London Daily News* the chief editor is recompensed for his labor with a salary of \$20,000 a year.

Mr. Hutton, who is at the head of the *London Spectator*, gets \$10,000 per annum for his editorial supervision.

Frederick Greenwood, "The Casual Pauper," of the *St. James' Gazette*, receives \$9000 per annum for his services on that paper.

Edward Lawton, the proprietor and editor of the *London Telegraph*, of

course has no salary, but his two assistants draw salaries of \$17,500 a year.

When Mr. Delane undertook the editorial charge of the *London Times*, he was paid £4000 a year (about \$20,000), and when Mr. Buckle succeeded him the salary was raised to £5000 (or about \$25,000).

Mr. Stead, whose sensational articles on London vice lodged him behind the bars, got \$10,000 a year from the *Pall Mall Gazette*, and his assistant, Mr. Miller, got \$8000 when he first took charge of that spicy sheet.

The nearest to London rates are paid by the *Manchester Guardian*. It is considered the most powerful and influential newspaper in England. It pays its chief editor \$15,000, and there are one or two members of its editorial staff who each write only four articles a week and are paid \$7500 a year salary.

RUSSIAN WOMEN.—George Kennan says: Russian women are fully abreast of, if not above, men in the highest qualities of patriotism. Siberia has no more transcendent characters than those of women. I was told by men who best understood the situation, that when it comes to solitary confinement, deprivation of books, entire dependence on one's own resources and one's self, the women bear their fate far better than the men. An occasion was described to me when a train load of prisoners, who had been for years shut up in this way in some one of the great city prisons, was started for Siberia. The sight of the earth and skies, of trees, flowers and human beings, coming suddenly upon those poor wretches so long enclosed in living graves, was utterly overwhelming. Men went into hysterics and fainted on the train. Some women did so too, but not nearly so large a proportion. And no man showed the self-possession that certain women did among the prisoners, who maintained a perfect equipoise, and went from one to another sustaining, soothing and comforting them. The motherly qualities of womanhood seemed to be brought out in that strange hour. I was told that in the quality of self-immolation women are superior.

AFRAID OF BEING STABBED.—It took Stanley and his party a long time to get used to having people behind them. If a waiter who was serving them at the hotel in Cairo came behind them they would order him to come round in front, and not to dare to stand at their backs. If, when walking in the streets, they heard a footstep behind them, they would either turn around and face the person coming or draw back to the side of the walk until he passed. Even when Mr. Stanley got to London, Mrs. Stanley said that he always looked anxiously into the room before he entered it, as though he expected to find a pigmy behind the folds of the curtains. For three years these men were in constant dread of assassination at the hands of the natives by whom they were surrounded, and they never allowed one of the Africans to be behind them.

Scientific Miscellany.

(Prepared for the INTELLIGENCER.)

THE STEAM LIFE BOAT.—The first steam life-boat, it will be remembered, was not long ago finished for the Royal National Life-boat Institution, of England. The design contained many peculiarities, the water-jet being adopted as the most promising mode of propulsion. Practical use and exhaustive tests, according to one of the builders, have now proven the great value of the vessel for life-saving service, and have shown that it possesses these advantages: The propelling power is instantaneous, and as efficient in heavy seas as in smooth water. No racing or injurious effect on the machinery results from rolling and pitching. The vibration is much less than in a screw or paddle boat. As the engine runs in only one direction, the complication, weight, and wear and tear of machinery are greatly reduced, and there is no loss of time, due to stopping and reversing, for going astern. There are no serious obstacles under water. Should anything happen to the rudder, the turbine alone will steer well; and with both together the manoeuvring power exceeds that of any other known steering arrangement.

A NEW BUFFALO.—There are now reported to be twelve "sealskin" buffaloes, which have been obtained by crossing polled Angus cattle on the wild stock. The hump and shaggy mane of the buffalo almost entirely disappear, and the animal is easily domesticated. The new breed promises to be successful and valuable. It survives cold too great for ordinary cattle, and it produces fur which is said to be fine and glossy, resembling that of the seal but much thicker.

A SINGULARLY-COLORED SPECIMEN of the common English frog was exhibited by Mr. Rowland Ward at a recent

meeting of the Linnean Society, of London. It was full grown, and entirely of white flesh tint, the eyes being bright ruby and rimmed with gold as though set like jewels, making it a most curious and most beautiful animal. Albinism among frogs and reptiles is so rare that only four or five cases could be found on record.

THE GREATEST SCIENTIST.—"Whether we look to its width or to its depth," writes Mr. Geo. J. Romers, "we must alike conclude that the range of Aristotle's work is wholly without a parallel in the history of mankind. Indeed, it may be said that there is scarcely any one department of intellectual activity where the mind of this intellectual giant has not exerted more or less influence—in some cases by way of creation, in others by way of direction. The following is a list of subjects on which Aristotle wrote: Physics, Astronomy, Meteorology, Zoology, Comparative Anatomy, Physiology, and Psychology; Poetry, Ethics, Rhetoric, Logic, Politics, and Metaphysics. From his works on Natural History we find that he mentions at least 70 species of mammals, 150 of birds, 20 of reptiles, 116 of fish, 84 of articulate, and about 40 of lower forms—making close upon 500 species in all. Aristotle appears to have been the first philosopher who at all appreciated the importance of heredity as a principle, not only in natural history, but also in psychology; for he distinctly affirms that the children of civilized communities are capable of a higher degree of intellectual cultivation than are children of savages. *** Looking to the enormous range of his work in biology alone; remembering that in this work he had no predecessors; considering that at the same time he was thus a single-handed collector of facts, and a single-minded thinker upon their import; it becomes evident that Aristotle would have been something more than human if either his observations or his reasonings could everywhere be justly compared with those of scientific genius when more favorably circumstanced. But it is the glory of Aristotle that both his observations and his reasonings can stand such comparison as well as they do. For when on the one hand we remember the immensity of his achievement, and on the other hand reflect that he was worse than destitute of any ancestral experience of method, born into a world of mysticism, nurtured in the school of Plato, therefore compelled himself to forge the intellectual instruments of research, himself to create the very conception of scientific inquiry—when we thus remember and thus reflect, it appears to me there can be no question that Aristotle stands forth, not only as the greatest figure of antiquity, but as the greatest intellect that has ever appeared upon the face of this earth."

ON A PROJECTED electric railway between Vienna and Buda Pesth a distance of 150 miles, it is proposed to make an average speed of 75 to 80 miles an hour.

FLIES OF LONG AGO.—The chief supplies of amber, which is a fossil gum that exuded from pines and other trees perhaps two million years ago, come from the bed of the Baltic Sea in northern Prussia. Many of the lumps of amber contain insects of various kinds, leaves, parts of flowers, etc., which became entangled when the gum was soft, and have been perfectly preserved through all the intervening ages to the present time. Prof. Richard Klebs, of Konigsberg, has been studying the fossil insects during the last twelve years, in which time several hundred thousand specimens of amber have passed through his hands. His work has yielded many facts of great scientific interest, such as the discovery of insects between the gnats and the short-winged flies, and much knowledge concerning the early history of ants. The most numerous represented of the insects found are two-winged flies, of which 20,000 have been counted from these ancient fly-traps. Lice, gnats and mosquitoes are not numerous. Some 4000 specimens of beetles have been noted, and 5000 members of the white ant and dragon-fly family, besides grasshoppers, crickets, locusts, leaf-hoppers, and more than 1000 kinds of butterflies and moths. The amber encloses also spiders, centipedes, and even parts of birds, lizards, and other creatures.

LIQUID BRONZE.—A solution in which bronze powder is held in suspension for a long time has been patented in the German Empire. Damar resin is mixed with one-third of dry carbonate of potassium or carbonate of sodium, and the mixture is melted and thoroughly stirred together, and then in thin layers is exposed for several months to a temperature of 120 degrees. The resin thus obtained is dissolved in benzine freed from all traces of acid by ammonia gas, when a varnish is yielded in which the bronze powder remains suspended. Articles bronzed with the preparation are said to retain their metallic lustre for years.

SOME ENGLISH MANUFACTURERS are bleaching paper, without impairing its strength, by an electrical process. A solution of magnesium chloride is used, which is decomposed by a powerful current, with the evolution of chlorine and oxygen.