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# Religious Intelligencer.

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

VOL. XXXVIII.—No 39.

FREDERICTON, N. B., SEPTEMBER 23, 1891.

WHOLE No. 1958

## NOTES AND GLEANINGS.

WINNIPEG, according to "Knoxonian" in the Canada Presbyterian, is the most church-going city in the Dominion.

THE NEW SOUTH WALES general election, recently, resulted in a remarkable temperance triumph. Out of 136 members twenty-six are pledged to prohibition and twenty-nine to local option without compensation, and many others who would not give a pledge are willing to vote for prohibition.

A NEW ARMSTRONG GUN has just been tested in England. With a charge of 900 pounds of powder it sent a cylindrical steel shot, weighing 1,800 pounds, through 20 inches of steel armor, 5 inches of iron, 20 feet of oak, 5 feet of granite, and 11 feet of hard concrete. It would knock a hole through any ship in the world. It weighs 110 tons, is 43 feet and 9 inches long, and 5 feet 6 inches thick at the base. But the gunner cannot afford to miss the mark, for every shot costs nearly a thousand dollars, and the monster cannot be fired more than seventy-five times before bursting.

ALTHOUGH it would be cheaper to take the exiles to Siberia on their dreary journey by carriage, and it is quite unnecessary to take them at all during the terribly severe winter, Mr. George Kennan tells in *The Century Magazine* for September, how he met parties of exiles tramping painfully, in the depth of winter, through a snow-storm, at a time when the thermometer was sometimes 45 degrees below zero. As the exiles left the forwarding station, the doctor would make a careless examination of each one with the stethoscope, but he rarely decided that any unfortunate wretch was unfit to bear the exposure. For eight or ten hours together sick and diseased convicts were exposed in open vehicles, in uncomfortable one-horse sleighs, that followed the marching party. Half-frozen to death, they clung and huddled together to get a little warmth. The Siberian officials have made representations to St. Petersburg on the subject, but no notice is ever taken of them.

CARDINAL MANNING says that all his life he has done his utmost to prevent the holding of bazars, lotteries and raffles for works of charity or religion.

STUNDISM is being literally stamped out in Russia. Every week detachments of the ministers and prominent members of this unfortunate body are sent to the Caucasus or Siberia. Recent intelligence says that five Baptists and Stundist preachers have just arrived at Rostoff on the Don, with a company of ordinary criminals. Two were forwarded to Kisliar, a little fever-stricken place near the Caspian shore, and three to Batoum, en route to a remote district of Transcaucasia. In the Caucasus alone there are at present over fifty banished Protestant preachers who have arrived there within the past eight months. The police in Tiflis, the capital of the Caucasus, have just received an order from the Russian Minister of the interior to make inquiry into the status and business of all Russian Protestants in that city, with the object of requiring those who are settled there without a special license to leave the villages to which they had been banished. Many of these Protestants have established little businesses in Tiflis, and the execution of the contemplated measures against them will utterly ruin their worldly prospects.

THE SCIENTISTS who went out in the Peary expedition to Greenland have returned. *Zion's Herald* says:

They bring dismal tidings of icy rigors and ill success. The "Kite" failed to reach Whale Sound, and landed the party at a point about six hundred miles north of Upernivik. The lieutenant was taken on shore with a broken leg. He with his wife and six companions were left behind to face the hardships of an Arctic winter. They have insufficient clothing and a limited supply of coal. Their dogs have got away from them, and their provisions have partly spoiled. Notwithstanding these discouragements, the plucky leader of the expedition expects to push north as soon as he is able to travel, and when he has reached the farthest point possible return, and make his way by whale boat through the ice of Melville Bay to Upernivik, which he hopes to reach by August 1. It is a daring, perilous, almost im-

practicable scheme. His former companions, the scientists, think there is no hope for him unless a relief expedition is sent out, and even then it may not reach him.

LONDON JOURNALS are criticizing severely the growing indelicacy of dress among "society" ladies. On this subject the *Christian Standard* says:

It is significant that the fathers, husbands, brothers and associates of these women are almost universally opposed to woman suffrage, coeducation, or anything which tends to give woman equal culture and power with man. Their estimate of womanhood can not be a very high one, when those who are most intimately related to them thus consent to an indelicate show of themselves. We do not believe men in general will ever accord to women the respect they should command, or the public influence and rights which are their due, so long as they consent to do this, and, in addition, to patronize the stage where exposed womanhood is the chief attraction, and to give themselves in the dance to the embrace of every comely whom society admits to its circles. These are plain words, and are meant to be. With every sympathy with those brave women who are trying to elevate their kind, we think much of their labor should be expended upon these silly sisters who are misrepresenting true womanhood.

CHINA IS HONEYCOMBED with secret societies, which are a standing menace to the government and a terror to the uninitiated. The primary object of the societies is nominally, a patriotic one—to destroy the dynasty of the Manchu conquerors. Every year there are revolts, and great rebellions are common. The members of the societies, besides, are bound to take no notice of the State-laws, to stand by any member, whatever crime he may commit, and to punish by the knife any supposed enemy, any revealer of their secrets, and, indeed, any individuals who when requested, refuse to become a member. In *Harper's* for September Mr. Frederick Boyce gives curious details concerning three of these societies—the T'ien-Ti-Hwei, with millions of members, the oldest and most important of all; the Wu-Wei-Kaou, or "Do Nothing," whose members are strict vegetarians, and, being usually wealthy, place all their wealth at the disposal of the society; and the Ko-Lao-Hwei, or "League of the Elder Brother," dating from the Tai-ping rebellion, a military conspiracy, whose agents travel as doctors, and proselytize wherever they go. The rites of initiation are terrific, and the lodges of the older societies have executioners, whose office is not a sinecure. There are lodges out of China, which have been the cause of great bloodshed in the East Indies. At any moment these societies may initiate a revolution, which will not only imperil the government, but jeopardise the foreigners in the Celestial Empire.

## WOMAN'S FOREIGN MISSION SOCIETY.

"Rise up ye women that are at ease," Isaiah 52: 9.

[All contributions for this column should be addressed to MISS LYDIA J. FULLERTON, CARLETON, ST. JOHN.]

### A Sweeper Woman.

DEAR YOUNG FOLKS:—As I sat down to write to you, a woman came in and began to sweep near me. It is about her that I am going to write to you today. She belongs to the very lowest caste called the *mater* or *sweeper* caste. I called her to me and counted her ornaments. She has two gold ornaments in her nose; one reaches below her lips. She has three rings in the rim of each ear. She has eight strings of colored beads around her neck and says she has many more at her home, which she doubtless would have worn, had she known that I was going to look at her. On her fingers are seven, brass, silver, and iron rings. On each wrist are nine bracelets. Some of them are very large and heavy. Some are of brass, some of iron and some of hard clay painted in bright colours. They make a great noise, and of this, she is very proud. Over her elbows are three more heavy rings. One of these, she proudly tells me, is silver. Under it, I discover, a thread to which are attached a tiny silver drum and a pearl button. She says this is a charm to keep off sickness and that there is medicine in the silver drum.

Lastly, she has eight rings on her toes. She considers herself quite a belle, and was proud to have me look

at her ornaments. She began to tell me about the ornaments she had at home, those her son had, and those her mother-in-law took away from her. I had to send her away at last, or I should have had no time to write this letter.

This woman is very poor. Her husband gets less than two dollars a month and there are three mouths to feed. Only yesterday she came to me to borrow money. The month is not half gone and they have nothing to eat. In spite of this, she tells me, that when her husband gets his wages, she will buy another nose jewel and some more bracelets. Her only clothing is a coarse, dirty, orange cloth.

Poor woman! Her heart is set on the outward adorning, but she knows nothing of the "ornament of a meek and quiet spirit." She has never heard of the "Pearl of great price." She cannot read, she cannot think of one thing but a few minutes at a time.

Her husband is trying to learn a little about Christianity, but long ages of neglect, poverty and ignorance have made it very hard for them to learn, and harder still for them to remember.

These sweepers do the very lowest and dirtiest work. No other caste will touch them. Many of them live like beasts in some little mud hovel. They pick up and eat refuse which you would not think fit for the pigs. Are you not glad that you were born in Christian America, and not in India, where a person born a sweeper must live and die one? There is no possibility of their rising ever so little.

In North India, many of these sweepers have been converted, but even after they are converted, it takes years and years of patient training before they can properly distinguish between right and wrong.

Your friend,  
CLARA L. BOYER.  
Balasore, May 14th, 1891.

## Korea.

This is a large peninsula separated from Japan by the Korean Channel. It has an area of 82,000 square miles, and a population of about 250,000. After centuries of the strictest seclusion, this "hermit nation" has unlocked her doors and admitted to her domains, not only her Japanese neighbours, but the western nations as well. Unlike China or Japan, it has no religion, except a mass of superstition, a mixture of spirit and nature-worship. The work of Protestant Missions has all been carried on during the last decade. It is said, that the key used by God to unlock this empire to the gospel was medical missions. Dr. H. M. Allen, a missionary from China, by his skilful treatment of disease, won the confidence and gratitude of the king, who in consequence allowed him to build a government hospital, which is under the care of the Presbyterian Mission. This mission was commenced in 1884, and has prospered wonderfully, considering the many obstacles to be overcome.

The women of Korea are secluded as in China, but feet binding, or any other deforming of the body, is unknown. At marriage they lose their identity, becoming the wife of Mr. — or the mother of Master —. To give the Korean women an education is considered unnecessary, although there is no objection to their being able to read. The children are spoken of as quiet, thoughtful and teachable, and it is said, that evidences of happy home life meet the visitor to Korea at every turn.

The question has been asked, "What is Christianity doing for the women of this hermit nation?" "Have they been reached?"

From the beginning of Protestant missions in the country, there have been lady missionaries. Mrs. S. Scranton, the first one to open direct work for the women, has laboured untiringly in their behalf, and many others have been equally zealous. Large results cannot of course be looked for, so soon. It is seed time now. But even at this early day, there are cheering indications. Two girls' schools have been established, and one hospital, where nearly 2400 patients were treated last year. Religious services are held here each Sabbath, with a good attendance. A weekly sewing class is held by one of the ladies of the Presbyterian mission, to which women of all ranks come. There they listen to the sweet old story which has been

repeated in nearly every tongue and nation, and which will continue to be repeated, while the world exists.

Thus the work goes on; slowly it may be, but surely. It is self-sacrificing work, up hill at every step; but there are blessed compensations even, and by and by, when the harvest is gathered, the song of the reapers shall be a triumphant one, as they come laden with their precious sheaves.

Helper.

## Temperance Notes.

—Joseph Cook says: "License makes the community itself a rum-seller."

—A woman was recently arrested in Boston for the nineteenth time for drunkenness.

—Rev. Sam Jones was recently pelted with rotten eggs by pirate German saloon-keepers at Houston, Texas.

—Under a new law in Georgia, when a doctor is convicted of drunkenness, he can no longer practice medicine in that State.

—Any white man giving drink to an aboriginal or half-caste of any district in Fiji is liable to a penalty of £50 or imprisonment.

—Nearly one-half of the criminals in the German prisons were arrested for crimes committed under the influence of intoxicating drinks.

—So long as the saloon is permitted to exist and lure the boys into drinking before they are old enough to have better sense than to be thus lured to their ruin, so long will drunkenness and its consequent horrors abound; and in proportion as the population of the country converges to and accumulates in the cities, in the same proportion will the number of boys lured to their ruin by the saloon increase, and the overthrow of the republic by rum be hastened. Let the people take warning.

—Temperance legislation in Great Britain occupies considerable attention. The second reading of the Welsh Local Option Bill has caused jubilation in the Temperance party, though the value of the vote on the measure lies in the promise for the future. It is said that a deadly blow was dealt the publican interest in the decision of the House of Lords, affirming the judgment of the Court of Appeal giving the licensing justices full discretion to refuse or to renew licenses. The decision places all the licensed houses throughout the country under the control of the local magistrates, who will refuse licenses without compensation.

—A thing that is not generally known and appreciated is the agency of railroads promoting temperance. By the various companies in this country are employed in round numbers 690,000 persons, not counting those who mine coal and iron, make rails and locomotives, or build the cars and carriages used by the roads. The freight and passenger traffic of the country is practically controlled by six hundred of these corporations, and of these 600 no less than 375 prohibit the use of intoxicating liquors by their employees, among the number being most of the largest companies. The Brotherhood of Locomotive Engineers uses its influence in the same direction "Whenever a member of the order is known to be dissipated," says Mr. Arthur, long the head of the organization, "we not only suspend or expel him, but notify his employers," and during the last year eight hundred and seventy-five members were expelled for this cause. Thus men are kept sober for purely business considerations, for the consequences of intoxication in such capacity would not only imply terrible disaster and loss of life, but great pecuniary losses to the transit companies. In many other businesses preference is given to the workingman who is not addicted to the drinking habit, and business considerations promise to work a reformation which other influences have vainly attempted.

—The leading daily newspaper in Paris, in a recent issue, makes this startling statement in regard to the increase of intemperance in the country districts of France: "No one can have been a resident of a country district without being struck with the development of this scourge during the last thirty years, the deplorable effects of which are everywhere visible. The habit of saving, that was so long the strength and the glory of our tillers of the soil, is gradually disappearing. The money box of the liquor seller swallows up, sous by sous, the wages that formerly, in the form of silver pieces, were hidden away in some corner of the clothes press, to be brought out when enough was accumulated to buy a little piece of ground. In the villages the women are reduced, like the wives of workmen in the towns, to haunt the doors of the drink shop in order to rescue the bread of their children from the alcoholic gulf. In most of our hamlets the drunkard, who was formerly the exception, has multiplied by con-

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## Scientific Miscellany.

(Prepared for the INTELLIGENCER.)

WORK OF THE SPECTROSCOPE.—In his recent address as President of the British Association for the Advancement of Science, Dr. Wm. Huggins, stated that it is now some thirty years since the spectroscope gave us for the first time certain knowledge of the nature of the heavenly bodies, and revealed the fundamental fact, that terrestrial matter is not peculiar to the Solar system, but is common to all the stars visible to us. This instrument has in this time analyzed the stars, though it has thus far failed to interpret the remarkable spectrum of the Aurora Borealis, and to teach much of the physical and chemical nature of the sun's corona. It has shown reasons for arranging the stars in a series in which the different temperatures seem to be indicated, and to denote different stages of evolution, our sun occupying a place near the middle of the series. It has given us a means of determining that some stars are approaching and some receding in the line of sight, and of measuring the rate, though the nearest star is so remote that its approach at the rate of 100 miles per second would not increase its light one-fortieth in a century. The motions of about fifty stars have been thus determined, with an accuracy of about an English mile per second. Indeed, a number of measures of the star Arcturus have been made by Keeler with a variation of not more than six-tenths of a mile per second, these being determinations of the motion of a remote run by means of light waves which have been nearly 200 years upon their journey. Nebulae have been seen to move at about the same rate as the stars—from two to twenty-seven miles per second, and in one case nearly forty miles. Photography, which has rendered wonderful help to the astronomer in other ways, has aided in these researches.

DISAPPEARANCE OF BIRDS.—Attention has been called to the serious diminution of birds in France through destruction of the nests. Some insectivorous species are becoming very rare, while plant parasites are increasing. Cats and boys are the chief destroyers, and it is suggested that the boys be punished by law, that the keeping of cats be made illegal, and that prizes be offered for killing animals that prey on eggs.

TEMPERATURE EXTREMES.—In Werchojansk, East Siberia, the coldest place known on earth, the temperature ranges in January from 24° to 80° below zero, and in July from 40° to 86° above the mean for December, January and February being 55° below zero. The climatic conditions, says Dr. W. J. VanBebber, are very high atmospheric pressure in winter, with calm air and a clear sky—conditions which favor radiation. A search for the hottest region shows that the belt of highest temperature passes through South-eastern Asia, the interior of North Africa, Arizona, and the centre of Australia. The characteristic climatic feature of this tropic belt is a high and equable temperature with dense humidity of the atmosphere. The highest annual mean temperature known is on the southern coast of the Red Sea. The range of the mean temperature at Massowah is from 78°

to 79° in January and February to 95° to 96° in July and August, with an annual mean of 86°, and a daily variation of 10° to 12°. These figures do not appear excessive, the highest mean temperature is occasionally exceeded in other regions, but the continuous, nearly uniform, high temperature renders it almost unendurable for Europeans.

CHEAPER QUININE.—The new artificial quinine, produced by Messrs. Grimaux and Arnaud of Paris, is mentioned as one of the great discoveries of the year. It is obtained by treating the base cuprein of a Brazilian shrub with sodium, then treating the resulting compound with chloride of methyl. The product is quinine absolutely identical with the substance that has become so familiar and so indispensable.

A "LOCOMOTIVE-STEAMBOAT" is being built in Sweden for the navigation of a chain of small lakes separated by falls. The boat is to be fitted with wheels fitting a track, and power can be applied either to the propeller or to the locomotive driving-wheels.

IT HAS BEEN lately pointed out that the air is much contaminated with arsenic, especially in English cities, from the burning of coal.

ELECTRO-MAGNETIC DISCOVERIES.—In the progress of electro-magnetic science, according to Prof. A. E. Kennelly, these facts seem to have been fully established: 1. The great achievement since Faraday's time has been the determination that all electricity flows, or tends to, in closed curves or circuits, so that we have the electrostatic circuit, the galvanic circuit and the magnetic circuit, each resembling, as it were, an endless chain or a bundle of endless chains; and the laws which control these three different types of circuit show wonderful analogies. 2. The due appreciation of the influence of the ether and its importance in all electro-magnetic phenomena. While originally the electrical activity seemed to be confined to the battery or conducting wires of a galvanic circuit, it is now believed that the ether surrounding these conductors plays fully as active a part in the process of conduction; and the mind sees free space no longer void, but filled with an active and responsive substance—the ether. It looks almost as if matter were inert in comparison with the ether. 3. The evidence in favor of the proposition that light is a vibratory disturbance in the ether of an electro-magnetic character is such as almost to amount to demonstration. When this shall be generally accepted, the whole domain of optics and radiant energy will be enrolled as one department and property of electro-magnetic physics.

ELECTRIC SAW-REPAIRING.—A considerable saving in repairing saws is to be credited to the new process of electric welding. It was formerly necessary to cut down to a smaller size any saw from which a tooth had been broken, but it is now only necessary to fit in a new tooth and secure it in place by electric welding. A drop of oil restores the saw. The joint in continuous band saws is also made by this process.

IN OLDENBURG, a fall of temperature from 37° above zero to 22° below is reported to have occurred in 20 minutes on Nov. 19, 1890. A heavy rain preceded the change. Some 30 Kirghises, who were returning to Oldenburg, were drenched with the rain, then frozen on their horses.

## Among Exchanges.

Too SWEEPING.

There is a vast amount of harm done in Canada and the United States by the habit many people have of denouncing public men in sweeping terms. With some people every member of parliament, every municipal councillor, every public man of every kind and grade is necessarily a bad man. To say that a man is a politician is in their opinion much the same thing as to say that he is a rascal. As a matter of fact the great majority of the men who serve Canada in political or municipal life are just as good as an equal number of men taken from any class or calling.—*Can. Presbyterian.*

THE DIFFERENCE.

True revivals are deeply concerned over the quality of conversions; sham revivals, over counting the so-called converts.—*Phil. Standard.*

Too TRUE.

The daily press (a large section of it) is usually ready to publish anything that will tell against the churches, and to put it in the way which will be most attractive to the wickedest element in the community. A slander against a minister is a plum to reporters, and they can be trusted to make the most of it. On the other hand, when a really unworthy minister is exposed, and the churches are endeavoring to rid themselves of him, the daily papers are certain to be found on his side. He is just the kind of a minister they want. Although his crime may be so notorious that there can be no doubt of his guilt, if a church or a council has once condemned a man, he can be sure of the support of the daily press.—*Journal & Messenger.*