

TERMS, NOTICES, ETC.

The RELIGIOUS INTELLIGENCER is issued every Wednesday, from the office of publication, York St., Fredericton.

Terms \$1.50 a year, in advance.

If not paid in advance the price is 2.99 a year.

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ITEMS of religious news from every quarter are always welcome. Denominational news, as all other matter for publication, should be sent promptly.

COMMUNICATIONS for publication should be written on only one side of the paper, and business matters and those for insertion should be written separately. Observance of this rule will prevent much copying and needless confusion and mistakes.

ALL COMMUNICATIONS, etc., should be addressed RELIGIOUS INTELLIGENCER, Box 375, Fredericton, N. B.

Religious Intelligencer.

REV. JOSEPH McLEOD, D. D.,...EDITOR.

WEDNESDAY, July 1st 1891.

—TAKESOMEbody to church with you. There are near you some, perhaps many, who are quite careless about public worship. Have you ever spoken to one of them about going to the House of the Lord?

—THE PRINTING of the Scriptures in the Russian language is entirely under the control of the Synod of the Greek church. If Bibles printed elsewhere are discovered they are at once confiscated. Dissenters have a hard time to get and keep Bibles.

—THE LETTER to the children from Mrs. Boyer, which appears in another column, was written on the 14th May, at which time Bro. Boyer was evidently, in his usual health, as no mention is made of his being other than well. The young people, and older readers too, will read Mrs. Boyer's letter with deeper feeling as they think of the great sorrow that has come to her since she wrote it.

—DOMINION DAY.—The Canadian Confederation is now twenty-four years old. Great progress has been made in that time.

—THE REPORTS presented to the Methodist Conference of N. B. and P. E. I., now in session at St. Stephen, show a net increase in the two Provinces of 148 in the past year.

—CHRISTIAN SERVICE is the best evidence of Christian discipleship. To be and do like their Master is required of disciples. He was among men as "one that serveth." He "went about doing good."

—TO FOLLOW a calling one does not like is a great misfortune. And "Knoxonian" adds, "of all the callings in this world the ministry is the only one into which nobody should enter unless he likes the work. If there were some way of quietly putting every man out of the ministry that does not enjoy doing his duty the Church would gain immensely."

—ADDRESSING a class of ministerial students lately Mr. Spurgeon emphasized the duty of preaching the truth with definiteness. He illustrated his teaching by saying that he feared it was with some preachers as with the school teacher in the Southern States of America, who taught that the world was as flat as a pancake. A visitor asked him, "Do you teach your children that the world is round or flat?" His reply was "Yes." "But," said the enquirer, "that is not the answer I want. Do you teach them that it is round or that it is flat?" "Oh," said the teacher, "that depends upon the wishes of the parents." Speaking further on the subject of compromise, Mr. Spurgeon told a story of a beggar who had lately asked an east-end minister for relief, and finding that he did not make much impression, said, "O, sir, you would give me something if you knew how I had been benefited under your ministry. When you first came I neither cared for God nor the devil, but under your blessed ministry I have come to love them both." There were many persons who liked any sort of doctrine as long as clever men preached it.

Prohibition in Parliament.

The Prohibition question has been discussed in Parliament, and disposed of for the present. And we believe that a step ahead has been taken.

The amendment which proposed a plebiscite met with but little favour, only seven members voting for it. This was due, in part at least, to the strong opposition of the Dominion Alliance to that mode of testing public opinion. And yet the resolution framed by the Alliance and moved by Mr. Jamieson did not reach a vote. Of course, nobody believes it would have carried. It might have received seventy-five votes, although there are not that many members in the House squarely pledged to prohibition. But however small the support, we would have been glad to have it made known just how many were prepared to stand by it and to have their constituencies and the whole country know where they are on this great question.

The resolution, moved by Mr. Foster, to appoint a Royal Commission, and which was adopted, is as follows: That in the opinion of this house it is desirable without delay to obtain for the information and consideration of parliament, by means of a royal commission, the fullest and most reliable data possible respecting—

1. The effects of the liquor traffic upon all interests affected by it in Canada.

2. The measures which have been adopted in this and other countries with a view to lessen, regulate or prohibit the traffic.

3. The results of these measures in such cases.

4. The effect that the enactment of a prohibitory liquor law in Canada would have in respect of social conditions, agricultural, business, industrial and commercial interests of the provinces and the dominion, and also as to its capability of efficient enforcement.

5. All other information bearing on the question of prohibition.

Many will regard it as a scheme to indefinitely delay decisive action. And probably some members were glad to vote for it supposing it would have that effect. But they are mistaken. The object of the mover of the resolution to appoint a Commission was not delay; and it will hasten instead of retard the prohibition movement. Mr. Foster made a strong speech, characterized by great frankness. He declared his adherence to the principle of prohibition, his belief in its feasibility, and his readiness to deal with the financial difficulties involved in the passage of a prohibitory law.

No one who gives the matter careful thought can disregard the practical difficulties that must be met. But they are not unsurmountable. That there is not sufficient prohibition strength in the present House to pass a Prohibitory law will, we think, be conceded. Neither party is strong enough to carry it, nor are there enough genuine prohibitionists of both parties in the house to do it. The thing for the country to do is to send as representatives strong and trustworthy prohibitionists of both parties, men who will be true to prohibition no matter which party is in power, and who will vote for it even though it brings about the defeat of the party to which they belong. That the country has not yet sent enough of such men to Parliament is evident. We trust it will be done at the next opportunity.

Meantime the Royal commission, if rightly constituted, may do much to help the movement forward. The resolution gives the Commission large powers. If it does its work thoroughly a mass of facts can be collected which will be of permanent value. Prohibitionists have no fear of facts, indeed, what they desire is facts such as may be gathered by fair-minded men, whatever their present views. They feel confident that such a compilation will furnish most powerful arguments in favour of prohibition.

As a life-long advocate of prohibition the INTELLIGENCER regards the resolution appointing a Commission one of the most important steps taken in recent years towards the enactment of a Prohibitory Law.

Spiritual Wealth.

To the moral observer it is quite evident that man is placed in his present state for a moral purpose. Well directed activities, and not idleness, should employ brain, heart and hand during this brief life. Not only do the Scriptures directly say to be diligent in business, fervent in spirit serving the Lord, but indirectly, as well, we are taught that wealth of soul comes only in this way. Glowing examples are held up in sacred history to illustrate this truth; and these examples, after thousands of years, are to us objects of admiration and profound veneration.

Nor is this all. Rewards for well-doing stand out in bold relief as incentives to faithful perseverance, while idleness will cover the soul with rags as surely as it will the body. Soul

wealth—the adornment of white robes, spiritual sight, because of a pure heart, gold tried in the fire, the white stone and the new name, the pearl of great price, riches whose price is above rubies, having nothing yet possessing all things,—this is the Divine compensation given to him who improves the time and talents God has given.

If such wealth is possible how may it be obtained? Can the secret to such possessions be given? It is the most reasonable inference to suppose that the soul living in moral poverty at times, in its moments of reflection and depression should desire this wealth, and make the above enquiry. Men do so in relation to worldly riches. A man of vast wealth, who rose from poverty by his own exertions was asked by some of his unfortunate friends to give to them the secret of his success. His reply was this, "Saving the first \$100."

There is no doubt he gave the secret; and the rule will hold good though it will have its exceptions. But to him who desires soul wealth there is a rule, clear and simple, and without an exception, "First seek the kingdom of heaven and His righteousness, etc." In this declaration lies the secret of riches which no contingencies can effect.

My dear reader, will you have this? Will you receive this as a gift, or will you live on and die in spiritual poverty? Waste no more time in dally or delay; for what shall it profit a man if he gain the whole world and lose his soul.

B. A. SHERWOOD.

Notes by the Way.

NO. XIII.

SECOND DISTRICT MEETING.

The meeting was held at Victoria Corner, C. Co. It began at 2 p. m. Friday 19th ult. Rev. H. Hart, chairman of the District, presided. The ministers present during the session were,—E. Sipprell, J. Noble, T. Connor, J. Perry, E. B. Grey, W. Downey, C. T. Phillips, J. W. Clark, H. Hart, G. Swin, J. J. Barnes, A. M. McNinch, F. C. Hartley, H. A. Bonnell, and J. McLeod, and Licentiate W. R. Reud. These ministers are not all members of the District, but the visitors, Brethren Barnes, Downey, McNinch, Hartley, Bonnell and Reud—were invited to seats in the meeting.

The reports from churches were read in the first meeting. A committee was appointed to summarize the contents of the reports.

Rev. J. Noble spoke of the encouraging features of the reports. The union in the churches is especially gratifying; it is a sign of real strength. The conversations in goodly numbers, are cheering. Some weak interests, he said, need help. He spoke of having been present at the organization of the Conference at Victoria Corner in 1832, two years before he had professed religion; and he has attended every Conference since, except one. The growth of the denomination, not only numerically but in many other respects has been very marked.

Rev. C. T. Phillips spoke of the gains during the twenty years of his recollection. He spoke, also, of the Conference Fund, and urged the importance of each church gathering its full proportion.

D. McLeod Vince emphasized the remarks about the Conference Fund. He said if the churches attended to its collection properly there would be above the amount necessary to pay the necessary expenses of the Conference, a large amount to expend in Home mission work. He spoke of the Christian's stewardship, and hoped there would be more teaching about it.

The committee on preaching arrangements reported.

At 7.30 p. m., Rev. J. J. Barnes preached a suggestive sermon. He was assisted in the service by brethren Swin and Reud, and several brethren after the sermon.

Saturday at 8 a. m. there was a good prayer meeting led by Bro. Noble. At 8.30 business was resumed. A committee appointed last year to consider the case of Palmer Settlement church reported that they had advised the few members that remained to unite with the Waterville church, and they had done so. The report was adopted.

At 10 a. m. the social conference of the session was held. The attendance was large. Bro. Swin, pastor of the church, presided. More than two hours were occupied with christian testimonies, and then many had not had opportunity to speak. It was a good meeting.

Business was taken up again at 2 p. m. The committee on nominations presented the names of five delegates to General Conference.

Rev. J. W. Clark was elected Chairman of the District for the ensuing year, and Rev. G. Swin assistant chairman.

The committee on church reports presented the following:

1. Twenty of the twenty-eight churches in the District have sent written reports, from which reports it appears that there have been added during the year,—by baptism 98, by letter 23, total 121; less,—by death 24, by withdrawal 62, total 86; the net gain being 35. The committee explained that the number stated as withdrawn is large because some churches have been carefully revising their records.

The money reported is,—support of ministry, current church expenses and Home missions \$3,880 for Foreign missions \$160. [The committee explained that the financial statements are defective in that it is evident that only a part of the Foreign Mission contributions are given, and probably there is omission of other amounts also.]

2. Pembroke church reported verbally by delegate Grey, Third Woodstock by L. G. Slipp, Bristol by Ia. Merritt, Jacksonville by D. W. Smith, and Lower Wakefield by Nath. Shaw.

3. The unreported churches are Foreston, Second Woodstock and Lakeville.

4. Nineteen of the twenty churches reported by letter have been blessed with pastoral care from brethren Clark, Connor, Grey, Hart, Noble, Perry, Phillips and Swin.

5. Knowlesville and Gordonsville churches have been revived under the labours of Bro. Grey; Tracey Mills, Bro. Clark; Woodstock, Bro. Phillips; Upper Brighton, Bro. Downey; Hartland, Bro. Noble, Coldstream, Bro. Swin.

6. Rev. Dr. McLeod assisted the pastors of Tracy Mills and Woodstock in revival services, and Rev. Wm. Downey assisted Bro. Grey at Knowlesville.

The condition of several churches—Pembroke, Lakeville, Lower Wakefield, Upper Woodstock, Foreston and Riverbank—was considered. It is proposed to hold protracted meetings in these places, and, possibly, elsewhere. A committee, composed of the Chairman and Clerk of the District and brethren Crandemire, White and Rideout, was appointed to look after the weak churches and arrange for the proposed protracted meetings.

The plan of grouping the churches, adopted last year, was considered. While the plan was not in every case carried out, it was in the main adhered to, and with good results. Brethren who know the struggles of years to get the work better systematized, spoke of the great gains that have been made, and the increasing favour with which the plan is regarded by the churches.

A resolution commending the INTELLIGENCER was adopted, and the brethren spoke very kind words about the paper and influence in the homes of our people.

On motion of Bro. Noble, it was resolved to instruct the churches that the D. meeting desires each report to be accompanied by a letter setting forth the spiritual condition and needs of the church.

An appeal from the action of the Brookville church in the dismissal of a member was presented, and a committee was appointed to visit the church. The committee consists of Brethren Grey, Phillips and Connor.

A vote of thanks to the people of the community for their hospitable entertainment was heartily adopted. The business of the session was finished at 6 p. m. Saturday. The next meeting is to be held at Windsor the third Friday in June 1892.

At 7.30 p. m. a public missionary meeting was held under the auspices of the Woman's Mission Society. The sisters had, also, two or three business meetings during the session. A full report of all these will be furnished by the Secretary of the Society. All that need be said in these notes is that the receipts for the year are slightly in excess of those of the year preceding.

Sunday, as were the other days of the session, was fine though very warm. A great concourse of people assembled at all the services of the day. At 9 a. m. there was a prayer meeting, continuing over an hour. It was a refreshing season. At 10.30 Rev. C. T. Phillips preached the annual sermon. It was practical and effective. Rev. Thos. Todd (Baptist), who was present during the day, offered prayer. The Lord's Supper was administered in the morning service to a large number of believers, Revs. J. Noble and T. Connor conducting the service.

MEMORIAL SERVICE.

At 3 p. m. a memorial service was held. Our recently deceased missionary, Rev. A. B. Boyer, was born at Victoria Corner, and was converted there, and had his first church membership there. There his parents and other relatives live. It seemed fitting that a service in his memory be held there, and the D. M. committee of arrangements appointed it accordingly. The pulpit was draped with black, and there was also a modest and tasteful arrangement of flowers. The order of service was as follows:

Hymn, "O God our help in ages past," by Rev. J. J. Barnes; Scripture lessons, by Rev. J. Noble; Prayer, by Rev. J. W. Clark; hymn, Go to the grave in all thy glorious prime; Sermon, by Rev. Jos. McLeod; At

the close of the sermon the choir sang "Jesus, lover of my soul," with great tenderness and sweetness. Closing hymn, "Servant of God, well done," by Rev. G. Swin; benediction.

The aged parents of our deceased brother, Mrs. Boyer's mother, his sisters and many other relatives were present. The church was packed to its utmost, and a large number were unable to get in. It was very evident that Bro. Boyer had the love of the christian people whom he represented in India, and that they feel deeply the loss the mission cause has suffered by his death. There is also a profound sympathy for our widowed sister, his parents and the others who are sorely bereaved. The purpose of the service was to express loving remembrance of the devoted christian worker, and also to move the churches to increase interest in and support of the work to which he consecrated himself and in which he laid down his life. Such increase of interest will be a memorial than which none can more honour his memory nor please God.

At 7.30 p. m. there was preaching by Rev. F. C. Hartley. His subject was "Lessons from the life of Jonah." Brethren Swin, McNinch and Phillips took part in the service.

The Sabbath was a day of good religious feeling. It is hoped much fruit may spring up from the seed sown.

The condition of the churches in the district is encouraging, and we trust the year now begun may be one of large ingathering.

Mrs. Boyer's Letter to the Children.

DEAR LITTLE FRIENDS:—A few weeks ago I wrote you about a little boy who came here and about whom his friends made trouble. I waited in suspense, not knowing what might happen to me and the Punda for a day or two, when we heard that nothing would be done. The boy's people having got him wanted nothing else and they really did not dare to bring the matter into court as it was a false case. Just three days after little Lallu was taken away I was standing by the door when who should come running to—wards me with smiling face but our lost one himself. He had run away a second time and this time, I am glad to say, his people did not come after him. He is here still, and is a nice obedient boy but, of course, has many Hindoo ways about him which he must get rid of. For instance, some of our christian boys picked up an idol under a tree and brought it home. Lallu was quite afraid and said that the idol, which was in the form of a horse, would run away in the night and pull them all after it. The christian boys laughed very much at this and began to show him how helpless the idol was. As they were all safe the next morning he must have lost some faith in his false god.

The police are obliged to send the accounts of each day's work to a higher officer to be inspected. Some time after, the account of this case was sent to the magistrate. After reading it he ordered a thorough examination, and the result was that the two policemen who came here and gave me trouble were fined and degraded to lower positions.

We have our vacation here in May. It is the hottest month in the whole year. The little girls in my schools are home, with lots of time to play. The straw thatch on the school-houses will be taken off and new put on, so, when the rains come, the water will not drop through on the children.

Our boys have gone to Santipore to spend their vacation. Only the little boys are left at home.

We ourselves, with Bessie and Aurilla, are down here, nine miles from home, on the beach. It is great fun to bathe in the ocean, play in the sand and chase the red crabs into their little round holes.

Yours sincerely
CLARA I. BOYER.

Chandipore 14th May 1891

Religious News and Notes.

—Mr. William Woodward, of Baltimore, now ninety years old, has been a Sunday-school teacher for seventy-two years.

—Mr. Gladstone is credited with the opinion that for every pound sterling expended by Great Britain for foreign missions she receives back ten in trade.

—During its long period of existence the British and Foreign Bible Society has issued 124,000,000 copies of Scripture writings, translated into 290 tongues.

—Foreign missionaries resident in Japan are now granted passports to reside outside of foreign concessions, on the ground that they are "employed in Church work"—a concession which has hitherto been given only to teachers. Coming at this time it indicates a special appreciation on the part of the Japanese Government of the beneficial influence of the missionaries.

—Before Christianity entered India, lepers were treated with shocking inhumanity. Many of them were buried alive. The English rulers have put a stop to this custom, and for fourteen years there has been a special Christian mission to the 135,000 lepers in India.

—In 1790, Cincinnati had one Protestant church with eight members. October, 1890, she has over 130, with nearly twenty thousand members. This includes the near suburbs, and in the same area the Roman Catholics have fifty-one churches.

—The Established Presbytery of Glasgow has just published a report on the social condition of the poor in that city. It recommends the conferring of large powers on the corporation to close insanitary houses and compel landlords to make houses habitable; the formation of an association for the purchase and reconstruction of existing tenements that are insanitary and out of repair; and the compulsory relegation of the incorrigibly idle and dissolute to labour colonies.

Denominational News.

ROCKLAND, C. Co.—Sabbath, 14th inst., Rev. G. Swin baptized one convert. The interest is good. Bro. Swin began special meetings at Rockland last Monday.

LINCOLN, S. Co.—Last Sabbath Rev. Jos. McLeod baptized three more converts at Lincoln.

Rev. Jos. Noble was in this city on Monday, enroute to the Fifth District Meeting at Jerusalem, Q. Co. He intends also to attend the Sixth District meeting at Coverdale, A. Co., next week. Bro. Noble is in good health and spirits.

THEIR SUMMER WORK.—Brethren Long, Reud and Currier who spent last year at the Seminary are now at work for the summer. Bro. Long, who has finished the Seminary course, is preaching at Beaver Harbour and MoAdam; Bro. Reud is at Hartland and Brighton; and Bro. Currier is at Dover and Taylor Village.

CARIBOU, ME.—Knowing that you are always glad to hear of the prosperity of Zion, I write to tell you that last Sunday, 21st, was a glorious day in the history of the F. B. church of Caribou. Notwithstanding the intense heat a thousand people or more assembled on the banks of the Aroostook river to witness the baptism of eleven converts, by Rev. C. W. Foster, pastor of the F. B. church. Eight of them are heads of families, three are young ladies; five of them are over fifty years of age. One whole household, husband and wife and adopted daughter, was represented. Three were comrades in the Grand Army of the Republic. They call this their new enlistment in the Grand Army of the Lord. As they were good soldiers, and fought bravely the battles of the late civil war, so they are determined, by help divine, to fight faithfully the battles of this christian warfare, so that when this life is ended, they shall together enjoy the bliss and happiness of that place where strife shall never be known.

In the evening the pastor preached a short but very able sermon. Subject: Counsel to young christians, at the close of which he gave the hand of fellowship to those who were baptized in the morning.

We expect others to follow soon, also some to join by letter. The outlook seems bright and prosperous. We are praying, hoping and believing that the Lord will continue to bless us. All our Sunday services are well attended, and our prayer-meetings are seasons of great refreshing. The Sunday school is well attended, and a good interest seems to be manifest.

H.

CANAAN, Q. Co.—I came to this place two weeks ago last Monday, and have been here the most of the time since. This church (Canaan Forks) has had no labour for years, and for two years has had no conference meeting, and for a long time no prayer meeting. Notwithstanding, there was a seed left and the Lord heard their cry and sent them help. Last evening a very hearty vote of thanks was given to the Home Mission Board for the interest manifested in this people by a grant of \$25.00. By direction of the Board I came here. I have held thirty meetings here and eight in other parts of my field in sixteen days, visited all the families but two for ten miles up and down the river, and read and prayed with them all. We held a conference meeting last week, and twenty took part in the meeting. The people had become much divided about a school, and the school house (a new one) had been closed for two years. This trouble the Lord helped us to see removed, and then the good work moved on. Soon sinners began to cry for mercy, and this morning I baptized seven converts. The meetings are good and are being held

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Rev. J. T. P.

Rev. Joseph

Rev. C. T. F.

Rev. E. C. F.

Rev. G. W. F.

Rev. G. F. F.

Rev. T. S. F.

Rev. A. M. F.

Rev. J. N. F.

Rev. Wm. L.

Rev. A. C. T.

Licent. A. T.

Rev. D. L.

Clerk G. W.

Taylor Village.

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Moncton Del

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Coverdale D

Lewis Mt. D

Eagle Settle

Wheaton Set

Steeves Set

Peticodiac D

Corn Hill De

Lower Ridge

Portage Dele

Pontaguis I

Graves Settle

Sussex Deleg

Newtown, N

Dutch Valley

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