

TERMS, NOTICES, ETC.

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Payment of subscriptions may be made to any Free Baptist minister in New Brunswick and Nova Scotia, and to any of the authorized agents as named in another column, as well as to the proprietor at Fredericton.

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 a vast amount of 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, March 4th, 1891.

—MERIT may not always win, but it can stand it if it doesn't.

—CHARLES KINGSLEY wrote these wise and true words: "Nothing is more expensive than penuriousness; nothing more anxious than carelessness; and every duty which is bidden to wait returns with seven fresh duties at its back."

—THERE is one district in New York city, having a population of 150,000, in which there is but one church. It affords some of the rich churches of the great city an opportunity for mission work.

—IT is told of Mr. Spurgeon that showing a friend through his Tabernacle, he said,—"And now I will show you the heating apparatus of the church," and opening a door he let his friend look in on a large number of members assembled in the weekly prayer meeting.

There is no such heater for a church as a good prayer meeting. How is yours?

—FROM THE FIRST. A Moncton subscriber writes: "I got a copy of the first issue of the INTELLIGENCER, and have taken it ever since. It seems now like one of the family, and feel as though we could not do without it. We hope that God may continue to bless and prosper it."

There is a good number of subscribers who have read the INTELLIGENCER regularly since the first issue. We are always glad to hear from them.

—GENERAL SHERMAN was not a Roman Catholic. But his wife and children are members of the Catholic church, one of his sons being a priest. When the General was dying a priest came at the request of the family and administered "extreme unction." A good deal of surprise has been expressed at this, and those who knew the General best say that he was wholly unconscious of what was being done. The Catholic church will always claim, however, that he died in its faith.

—CONVERTS from heathenism to Christianity often teach the disciples of Christ in these lands lessons in self-denying and systematic support of the cause of Christ. The "Missionary Review" tells that the Christians in Ceylon have four methods of giving for the support of the Gospel. First, the tithes of their earnings. Second, the offering of trees—the setting apart by each family of a cocoa-nut tree, the produce of which they sacredly devote to benevolent purposes. Third, the offering of labour—devoting a certain amount of time to work in the interest of the church. Fourth, they reserve a handful of rice from every day's meal.

How many members of churches in this land are so careful and systematic in their offerings to the Lord's cause?

—THE LATE SECRETARY WINDOM, of the United States, seems to have had strong convictions on the iniquity of the liquor traffic, and of the duty of the state to deal with it in a strong way. He said:

How to curtail and finally destroy this evil is the great problem of the hour. Its solution is next on the world's calendar of progress. It has been called for trial, and cannot be

dismissed or postponed. * * * The time has therefore come when this issue must be met. Political parties can no longer dodge it if they would. Private citizens must take sides openly, for or against the saloon, with its methods and results. "Neutrality is henceforth impossible; indifference is a betrayal of the sacred trust reposed in citizenship." The saloon system is itself a league of lawbreakers, whose example affords a most powerful stimulus to disorder of all kinds. It openly proclaims its purpose to disobey all laws which interfere with its supreme purpose to make money in its own way, and at whatever sacrifice. By what right does the saloon exist? I know of none.

—"ASH WEDNESDAY is doomed," is the way a London paper records the results of a vote in the British House of Commons. From time immemorial it has been a Parliamentary holiday. This year when the usual motion was made, all the Liberal members, Mr. Gladstone excepted, voted against an adjournment. When the English Liberal party comes again into power it will, of course, make an end of the absurdity and it is about time.

—HERE is what, in his pithy way, Dr. Cuyler says about the duty of church members:

Every member of Christ's blood-bought flock is under just as strong obligation to labour for souls as any pastor possibly can be. Your promise to be a witness for your Master is just as solemn and binding as his promise. It is your Church just as much as it is your minister's Church; Christ's claim on you is the same as His claim on your pastor. What General ever gained a victory without the aid of his army? What could a Spurgeon accomplish without his great, zealous, praying Church behind him? Aaron and Hur are as important in their places as Moses.

—THE METHODS of the Salvation Army are said to be changing in many places, notably in England. The leaders of the movement claim that while at first the loud display was necessary to attract attention, the conditions have now become so changed that it is no longer necessary to do many of the extraordinary things, as street displays, shouting, etc. One of the officers says, "We have been appealing too much to the eye and ear and not enough to the soul." The change may have good effect, if not too marked.

—Methodism throughout the world is just now celebrating the centennial of the death of John Wesley. The English celebration is, of course, on a larger scale than elsewhere; but as heartily in every part of the world the memory of the great founder of the denomination is honored, and the activities and growth of the body reviewed. Methodism has been and is a great religious force in the world. God has used it to work great things.

The March Collections.

The second quarter's contributions to mission work are to be made this month. The Conference asks that during this month the matter receive attention in all the churches. It should not be neglected. There is still a deficit in the Foreign Mission Treasury. It ought to be wiped out at once. The churches that failed to send anything or less than they should have sent last quarter, should make up that deficiency now. The Home Mission Treasury needs funds also. Both these important interests require to be well sustained. To permit them to be embarrassed by lack of funds is to greatly damage our work, and cause weakness in every part of the body. Let all the ministers and churches give prompt and hearty attention to the needs of the work.

"Nevertheless, Afterward."

Disappointment, bereavement, sorrow, or trouble of any kind is hard to bear. This is true in the case of Christians as of other people. The Bible admits it. "Now no chastening for the present seemeth to be joyous, but grievous." Neither our Lord nor the Apostles give the temporary and superficial comfort of attempting to alter our view of the real character of chastisement. It is hard to bear. Under its infliction the flesh often must cry out. The patient need not say, cannot say, that the knife is not keen, that it does not cut to the bone, that it does not cause severe pain. Our comfort in trouble is not in denying that it hurts. The stoical spirit is not the christian spirit. Nor does any true comfort come from such denial or spirit. Chastisement is really and undeniably sore and grievous. But to the christian, our Lord, in the midst of it, gives true comfort—the comfort of His helping presence, and the promise of resulting good some time. "Nevertheless, afterward it yieldeth the peaceable fruits of righteousness to them that are exercised thereby." The knife is

sharp, but it cuts out the tumour. The chastisement is grievous, but it yields peaceable fruit. Let those who are under going chastising of the Lord, endure in the meekness and patience of faith that whom the Lord loveth He chasteneth, and that sooner or later, they shall have and enjoy its blessed fruits.

The Prohibition Petitions.

Many petitions, largely signed, have been received.

The general secretaries in charge of the petition movement have issued a circular, of which the following are the chief points.

Owing to the dissolution of the Dominion Parliament and the agitation consequent upon a new election, a word to all friends of temperance, and all parties engaged in the Prohibition movement is necessary.

1. Do not cease to canvass for signatures, but push the work all the more diligently.

2. If you have closed your petition lists, owing to the short time given in our first circular, and have not done the work as fully as you would have done had more time been given, open new lists and take such steps to increase the number of signatures as you may think best.

3. It is not enough to place the petitions in the lecture room or at the door of a church, and say to the people they can sign them if they so desire. Put the petition forms into the hands of earnest, intelligent canvassers, who will patiently and faithfully do the work. Institute a house to house canvass, and give every person an opportunity to attach his name to the petition.

4. Have the same names written upon both forms of petition—House of Commons and Senate—as we petition both Houses.

5. In case any person who has sent in the petition in his change thinks he can get additional signatures, or if any other person needs an additional supply of forms, they will be promptly furnished on application. Those for Free Baptist congregations in Nova Scotia will be supplied, on application, by Rev. E. Crowell, Barrington, and those for New Brunswick by Rev. Jos. McLeod, Fredericton.

6. Do not forget the finances, which are imperatively needed to pay expenses.

Friends of our holy cause keep at this work with tireless energy, and by the blessing of Almighty God upon our work we will have good success.

Christian Work in Prison Cells of Boston

The Boston Young Men's Christian Association have taken up a branch of Christian work which heretofore seems to have been neglected by the Church and Christian workers at large. About two years ago the Association obtained permission from the police commissioners to hold gospel services in the prison, Sunday afternoons from 2.30 to 4 P. M. This service is prefaced with a 15 min. song service, which serves to soften the better element of a fallen manhood, after which follows reading of the scriptures and a short exposition of the gospel, relating in some way to their needs and condition of life. At the close of the remarks an invitation is extended to all who in sincerity and truth wish to lead a better life, so that we might converse with those who wish religious consolation. [Personal conversation with the prisoners is where our greatest results are obtained.]

Here confined in a common cell are collected offenders of all sorts and kinds, old and young, some steeped in sin and vice, and others who have just taken the first misstep, and find themselves for the first time with a heavy heart, quite sensible of their fallen condition, at last,—behind the bars. In this condition of need and trouble, it is, that the prisoners feel the necessity of a Saviour. Here it is that effective work can be done with Christian words and cheer. Many a penitent sinner and law-breaker has given up his old life, and with God's help has started anew, in these cells, the life which leads to immortality.

One case, I recollect very well was an officer from a suburban town, who had succumbed to drink, and was here disconsolate and gloomy, looked up over Sunday. Poor fellow! he had so to have me leave him there alone; he said I cheered him so, and made him feel that he had a friend. He thought how many he had arrested for drunkenness in the past; hereafter he would be a father to them when he could, and, if possible, take them home, in place of to the police station.

In some instances the prisoners are so in earnest that they will ask us to pray for them in their lost condition. Hardly a man is found in these cells who does not realize he is lost, unless he quits the course of life he has been pursuing. Men in these cells have been as truly converted as they ever were in a revival service or in a weekly prayer

circle. Once I met a Methodist, who by degrees had slipped and fallen away from active Christian work, and at last in the general course of events, he was found drunk, and arrested, while going to see his wife and family in the suburbs of the city, whom he had not seen for a long time. A terrible thought,—father of a family, a professed Christian, in the hand of justice, while a loving wife awaited his coming. The man was so convicted of his wrong doing that he asked me to pray for him then and there. He got up I believe relieved from a burden of sin, his conscience quickened to a better sense of his duty before God.

Let us consider the cause of so much misery and trouble. Every Sabbath there are confined about seventy-five prisoners in these cells to be convicted of various misdemeanors and crimes on Monday. The majority of these cases are confined for simple and common drunk; think of it, about seventy-five or eighty percent of all the arrests in a large city like Boston are for intoxication, the sale of liquors being licensed by the city. If there were no liquor sold, seventy-five or eighty percent of the present police force of the city would have absolutely nothing to do. The city would be saved thousands of dollars, and humanity relieved of a curse from which she has suffered these many generations.

Again it is interesting, in some cases, to see how eager these fallen men, (the majority Catholic in faith) lay hold of the gospel as it is presented to them. They unhesitatingly acknowledge their faults and promise to do better. Our great aim is to impress upon the prisoners the necessity of keeping away from bad companions, standing around the grog shops, and, on the other hand, of associating themselves with Christian people and doing active Christian service.

Oh that I could impress every one who takes a social glass, of the importance of never even handling this evil thing. I would that I could take all such into these cells and show them some of the many wrecks of humanity to be found there. I would show them one old Irishman, about sixty years old, in the worst possible condition of physical wretchedness, I ever beheld, or even imagined. Fancy the picture, —his eyes, like flaming balls of fire, hair uncombed, feet bare, constantly coughing, vomiting or sneezing, so he can scarcely get his breath. A sight never to be forgotten. Many others of a like nature can be seen from week to week. The women confined in the prison are cared for by the Women's Christian Temperance Union, who have fewer persons to deal with but, I think, even a greater work to do.

Bibles and christian literature are given to the prisoners who will read them. We do not expect every tract and paper will do good in a direct way, yet if, by the blessing of God on the work which has been done, one man is helped, some christian hope kindled in a fallen breast, or one soul saved, we shall feel that our work has been a success, and we are amply repaid for our labors.

ADONIS.

Missionary News.

A NATIVE Y. M. C. A. has just been formed at Bombay.

TWENTY-SIX LEpers were recently baptized at Purulia (Chota Nagpore), India, making in all 118 lepers received into the church since the commencement of the asylum there two years ago.

DOWN IN PERU Rev. Mr. Penzotti has been made the victim of brutal persecution for no other offence than distributing Bibles and preaching the Gospel. But then, that is a crime in a Roman Catholic country. His case has been reported to the State Department and the United States minister at Lima has been instructed to urge an immediate decision in his case, or secure his provisional release.

IN JAFFNA, Ceylon, the Christian women take from the portion of rice daily measured out for the family food a double handful and put it into a bag hanging against the wall for an offering to God's work. A heathen priest heard of the practice and commended it introducing it among the heathen women, and from their offerings, in time, a temple was built. This shows how little things aggregate and become powers for good or evil.

DR. JAMES MARTIN, the Reformed Presbyterian missionary, states that during the recent outbreak of cholera in Antioch, there were three days during which the deaths reached a hundred a day; the total numbered 1,059. The population of the city is 26,000. A multitude of the inhabitants fled. Dr. Martin was absent at Alexandria, Syria; but Mrs. Martin remained in the midst of the dying and the dead, feeling it would be unprofitable in her to go out of town and leave behind those of the congregation who could not get away. An appeal on be-

half of the impoverished people is made by Dr. Martin to the church at home which he represents.

IT is said in the last *Missionary Intelligencer* that Hindu superstition regarding the sacredness of the cow is fast giving way; that two Brahmins have started a tanyard in Upper India, and that the *Mirror*, edited by Hindus, commends the two enterprising tanners and hopes to see native tanneries established throughout India.

COREA PRESENTS a striking illustration of the irresistible advance of the kingdom of Christ. One of the most remarkable works of grace known in modern missions is that among the Koreans. Without having heard or seen a missionary, thousands of people have heard of Christ, and turned from vain things to the service of the living and true God. These converts are the fruit of the circulation of copies of the New Testament in Corea.

General Religious News.

—Whitefield's Tabernacle in London has been taken down, and will be rebuilt at a cost of \$100,000.

—Fifteen hundred Jews are said to leave the synagogue every year for Christianity or infidelity. There are 3,000 Christian Jews in Great Britain.

—In the Jewish Church circles of King's Daughters are being formed under the name of Daughters of Israel, wearing the same badge and engaging in similar lines of work.

—Among the King's Daughters there is a movement to erect a building in connection with Atlanta University, Ga., in which colored girls shall live during the senior year and be taught practical house-keeping. The sum of \$6,000 is needed for this purpose.

—A new branch of the Salvation Army has been opened at Bjorneborg, Finland, to which several Salvationists had gone from other parts of the country. These were immediately imprisoned as people with "unsettled abodes," and were taken as convicts in convict dress to Helsingfors, where they have been tried and one set free. The Finnish papers ask what the country is coming to, when a better reason for imprisoning innocent people than their religion cannot be found.

—There is an enterprise, the Pitts Street Mission, situated in "darkest Boston," which was started by a young business man, Mr. H. F. Parkhurst, who has expended over \$500 of his own limited means in fitting up rooms for homeless, discouraged, and disheartened men. Forty such were reclaimed during December, and are now holding trustworthy positions. In one week 37 of these men brought their entire earnings to the mission.

Revivals.

—The meetings held in the Baptist Church in this city by Evangelist Whittier, for the last three weeks, have been largely attended and of deep interest. Many Christians have been helped in their spiritual life, and the number of conversions is large. Among those converted are members of other congregations than the Baptist. Last Sabbath in the Baptist Church thirty-one were baptized by Rev. F. D. Crawley, and Rev. Jos. McLeod baptized his son.

—The work of revival in Boston, and vicinity under the labours of Mr. Moody, continues with increasing interest.

—In Marietta, Ohio, two Evangelists have just closed a ten days series of meetings. Marietta is a College town with a population of 8000. The largest place of public assembly was inadequate to hold the crowds, and on Sabbath evenings a neighboring church was filled by those who could not find even standing room in the City Hall. During the week the business of the city was suspended after 6.30 P. M., most of the stores and shops closing at that time, Tuesday and Friday were set apart as special days of service. Many of the stores were closed, and the schools suspended during the hours of service. The last Sunday was the great day of all. About 1,000 cards have been signed by persons desiring to commence a Christian life. In the college all but a dozen men have been taught, and even these have been very thoughtful. The region has never witnessed such a display of God's power in bringing men to Christ. The churches have been aroused and Christians have consecrated themselves for personal work.

—Mr. Woolley, a converted drunkard, has been laboring with Mr. Moody, at the noonday meetings, in Boston, with great success. He is a powerful speaker.

C. T. A. NOTES.—Mrs. Linforth was last week fined \$50.00 for selling rum in this city.

DENOMINATIONAL NEWS.

CAPE ISLAND, N. S.—Bro. Job C. Atkinson writes: "We have had some special meetings of late, and some have been revived. The meetings in general are good all over the island."

WOODSTOCK.—The meetings in Woodstock have resulted in much spiritual quickening, and a number of conversions. Sabbath 22nd ult., Bro. Phillips baptized four more converts.

TRACEY MILLS, C. Co.—Sabbath, 22nd, Bro. Clark baptized four converts. A good interest has been awakened, and others are coming to the Saviour.

HIBERNIA, Q. Co.—Since last writing there has been baptism at Hibernia. Rev. T. W. Carpenter administered the ordinance to two converts, and received them into the church. While not all that we could desire has been done, the church, which was in a very low condition, has been considerably helped.

S. J. PERRY.

MIDLAND, K. Co.—Sure that the readers of your columns are always glad to learn of the prosperity of our Zion, I send the glad news concerning the success of our meetings in Midland. We have been holding special meetings for about two weeks; they have been very solemn and very well attended. Last Sabbath it was my happy privilege to administer the ordinance of baptism to ten converts. The work still goes on.

T. S. VANWART.

CORNHILL, K. Co.—Yesterday (22nd inst.) was a good day at Corn Hill. Ten converts were baptized in the morning, and in the evening they and one other, previously baptized, were taken into the church. Four others were received on one evening before, making in all fifteen since the work began. To God be the praise. The church has been much strengthened, and a number of backsliders reclaimed. Others are seeking the Lord. I intend to spend one week more with the church here, and then go home to hold special meetings at Tennant's Cove. Pray for us.

J. N. BARNES.

Feb. 23rd.

GRAND MANAN.—The work of the Lord is prospering with us. On the 22nd inst. I baptized two more converts, and added three more to the church making in all up to date twelve. At the close of the service we had the Lord's Supper, more than fifty came to the table of their Lord and Master. It was a very enjoyable season. The work is not done; there are others whose hearts are deeply moved, and we are expecting to see them decide for Christ. The prospect is most promising for a grand harvest of souls all over our field. The outlook has not been so good for the denomination since I came to the Island as now. The churches are hopeful. There are some who praise God, are true to their first love, and are pillars of strength. The people are earnestly praying, and the spirit of revival is upon us. I expect, in the near future, to see others follow their Divine Master. Glory to his name for his great mercy toward us in redeeming precious souls. Pray for us that the Lord may guide us aright.

T. O. DEWITT.

North Head, G. M., Feb. 23, 1891.

A SURPRISE.—On Tuesday evening, 17th inst., we arranged our fire in the stoves, closed the doors and at the hour appointed for service we went to the church taking with us all of the family, as usual. After we had been in the church a few minutes we saw that the congregation was somewhat larger than usual, and it kept increasing. We had a good meeting, and the Spirit was present to help. An explanation of the large attendance came later. It transpired that the good brethren of Grand Harbour had a twofold object in view. In our absence they had entered our house in some way, I suppose by the door; and cakes, pies and the like were everywhere; the kitchen table was laden with sugar, apples, meat, &c., &c., all the things that go to make just such a time pleasant were there. They said they had come to see Mrs. D. and make her acquaintance. They did not stop with their offering of the things mentioned, for there was some cash too. Bro. A. Dakin was made foreman, and made a hearty speech. We feel most grateful to the dear friends for their kindness. I thank them all, and trust God will bless them for their liberality. The affair was a complete surprise to us, and was not less pleasant on that account. Such things greatly cheer the hearts of ministers.

T. O. DEWITT.

Feb. 23, 1891.

FROM BRO. E. S. PARKER.—Devotion and interest are as closely allied