

# Religious Intelligencer.

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

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## NOTES AND GLEANINGS.

TEN NEW CASES of death under Christian Science treatment and faith-healing practices, is what the N. Y. Advocate records, adding that several of them were in families of good standing, where the patients earnestly solicited that physicians might be called in, but it was too late. The craze has not quite run its course yet.

THERE ARE, according to latest estimates, 200,000,000 Mohammedans in the world. Europe has about 6,000,000 and Asia about 135,000,000, while Africa has 60,000,000. Where there are civilization is not at its best, not even at its average.

THE FINANCIAL situation in the Argentine Republic is not assuring. Several banks have closed their doors.

THE KHEDIVÉ of Egypt has, it is said, prohibited the cultivation of tobacco throughout entire Egypt. Should any owner of land have a crop under cultivation, he is to be fined \$1,000 per acre.

A COMPARISON between physicians and ministers, with regard to longevity, has been made by the *Medical Journal*, which shows in favour of the latter:

"Of 86,331 clergymen, 180 died of infectious diseases. The usual experience of an insurance company would have made the number 239; that is, the mortality of the clergymen was only 79 per cent. of the ordinary death rate. The death rate of physicians from these diseases was 127 above the usual rate, owing to the greater danger of contagion in the case of the physician than in that of the pastor. Of lung affections, excluding consumption, 311 died, instead of 328, the number expected from mortality tables. Physicians died of such diseases 115 per cent. above the average rate. Between the ages of twenty-six and forty-five, the mortality of Roman Catholic clergymen, compared with Protestant ministers of the same age, was as 137 to 109; while between the ages of sixty-six and eighty-five as 118 to 100.

CHINA AND JAPAN are the two countries in which there are fewest Jews. Russia has nearly half of the 7,000,000. Speaking of the treatment they are receiving in Russia, which received so much attention, and awakened so much sympathy for them, the *Standard* says:

It is said that one of the cruelties now perpetrated upon the Russian Jews is the prohibition of their observing the Sabbath. It was one of the prophetic warnings given to this people of old that if they would not observe God's ordinances they should be driven where they could not; that if they did not heed his Word they should be put where they should not be able to. The most significant incident connected with the present alarming exodus from Russia is the memorial presented by the Rothschilds, and all the leading Jews of England, to Lord Salisbury, asking that the powers take concerted action to settle the refugees in Palestine. They claim that the only solution of the Jewish problem is to make it an international work to put them back in the land of their fathers, and it may yet turn out to be true in a more literal sense than we have suspected that God gave that land to Abraham and his seed forever.

SOUTHERN DAKOTA is being depopulated. One County town which had over 350 population two or three years ago, now has less than fifty. A good many of them have found homes in Canada.

KING OTTO, of Bavaria, is crazy enough, if reports about him are correct. Sometimes he obstinately refuses to take food of any kind, and the doctors in attendance are sometimes at their wits' end to know how to circumvent his stubbornness. His general health, however, when he can be induced to take nourishment is excellent, though he is subject to the strangest hallucinations. A few weeks ago he was possessed by the idea that the carpets in his apartments were made of thin glass, and that it was dangerous to tread on them, and he was not satisfied until they had all been

taken up. Another of his hallucinations is that the walls of his apartments are hung with newspapers, and he will sometimes occupy himself for hours in sitting in front of the walls of his room and reading out aloud what he imagines he reads upon them. Occasionally those who listen say there is an almost pathetic coherency in the imaginary extracts which the busy brain of King Otto composes.

BEER-DRINKING is almost universal in Germany. Here are some statistics about the increase of crime which are significant:

Crime increased during the six years, 1873-79, in Prussia, from 50 to 200 or 300 per cent. The imprisonments in Prussia, Hanover, and the Rhine provinces alone have risen from 102,077 in 1872 to 133,734 in 1875, and the number to-day is reckoned at 150,000. The prisons are all full, and patriotic men are urging the necessity of a penal colony on some island on the Pacific or section of Western Africa.

MORE THAN THREE HUNDRED families have returned to England from Buenos Ayres, having been forced to leave on account of stoppage of work there and lack of money. They report a distressing condition of affairs in the Argentine Republic, owing to the recent financial disturbances. The foreign population, large numbers of whom emigrated there in obedience to glowing promises of highly paid labor, are said to be in some cases actually dying of starvation, as they are practically shut out from all work, and have no money to get away with.

## The Revival in France.

As long ago as the tenth century, the south of France was a stronghold of Protestantism. It was here that the Albigenses flourished long before the Reformation, and proved by their constancy under persecution the virile nature of their faith. Three hundred years later the whole land was stirred by the writings and preachings of the first Reformers, and the greater part of the population renounced Popery and accepted with enthusiasm the Gospel of Christ. There followed the sanguinary Huguenot persecution, the Camisard War, the Dragonnades, the Day of St. Bartholomew, the Revocation of the Edict of Nantes. Blood flowed like water, homes were despoiled, churches burned, pastors imprisoned and put to death, thousands of the best citizens of France driven into exile, and fair provinces reduced almost to a desert. But the people that survived and remained clung fast to their pure and simple faith; worshipping God in the mountains, among the rocks and woods, like the Covenanters of Scotland they outwore by their patient endurance the fury of their persecutors.

To the storm of persecution succeeded a calm which proved more deadly to a vital faith. Rationalism struck its roots deeply into soil once enriched by the blood of the martyrs. Spiritual death overspread the fair lands once radiant with evangelical truth and light. In the early part of this century vital religion seemed almost extinct in the country of the Huguenots and the Vaudois. But a better day was about to dawn.

"When the night is darkest, He brings the morn;  
When the famine is sorest, the wine and corn."

In 1830, in connection with the preaching and evangelistic labors of Robert Haldane, and many converted native pastors and others, Southern France was the theatre of a great and general awakening, before which the reigning Rationalism was largely swept away. In 1884 began another movement which rivalled the scene of Pentecost. People flocked from a long distance to hear the gospel preached in chapels and cottages and barns. Sometimes as many as a hundred gave evidence of conversion at a single meeting. There were "showers of blessing," which made the land rich with spiritual harvests and vocal with praise. And now, almost before the hallojajahs of that season of refreshing ceased to be heard, Languedoc is again visited by "power from on high." The Reformed churches have been greatly quickened in many instances, and pastors have gladly welcomed and joined in the work. In other instances, where the work has been opposed, the converts have left the Established churches and joined some Evangelical church. The revival seems to be at-

tended by the clearest evidence of its reality and genuineness. One pastor writes, "The wind is blowing mightily from on high." The *Journal*, the *Eglise Libre*, speaking of it, says "The Spirit of the Lord is passing like a tempest in the mountains of the Tarn." And the movement is extending; like an immense spiritual tide, it is flooding the whole country. Nearly everywhere in France is heard the cry of the harvester, coming with rejoicing, bringing his sheaves with him.

"The impulse spread like the outward course  
Of waters moved by a central force;  
The tide of spiritual life rolled down  
From inland mountains to seaboard town."

Even in intolerant Brittany, the past year has been a most successful one in soul-winning.

The old established mission carried on in France by the American Missionary Union is taking on fresh vigor, and sharing the new spiritual life that is abroad in the land. The congregations in Paris have increased threefold, and in several of the provinces there is a very marked gain both in numbers and in spiritual power. The present is evidently a golden opportunity as does not ordinarily occur but once in centuries. The "signs of the times" are full of promise for that remarkable land. May God speed its evangelization, both for its own sake, and because Frenchmen when possessed by the Spirit of Christ, have in them elements of power which will make them most successful evangelists and soul-winners, and thus most efficient helpers in the great impending conflict, the dark shadows of which portend the Dawn.—*The Watchman*.

## Edison's Latest Wonder.

The Wizard of Menlo Park, as THOMAS EDISON has come to be called, has worked out a new invention which brings us a long step nearer to the realization of our youthful fairy dreams. By a combination of photography and electricity with a magic lantern and a phonograph, an opera or play or any other performance can be first caught and stowed away in a little black box—which might almost be a human being with eyes and ears, so well can it see and listen—and then be reproduced just as it was acted, motions, and words, and songs, and all. In the little box is a long strip of photographic film, and this, being wound rapidly from one reel on to another by an electric motor, passes in front of a small hole in which a photographic lens is fixed. The hole being opened and shut at the tremendous rate of forty-six times a second—also by electricity—in the course of one act lasting half-an-hour, no less than 82,000 little pictures are thus taken, and all the time a phonograph is taking in every sound of the actors' voices and of the musical instruments in the orchestra. When it is desired to hear and see the performance without going to the theatre, you fix a magic lantern lens in front of the wonderful strip of film, after it is gone through the process of being 'developed.' It is then passed at its original speed from one spindle on to another, and the 80,000 pictures are thrown on to your sheet with such lightning-like rapidity that they look exactly like one continuous scene. You see men and women actually moving before you, and hear them speaking and singing there parts just as if they were there in the flesh, for at the same time and at a uniform speed the phonograph is being turned and made to give up the sounds imprinted on its waxen memory. From each reel of film Mr. EDISON expects to make any number of duplicates, so that a person owning a 'kinetograph,' as the machine is called, can buy any opera he wants to have performed in his own house.

OCEAN DEPTHS. There is an end to all romance about hidden ocean depths. The whole ocean is now mapped out to us. The report of the expedition sent out for the purpose of ocean surveys has recently been published. Nearly four years were given to the examination of the currents and the floors of the four great oceans. The Atlantic, we are told, if drained, would be a vast plain, with a mountain range in the middle running parallel with our coast. Another range crosses it from Newfoundland to Ireland, on the top of which lies the submarine cable. The ocean is thus divided into

three great basins, no longer "unfathomed depths." The tops of these sea mountains are two miles below a sailing ship, and the basins, according to Reclus, almost five miles. These mountains are whitened for thousands of miles by a tiny, creamy species of shell, lying as thickly on their sides as frost crystals on a snow bank. The deepest parts are red in color, heaped with volcanic masses. Through the black, motionless waters of these abysses move gigantic abnormal creatures never seen in the upper currents.

## 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.]

## Child Marriage Once More

It is a law. Hereafter the daughters of India may not marry until they reach the advanced age of twelve years. Thursday, March 19, 1891, will be remembered as one of the great days because of this simple legislative action. Possibly no more decisive step has been taken by the Government since the abolition of suttee, in 1820, which so much concerns the domestic and social life of the people. It has taken the most constant and persistent effort to bring about this result.

Petitions and memorials have been sent to the Queen of England, to Parliament, and to the Governor General and Council of India on the subject; native Christians have united with missionaries in appeals; resolutions have been passed denouncing the evils of the custom again and again; and the secular and religious press has thoroughly discussed the matter, until a sentiment has been created, and we have the result. Even Hindu women departed from their customs, and held meetings, and made speeches, and signed petitions, in order to give influence to this measure. While the feeling prevails that the age should have been made fourteen, yet this move is a great advance, and means much for India's women.

During the discussion of the subject in the legislative council the speakers, nearly all of them, referred to the memorial which was sent up by Mrs. Mansell, and signed by the lady physicians in answering the opponents of the bill who denied the existence of the evils from which relief is sought.

In some parts of India the natives, of course, have been excited over the matter, because of interference with their social customs. On the Sabbath following the passage of the bill a great company assembled in Calcutta from the surrounding country,—the number estimated from seventy-five thousand to a million. These congregated at the temple of *Kali Ghat*, where they made a great demonstration by singing songs, and appealing to the goddess for help something after the following style: "O Goddess mother, sources of all good, in great distress we have come to thee. Our hearts shudder through fear. We now cry to thee; pray take us up in thy lap and comfort us, for this law will ruin us," etc. How touchingly pathetic!

But here is another side, showing the sentiments of the enlightened natives, and carrying their reform further even than the English Government: "It is stated that the course the Government is taking in regard to the Age of Consent Bill has received notable support from two strong expressions of opinion forwarded by the Maharaja of Jeypur, and Travancore, in favor of the measure. The latter is the ruler of the most thoroughly Brahminized territory in India; while the Maharaja of Jeypur, we understand, is so much impressed with the necessity of checking infant marriages, that he has fixed the marriageable age within his State at eighteen years for youths, and fifteen for girls."

MRS. J. T. GRACEY.  
Are you shining for Jesus, dear one,  
So that the holy light  
May enter the hearts of others  
And make them glad and bright?  
Have you spoken a word for Jesus?  
And told to some around  
Who do not care about him  
What a Saviour you have found?  
Have you lifted the lamp for others  
That has guided your own glad feet?  
Have you echoed the loving message  
That seemed to you so sweet?  
F. R. HAVERGAL.

The Basle Missionary Society recently observed its seventy fifth anniversary. It has missions in China, India and on the African Gold Coast and the Cameroons and not until recently have unmarried lady missionaries gone to the frontier to engage in educational and other work among their dark and unenlightened sisters.

## Miss. Review

NEW FALSE TEETH. According to the *Kölnische Volkszeitung*, a Moscow dentist appears to have solved the problem of supplying the human mouth with false teeth which will grow into the gums as firmly as natural ones. Dr. Zhamensky has performed several successful operations on dogs, as well as human beings. The teeth are made of gutta percha, porcelain or metal, as the case may be. At the foot of the false tooth holes are made. Holes are also made upwards into the jaw. The tooth is then placed in the cavity. In a short time a soft granulated growth finds its way from the patient's jaw into the holes of the tooth; this growth gradually hardens and holds the tooth in its position. It is stated that it does not matter whether the cavity in which the tooth is to be placed is one from which a natural tooth has been recently drawn or whether it has been healed for some years.

THE UNOSTENTATIOUS EFFORT of Lady Dufferin to introduce lady doctors into the zenanas is likely to leave a deep social mark on India. It is a mistake to think that all Indian women are secluded; this is not so in the lower ranks, for they move freely among the population; the seclusion is prevalent only in the higher ranks, and the women are as ambitious of it as a distinction as in other countries they are of marrying a carriage and pair. There is this distinction, however, between a zenana and a harem, that the former is not pillowed luxury guarded by eunuchs; and the higher tone is shown by the fact that, while in Turkey, an emancipated woman becomes loose, in India she preserves her modesty in free intercourse with others. The seclusion, however, is very strict against all males, and the range of life very narrow. This is relieved by the access often accorded to female missionaries; and they may well pave the way for lady doctors, especially of natives. That it is most desirable to multiply these is plain from two facts. The medical man can never make a diagnosis of a patient's complaint except by question and answer from a veiled face, through a slit in a panel. And, though some women in the lower classes are met with at the dispensaries the proportionate smallness of their numbers shows that the objection to male doctors extends also to them. To meet it, as Lady Dufferin has already done with some success, will do much to add to the health of the community and to that brightness of temperament which she regards as characteristic of Indian women in all ranks.

## Scientific Miscellany.

(Prepared for the INTELLIGENCER.)

ELECTRIC HORTICULTURE.—In the last few years some very interesting experiments in gardening by electricity have been made by Prof. Selim Lemstrom, of the University of Helsingfors. These have been carried out both upon the potted plants in the hothouse and upon plants in the open field, the insulated wires in the latter case being stretched upon poles over the plot of ground, and provided with a point for each square metre of area. The current has been supplied by Holtz machines run from 8 to 18 hours daily, the positive pole being connected with the network of wires and the negative with a zinc plate buried in the ground. The electric influence was scarcely perceptible in the growing plants, but was very marked in the yield of many species, especially of barley and wheat, of which the crop was increased by half in some cases.

In the hothouse the maturity of strawberries was greatly advanced. The results have shown that plants may be divided into two groups; one, the development of which is favored by electricity, comprising wheat, rye, barley, oats, red and white beans, parsnips, potatoes, celeriac, beets, raspberries, strawberries and leeks; and the other, whose development is more or less interfered with by electricity, including peas, carrots, kohlrabi, rutabagas, turnips, white cabbages, and tobacco. The more fertile the soil, and consequently the more vigorous the vegetation, the greater

has been the excess of the crop under electric influence. Prof. Lemstrom's experiments up to 1887 were carried on in Finland, but he has since repeated his work in France, and demonstrated that the electric influence is the same in any climate, though likely to be injurious under a scorching sun.

GUTTA PERCHA IN SURGERY.—Dr. B. W. Richardson has found that gutta percha softened in hot water, or in hot water and glycerine, may be made to absorb almost any desired styptic and antiseptic substances. The mass can then be drawn out or moulded into any required shape, and as a surgical dressing will serve the purpose both of adhesive plaster and splint.

A BOILER OF THE FIRST CENTURY.—The water grate, as used on locomotive boilers, has been the subject of many patents in recent years, yet the idea proves to be not altogether new. A Naples museum contains many copper and bronze tools and utensils exhumed at Pompeii, and among them is said to be a small vertical boiler of copper, with a firebox, a smoke flue through the top, a door on the side, and water grates composed of small copper tubes crossing the firebox at the bottom. This boiler must have been made over 1800 years ago, as Pompeii was destroyed by an eruption of Vesuvius in the year 79 of our era.

BIRTH OF THE MOON.—When the earth was young, says Dr. Ball, Astronomer Royal for Ireland, it spun around at such a rate that the day was only three hours long. The earth was liquid then, and as it revolved at that fearful speed upon its surface until at last it burst in two. The smaller part became the moon, which has been going around the earth at an increasing distance. The influence of the moon now raises tides on the earth, and while there was any liquid to operate on in the moon the earth heaped up much greater lunar tides.

THE WATER POWER of the Rhone in the neighborhood of Geneva is now largely used for driving electric motors, of which 216, with a total of 1565 horse power, have been in operation during the past year. The smallest motors, of 1 horse power, have been employed for running sewing machines, while the largest one, of 625 horse power, drives the dynamo for lighting Geneva.

REMARKABLE magnetic variations, greatly exceeding those of England and Wales, have been noticed in Russia, where places separated by less than 30 miles show a difference of as much as 29° in the inclination of the needle and of 86° in the declination.

INSTANCES of the perforation of lead pipes by insects have not been unknown, but in a recent German case, a plumber, called to repair the second leak in a pipe, found the worm (a wood wasp) actually at work upon the hole.

PATHS OF ANCIENT RIVERS.—Between Cape Mendocino and San Diego, on the Pacific Coast of the United States, have been made out twenty submarine channels which are not, like the channels of the Atlantic Coast, connected with any existing river valleys. They run in close to the shore, and the contrary, and abut against a bold coast, with mountains rising in some cases 3000 feet within three to five miles of the shore. Prof. Joseph Le Conte suggests, as the only possible explanation, that the channels were produced by early rivers, whose places of emptying were changed by volcanic action near the close of the Pliocene epoch.

NITROGEN AS AN ANAESTHETIC.—Recent English experiments prove that nitrogen, pure or mixed with a small proportion of oxygen, is as complete and apparently as safe an anaesthetic as nitrous oxide. The only difference, in the opinion of some who witnessed the trials, is that anaesthesia from nitrogen is less rapidly produced, and somewhat less durable than that from nitrous oxide, though that from either suffices for the painless extraction of one or more teeth. It now remains to determine whether atmospheric air, partially deprived of its oxygen, may be advantageously substituted for nitrous oxide.

FRENCH TREATMENT OF PHTHISIS.—Since August last ten cases of consumption have been submitted to the treatment of Dr. Germain-See, consisting in shutting the patient up for two or more hours daily in a hermetically closed metallic chamber, into which is slowly admitted a current of compressed air saturated with the vapor of creosote and eucalyptol. Return of appetite, gain of weight and strength, fall of temperature to the normal, and diminution of cough, are among the results obtained. Even advanced cases were relieved and some actually cured.

A SWAMP EARTH is used by natives of the New Hebrides for smearing the points of their arrows. Dr. Ledantec finds the poisonous agent to be the organism that develops tetanus, and that this is devitalized by keeping, so that old arrows lose their virulence.