

Religious Intelligencer.

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

VOL. XXXVIII.—No 44.

FREDERICTON, N. B., OCTOBER 28, 1891.

WHOLE No. 1963

NOTES AND GLEANINGS.

THE FIRST WOMAN of any race to be admitted to practise medicine in Alabama is a coloured woman. She passed an unusually severe examination.

A NEW PAPER, the *Wandering People*, is to be started in London soon. It will be published in the Gypsy tongue and edited by George Smith, the king of the Gypsies. The object of the paper is to "defend the just cause of Gypsedom, and to give correct accounts of the manners, beliefs and doings of the wandering people, who are unjustly regarded as the pariahs of the human family." King George expects twenty thousand subscribers of his own people to start him.

THE PROJECT to build an observatory on the summit of Mont Blanc, which has been entertained for some years, has at last been abandoned as impracticable. The chief difficulty was with the foundation. The structure must be firmly imbedded in the rock. If the icy crown should prove to be more than forty feet thick, the scheme would be impracticable. Money was raised and laborers were set at work. Shafts or tunnels were sunk in different places to a depth of ninety feet, but no rock was reached. Meantime the workmen suffered severely from exposure and mountain sickness.

ANOTHER EVIDENCE of Japan's rapid advance in Western civilization is the fact that the women of that country have taken to journalism. An Englishwoman, Mrs. Barnett, while in Kioto was visited by a member of the Japanese fair sex, who wished to interview her. The caller introduced herself by saying: "My husband he make the paper, and I do the part of visiting the outside country to help forward him." The *Kioto Journal*, on the following morning, contained a long account of Mrs. Barnett.

EUROPE is having a hard time of it this year. In the central and eastern parts there is an appalling shortage in crops, while portions of Spain have been laid waste by unprecedented floods. Over 2,000 persons are reported drowned. Brigandage and other forms of robbery have greatly increased in the famine-stricken portions.

A WOMAN PROFESSOR in a man's college to which no woman has yet been admitted as a student is a novel spectacle. But this will soon be seen at Harvard. Mrs. Shaw, of Pittsburg, Pa., who desires to commemorate the name of her husband, and at the same time to assist the archaeological work of Miss Alice Fletcher, has given \$30,000 to the trustees of Peabody Museum to endow a chair of archaeology, which is to be filled by Miss Fletcher, and the trustees have accepted the gift.

THE ITALIANS do not seem tired of the rule of King Humbert. The municipality of Rome has recently congratulated him on the twentieth anniversary of the entrance of the Italian troops into the eternal city. While the poor old Pope is begging the world to get him back his temporal power, it is evident that the Italians would not exchange their king for twenty popes. Whatever the rest of the world may want, the Italians want no political power given to Leo XIII.

The General Secretary's Report.

[This report was presented to Conference on the 12th inst., and was adopted.]

At a meeting of the General Conference executive held on the 18th Nov. last I was appointed General Secretary for the Conference, and received instructions in the following form:

Resolved that the General Secretary during the year visit as many churches as possible and that he urge the claims of missions and general denominational work on the churches visited.

These instructions I have endeavored to carry out so far as possible, consistent with other duties. This is my report.

1. *Statistical*.—I have visited 42 churches. Some of them more than once each; attended five district meetings; laboured in three revivals; preached 141 times; attended 90 other religious meetings—Socials, prayer and conference meetings; assisted in 20 dedications; a tended 32 business

meetings; made 505 visits; baptized 10 persons. Doing this work necessitated absence from home 174 days, and travelling 7179 miles.

2. *The results*. Of these I cannot tell anything. The aim has been to preach the Gospel, strengthen the hands of pastors, encourage the churches in their local work, awaken and increase the interest in Mission and other general work of the denomination, to deepen denominational loyalty, and to stimulate all to efficient Christian service.

With the permission of Conference I will present some things that have impressed me as I have come in closer contact with the churches and have looked into the denominational life.

1. *Encouraging*. More attention is being given to suitable church buildings. Old meetings houses are being remodeled according to modern ideas or are giving place to new ones in keeping with ability and taste of the people.

2. The necessity of regular pastoral oversight is being generally felt and acknowledged.

3. Better support is given ministers and better and more business like methods of raising and paying are employed.

4. Sabbath Schools are numerous and increasing in efficiency.

5. An increasing knowledge of the denominations general work as H.M., F. M., Education and a general interest in it.

6. A steadier Christian life. Spirituality is not so much regarded an impulse, an emotion, as a living principle.

II. *Needs*.

1. More ministers. A number of our ministers are now feeling the burden of years, and are no longer able to undertake regular work. Men to fill the vacancies and to occupy new fields are much needed. The increase is not large enough to meet the demands.

2. The pastorate system needs perfecting. Great progress has been made within a few years, but the system is capable of being made a much greater success and blessing. Some fields are altogether too large, so large that the pastor can do neither himself nor the work justice. Some churches are not careful enough to observe the law of mutual interest and help which is essential to the success of the system. Personal preferences to ministers, and unwillingness to yield such preferences for the sake of the work, sometimes prevents a group of churches from having a pastor. Occasionally a minister makes arrangements with churches in disregard of the pastoral plan. Interference with, or obstinacy by, one church may often disarrange several pastorate. This should be avoided.

3. A fund, either the H. M. fund or one specially for the purpose, from which to give aid to the pastorate not yet able to support pastors.

4. Better system in support of H. and F. missions and our educational undertakings. It is now too fitful and uncertain.

5. The organization of our young people for Christian work. The young men and women in our churches are intelligent. They are attached to their denomination, and are ambitious for it; they would like to give it the help of their young vigour, but for lack of direction and well defined methods, fail to do all they desire. In almost every church it is possible to organize a young people's society that would concentrate and direct the energies now too largely latent.

6. More attention to the fund for the relief of aged and sick ministers. None of our ministers have ever had large salaries. They cannot save anything for sickness or old age. When no longer able to labor regularly, they are likely to be sore pressed. Ample provision should be made for them.

7. There is room for and, therefore, need of more evangelistic work. The help of an accredited evangelist would often be welcomed by pastors. Besides, there is much new territory that might be occupied by us. This is an era of aggressive Christian work, and we should not fail in doing our part of it.

The foregoing are some of the things that have been suggested as I have visited the churches. God gave us life and form as a member of the 'body of Christ.' He gave us a work to do. Our fathers were faithful. He blessed them. He has blessed us according to our faithfulness. In a much larger degree than is shown in the additions to our churches He has used this denomination for his purposes. It has not been, and never will be possible to tabulate the effects produced by the preaching of our doctrines, and the employment of our methods of Christian work. God has used us as leaven and silently and surely the work has gone on till many denominations have come into practical agreement with us as to beliefs and methods.

And our mission is not ended. The care of the churches, instructing and establishing them in our doctrines and teaching our young people and confirming them in loyalty to the church of their birth, carrying our interpretation of New Testament doctrines into "the regions beyond," is the great work which God gives us to do. To do it in the best way and with the best results should be our holy ambition.

Jos. McLeod, Gen. Sec.

Report on Sabbath Schools.

The report of Bro. S. L. Peters Corresponding Secretary of the Executive for Sabbath Schools, presented to conference on the 10th inst. was carefully prepared and evidently cost much labour. And yet the Secretary had to regret that the returns from schools received by him were so few, comparatively, that the report did not at all fairly show the extent of the work being done in this line of Christian endeavour.

The following summary shows what is being done by the schools from which he received reports:

The First District reports four schools in connection with the churches at Long Island, Arthurville, Perth and Upper Kent. Total number of pupils enrolled, 168; teachers, 18. Bumfrau and Bath have failed to report. Long Island and Perth schools are evergreen. The latter has slightly increased in pupils, while its average attendance is somewhat less than last year. We have a gain of 2 schools reporting from this district the present year.

Second District.—Last year fifteen churches reported Sabbath schools, but this year only six of the 28 churches report schools. Those reporting are: Tracey's Mills, Knowlesville, Third Tier, Seventh Tier, Gordonsville and Coldstream. Of those that reported last year Knoxford, Windsor, Woodstock, Lower Brighton, Victoria Corner, Hartland, Upper Brighton, Somerville and Connel fail to report this year. The executive has no apology to offer for such a lamentable failure of duty on the part of these churches and Sabbath schools. They cannot believe it possible that the county of Carleton, in which this district is situated, has gone back on its splendid record in Sabbath S. work. If not then have we not the right to ask whose negligence prevents this conference from being in possession of the fullest information. A letter from the clerk of the district, Bro. Owens, written on the 25th of September, states that he has delayed sending Sabbath School reports until the present late period, hoping to receive others. He remarks, I enclose you three, all I have received, I sent blanks to the clerks of all the churches in the district. The total number of pupils reported is 294 as against 787 last year; 27 teachers as against 81 in 1890; 31 conversions. Tracey's Mills and Knowlesville reported 87 signatures to temperance pledge.

Third district.—Three reports from seven schools, the same number as last year. Campbell Settlement sends no report. The church at Marysville reports a school this year which keeps the number intact. Total number of pupils, 462 as against 528 last year; teachers 46 as against 47 in last report; one conversion. All are reported in a flourishing condition.

Fourth district.—Returns were received from eight schools last year. This year the only school heard from is at Waasis. Two letters addressed to the clerk of the district asking to forward returns failed to meet with any response. The references made in connection with the second district will apply with much force to this district. Total number of pupils enrolled 65, as against 487 last year; teachers 4 as against 40 last report; 6 conversions in the schools.

Fifth district.—Eight schools as against nine last year. Two of those reported are new schools. The churches at Bald hill, Shannon settlement, Oak Point, Belleisle Bay, Perry's Point, Akery and Narrows failed to report. The schools at Hampstead, Upper Hampstead, Jerusalem, Hamilton's mountain, Wickham, Hibernia, Central Hampstead and Upper Otnabog send returns of 298 pupils and 33 teachers with nine conversions during the year. Four schools report 129 signatures to the temperance pledge.

Sixth district.—The returns from this district stands as a bright oasis in our statistics of the year. Twenty-four churches send reports of their schools as against 19 last year; whole number of pupils enrolled, 1,198, increase over last year 359; teachers 109, increase over last year 21; conversions 3. Coverdale school reports 56 signatures to the temperance pledge.

Seventh district.—The returns are of the most cheering character. Seven of the churches report schools with 1,112 pupils enrolled; increase over last year 27, with the schools at Wilson's Beech and Beaver Harbor not heard from. These two had an enrollment last year of 197. The net increase in the school reported would therefore be 224. Teachers 91, against 114 last year. The actual decrease, however, in the schools reporting is only three; 22 conversions are reported. The St. John Waterloo St. sends 991 signatures to the temperance pledge and the St. John west end church reports 607. These figures include all the signatures to the schools' pledge for the past year and have been transferred to the new rolls of honor, prepared by the executive as per order of the conference.

The committee beg to say that it is their belief that the interests of the denomination require that the returns from our Sunday schools should be surely made and should also be as accurate and complete in all details as possible for earnest and faithful officials to make them. To secure that degree of accuracy and completeness which make them of value, it would be the pride and ambition of those charged with its duties. That there may be no misapprehension as to who are responsible for the discharge of those duties, the committee have taken the liberty of embodying in this report that part of the constitution of benevolent societies adopted by this conference in 1877: "It shall be the duty of the executive for Sabbath schools to stimulate and extend the interest in Sabbath school work in the denomination, employing to that end such means as may be required. The Sabbath schools in connection with our churches shall report annually to the clerks of their respective district meeting and the district clerks shall report to the corresponding secretary, whose duty it shall be to prepare the executive's annual report and submit it to conference."

The very gratifying results shown by the returns from the sixth and seventh districts must cheer the heart of every member of this conference, and had the other districts given us their full returns we feel quite sure that a considerable advancement has been made during the year.

The executive had 200 pledges and rolls of honor prepared, and have furnished one or more copies to every school of which they could ascertain any knowledge, and it is hoped that our next annual returns will show a very gratifying number of signatures to them. We recognize that our Sabbath school work is the work of the church. That our aim should be to have all the church in the school and all the school in the church. That every legitimate means should be used to awaken an interest in the schools and to keep the interest steadily increasing. To this end we believe it very necessary that all the officials of our churches should make special effort to be present at the Sabbath school. As an aid to increased interest your committee recommend that the first Sabbath in September, 1892, be made one of special interest for the children in all our churches and be known as the children's Sabbath; that the pastors of churches be requested to arrange their discourses especially for the benefit and encouragement of the children; that the children be permitted and encouraged to bring floral offerings to the church and to make such floral display as may be in good taste in the house of the Lord; that they be invited to take a prominent part in the musical part of the service and made generally to feel that the church has a special interest in their well-being and future happiness; that so far as may be possible pastors will attend the session of the Sabbath school on that day, and by words of encouragement sustain and increase the interest in Sabbath school work, the object of the day's exercise being to make it one of glad song and praise to almighty God from aged, middle aged and youth, and thus weld more closely the church's interest in the school.

Report on Temperance.

[This is the report of the Committee on Temperance of the Nova Scotia Free Baptist Conference.]

Our record as a people, as to the Temperance movement, is one that we can justly rejoice in. From the first we have maintained and propagated the now accepted and clearly demonstrated principles of total abstinence and prohibition. We did not wait for the rising tide ere we took our stand, but at the outset, when to espouse the principles now firmly entrenched in the best thought of our day meant obloquy, we took our position, impelled by the law and spirit of eternal righteousness.

With great satisfaction we have marked the gradual, but sure growth of this heaven-born movement, the precursor and parent of so many social and moral reforms, the marked characteristic of our day and age.

Alcoholism is now on the defensive, and daily being driven to fight for a fast waning life. "Prey hasteth, spoil fleeth, but the Word of the Lord abideth forever."

What a change of position of one of the strongest and most deeply rooted forces of evil; in little more than fifty years, outlawed in many parts of the world, ostracised by the best minds of our time. That fact should give heart to all workers, and hope of final triumph. "Truth is mighty and will prevail." But "there is much land yet to be possessed;" much to be done; and, "eternal vigilance is the price of liberty."

In our own Dominion, the goal of Prohibition is in sight. But the last stage of a long battle, is the most trying, and calls for greater energy and watchfulness. We have come to a critical period, when much can be won or lost. It is now a time to mass forces, aiming at a single point, and that through the ballot box. Vote for vote, should be our rallying cry. Too long many have hoped and trusted, talked and prayed about Prohibition, without making it a distinct, and special issue at the polls. Let us vote as we pray, and stand together, solid for our Supreme and Glorious issue. Shall we not take advanced ground seeing the imperative call? Shall we not learn wisdom from the past, and from the

union and combination of liquorism? God, home, and country, demand that we solidly, unitedly, seek the redemption of our land from the curse of curses.

"When wilt Thou save the people, O God of mercy, when? The people, Lord, the people, Not thrones and crowns, but men, Flowers of Thy heart, O God, are they! Let them not pass like weeds away, Their heritage a sunless day. God save the people!"

Will we let God save the people from the ravages of an evil beast, the destroying deadly liquor traffic? In the light of the cross, there can be but one answer—"By thy grace we will."

But, prohibition is not all we are called to seek. To remove temptation is good; to outlaw a base traffic is worthy of our intensest zeal; still the strength of Legal Suggestion is in Moral Suggestion. Total abstinence is the parent of Prohibition, and in Total Abstinence Prohibition becomes possible. The field of moral suggestion must increasingly be cultivated, if legal suggestion is to yield the best fruits. Neglect here means sad disappointment and bitter sorrow.

There is need to-day of more persistent advocacy of total abstinence. It is an integral part of Christian work. Christ's Gospel comprehend a man's social redemption, and teaches:—

"Each man finds his own in all men's good, And all men work in noble brotherhood."

A Free Baptist pulpit silent on total abstinence and prohibition, is not a Free Baptist pulpit; and such is unknown amongst us. But, while the custom of temperance sermons on special occasions are excellent our covenant ought often be read, and temperance be frequently brought into prayer and sermon. Further, in our Sabbath schools, Bands of Hope, can and should be formed. The church has its work to do, and is all the stronger for attending directly to the Master's work. Saving from sin, and lifting the fallen, Grand work it is! Then, "in His name," for "His sake," may each help on this good work of the Lord, remembering:

"All may of Thee partake, Nothing so small can be, But draws when acted for Thy sake, Greatness and worth from Thee." T. H. SIDDALL, G. A. DAWNEY, Com.

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 Mrs. Jos. McLeod, Fredericton.]

Report of the Cor. Secretary.

[Read before the Annual Meeting of the B. W. M. Society, at Marysville, N. B., Oct. 12th.]

Mrs. President and Sisters.—Swiftly and silently the year has gone by, and the time has come for me to lay before you the annual report of your work in India. This has been a year of sadness, of bereavement. After our yearly meeting last year we had scarcely been relieved of our anxiety concerning our sister Hooper's health, when the news came almost like an electric shock, to us, that Dr. H. M. Bachelor had suddenly passed away, leaving wife and children with out the tender protection of a husband and a father's loving care. We could not realize why this should be, that one in the prime of life, so eminently qualified for the work, and so much needed, should be called so soon, from the battle-field, and while our hearts ached for his wife and children we could only say, "Even so father, for so it seemeth good in thy sight."

Then only a few months more and we read the startling intelligence that we could scarcely force ourselves to believe "Rev. A. B. Boyer is dead—died of fever." For a time we felt stunned. How that sad cablegram thrilled each heart in the denomination. What questionings arose in these poor frail human minds! And how our hearts bled for the poor sorely stricken widow and orphan babes called to pass through such an ordeal so far from home and loved ones. Swiftly came the divine command, "Be still and know that I am God." "Shall not the Judge of all the earth do right?" God is too wise to err, and too just to be unkind. And with bowed heads and stricken hearts we said "Thy will be done." Our sister's grief seemed to us too sacred for intrusion; but what a volume of prayer went up in her behalf from the sympathetic hearts of our people to the widow's God and the Father of the Fatherless, and have not these prayers been answered? How touching the news that has come again and again of the patient bravery shown in such sorrow; of the earnest, faithful devotedness to the work and burdens that have fallen to her in the midst of her grief. And amidst it all our thanks should ascend to our heavenly Father who has so graciously strengthened and preserved our sister and her dear little ones. Of our Brother Boyer's labours and his eminent fitness for the work it is needless for me to speak, but should we not on bended knees learn the lesson that this sore bereave-

ment is intended to teach us as a people. For assuredly there is a wise end and purpose in this dispensation for us.

From the annual report, issued from the mission press in India, we find that the past year has been one of successful missionary work. More have been added by baptism than in any previous year, and a new church with the brightest prospects of success has been added. The growth in grace has been very gratifying and the missionaries entertain hopes of a purer church in India. While some of the workers have been called by the Master up higher, and others have returned to America for a much needed rest, Rev. and Mrs. Hallam and Dr. Mary Bachelor have returned to the field and entered into the work with energy and zeal.

Our work, as you are aware, lies in the Balasore district. Our native preacher Dannie Najak, under Bro. and Sister Boyer's direction has been doing faithful, efficient work during the past year. The greater part of his time has been spent in the country, at Singla, 28 miles distant from Balasore, and Manikpur a few miles from Singla.

For some years there has been a surplus of funds after Dannie's salary had been paid, and with this fund Bro. Boyer built a house at Singla, and employed a catechist named Besu. Besu sells books and his wife has a school. Dannie frequently visits them. Speaking of this work Mr. Boyer in his report ending March 31 says. My work in the country for the past year has been peculiarly blessed by the Lord. At Singla, where I have now a catechist, supported by the New Brunswick ladies, two men have been baptized, and others are anxious to follow. A school is being opened there, which, I think, will be successful. The number of baptisms is not a criterion of the work done, a great many of the people have left off idolatry, and lying and pray like Christians in the name of Christ. I believe a most excellent beginning has been made at that place, and that, in a short time, many of the people near there will profess Christ openly.

While Mr. Boyer was sick Dannie came in for him to baptize five persons from Manikpur. Rev. Mr. Brown has since baptized them and organized a church of eight persons. This is a very interesting field. Mrs. Boyer and Miss Hooper have both written recently concerning it. In letters from them dated Aug. 23rd Miss Hooper said she received a message from Dannie asking her to go to him at once as he was ill and wished to see her. She started immediately, but met Dannie, ill and weak as he was, going to Mrs. Boyer's with a letter from Besu, telling her that a family of eight had broken caste, and wanted to become Christians; three of them being adults and wanting to be baptized. Dannie is not ordained and cannot baptize but he wanted to go at once to them and have Miss Hooper take a Bible Woman and go with him. But both Mrs. Boyer and Miss Hooper told him he was not able to go yet. Sister Hooper says she intends going soon taking with her her Bible Woman Uma who is a native of that place. Dannie says that Sahib (Bro. Boyer) was greatly interested in this work. It is for this work that Mrs. Boyer asks for an increase of appropriation for this year. Basudeb, the orphan boy whom we supported for a number of years, is still in the Bible School, I presume. Beside our native preacher and catechist we have two Bible women under Mrs. Boyer. Of them, Mrs. Boyer in her report says, "The two Bible Women supported by the ladies of New Brunswick have been at work during the year. They, with the other Bible Women of the place, report large numbers of women who do not believe in idol worship, and have left it off. Among them, not a few are learning the Lord's prayer and the ten commandments. When visiting schools at a distance I often take the Bible Women with me, and we spend the day at work in the villages near by. I find them a great aid in connection with the school work. They visit the homes of the children, and talk with the mothers, and thus the forces combine to break down prejudice, and build up faith on the True Foundation."

Speaking of her work Sister Boyer says: "I have what ought to be two women's work, I am glad to have a good deal. It keeps me from selfish sorrow, but really I have more than I can do properly. The care of seven large schools and two Bible Women is one person's work, but in addition I have 29 boys, whose food, clothing, schooling and religious and moral training all depend on me. It is a great care but I love these boys dearly, almost as well as if they were my own. These 29 pairs of hands are like so many chains binding me to India. I also take charge of Dannie now, besides the other cares that fall to a missionary." Speaking of the children's health; She says, Bessie is fairly well, but Rilla is very frail, frailer than ever this year. She is so thin it makes my heart ache to look at her. The missionaries advise a change to the Hills. I will, go 1st Sept., and remain till the cold season sets in. It is needless to say, these babes are doubly precious now.

I have had a terrible trial. It has

(Continued on fourth page.)