

Religious Intelligencer.

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

VOL. XXXVIII.—No. 17.

FREDERICTON, N. B., APRIL, 22 1891.

WHOLE No. 1936

NOTES AND GLEANINGS.

NEW YORK has 300 societies and agencies for charitable purposes. They spend \$4,000,000 annually in charitable work. That they are directly the fruits of christianity is shown by the fact that the most of them have been organized by churches, and the most of money used by them is contributed by christian men.

AT THREE OR FOUR of the Scotch iron-works, the Furnace Gases Company are paying a yearly rental for the right of collecting the smoke and gases from the blast furnaces. These are passed through several miles of wrought-iron tubing, gradually diminishing in size from six feet to about eighteen inches, and as the gases cool there is deposited a considerable yield of oil. At one establishment in Glasgow they pump and collect about sixty million feet of furnace gas per day, and recover, on an average, twenty-five thousand gallons of furnace oils per week; using the residual gases, consisting chiefly of carbon monoxide, as fuel, while a considerable yield of sulphate ammonia is also obtained.

BY THE SHAKESPEARE'S Birth-place &c., Trust Act, which has just received the royal assent, the house where the poet first saw the light, the foundation of the house to which he retired in New-place, and its grounds, Anne Hathaway's cottage at Shotley, and the house of Mary Arden, Shakespeare's mother, at Wilcote, are placed permanently beyond the reach of every enterprising Yankee who might make a bid for the whole lot, in order to transfer the buildings to Chicago or Philadelphia. Trustees are empowered to maintain the property and the museum and library, and to receive any gifts or bequests, and make such charges as are necessary to meet expenses.

THE ARAB SLAVE-TRADERS, who have had things pretty much their own way throughout equatorial Africa, are now causing serious trouble along the borders of the Congo Free State. When stopped at the Aruwimi by the forces of the Free State, they changed their course to the north and appeared at the Ouelle. It is doubtful whether the forces in the Free State are strong enough to resist the numerous bands of marauders.

THE TWO SOCIETIES of rich Jews, one with its headquarters in Odessa, the other in Bessarabia, whose object is to settle impoverished Hebrew families on lands purchased by the societies in Palestine, are meeting with considerable success. Funds are coming in, considerable tracts of fertile land are already, or will be soon, in their possession, and their agents are seeking out suitable families who will consent to engage in agricultural pursuits in their wonderful old fatherland.

IN THE UNITED STATES the number of patents issued annually is about 20,000. Compared with the number issued in any other country this is very large. England, which comes nearest, issues only about 4,000 to 5,000 a year. In Prussia the number granted annually is less than a hundred; in Belgium 1,500 to 2,000.

ANOTHER WONDER of the world has been discovered, this time at Ajaccio in Corsica. It is a grotto of unknown dimensions. A workman, who took provisions and torches with him, spent five days trying to explore the place, and says he walked about forty miles underground without coming to an end. The grotto is believed to be the same as one at Calvi, in which case it is sixty miles long. The mystery of the cavern is to be solved by a scientific expedition this summer.

THE LOUISIANA LOTTERY, says the Messenger and Journal, used to be supposed to be conducted fairly—if that word can be used in connection with a gambling scheme. It was known that the per centage was so greatly in favor of the company that it could pay all its prizes in a fair drawing and still make millions of dollars a year out of those who bought its tickets. A correspondent, however, states that it has been the practice to have the tubes containing the larger prizes so roughened that they could be distinguished in the drawing, and that the prizes were thus thrown to numbers

owned by the company. It is also said that considerable sums were paid to parties for fraudulent affidavits, stating that they had drawn large prizes, which were actually retained by the company. If this be true it shows that those who have wasted their money on this concern had not even the poor chance of winning which they supposed. Of course, the smaller and some of the larger prizes were paid.

THE REPORT of the Minister of Education in Ontario, just issued, shows that the school population in that Province last year was 616,028. The number of pupils registered in the schools was 501,815; and the average attendance was a trifle over half of the enrollment. The number of school houses in the Province is 5,677. The powers given to trustees to enforce attendance have evidently not been used, as the percentage of absentees is about as large as before.

THE FUNERAL of a public man in the United States is sometimes the occasion of a huge carousal. A little ago Senator Hearst of California died in Washington. He was taken to California for burial. And this is a description of the funeral:

A funeral train, bearing one hundred cases of wine, ten barrels of empty bottles, other miscellaneous alcoholic stimulants, and some fifty demoralized legislators, has been exciting the derision or the sorrowing contempt of the people as it passed from one point to another on its way back from California. The bold effrontery of the chief actors is perhaps the worst feature of this excursion. All these empty bottles are being carefully preserved that the full extent of the debauchery may be known to the people and receive full credit in the expense account. As might be expected, the language and the actions of the party, as represented in the reports, were entirely in keeping with its bar-room character. The great length of the journey has made this party more conspicuous than other have been; and unfortunately it is not an anomaly. There is a crying need for new regulations governing these funeral trains, or new legislators, or both.

How Quakers Are Married.

The discussion in England of the methods of marriage and registration of marriage among Non-conformists draws attention to the special privileges of one or two small religious bodies. There are in England three methods of marriage—by priests, before the registrar, and in the method of one or two religious denominations which have special laws governing them. It is with one of the latter of these we have to do now—the method of the Society of Friends, a method unaltered in its spirit for over two centuries. The Quakers have their own registering-officers, their own registers, and they have also their own quaint certificates. The 'ancient testimony' of the Society has been against marriage by a priest; and though it is not held that marriage before superintendent registrars are open to that objection, yet they are held to be opposed to the good order and the discipline of the body. 'Judge Archer,' generations ago, upheld the validity of the Quaker method of marriage, and later laws have confirmed and extended the right. When the Marriage Act of William IV. was passed it provided that 'Quakers may continue to contract and solemnize marriage according to the usages of the Society'; and later Acts have given the right to be so married to those non-members but of the 'persuasion' or belief of the body, and to any person who desires to be so married, and who obtains the consent of the Society. The simple mode of solemnization of marriage in the Society of Friends is well known, the brief utterances of the bride and bridegroom, in the meeting for worship, constituting marriage, when the preliminary formalities have been gone through.

It is with the latter there is now interest because it is here that the law gives the Society of Friends privileges that the bulk of Nonconformists have not. The Society, as we have said, has its own registering-officers—the direction being that 'a suitable Friend is to be appointed to register all marriages' solemnized within the limits of a monthly meeting. This registering-officer is not usually a minister, but there are no limitations to the appointment, except that he must be conversant with the law on the matter, and

must not be likely to be interrupted in the performance of his duties by absence from home. He is usually present at the marriage, and must see that the particulars of the marriage are entered in the duplicate books supplied to him, and it is recommended that the register books be filled up either at the time of marriage or immediately after, and they are verified by the signature of the registering officer. If absent, he must still register books, after assuring himself they are correct. When the duplicate register books are filled, out of them is delivered to the superintendent registrar; the other is kept with the other records of the Society. A quarterly return of the marriages is to be sent by each registering officer to the superintendent registrar, and a yearly return is made to the general recording clerk of the body, the latter return being verified by comparison with the registers.

In olden days the Society of Friends took the most minute care to ensure publicity for the intended marriages. Intended bridegroom and bride went in solemn state to the church meetings and announced their intention of marriage, and elaborate formalities took place to secure the knowledge of the parties from other engagements, the consent of parents or guardians, and that due provision where needful had been made for any children by previous marriages. In later years these preliminaries have been simplified. Marriage may be by licence, but is not often. Usually, it is by the equivalent to 'banns.' Notice of 'intention' is given at the close of a Sunday morning meeting for worship. Notice is privately given in writing to the superintendent registrar of the district, who is, after twenty-one days, to issue a certificate stating the date of this notice and the particulars thereof. And with the notice from the superintendent registrar, and the denominational one showing that the public notice has been given in the meeting-house, the monthly meeting of the body or the executive thereof may 'clear' the parties for marriage. When the intended bridegroom and bride live in separate districts the arrangements are a little more complicated, but the principle is the same. Publicity is given to the intended marriage, opportunity is afforded for any objection, and due care is exercised to ascertain that there is no rash entrance into matrimony.

What does the Society of Friends gain by having the right to solemnize its own marriages? Its protest against marriage by a priest is made, and it also protests against the State interfering in anything beyond the civil registration. The Quaker form is convenient, cheap, and now expeditious. The registering officer, like most of the officials in the Society, is unpaid; there is no expense, except a fee of one shilling to the superintendent registrar for the notice to him, and if the bride requires a certificate—as most do—the lithographed one costs little more than the parchment it is on. The Society undertakes the work of recording the marriages, and its records have been often praised for their painstaking care. For the registers of the marriages form records for many generations, going back to the earliest days of the Society. It thus solemnizes its marriages in its own meeting-houses at the times it chooses, without what it has protested against for two centuries—the priest's assumption of the office of marrying, and without the enforced presence and paid attendance of a State functionary.

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.]

"Oh, Take Me Nearer to Him!"

"The mother of the family lost her reason some time ago. It is sad to see her; but most wonderful she remembers what she learned in Lodiana about the Lord Jesus. She said to me, 'Please show me the Lord Jesus; He will cure my heart; sing of Him.' I did so, and she listened thoughtfully and then said 'Oh, take me to Him—the very nearest you can, I am so ill.'—Letter from Miss C. Thiede, India.

Take me nearer to your Jesus! Scarce I know of whom I speak, But my life is very weary, And my heart is very weak; And you say that He can help me, That the Christ of woman born Will not spurn my feeble pleading, He my sorrow will not scorn.

Take me nearer if you love Him! To His throne, you know the way; Let your stronger faith support me, Teach my lips the words to say, Help, oh help me find His presence, For my feet in darkness grope; I may die and never find Him, Christ, my last, my only hope.

Take me nearer to the Healer! For my soul is sick with sin, And I need the strong Life Giver Who can make me new within. And I need the tender Shepherd Who will lift me to His breast, And content my longing spirit With His love and home and rest.

Take me nearer, ever nearer! For I faint beneath the weight Of the burdened life I carry. And I dread to meet the fate Which must come, or soon or later, With its swift and stealthy tread, To enshroud my soul in darkness With the cold and silent dead.

Take me nearer to your Jesus! And the blessing yours shall be Of a soul that near to perish From the captor is set free; And another star in glory So shall shine to Jesus' praise, And another heart shall love Him Through the bright eternal days. —Woman's Work for Woman.

HE WOULD NOT DO IT. When Ko-chet-thing a Karen convert, visited America, he was urged on a certain occasion to address a congregation in respect to their duty to send out and support more missionaries. After a moment of downcast thoughtfulness, he asked, with evident emotion, "Has not Jesus Christ told them to do it?" "Oh, yes" was the reply; "but we wish you to remind them of their duty." "Oh, no!" said the Karen, "if they will not obey Jesus Christ they will not obey me."

In no country has missionary work developed, during the year 1890, as in Africa. Different missionary bodies have put new energy into their efforts for this neglected country, and Livingstone's prayer, "Africa for Jesus" bids fair to have a more speedy answer than has come in some heathen lands. The missions in Basuto land, lying between Cape Colony and Natal, under the auspices of the Paris Missionary Society and the Balolo Mission to the Upper Congo are very interesting in efforts and results. The liquor traffic is the greatest obstacle here, and Christian people may well ponder the scene when Mohammedans hold a meeting to protest against the traffic in intoxicating liquors, threatening to sell liquors into slavery: Our country's* complicity in this crime is so great that we ought constantly to sound the alarm until wrong-doers are compelled to yield to public sentiment. *United States.

Do you know that more than six hundred millions of heathen have not heard the Gospel message? And yet there are Christians all about us who listen to the command, "Go ye into all the world and preach the Gospel to every creature," without making any impression on brain, conscience or pocket.

The greatest obstacle in Christianizing China is the opium trade. One well says: "Seven missionaries, and 1400 cases of opium bound in one ship to China! Two hundred cases of opium to counter-balance each worker for God! It was manufactured at Patna, shipped at Bombay and landed at Shanghai."

BIG CHURCHES.—St. Peter's Church at Rome has seating capacity for 54,900 persons; St. Stephen's Church, in Vienna, for 12,400; the Cathedral of Venice, for 11,000; the Cathedral at Milan, for 37,000; the Antwerp Cathedral, for 24,000; the Church of St. Sophia, in Constantinople, for 23,000; the Church of St. Petroni, in Bologna, for 24,000; the Pisa Cathedral, for 13,000; London's great church, St. Paul's, for 35,000; St. Mark's Church, in Venice, for 7,000; St. Paul's Church, in Rome, for 32,000; St. Dominic's and St. Peter's churches, in Bologna, each for 11,000; the Cathedral of Notre Dame, in Paris, for 21,000; Spurgeon's Tabernacle, in London, for 7,000; Dr. Hall's great church on Fifth Avenue, New York City, for 2,000.

THE TELEGRAPH IN AFRICA.—The work of telegraph building in South Africa has pushed far ahead of railroad enterprise. A line now reaches the new capital of King Khama, 1,700 miles, in an air line, north-east of Cape Town. Savage Africa will thus be

joined with civilization by electric wires. Two hundred and sixty wagons, each drawn by from ten to twelve yoke of oxen, have taken their way northward, loaded with nothing but telegraph wires. No recent enterprises of the sort surpass in magnitude, or in the energy with which they are being pressed forward, these railroad and telegraph projects, now far advanced in South Africa.

RUSSIAN ORTHODOXY is very proud of the consecration of a new Russian cathedral in the vicinity of the Embassy at Tokio, Japan, at a cost of \$36,000. There is a Russian mission in the country, with no fewer than 215 congregations, a bishop, an archimandrite, 17 priests, 4 native deacons, and 139 native evangelists. 2,480 persons were baptized in 1889, and the total Japanese adherents of the Orthodox Church are 16,195. Other Christians will not grudge Russia her successes of this sort where there is room enough for all, but why does not the Orthodox Church Christianise itself at home? Only yesterday five persons, one a woman of sixty, were to be tried at Kharkoff for meeting together to sing hymns, and trying to induce private friends to join them. The court was to sit and the only result expected is banishment to the Caucasus, Central Asia, or Siberia. At Tutchma, in Bessarabia, a leader of the Molokans, after long lying in prison, has been tried, and sentenced to transportation for life to Turkestan, whither he will be sent in chains. His offence was privately teaching Evangelical doctrines to his friends. In many districts of the province of Kieff Stundists and Baptists have been badly maltreated by drunken ruffians, who, it is firmly believed, were supplied with money and drink by the priests.

PAY OF LEGISLATORS.—In Austria legislators are paid \$6 a day. In Germany members of both Houses receive about \$2.50 per day. In France members of each House receive the same—\$5 per day. In Greece the senators get \$100 per month, and the deputies \$50. In Belgium each member of the Chamber of Representatives gets \$85 a month. In Denmark the members of the Landsting receive each about \$3.75 a day. In Portugal the Peers and Commons are paid the same sum, which is about \$335 a year.

In Spain the members of the Cortes are not paid for their services, but enjoy many advantages and immunities. In Switzerland the members in the National Council get \$2.50 per day, and the Council of State, the Lower House, \$1.50.

In Italy the senators and deputies are not paid at all, but they are allowed traveling expenses and certain other privileges. England is the only country where members of Parliament are not only unpaid but have no special rights or privileges what-ever.

Scientific Miscellany.

(Prepared for the INTELLIGENCER.)

IODINE AS A DETECTIVE.—Some interesting researches on a method of detecting changes in the written documents have been communicated to the Paris Academy of Medicine by M. G. Bruylants. It is shown that when paper, sized and calendered, is partially moistened, then, after drying, subjected to the action of iodine vapor, the parts which have been wet assume a violet tint, while those which have escaped water grow yellow or brown. The intensity of the coloration varies with the time of exposure to the iodine. Places where water has previously fallen and dried may still be detected after the paper is completely saturated with water, the parts which were first wet being turned an intense violet blue by the iodine, while the other parts become blue. Even rubbings, such as those which are made by bread crumbs and elude discovery by other methods, are clearly brought out by iodine vapor, and erased tracings of a soft pencil are made legible. The certainty of the results depends much upon the quality of the paper and the elapse of time, irregular wetting or rubbing giving fainter differences after three months or more than when the manipulations are recent, and the indications being less clear on thinly sized paper.

THE TENSES OF SCIENCE.—At the Jubilee Meeting of the Chemical Society of London, Lord Salisbury offered these definitions: Astronomy is largely composed of the science of things as they probably are; geology

consists mainly of the science of things that probably were a long time ago; and chemistry is the science of things as they actually are at the present time. An electrical journal adds that electricity represents the science of things as they probably will be.

A RECENT DISCOVERY by Mr. F. H. Varley should prove of great importance from an economical point of view and opens a promising field for further investigation. By associating iron salts with suitable sensitizers, he has succeeded in preparing photographic films quite as sensitive as any of the modern gelatine emulsions, and containing no trace of any silver compound.

FERROID.—A new artificial stone, which can be melted and cast in moulds, is said to be a compound, partly chemical and partly mechanical, of iron, sulphur and silicon, with more or less foreign matter. Its normal color is a dark slate, which can be modified by pigments. The material has the hardness of bluestone, and can be worked by the usual stone-cutting tools, turned in a lathe, or planed. The tensile strength is from 650 to 12000 pounds per square inch, and compression of 9000 to 12000 pounds is withstood. The specific gravity is about 2.6; the melting point about 300 degrees Fahr. The new stone is described under the name "Ferroid."

GREENLAND'S DUST.—The cosmic dust collected by Nordenskjold in Greenland, in 1883, has been submitted to scientific examination, and found to consist chiefly of feldspar, quartz, mica and hornblende, with a smaller proportion of some other common minerals, a nitrogenous organic substance, and some particles similar to those obtained in deep-sea soundings. It is believed that the last-named material has come from space, and that the other substances have been carried in the air from a region of crystalline schists. If the dust taken from the Greenland snow represents the fall of one year, the total annual fall on the earth's entire surface is equivalent to a cube of 31 yards on a side.

IN 1663, according to a recent paper by Mr. G. J. Symons to the Royal Meteorological Society, Sir Christopher Wren designed not only the first rain gauge but also the first recording gauge although the instrument was not constructed until 1670. The earliest rainfall records were made at the following places: Paris, 1668; Townley, in Lancashire, 1677; Zurich, 1708; and Londonderry, 1711.

A SWEDISH METALLURGIST, C. A. Caspersson, tests the hardness of iron or steel in process of manufacture by electrically melting a sample of certain size, and comparing the strength of current necessary with that known to be required to fuse standard pieces of metal of determined hardness.

A CASE OF CHOLERA in a dog has been observed by Prof. Ogata of Tokio. The dog's vomiting and purging first attracted attention, and after its death an abundance of the comma bacilli were obtained from the small intestine.

HAIL IN CENTRAL EUROPE.—The record of injury from hail in Wurtemberg for 60 years (1828-87) has been investigated by Herr Buhler. The yearly average of days with hail is found to be 13, July having the largest number of any month and June the next. About 0.92 per cent of the cultivated land was affected, damage being done to the extent of \$600,000. Of 17 hail-storm paths made out, one very often taken is from Scheer to Ulm on the Danube—45 miles long and 10 wide. The paths are all connected with the configuration of the ground. Slopes with a western exposure suffer more than those with an eastern, while plains are much less affected than hilly ground. No evidence appears of increase in the fall of hail in the course of decades, and the much-mentioned influence of forests is not distinctly proven.

SUICIDE AMONG CHILDREN.—In a period of six years—1883 to 1888—there were no less than 289 cases of suicide among school-children in Prussia, the number for each year ranging from 58 in 1883 to 40 in 1885. In 86 cases no cause is known; but 80 cases are attributed to fear of punishment; 28, to insanity and melancholia; 5, to love; and 7 are supposed to have been only partially intentional. Only 49 of the 289 suicides were girls.

A GERMAN ELECTRICIAN, Herr Gulcher, has made a thermo-electric battery giving electric power equivalent to 1.08 per cent of the heat employed, and hopes to exhibit at Frankfurt a battery which will yield at least 5 per cent net effect. With an economical source of heat, he believes that his thermo-electric battery will even exceed the dynamo machine in efficiency.

ON A SMALL SURFACE of about 1900 square metres, at Mont-Dol, in Brittany, the remains of about a hundred elephants have been discovered. The bones are all broken, and it is believed that the animals were eaten by prehistoric man.