

# Religious Intelligencer.

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

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## NOTES AND GLEANINGS.

GAMBLING on ocean steamers is apparently increasing, judging by the complaints made about it. It is stated that gamblers infest the steamers of the leading lines, and fleece the silly people who fall into their toils. The managers of the steamers could stop it if they would. The only reason suggested for their non-interference is that the gamblers are liberal purchasers of the liquor sold on board, and that a source of considerable revenue would be destroyed by acting against them. But such reasons are too weak and unworthy to amount to an excuse. The interests of the travelling public are of too great importance to be treated in this light fashion.

THE SUPERINTENDENT of the Hartford Insane Asylum claims that not only has there been extraordinary improvement in the treatment of the insane in recent years, but that the proportion of cures in insane asylums will now compare favorably with that in general hospitals. Such institutions should not be called asylums, but hospitals. The name asylum was given when it was falsely generally supposed that the mentally deranged are incurable.

OF THE SAULT STE. MARIE CANAL, the Toronto Globe says, the tonnage of the vessels passing through it last year was 22 per cent. greater than the tonnage of vessels passing through the Suez Canal. The traffic of the Suez Canal for 1890 was 3,389 vessels registering 6,890,014 net tons. The traffic of the Sault Ste. Marie Canal in 1890 was 10,557 vessels and 8,454,435 net tons.

SEVEN YEARS AGO the Jews in Jerusalem were estimated at 19,000. The British consul thinks they have now increased to 40,000, while some local authorities believe that they reach 60,000. The trade of the city is passing rapidly into their hands, so that little business is done in Jerusalem on Saturday; and when Mr. Wells, of Glasgow, recently visited the city he was told that about two thousand new houses are to be built soon for the Jews. The population includes about 20,000 or 25,000 Mohammedans and about as many Christians.

RUSSIA is said to be making wonderful progress on her Pacific coast. For four years the trade with her ports on that coast has been increasing by leaps and bounds, and now that the great Siberian railway has been commenced at Vladivostok an added impetus will be given to Russian commerce in the east. About 40 Russian engineers have left Odessa to assist in the railway operations; likewise, two steamers laden chiefly with railway plant and stores. Among the passengers on the same steamer were fifteen persons who had abandoned their old homes in Russia to seek a shelter in the Far East, where they can worship God in peace, free from the hateful persecutions which had made their lives hitherto a burden and a misery.

ANOTHER NEW RELIGION, says the "Advocate," was announced last week. Its prophets are Colonel Celsus Price and Quintus Price, sons of ex-Governor Sterling Price, of Missouri, and a physician named Nidelet. They do not controvert Jesus, but adopt other works as of co-ordinate authority with the Bible. They belong to the great army who shut out the sun and light up with gas of their own manufacture in the day-time, "ever learning and never coming to a knowledge of the truth."

RECENT TRIALS made in the Russian Army to test the adaptability of snow breastworks against an enemy's fire have resulted in the following conclusions, reported in the *Official Military Gazette*: "Snow thrown up six feet thick is a perfect protection against bullets fired at three hundred paces. If packed up solidly with spade, and trampled down somewhat firmly, a thickness of five feet is enough. If the face of this snow barrier becomes frozen hard, four feet will suffice; while an outer crust of ice formed by pouring water over it will render the snow intrenchment impenetrable beyond three and one-half feet."

IT IS CLAIMED for a Mr. Kittredge, of Belfast, Ireland, that he wrote on a

postal card the whole of one of Ex-President Cleveland's messages, containing 15,000 words. He got it all on the card with a steel pen and ink, each letter as seen through a microscope being beautifully formed. Moreover, a border three-eighths of an inch wide is placed around the card, representing a string of beads, fifty-two in number, each three-sixteenths of an inch in diameter, and most of them containing the Lord's Prayer; 4,000 words are put into this border. Mr. Kittredge is seventy-seven years old, and says he could get 18,000 words on a postal-card. It took him forty-one days to write this one.

THE ARAB followers of the Mahdi having been cleared out of the Sudan which they overran after the death of Gordon, England—says the "Standard"—is alive to the importance of that country. The plan is being revived of building the railroad from Suakin to Berber, thus connecting the Upper Nile with the Red Sea, and turning an immense traffic from the long, precarious and tedious valley-way to the Mediterranean around by the Su z Canal. It would also give a key to Central Africa, and a writer in the *Murch Fortnightly Review* points out that with modern engineering appliances those who hold the Sudan can easily turn the waters of the Nile from their usual course and literally make Egypt a desert. This would make the fate of Egypt to depend upon those who hold the Sudan, and, of course, Egypt cannot let it fall into Italian or any foreign hands. So the English protectorate must be thrown over the Upper Nile as well as the Lower.

## The Manipur Massacre.

A LADY'S TALE OF HORROR.

Mrs. Grimwood's vivid letter, in the London Times, describing the scenes of horror in the siege of the Manipur Residency and the subsequent retreat reads like a chapter from the Indian Mutiny. From early morning, while her husband was with the troops outside, she remained within, a prey to terrible forebodings, but patiently tending the wounded, regardless of the bullets that were raining above her. "I was cutting sandwiches," she writes, "for the others who could not leave their posts when a bullet came crashing through the window over my head." In the evening, when the fatal parley took place, a brief truce allowed the wounded to be brought in. "I pray," says Mrs. GRIMWOOD, "that I may never see such a sight again. There were crowds of them; some dying. Poor Mr. BRACKENBURY was the first, shot all over, both legs and both arms broken; bullets in him all over; and yet, yet, poor lad, he was alive and perfect-conscious the whole time, and in awful agony. I did what I could to help, but it seemed almost impossible to do anything. In one corner was a poor fellow with his brain shot out on the top of his head, and yet alive. Another with his forehead gone, and many others worse." Later she says: "The firing was something awful, and the shells bursting in every direction. I got hurt in my arm; it bled a lot, but wasn't serious." Then came the retreat, and this brave woman, tortured with doubts as to the fate of her husband, but yet helping all the time to succour those in worse plight than herself, joined the fugitives. "I dodged two shells by running behind a tree. We went out at the back of the house, and had to cross first a hedge of thorns, then a high mud wall, then a river, before we could reach the road. I hadn't even a hat, and only very thin shoes on. One of these dropped off in the river, where I also got wet up to the shoulders. We were fired at all the way. I lay down in a ditch about twenty times that night, while they were firing, to try and escape bullets." Thus they marched a whole day and night, through jungles, with nothing to eat but grass and leaves, and exposed to the merciless foe lying in wait for them. "My feet," says Mrs. GRIMWOOD, "were cut to bits, and my arm wouldn't stop bleeding, and I was perished with cold and having got so wet crossing the river." They took refuge in a stockade as they saw troops approaching, but these happily turned out to be the relieving column. In another account it is said that at this point the party had abandoned hope. An officer told Mrs. Grimwood that he had only two cartridges left—one for her, the other for himself—if the advancing troops should turn out to be enemies. Happily this grim threat did not require to be carried out, and English women may rejoice that this brave-hearted lady still lives.

## The Sabbath School.

The Sabbath schools of our land afford a great many advantages. These delightful institutions are generally well supplied with pupils. There is at the present time, according to E. Barnes' calculation, not fewer than three million of children gathered every Sabbath into these nurseries of the Christian church. A large proportion of these pupils are employed through the week, and but for this instruction provided by Christian benevolence and zeal would, I believe, grow up in a state of complete ignorance as far as spiritual things are concerned.

In the Sabbath school we have a machinery, simple in its construction, noiseless in its operations, but wonderful in its results. The fallow ground of three million young lives is brought under the culture of spiritual husbandry by a glorious band of the 300,000 teachers who are engaged in the work of directing the young mind, moulding its sentiments, and turning it up to the warm breath of religious influences. If good impulses are not given in childhood to the rising intelligence of the population there is reason to fear that in very many cases time for such impressions is forever past. The heart soon becomes hardened against good, if neglected. There are other and bad teachers in the field; evil influences are busy. The life about us is filled with beguiling scenes; wickedness weaves its snares; skepticism puts forth its darts; profanity insinuates itself, and lewdness flashes its unclean jests, until the unguarded victim is lost in wickedness. The fallen one becomes an outcast from good. With timely instruction such as the Sabbath school affords, these same minds might have been led into light and usefulness. It is by early neglect that so many have gone astray, and under the influence of wicked companions and the fierce onset of earthly temptations have been lost to themselves, to their friends, to society, and eternally lost! If the young are in so great and awful danger let us fence the path with all possible obstructions to evil. Since the road to ruin is so easy to the young, let us lodge in his mind every good principle and put about him every good influence and place before him every inducement that may, by the blessing of God, step his downward progress. This object is sought to be achieved by the Sabbath Schools of our country, and God is blessing the good work. That Sabbath School instruction is one of the most hopeful and influential Christian activities of the time cannot be doubted. It is the nursery of righteousness; it has supplied men for responsible stations in society; it has from year to year replenished the church with many members; it has provided the ministry with not a few of its most successful and illustrious members; it has given the first impulse of zeal to many distinguished missionaries. And who can compute the number of dormant minds it has quickened with activity, and the strong vices it has withered, uprooted and destroyed.

[The foregoing is part of an interesting address by Bro. C. D. Smith, Superintendent of the St. John, N. E. Sabbath School, delivered to the congregation a short time ago, and which was requested to be published.]

B. H. N.

## 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.]

## Letter From British Columbia.

DEAR SISTERS:—Though I am separated so many miles from you and your great work, yet my memory likes to dwell on the pleasant times I have spent with you and I love to think of you as following the blessed Master's steps when it was said of Him, "He went about doing good." I shall be very much pleased if I will be able to write anything of interest about this town of Nanaimo. I don't believe a more delightful climate could anywhere

be found. It has but one drawback and that is the rainy season, but I think when the absence of heavy winds and the delightful moderation of the weather at all seasons of the year are taken into account, that the annoyance occasioned by a few weeks rain, can be readily overlooked. Many winters pass without any snow, but when it does come, it generally stops but a very short time. Last winter the snow came the last week of February and stayed two or three weeks, only to flee on the first indications of spring. By the middle of March early spring flowers such as tulips, crocuses, etc., were in full bloom, but no matter how fair the land may be to look upon, or how delicious the climate, yet we always see the "trail of the serpent." This is doubly true of this pleasant town of Nanaimo. One has only to walk down the principal street and note the everswiveling doors of the liquor saloons, or listen to the lewd conversation of men just issuing therefrom, to be painfully convinced of that fact. Here as everywhere else a great battle is raging between good and evil.

Was it not for the assurance "that they that be for us are more than they that can be against us," I think that the hearts of Christian people here would utterly fail; when it is remembered that there are but five churches to fight against the hellish influence of over twenty liquor saloons and gambling dens. The Y. M. C. A. is doing a noble work here and is rapidly increasing in membership and influence. Here one meets with people from nearly every country on the globe; but I would wish to speak especially of the Chinese. They come here in hordes in spite of the efforts of the government to exclude them. Wherever this strange people comes they invariably go by themselves and build a miniature China town, where they preserve their dress, worship and language intact. The Chinese colony here numbers some two hundred souls. Their town is situated a short distance from the city limits, just behind a high bluff, from the top of which one gets a good view of Nanaimo with its coal shafts. Chinatown consists of a rude crooked street with rotten sidewalks and houses but little better than barns on either side of it. At the head of the street stands their temple, a joss house, as it is called. It is only distinguished from the other houses in being somewhat larger and taller. To get to their idol one has to climb some almost perpendicular stairs and is at last rewarded with a view of their god which is the first object that strikes the vision, when the top is once reached. Old joss which is the name of the god seems to be held by the Chinese in the light of the evil one. They worship him, burn incense before him, give him offerings, merely as a bribe that he may be induced not to visit any of them with his displeasure. In appearance he resembles a huge black wooden doll, bearing an ugly leer on his face, which is further ornamented by a tuft of hair protruding from his chin. His ears have also the same adornment. He is situated in a kind of a recess in the wall, before him is placed a table bearing the offerings; candles are always kept burning suspended in curious Japanese lanterns. The burning incense imparts a strange odor to the place. The room opens on to a kind of a veranda where gayly colored lanterns are also hung. On a shelf on the further side of the room opposite to old joss is a shelf bearing some seven or eight idols; looking like hideously dressed dolls varying in height from six inches to two or three feet. The rough boarded walls were literally covered with Chinese characters painted with a fine brush, and all presenting the most beautiful regularity. This forms their public registry. Only one Chinese lady is in this colony. She is the wife of Yung Kee the principal Mongolian merchant here. They all look very quaint in their oriental costumes, and their long queue. No effort whatever is made for their conversion but in Victoria and San Francisco large numbers have become true Christians.

Surely "the Harvest is great and the laborers few." Hoping that God will continue to bless you in the future as he has in the past.

I remain yours truly,

F. E. H.

Nanaimo, April 20th, 1891.

The above was written by a young

lady, daughter of Rev. H. Hartt, who went from Carleton Co. last June, and is teaching in Nanaimo, B. C.

Dear Sisters let us spread this case, of these "heathen Chinese" before the Lord, peradventure we may see His Guiding Finger pointing to this as a place to send the light of the Gospel to these darkened souls.

## PARLIAMENT.

Every day, prohibition petitions are presented in large numbers.

Sir John Thompson introduced a bill respecting admiralty courts. The minister explained that admiralty courts have until the present been under imperial jurisdiction, but the imperial parliament last year transferred the jurisdiction to the colonies and thus made it necessary for the colonies to create admiralty courts. It was now proposed to vest in the exchequer court of Canada the business now transacted in admiralty and maritime courts, with certain additional jurisdiction handed over by the imperial parliament.

Sir John Thompson introduced a bill providing that county court judges may act in other districts than their own, when necessary.

The postmaster general stated that the government had under consideration the question of reducing the rate of registration for letters.

Sir John Macdonald said the government had in consideration the question of prohibitory legislation.

Mr. Tarte read his indictment of Thomas McGreevy, member for Montreal West, which he affirms to be also an indictment of the minister of public works. The charges themselves were many, and if they can be sustained, it will be impossible for Mr. McGreevy and Sir Hector Langevin to remain in public life. His charges are substantially as follows:

That in 1882, \$375,000 was voted for the harbor of Quebec. Larkin, Connolly & Co. tendered and got the contract, the firm taking Robert McGreevy, brother of Thomas, into partnership in order to secure the influence of Thomas, Sir Hector Langevin having given his consent, as Thomas said, and that certain changes in the harbor board engineering staff were made for the benefit of the contractors.

That in 1883 three tenders were put in for a work under control of the Quebec harbor board. The tenders were all under direction of the firm of Larkin, Connolly & Co. The one made under the firm's name was accepted though not the lowest, Thomas McGreevy having by his influence secured the contract for the firm, he receiving \$25,000 for his services.

In 1883, \$1,000 was subscribed by Larkin, Connolly & Co. to the Langevin testimonial.

In 1884, Thomas McGreevy agreed to secure for the above firm the Levis graving dock contract on condition that he should be paid any excess over fifty thousand dollars, his actual receipts being twenty-two thousand.

In connection with the Equimault dock contract, Thomas McGreevy obtained information from the department for the benefit of the tenderers, being the same firm mentioned above, and in consideration thereof had his brother taken into the firm, with twenty per cent. of profits; that in the progress of the work Thomas procured important modifications in the Equimault contract, receiving money for such services. Thomas endeavored to secure the dismissal of the government officers employed about the works in order to assist the firm.

In 1886 Thomas McGreevy used his influence to procure for the said firm a contract for dredging at Quebec, particularly influencing engineer Henry F. Perley to get an exorbitant rate, whereof Thomas McGreevy received twenty-five thousand dollars.

Further charges refer to the subsidized steamer Admiral, of which one Charbot is nominal owner, but which Mr. Tarte says belongs to Mr. McGreevy and has brought him in \$12,400 a year, the total sum so received being \$120,000.

Other charges refer to a retaining wall at Quebec, the allegations being of the same character as the graving dock charges.

In summing up Mr. Tarte says that Thomas McGreevy has received from Larkin, Connolly & Co. for the use of his influence, \$200,000. He also alleged \$40,000 additional had been received by him out of the Bay Chaleur railway subsidies. It is also set forth that McGreevy has for many years occupied the same house at Ottawa as Sir Hector, for the purpose of creating the impression that he has great influence over the minister.

Sir Hector Langevin, said that he had himself intended to ask for an investigation, but having been assured by Mr. Tarte that he wished to make additional charges and submit more evidence than had yet been printed, he concluded to leave the matter in his hands. He would now simply say that he had never to any man at any time given in advance, information respecting tenders. Only members of the privy council and officers of the department authorized to open tenders at the expiration of the advertised time could give information in advance of official notification. He had not found

any of his confidential officers guilty of a breach of trust. He had never had reason to suspect Henry F. Perley, the chief engineer, and could not believe him to be guilty of the crime charged against him. Mr. McGreevy was present and could make a statement if he wished. He (Sir Hector) would be present in the meetings of committee and would give all the assistance he could to make the investigation complete. Mr. McGreevy rose and said that, not being present when the charges were made last year, he had sent a statement which was read in the house, denying the allegations in toto. He would repeat that denial now. The statement read by Mr. Tarte was false from beginning to end. There was a conspiracy against him by persons whose bidding he had refused to do. They had invented malicious falsehoods and gone to the length of forging his name. He was glad of this investigation and wanted it to be speedy and thorough. The charges were then referred to the committee on privileges and elections.

After routine today a number of private bills were introduced. Sir John Thompson introduced his bill for the codification of the criminal law of Canada.

Mr. Perry, moving for returns concerning the service of the steamer Stanley, went into the whole question of winter communication between the island and the mainland. He demanded better steamer service, better ice-boat service, better railways and postal service, and the tunnel.

Hon. Mr. Tupper promised to bring down the papers. As to the tunnel, the government would be prepared to take its course when the report of Sir Douglas Fox was received.

Mr. Flint moved for correspondence respecting fishery bounties. He complained that bounties were paid earlier this year than usual.

Hon. Chas. Tupper agreed to bring down all correspondence. He explained that he had been often asked by the fishermen to have the bounties paid earlier in the year. In 1890 the bounty had been paid earlier than before and the fishermen had been grateful for the change, but had asked that the money be paid still earlier if possible, in order that they might get the benefit while they were fitting out for the season's work.

Mr. McCarthy introduced his bill relating to the Northwest Territories. The first clause of the bill repeals the provision authorizing the use of two official languages in the Northwest. These provinces, he said, were calculated to perpetuate race distinctions which otherwise would die out as they should. The other clause of his bill related to schools in the Northwest. He proposed to leave the question of education entirely with the Northwest assembly.

The minister of Justice informed Sir Richard Cartwright today that correspondence with the United States would be brought down as soon as consent was given by Westminster and Washington. Permission had been asked and, if not received, papers in regard to which permission had been obtained, would be laid on the table.

Hon. Mr. Foster, in reply to a question, stated that an estimate had been received from Sir Douglas Fox regarding the cost of the P. E. Island tunnel. According to his figures a tunnel eleven feet in diameter would cost \$5,300,000; a tunnel of sixteen feet in diameter, \$9,800,000; and a tunnel of eighteen feet, \$9,900,000.

Josiah Wood has been elected chairman of the banking and commerce committee.

## Among Exchanges.

### THE ALTERNATIVE.

One of the conditions of parliamentary service in this country is that a statesman who does not steal must die comparatively poor.—*Canada Presbyterian.*

### A SUNDAY CLUB-HOUSE.

Nothing is more unlike a Christian church than a few wealthy people assembling on Sunday morning, content with themselves, to listen to an address by a liberally compensated master of ceremonies, and to music of the highest order, and then going to the world of business or pleasure until custom calls them back to their Sunday club-house.—*N. Y. Advocate.*

### WISE LEGISLATION.

We have long felt that short sentences upon known criminals are a blunder, and only tend to prevent reformation. We notice in France that a distinction is now to be made between first offences and offences preceded by one or more convictions. At the discretion of the court the execution of a sentence passed on a person convicted for the first time, may be postponed. If for five years the convicted person keeps a clear record, the sentence will be allowed to lapse entirely; but if he again commit a crime, not only will he pay the penalty for it, but the previous sentence will also be carried into effect. It has always been remarked by intelligent men that a first imprisonment is frequently the making of a hardened and habitual criminal. It is hoped that a sentence for a first offence will now act as a deterrent rather than an incentive to further crime. First sentences, actually carried out, should be long enough to be reformatory.—*Pres. Witness.*