

Religious Intelligencer.

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

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NOTES AND GLEANINGS.

A COMMISSION to examine into the condition of monastic and conventual establishments is being asked for by petition to the British Parliament.

IT IS STATED that forty-eight centenarians died in England during the past year. Of this number twenty-seven were women and twenty-one men. The previous year thirty-six deaths were recorded of persons who had topped the century's mark.

A GERMAN PHYSICIAN claims to have discovered the microbe of the grip, and has taken its photograph. Now if he will show us some way to kill it without killing the patient, he will secure the world's gratitude.

INFLUENZA killed in Great Britain, directly and indirectly, during 1890, over 27,000 persons, according to the annual report of the Registrar-General. The deaths actually ascribed to the epidemic are only 4,523, but it undoubtedly heightened the mortality under such headings as pneumonia and bronchitis, which went up in a frightful way. The deaths from all causes were rather more than 562,000, or 19.5 per 1,000 of the population. This is higher than for four years past. The year was specially fatal to aged people, and in this respect ranks with the bad year 1875.

A REPORT is in circulation that a company is about to establish a Monte Carlo gambling resort on a small island off the California coast, about thirty miles from Santa Barbara. The island belongs to the State of California, and is under its laws. If such a resort is established the citizens of California will be responsible. The Independent does not believe they will allow it.

FIVE MILLION, three thousand, four hundred and sixty-nine pounds were last year donated or bequeathed to the various London, provincial and foreign charities. This sum includes £2,000,000 raised by Baron Hirsch for the relief of Russian Jews. The two most curious gifts of the year were £183, tenth of the sum received by the Salonica brigand for the ransom of Signor Sollini, given for the founding of Bulgarian schools in Macedonia, and £2,465 left to Berlin for the erection of a hospital for 'poor Christian men,' by Johann Lischewski, who murdered his maid-servant and then committed suicide.

AN ENORMOUS FALLING OFF in Government revenues is reported from the famine-stricken provinces of Russia. In the single province of Voronezh the deficit for September was 670,000 roubles; for October, 800,000, and for November, 1,000,000. It was believed that by the end of December the arrears in this province would reach the sum of 5,000,000 roubles. Similar conditions are reported in the other provinces. Passport, labor, and other restrictive laws have been abolished in order to permit the peasants to emigrate.

THE JOPPA—JERUSALEM RAILWAY is expected to be in running order in the spring. It is supposed, says the Herald, that the road will prove a very profitable investment, as 40,000 persons land at Joppa annually in order to make a pilgrimage to Jerusalem and other holy places. There are over 800 steamers and other vessels which land annually at Joppa. The price of a round-trip ticket will be 20 francs, and the great safety and comfort of the journey will, it is believed, bring a phenomenal rush of tourists from all over the world. The brevity of time will be a special attraction to those globe trotters who measure their acquisitions by the enormous space traveled in the least possible time.

ELECTRICITY WAS USED in counting the last census of the United States. The method adopted was that invented by Mr. Herman Hollerith, and it saved the Government more than

\$800,000 of the cost of counting by the old method. It was, also, very much more rapid than the old way of counting; the official count of the total population, 62,622,250, having been announced in only one month and two days after the Superintendent of the census received the last return from the 50,000 enumerators. Each one of the Hollerith machines is estimated to do the work of twenty clerks under the old system. The last United States census was the first time the people of any nation have been counted by electricity. But, the *Guardian* says, the Hollerith system has now been adopted by the Dominion and Australia, and probably no great nation will, in the future, be content to wait for the result of a census by the old method, when a system so rapid, accurate and every way admirable has been discovered.

SUICIDE has become so frequent in many of the European armies that the governments are beginning to feel that it is necessary for them to take action upon it. The Austrian army leads the list with a yearly average of 122 suicides for every 100,000 effective troops. Germany follows with 67 suicides to the same number, with Italy 40. The other countries show averages of 29 for France, 24 for Belgium, 23 for England, 20 for Russia and 14 for Spain. In the armies which are largely recruited by enrolments, as in the case of England, it is the older soldiers that commit suicide, while with France, Germany, Italy and Austria it is the young men who kill themselves. It is a notable fact, too, that the mania is more intense with the officers, the under-officers furnishing three times the proportion of suicides that is found among the troops, while the higher officers furnish twice the number. The problem is one that suggests much curious speculation, but it shows the terrible pressure such a life of intense monotony puts upon a man of ambition.

The Chilean Warcloud.

THE UNITED STATES is acting the part of a shameless bully toward Chili. That little country has just come out of a most exhausting civil war and, of course, her people are exasperated against the foreigners who, for interested purposes, encouraged Balmaceda to attempt to set up a dictatorship, and who, when he was overthrown, made places of refuge at their consulates for the Balmacedists. At the close of a great civil war turbulent elements are not under control as in ordinary times, and it is not wonderful that a Chilean mob in a city should ill-use foreigners with whom the people generally were very angry. During the riot in Valparaiso, in which some American sailors were attacked, only one man was fatally injured, and he died in a Chilean hospital, which is evidence in itself that the Chilean authorities, so far as they were concerned, protected and cared for the foreigners. Judicial investigations followed, and many Chileans, as well as a couple of American sailors, were, as a result, indicted for rioting. Before the trials of these accused persons have been finished the American Government is, we are told, about to send an ultimatum to Chili, to be followed by a declaration of war if an immediate apology and reparation are not forthcoming. Mr. Egan, the representative of the United States in Chili, who is responsible for the whole trouble, having encouraged Balmaceda because he hoped in the case of the success of the dictator to secure for American citizens the working of the nitre mines and guano beds, is an Irishman who fled from Dublin to escape arrest at the time of the Phoenix Park assassinations. He was appointed to office for the simple reason that he supported the Republicans in an election campaign and his appointment would gratify the Irish. While the United States' bullies exhausted little Chili because of a riot in which one man, or perhaps two, were fatally and

a few others slightly injured, she has never given Italy any satisfaction for the cold-blooded massacre of half-a-dozen Italians, who were in prison and under the express protection of the State. The murderers, though known have never been brought to justice. If the United States, or to speak more exactly, if Mr. Blaine had not political and commercial purposes to gain by making waf in Chili, she would never have pushed the quarrel as she has done. Chili will be very foolish if she allows herself to be drawn into war. She is a small and comparatively helpless nation, and she should, while maintaining a dignified attitude, accede to the unreasonable demands of the United States, as a man with a purse would who had been caught in a lonely place and threatened by a well-armed desperado. Chili is making a great mistake if there is any truth in the wild story that she is counting on aid from England, and England should make that plain to her, for, no matter how friendly the English may be, they will not interfere. A war between Great Britain and the United States would be one of the greatest calamities which could occur in this world.—*The M. Witness.*

The Society of "The Holy Childhood."

There is a certain kind of consistency about the dogmas of the Church of Rome which we can but admire, much as we abhor the dogmas themselves. For example, it is well known that the Romanist believes that the sprinkling of water upon an infant, in the name of the Trinity, no matter by whom sprinkled, transfers the infant from a state of condemnation to a state of salvation. It "regenerates" the child and makes it "a child of God." Until it receives the sprinkling, it is in a state of reprobation, and, dying, must go to the "limbo of infants," whatever that may be. But as soon as "baptized," no matter what parentage, the child is an heir of salvation, and, dying, goes to heaven. We should expect, therefore, that with these views of the condition of infants, the Church of Rome would be very zealous in its efforts to procure the sprinkling of all infants. And this is just what is true. There is a society among Catholics, to which large numbers belong, called "The Holy Childhood," having for its object the rescuing of infants from their state of condemnation and death, and making them the children of God; especially its mission is "to rescue the children abandoned by inhuman parents in heathen lands." This is what its agents are doing in China, Japan, India, Africa, everywhere, as the opportunity is afforded. It is said: "The Holy Childhood thus rescues more than 400,000 children yearly." More than five million children have been already rescued by such means and sent to heaven, where they are unceasingly praying for their benefactors." The money for the support of this mission is raised by appeals to the "faithful" the world over, asking only twelve cents from each of its members, and from this source it receives "more than three millions of francs, or \$600,000. America alone contributes 160,000 francs, or \$32,000. The contributors are organized into groups of twelve, each with a president who collects the money and puts it into the hands of the priests who oversee the work. To encourage the continuity of the contributions the contributors are told that they "share in the prayers and good works of the association; in the masses offered up monthly in their intentions." "Those presiding over twelve can gain daily an Indulgence of one hundred days." And so the Catholic missionaries are working in the same line—baptizing all who will submit to the rite, who are too helpless to resist, that thus they may become "Christians," and share in the advantages accruing to those who have received the "baptism."—*Journal.*

—Dr. Geo. E. Shady, a eminent physician in New York was recently asked in regard to the grip epidemic, "Is whiskey a good preventive?" His was his reply: "Whiskey is never good to ward off anything. Good food is the best means with which to ward off disease. To dose with whiskey is like adding shavings to the fire. There is no physical, mental or moral excuse for a man's drinking whiskey as a preventive of disease."

WOMAN'S FOREIGN MISSION SOCIETY.

"Rise up ye women that are at ease."

[All contributions for this column should be addressed to Mrs. Jos. McLeod, Fredericton.]

The Missionary Outlook.

"Never were there such open doors for missionary effort as now. Never were there such easy means of access to the distant parts of the earth as now."

It is a common saying that the sun never sets on the dominion of our Empress Queen. Here again is God's hand providing safety for the missionary, for he is said to England's honour that where her flag floats there is freedom of religion and protection from outrage. Indeed, I have often thought that England's title deeds to many of her possessions are to be found in the scattered and lonely graves of many of her heroic missionaries.

To come from the general to the particular and by one illustration to embrace all, let me say that the loudest call for missionary help comes from, and the most open doors are in, Asia. Asia, the mother of the great religions of the world, the seat of the earliest civilization, the home of the human race; Asia, where the first Adam sinned and the second suffered, where Abraham received the covenant and Moses the law; where David sang and Daniel dreamed; where in the fullness of time the Son of Man came and touched the earth with the light of heaven, expounded the thoughts of God, embodied the virtues of man and then died to accomplish the central and supreme achievement of all history, the redemption of the world from the ruin of the fall.

And of all Asiatic countries China is just now the most in need of Christianity, and even now Canadian missionaries are on their way to the vast empire. Japan is on the high road to Christianity, but China still lies a wasted land of ignorance and unbelief. In the Atlantic Ocean there is a sea called the Sargasso Sea. Around this the Gulf Stream sweeps, but in it there is no motion. No current rushes through it, no stormy wind moves it into action. The dull, dead heaving wave just moves the tangled weeds on the melancholy ocean.

Such was China, but now a strong current of progress is moving up and down her stagnation, and sturdy winds of thought are moving apart her weed-choked waters. The people are crying out for education. Not only the treaty ports but other towns are being thrown open to the foreigner. The blood of her martyred missionaries even but a few months ago cried out aloud from the ground to Christians elsewhere.

And China's religions have failed her. Might I pause here to say that her religions were three, Confucianism, attempting by precept to correct man's conduct; Buddhism, aiming by asceticism to suppress his passions and purify his spirit; Taoism, seeking to raise his nature through his mind. They have been the most stupendous failures in history. They have proved that personal renovation is impossible; that rationalistic materialism is a delusion and a snare. Might we not ask some modern philosopher to carefully read this page of Chinese history?

And what I have said of China is true of all lands where the Gospel reaches not.

There is still the same old Macedonian cry, "Come over and help us!" The cry that is the inarticulate wail of infants doomed to an untimely end because, forsooth, they are of the wrong sex; it is the sobbing of women enslaved and down-trodden, bereft of the meaning of their womanhood; it is the cry of loveless marriage, of heartless desertion; it is the longing of millions for justice in lands whose officials live by oppression; it is the unspoken and undefined desire and yearning of multitudes of people for some one who shall lighten their darkness, soothe their sorrow, and open up to them the prospect of a better life. It seems to me that our need is to pray more earnestly man's noblest prayer, "Increase our faith."

Thus shall we hasten the time when that stately temple of light of which the Grecian sages dreamt and the Roman poets wrote, which has been

the ideal of the noble and the good everywhere, shall be fully completed with the shouts of "peace, grace unto it," and in the light of the Son of Righteousness the world shall be filled with glory and the people with his truth. Let us, then, cheerfully give thanks for the glorious outlook and go down again into the valley of sin and sorrow, and looking up, "lift up."

"TWENTY FIVE YEARS AGO there was not a Woman's Foreign Missionary Society in America. Now there are in Great Britain and America 19,500 Auxiliaries and 5,200 Bands, with an aggregate income of \$1,250,000. The twenty of these societies in the United States, managed and supported by women, support 757 missionaries. They contributed \$1,038,233 in 1883, and since their organization, \$10,325,124.

"India has 21,000,000 wailing widows and 50,000,000 persecuted zenana prisoners, with but one woman to every one hundred thousand, to point them to the Lamb of God. The children of India, four deep, and with a walking space of two feet each, would make a column 5,000 miles long; 40,000,000 of these are still waiting to be taught."

THE GREATEST PREPARATION for Christian work is being good at home. We may do any amount of good work outside, but if we are not good at home it will lack power. There is an especial danger for people who are doing much outside work, and get weary that they may lack sweetness at home. By home, I mean our daily circles. By being good, I mean being Christ-like. The woman at the wash-tub who keeps her temper is doing a greater thing than I am in addressing this convention. We are tremendously at the mercy of our characters. If what we say is not backed by our character, it is powerless.—*Hannah Whitall Smith.*

Temperance Notes.

—High license says "Yes" to sin. —Millions of paupers are the outgrowth of rum.

—Lady Somerset was drawn into temperance work by the sad history of a boy and girl who sipped wine at their father's table.

—Prohibition Kansas has one penitentiary with 996 inmates. License Texas has 100,000 less population and two penitentiaries with 3,000 inmates.

—What do you think of the man who votes and legislates to put a tavern near somebody else's property or home, when he will not allow it near his own?

—In Turkey saloons are called Christian drinking places, because it is only foreigners, from nations called Christian, who kept them, and they are not allowed within 250 feet of a Mohammedan place of worship.

—At a recent meeting in Scotland, Mr. Moody told of a Scotch distiller with whom he had been talking, who boasted to him of having given one hundred and thirty tons of coal to the poor. "As if," said the evangelist, "that could be a set-off against the havoc wrought through his hellish business."

THE CHINESE PERSECUTION.—A Chinese preacher, in speaking of the present troubles in China and their cure in *The Chinese Recorder*, considers that the occasion for many of these outbreaks is the ignorance of the people with regard to the true teachings of the Christian Church. He therefore urges that all the ministers of the Western countries at Peking unitedly request the Emperor to send one of his most intimate and influential officers to the West for the purpose of examining fully the Roman Catholic and Protestant Churches—their rites, teaching and books. On his faithful report with regard to them to the Emperor, he says, let the Emperor send forth his imperial decree, explaining the teachings of the Christian Churches and the purposes of the missionaries, and declaring it to all the people; engraving the decree on stones, and placing them in all the provinces, in every district, college, private school, public hall, and one in every great ancestral hall. This plan he considers the most peaceful way to cause China and the West to be at peace for all time to come, and no other plan can be found better than this.

HER ANSWER.—In the West, twenty years ago or more, a young minister proposed marriage to a rich man's daughter, who declined his offer, saying that she was "not good enough to be a minister's wife." A year and a half afterwards he left the ministry and went into business as broker, and calling again said: "When I proposed marriage to you, you declined, saying that you were not good enough to be a minister's wife. Now that that difficulty is out of the way, may I not have some encouragement that you will look favorably upon my suit?" She is said to have replied: "I did decline, because I did not feel myself good enough to be a minister's wife; but I must now decline, because I am too good to be the wife of any man who would leave the ministry of our Lord Jesus Christ for any woman." If this story, which was communicated to us by one who indorsed its truth at the time it was said to occur, is reliable, she was probably good enough to be a true minister's wife, though too good to be his wife.—*Chris. Advocate.*

—When Professor Drummond, author of "The Greatest Thing in the World," left Japan, the native ministers gave him a message for Europe. It was brief, but pregnant: "Send us no more doctrines; we are tired of them. Send us Christ." In that sentence, not Japan, but the whole world expresses its deepest need.

Literary Notes.

The Missionary Review of the World for February devotes a large portion of its space to a consideration of the work in China. In the department of Literature of Missions are two articles, the first on "The Importance of Winning China for Christ," the other on "How the Gospel Spreads in China," both of which present a hopeful view of the future of missionary enterprise there. The Monthly Concert of Missions is devoted chiefly to China, reviewing the causes and significance of the present trouble there. The various departments of the Magazine cover the broad field and present an excellent summary of mission work in all parts of the globe. Published by the Funk & Wagnalls Company, 18 and 20 Astor Place, New York. \$2 per year; 25 cents for single numbers. In clubs of ten, \$1.50.

Canada for January, the first of a second volume, is packed as full of interesting matter as it could possibly be. Two short stories; two exceptionally good poems, a contribution from the portfolio of that prince of antiquarians and annalists, Mr. Le Moine, an article on "Ginseng" by Prof. Jones, of Toronto, "The Story of Evangelism," "The Pirate of Labrador," "Fort Cumberland," "Montcalm and French Canada," all these it contains, besides eight or ten interesting departments. Where else can you find such an array of good things for one dollar; for that is all a year's subscription to this excellent Canadian magazine costs. Only one dollar a year. Write for FREE sample copy, Matthew R. Knight, Benton, New Brunswick.

The Homiletic Review for February brings its usual supply of good things. The Review Section opens with a paper on "The Inerrancy of Scripture," which is characterized by judicial fairness, and holds to the infallibility of all its revealed truths. A well-known microscopist contributes an interesting description of the microscope, with suggestive hints as to its teachings. "Protestantism and Romanism as Factors in Civilization" is discussed in thoughtful contribution. There are several sermons. This number of *The Review* witnesses a new departure in the introduction of a Sociological Section, in which is discussed "Circulation, the Law of Wealth, as it is the Law of Commerce," and "Christian Socialism." The whole number maintains the well-earned reputation of *The Review*.

A most unique magazine is the February *Ladies Home Journal*, entirely made up, as it is, in prose, verse and fiction by daughters of famous parentage, some of the "daughters" being famed themselves. Thirty "daughters" are represented, each by an article, story or poem. This issue is a powerful argument in behalf of hereditary genius. Hawthorne's daughter, Mrs. Lathrop, for example, has an excellent story, Mildred Howells, the novelist's daughter, writes a very sweet poem; the daughters of Charles Dickens, Thackeray and Horace Greeley all write of their famous fathers, President Harrison's daughter, Mrs. McKee, writes an article on "The Training of Children"; Gladstone's daughter tells "How a Woman's College Began"; General Sherman's daughter tells a war story; Julia Ward Howe presents three literary daughters; ex-Senator Ingalls' daughter sketches Mrs. Leland Stanford; Jefferson Davis's favorite daughter portrays "The American Girl Who Studies Abroad," and these are followed up by the daughter of Sir Morrell Mackenzie, "Mrs. Alexander" and Richard Henry Dana. Julia Ward Howe, Mrs. Henry Ward Beecher and other famous mothers tell "How to Train a Daughter." This is, indeed, a curious number, and the most novel ever issued by a magazine. Published, at one dollar per year, by The Curtis Publishing Company of Philadelphia.