

Religious Intelligencer.

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

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To help our friends in the canvass for new names we make the following special offers:

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NOTES AND GLEANINGS.

THE PENAL INSTITUTIONS of the United States contain 100,000 inmates. The annual cost of maintenance is \$15,000,000.

FINLAND, also, is suffering from famine, 12,000 people being in a state of destitution. The Finlanders are a very industrious people, and if they are famine stricken it is not because of indolence or improvidence on their part.

THE WHEAT PRODUCERS of Canada and the United States paid last year several millions of dollars for binding twine alone.

EDISON claims to have discovered a means of electric telegraphing, or signaling, between distant points, without the use of wires. The distance is limited, however, by the curvature of the earth, but by passing from one ship to another a message may cross the widest oceans in a few leaps. If the invention is what is claimed for it the danger of collisions at sea in fogs may be wholly averted.

IN GREAT BRITAIN penny banks have been connected with the public schools in the hope that the children will deposit therein the penny that was formerly paid for each week's tuition. In Belgium, which has 600,000 primary pupils, 170,000 of these have deposited in all more than \$500,000.

HOW CURIOUS, says an exchange, that while our winter in Eastern Canada has been remarkably mild, countries south of us are complaining of a season of deadly severity. Heavy snow storms have visited New Mexico and Texas. Portions of California have suffered from frost. Vast numbers of cattle, horses and sheep have perished on the ranches. Snow-slides and loss of life have been numerous. Snow banks thirty feet deep are reported. Thus, while Europe and the western portion of the United States have suffered greatly from the severity of the weather our complaint has been all the other way.

THE EDITOR of *Zion's Herald* has been on a visit to Mexico, and describes the national drink thus:

The pulque saloon and the pulque vender greet you upon the streets and everywhere. This is the national drink, and is to the Mexican what lager beer is to the German. There are two thousand "pulque shops" in the city of Mexico. The drink is exuded from the maguay plant, known to us as the century plant, which here grows very thriftily. We have ridden a half day in this land upon the railroad, and seen on either side of the track only the maguay plant cultivated for the pulque. When it is seven or eight years old, being perhaps as many feet high, it is tapped for the milk-like sap. It will yield this sap only one year, and then dies. It is an unsavory and unpalatable drink, slightly fermented, with a sour and somewhat bitter taste. It is more of an anesthetic than an intoxicant. The Indians, women as well as men, children as well as adults, drink of it very freely. There are three trains running into this city every day that bring only pulque. It is said that it will keep in good condition only forty-eight hours. Over eighty thousand gallons of pulque are consumed daily in this capital of Mexico. It is not so bad as lager beer, and certainly not as vile as the Irishman's whiskey, but it is bad enough.

THERE IS A NEWSPAPER published in New York which is devoted to the encouragement of European immigration. It has a circulation of 16,000 in Europe. It sets forth in glowing terms the advantages of a home in America. Many of those who come to America are a most undesirable class: and how to prevent them is now a serious question. A government inspector who has recently made investigations in the Pennsylvania mining districts, reports that the majority of the miners are foreigners of the most lawless kind, and that many of them came under contract. One contractor had made a hundred thousand dollars by bringing men to the mines. Thousands of them are neither citizens nor

tax-payers. In one camp of 700 only 68 were citizens. They have driven out the American and English miners. Many who come thinking they can pick up gold in the streets, find themselves worse off than they were at home; and not a few become a public charge. They fill the insane asylums and the poor-houses. Not long since, the authorities of Grand Rapids, Michigan, raised the money to send a chronic pauper back to Europe, considering it cheaper than to support him. In less than a year he turned up in the same city again, asking for charity, having made the trip to Europe at the expense of the city. The authorities of his native country had probably paid his way back to the United States.

Why are the Jews Persecuted?

It was generally thought that the persecution of the Jews was a thing of the past. The cruelties inflicted on the dispersed race whenever they found a temporary resting place during the middle ages were supposed impossible of repetition. It has, however, been reserved for the closing decade of the nineteenth century to witness, not perhaps similar atrocities inflicted on Hebrew sojourners in Spain and Morocco, but deeds of cruelty akin in spirit to those perpetrated on the Iberian peninsula and beyond the pillars of Hercules. In Germany and in Austria the *Fuedenhetze* ran its course a few years since, and, though powerful influences have put it under restraint, there is no saying when or how it may again make its presence irksomely felt. Russia, however, is now the greatest offender, and the harsh treatment meted out to the descendants of Abraham is such that no European nation other than the Russian would think of tolerating. The policy pursued by the Muscovite authorities, towards the Jews is simply incomprehensible. It is understood that trading classes and peasants have secured loans from Jewish money-lenders and are unable to cancel their indebtedness. They denounce Jewish rapacity and greed, and on this account justify the hatred they cherish. The reasons why the Government authorities, from the Czar down, should countenance and by action confirm and enflame the deep-seated popular dislike of the Jewish race are varied and contradictory. It may be that it is convenient to make scapegoats of the sons of Israel, and thereby seek to turn aside some of the smoldering discontent that has filled the prisons of Russia with recalcitrants, Siberia with political exiles, and sent nihilistic revolutionists wandering over the face of the earth. The authorities have given currency to the accusation that the Jews have been active in their encouragement of the nihilistic propaganda. The determined effort to crush out all dissent from the orthodox Greek Church is also assigned as a reason for the severe persecution to which the Jews in Russia have been subjected. Whatever the causes are, there can be no doubt of the fact that the Hebrew race has been treated in the Russian Empire in a manner that no other nation claiming to be civilized would think of attempting.

It is remarkable that not only in Russia where their condition is so deplorable, but almost in all lands where the fullest rights of citizenship and the amplest liberties have been accorded them, the Jews are looking with eager hope for a restoration to their ancient heritage. What if the cruelties inflicted upon them are to be overruled for consummation? Although there are varying degrees of religious conviction among the Jews, as among others, and though many of them have not escaped the blighting effects of rationalistic belief, the greater proportion of them are turning their attention to the prophetic declarations concerning their future to be found in the Old Testament. They are beginning to long for the fulfilment of these predictions, and indications are not wanting

that events are tending in that direction. A communication signed "Josephus" in this month's *Intelligencer* is specially significant. Whether the writer is a Jew of Christian, cannot for certain be ascertained, and in the absence of knowledge it is useless to conjecture. "Josephus" anticipates the result foretold by Paul when he said "For if the casting away of them be the reconciling of the world, what shall the receiving of them be but life from the dead?" He holds that "deep in the heart of Judaism is enshrined a sacred, an immortal word—duty—which makes of man a moral being and links him to the moral source of the universe. Deep in the heart of Christianity is enshrined a sacred, an immortal word—love—which makes of man a spiritual being and links him to the divine source of all life. Humanity needs both these words in order to become the perfect creation it was meant to be." The realization of the blessed hope is something for which the devout Jew and earnest Christian can mutually pray.—*Can. Presbyterian.*

An Extraordinary Invention.

The New York papers contain reports from Washington of an extraordinary invention. It is nothing less than the invention of an air ship to navigate the skies. Whether it will prove to be another Keely motor or not is more than we can venture to say. But as several Washington correspondents mention Mr. Pennington's air ship with all seriousness and circumstantiality, we transfer to our columns the following account from the *Rochester Democrat and Chronicle's* Washington correspondent. Even if ahead of actual achievement, it may be a prophetic dream that may yet be fulfilled:

E. J. Pennington, the inventor of the famous air ship that bears his name, is in Washington. For the past nine years he has been engaged in studying the problem of aerial navigation, and is confident that he has solved it. Mr. Pennington on January 27th talked to a reporter. He said that a company, comprising some of the wealthiest and most progressive citizens of Chicago, had been organized with a paid up capital of \$30,000,000 to build the air ships.

"We are engaged in constructing several small ones," he said, "at our works at Mount Carmel, Ill., and ere long will proceed to manufacture a ship with which to cross the Atlantic, and capable of carrying fifty passengers. The last will require about a year to complete. As soon as it is entirely finished I will cross the ocean in it all over the globe. We will be able to travel through the atmosphere at a rate of 200 miles an hour. A man can go to sleep in New York and wake up in London."

"There is hardly any limit to the uses to which it can be put. A farmer living 100 miles from a city could put up a lot of garden truck, carry it to market and fly home, all in two hours' time. The mails could be carried from New York to Chicago in five hours. Freight and all kinds of articles could be let down into buildings by means of chutes connecting with the roofs. Carrying the mails will be one of the prime uses of the air ship."

"And what is your ship to be built of?"

"Aluminum, that marvellous metal whose peculiar properties make it especially adapted to aerial machines. It is as light as water, or nearly so. A sheet of the metal will float, though a solid chunk will sink. The buoyancy chamber, car, propeller, engine and entire machine will be made of aluminum."

Mr. Pennington's machine will fly against the wind, and thereby solves a problem that has hitherto baffled all inventors. The entire scientific world has become interested in his experiments, and he has had correspondence with several leading European Governments about his air ship. He said that Maxim, the famous inventor of improved guns, is at work on a flying machine, in which he is essaying to imitate nature, taking a bird as his model.

Mr. Pennington thinks that Maxim will succeed to a limited extent only, though he does not doubt his ability to produce a machine that will navigate the air. So far from injuring the business of railroads, Mr. Pennington is sure that they will be called on to do more traffic than ever. The telegraph did not cause people to cease writing letters. He contends that his air ship will be infinitely safer from accidents than railroad or steamship locomotion, and travel will be greatly cheapened, seeing that no roadbed will have to be kept up, and no wear and tear of machinery.

After reading this, the reader is likely to say, as we do—*Perhaps.*

Temperance Notes.

—Alcohol is universally ranked among poisons by physiologists, chemists, physicians and all who have experimented, studied and written upon the subject.

—A woman who made her thirtieth appearance for drunkenness before the Sheffield Eng. magistrates asked them if they objected to people getting drunk why they issued licences for the sale of intoxicants.

—The society for the abolition of strong drink in Holland certifies that in a population of 3,500,000, there are thirty-five thousand licences for the sale of liquor annually granted. Computing two-thirds of the population to be women and children, there is a saloon to every thirty-three men.

—Let not those who labor in the temperance cause suppose that their efforts are vain though fruit does not at once appear. We are creating a healthy, moral atmosphere in which the drunkard, the drunkard maker, the swindler, the thief, the adulterer, cannot thrive. A sober virtuous Christian people will learn to insist on the purity and honesty of all their representatives and public servants. Sin is a reproach to any people.

—Every one knows that for one man who is arrested for drunkenness there are at least ten—and often twenty—who go home intoxicated. In London there are 14,000 drink-shops, and every year 20,000 persons are arrested for drunkenness. In the United Kingdom there are 190,000 public houses, and every year they are 200,000 arrests for drunkenness. If we allow six drunkards to each house, or five habitual drunkards for one arrested for drunkenness, we should arrive at a total of a million adults who are more or less prisoners of the publican.

—We have in hand a circular of a brewing company setting forth that in a single year they put forth 700,000 barrels of beer. The circular goes on to say that this represents 21,700,000 gallons, 173,000,000 pints, 520,800,000 glasses. It might have gone on to state, although it did not, that these 520,800,000 glasses produced 520,800 drunks, 5,208 fights, 520 wife-beatings, 52 divorces, 5 murders, and incalculable misery in 10,000 families. No wonder that crime runs riot, divorces multiply, pauperism spreads and taxes climb when such institutions boast of their prosperity.

—One of the recent pathetic incidents connected with intemperance in New York was the death of an old man in tattered garments, with one of his feet bare, and wearing neither hat nor coat. He was found on a recent cold morning, dead, sitting on a beer-keg. Many had passed him sitting in that position, when a policeman tried to arouse the unconscious figure, and discovered that he was dead. What a pitiable end, indeed, for an old man to come to, brought to it through the degrading agency of strong drink. How different, indeed, would have been his life and death could he have been pledged in early youth to total abstinence from intoxicants.

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.]

Concerning the Woman Who does not Believe in Foreign Missions.

She sits by your side in church; she is a member of our church; in every congregation where I visit she is to be found. In fact, she is a very ubiquitous personage. What is the matter with her? Perhaps she was so unfortunate in early life as to be reared without Christian training; and, coming into the kingdom in middle life, the habits of thought of earlier years cling about this truly regenerated soul like weighted garments, proving a sad hindrance to spiritual development.

Perhaps she is of a temperament which makes it difficult to be interested in what she cannot see; so her attention is occupied by the needs of fallen, distressed humanity near at hand. It used to seem to me that those who do not believe in foreign missions seldom do much for home missions, and make the home needs an

excuse for shirking the responsibility of far-away work. While this is true to a great extent, still in a multitude of cases it is not true; and facts compel me to confess that I have sometimes passed unjust judgment. When a woman of moderate means gave me twenty-five dollars for home missions, asserting that she was "domestic in her benevolences," and was not interested in the foreign work, I received the money with mingled pleasure and regret, and marveled that when one hand gave so cheerfully and freely, the other should remain closed. It is doubtless true, however, that the larger part of the contributions for foreign missions come from those purses which also replenish the treasury of the Home Missionary Society.

Perhaps this uninterested sister is ignorant of the present foreign situation, with its opportunities and demands. Ignorant, did you say? How can you apply the word "ignorant" to that cultured woman who delves into the ancient literature of Greece and Rome, and also keeps abreast with modern literature?

Interest follows close after knowledge in these matters, and if our sister would read our missionary magazines she would soon become well informed. If she would! But it is almost as difficult to induce this cultured woman of Grand Avenue Church to read these things as it is to persuade the heathen to listen to the Gospel. Are not both ignorant? Sometimes she belongs to the benevolent society. Once she planned a "missionary evening," and desiring to pattern after worldly entertainments, she arranged "progressive euchre" as a part of the program.

"Tell it not in Gath." Was it a missionary spirit or a desire to have a good time that inspired the occasion? So I was not surprised when she looked at her flaxen-haired little boy, and said, "My son shall never go as a foreign missionary if I can hinder it." Probably she can hinder it; but whether she will be able to prevent her son from growing into a worldly, perhaps dissipated, manhood, is not so certain.

What shall we do with this Christian woman who does not believe in foreign missions? Argument will avail but little; even when a "live missionary" brings a plea direct from the field, she turns a deaf ear and her soul grows smaller. Impatience and severity will not win her. Perhaps sometime there will come a dark day when her dead will be buried out of her sight, and her arms will be empty, when her softened heart will be filled with a mighty longing for the unsaved. Christ died for her and her heathen sister; so we will pray for her and love her still.—*The Advance.*

The biography of woman in Eastern lands:

- Unwelcome at birth;
- Untaught in childhood;
- Uncherished in widowhood;
- Unprotected in old age;
- Unlamented when dead.—*Missionary Review.*

National Greetings.

"How can you?" Swedish. "How do you do?" Dutch. "How do you stand?" Italian. "Go with God, Senor." Spanish. How do you live on?" Russian. "How do you persevere?" Egyptian. "How do you have yourself?" Polish. "How do you find yourself?" German. "Thank God, how are you?" Arabian. "May thy shadow never grow less." Persian. "How do you carry yourself?" French. "How do you do?" English and American. "Be under the guard of God." The Ottomans. "How is your stomach? Have you eaten your rice?" Chinese.

The Largest Sail Ship Afloat.

She is the French five-master, "France." *Chambers' Journal* thus describes her:

The French five-master, "France," is the largest sail vessel afloat. She was launched in September, 1890, at Partick. Her dimensions are as follows: Length, 361 feet; breadth, 49 feet; depth, 26 feet. Her net register tonnage is 3,624, with a sail area of 49,000 square feet; and not long since she carried an enormous cargo of 5,900 tons of coal on her maiden passage from Barry to Rio de Janeiro, without mishap after thirty-two days' sail, or within one day of the fastest passage on record. She is square rigged on

four masts, but carries fore-and-aft canvas on the fifth mast. Her masts are only 160 feet high; nevertheless, she looks heavily sparred. This Leviathan is fitted with a cellular double bottom, and can carry 2,000 tons of water ballast, thus reducing the expense of ballasting to a minimum.

PRECIOUS. *Shade*, a boy less than six years old, who lives in Union County, Iowa, is said to be the most precocious intellectual prodigy of the country. A few days ago he sat reading a large volume, and by request read the one hundredth psalm. Moving in a dignified and scholarly manner, he took his Bible, sat down in his chair, crossed his legs, as some mature person might, and read with perfect emphasis and inflection. Before he attained his fourth year, he had completed the reading of the New Testament; and, at five years and eight months of age, he had read the entire Bible, and that day he assisted his uncle, a minister, in the services, reading from the pulpit before an audience the third chapter of Daniel. His education has been received from the teaching of his mother, and he has never attended school. He does not enjoy romping and childish sports; and, in order to have him take outdoor exercise, his parents take away his books and hid them.

It is said that half the tin of the world is exported from the Malay Peninsula, when mining is carried on almost exclusively by the Chinese. The mining is that of floor tin; and the metal is taken from the low lands near the mountains, where it is found in pockets ten to twenty feet or more below the surface.

Among Exchanges.

IF THEY KNEW.

If the men between the ages of thirty-five and sixty-five knew as much as the men (?) between the ages of fifteen and twenty-five think they do, would not this be a mighty knowing age?—*Telescope.*

JUST SO.

The Christian that ain't some perticler good to some perticler church ain't no more worth paying taxes on than the dog that'll trot under one waggin just as well as any other.—*Farmer John in Golden Rule.*

THE LATEST.

The Supreme Court of Michigan has granted a new trial to "Buck" Murray, a hardened criminal, convicted of murder. No doubt was raised as to his guilt, and the only ground for a new trial was that the lower court ordered no one to come into the courtroom who was "disorderly or uncleanly." It was decided that this was depriving him of a "public trial!"—*Western Paper.*

SECLAR VS. RELIGIOUS.

Secular newspapers are valuable, but one may overload his mind with their contents, and in that case the effect is not wholesome. A story has recently been published of a man who had almost yielded to despair over the condition of the world, and it was discovered that he read four morning and two evening dailies, but neither read a religious paper nor the Bible. One who reads six dailies regularly has no time to read anything else, nor can he have any taste for the best kind of literature. His mind is kept in a whirl of excitement by the accounts of fires, floods, railroad accidents, murders, suicides, defalcations, and all sorts of crimes and calamities. The attitude of political parties toward the operations of the political party which they oppose tends to awaken suspicion, to destroy confidence and respect for humanity, and produce despair. Read the dailies, but not so as to crowd out other reading. Let the chief mental diet be something more substantial.—*N. Y. Advocate.*

SPOILED PRAYER MEETINGS.

Prayer meetings are often rendered unprofitable, and sometimes entirely broken up, by little things. Long prayers and long speeches sometimes make a dull and tedious meeting. It is difficult to break up this habit. Few men can be persuaded that their prayers are too long. We have known a brother to listen to an earnest exhortation from the pastor to make short prayers, and then kneel down and pray till every one in the room had become weary. It is often the case that the duller prayers are longest. The petitioner appears to hold on in hope of striking a vein of fervor and spiritual life. Old stereotyped prayers, which have been repeated until they have lost their power and become stale, are the bane of a prayer-meeting. Throw away old prayers, lay aside cant phrases, and ask for what is needed at the moment in the simplest language.—*N. Y. Advocate.*

MUST NOT SHRINK.

The young man who would become a truly successful preacher must not shrink from being criticised and found fault with. These vexations are truly "a part of the business," and greatly aid in making him "a polished shaft" if properly born.—*Telescope.*