

Religious Intelligencer.

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

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WHOLE No. 1989

Important Notices.

Statements of account have recently been sent to several hundred subscribers. We would gladly have avoided sending these statements, but payments have been so slow that it became an absolute necessity to directly call the attention of those in arrears to the fact, and urge immediate payment.

Already some responses have been received. We thank those who have been so prompt.

But we need to hear from every one and at once.

We trust that every subscriber who has delayed payment will now make an earnest effort to pay. The money due is all needed to meet the expenses of publishing, and is needed without further delay. Let each one do his part promptly.

NOTES AND GLEANINGS.

THE PROHIBITION STATES seem determined to stand by their course even in national affairs. The Kentucky legislature has voted \$100,000 to the World's Fair with conditions, opposing liquor selling and Sunday opening.

IT HAD BEEN PROPOSED to erect a monument in Westminster Abbey to James Russell Lowell, but owing to the scantiness of unoccupied space the Dean has been compelled to decline to find room for it. Recognizing, however, Lowell's worth as a poet and a man, a stained glass window will be placed in the Chapel House in his honour.

THE ACTION and method of Rev. Dr. Parkhurst in trying to suppress vice in New York has met with some hostile criticism, but not one of the critics is able to suggest a better, or in fact, any other method. Such critics, perhaps themselves not untainted, never have a suggestion to make. The "Christian at Work," a paper strong for right, is in hearty sympathy with the whole action of Mr. Parkhurst.

FRANCE AND RUSSIA are still actively jealous of England's occupation of Egypt as was shown at the recent investment of the new Khedive. This is the story of the intrigue.

The Sultan of Turkey, acting under Russian and French advice, attempted a trick in the investment of the new Khedive of Egypt. Egypt and the Sinai peninsula nominally belong to Turkey, and the Khedive rules by his permission. The Sultan's control, however, amounts to little, except that each new Khedive is obliged to seek a "fireman of investiture," a sort of charter, by which he rules during his life. In the investment of the new Sultan the British minister refused to allow the Khedive to accept the fireman without British inspection, when it was found to materially limit the territory over which the Khedive is to rule. The British and Italian ambassadors at once telegraphed the Sultan that the fireman must be corrected so as to include all the territory claimed by the present Khedive's father. The Sultan at once replied that the instrument would be modified, and it turned out that the Turkish ambassador had two firemen in his pocket, with instructions to use the first, if possible, but if not, to offer the second, which included all England asked. While the Khedive thus becomes the nominal ruler of Egypt, the country is actually controlled by England, through its advice to the Khedive. Any real effort on the part of Turkey to secure control of any portion of the country would doubtless be met by a British army.

PROF. TATTEN, the soothsayer and Prophet of Yale University, not long since, fixed the date of the end of the world for April 19th, 1892. That date has come and gone now without anything in particular to distinguish it from other days which are left unnoticed and neglected by the learned Professor. The probability is that Prof. Tatten will himself fall into the "sear and yellow leaf" long before this orb of earth.

HOW INCONSISTENT some men become in their violent opposition to Prohibitory enactment is well shown in the following note from the Christian Standard.

Here is a leading city daily which has been ridiculing and opposing all prohibitory legislation because it is impracticable, and has been as constantly advocating license, because it is so easily enforced and effectual in regulating the liquor traffic, giving it

self away in this innocent fashion: "It is a well-known fact that there are more than a hundred places now selling liquor at retail without a license in this city." Prohibition never made a worse record than that even in an Iowa river town.

The *Journal & Messenger* says that with the laying of the telegraph line from Pekin to Kiachta, which is likely to be an accomplished fact in the near future, the actual extension of the wires to Yunnan Providence, the pushing of the Tonkin and British Berma lines toward the Chinese frontier together with the oceanic cable reaching forth to the Sunrise Empire, and south and east to India and Europe, China will soon be united with bands of steel to the brotherhood of nations. It is destiny; it is the decree of Providence.

IN THE RECENT earth-quake in Japan the number of killed is estimated at 10,000 and the crippled at 15,000. The area violently upheaved was about 4,400 square miles and about twice that area was palpably shaken. It is said that the whole aspect of the shaken district is changed. Japan has on an average about 500 earthquakes per year but not often of similar magnitude to this recent one.

STARTLING!

The *American Magazine of Foreign Literature* for February, 1892, has an article from the *Fortnightly Review*, that is calculated to well-nigh freeze the blood in the veins of every civilized reader. It is entitled "Phases of Crime in Paris," and was written by Hughes Le Roux. It is based upon observations and statistics made by Dr. Paul Garnier, head physician in the Depot Infirmary of Paris. The following excerpt furnishes food for sober thought, and ground for much anxiety and alarm: "Sad indeed is the conclusion arrived at by his medical experience. His figures prove that during the last sixteen years (from 1872 to 1888) lunacy has increased in Paris in the proportion of thirty per cent. This increase is due to the fact that two morbid types, *general paralysis* and *alcoholic insanity*, are spreading to an alarming extent. The progress of alcoholic insanity has been so rapid that the evil is now twice as prevalent as it was fifteen years ago. Almost a third of the lunacy cases observed at the Depot Infirmary are due to this disease, and every day declares itself more violently, and with a more marked homicidal tendency. The accomplices of two-thirds of the crimes committed, upon whom the criminals themselves throw the responsibility of their evil deeds, and when the police never succeed in discovering, exists. That accomplice is alcohol! It visits upon the child the sins of the father, and engenders in the following generation homicidal instincts. During the last ten years the criminal type has entered on a new phase. Before that date the assassin was generally a man in the vigor of his strength and manhood; he had tasted life in all its forms. Such were Tropmann, Prado, Eyraud, Pranzini. Nowadays it is the youth of barely twenty who murders. The jurymen hesitate to condemn him on account of his youth, although they are horrified at his cold-blooded ferocity, and at the absence of moral sense which he displays."

In view of these alarming statistical facts, what is to be thought and said of the civilization of any people who legalize the dram shop? The experience and observation of Dr. Garnier agree with the experience and observation of every competent physiologist who has ever carefully examined the subject. The time for argumentation as to the evil effects of alcohol, as a matter of fact, has gone by. A few years ago about one hundred and twenty-five physicians of New York City and vicinity, including leading representatives of the principal schools of medicine in this country, signed the following statement: "We are of the opinion that the use of alcoholic liquor as a beverage is productive of a large amount of physical disease; that it entails diseased appetites upon offspring; and that it is the cause of a large per centage of the crime and pauperism of our cities and country."

Just think of it! Alcoholic insanity increasing, according to the figures of Dr. Garnier, at the rate of one hundred per cent. in fifteen years!" "Almost a third of the lunacy cases observed at the Depot Infirmary are due to this disease!" We legalize that which murders the human mind, and

then insult common sense by boasting of our advanced civilization! It is a shame! Here we are on the verge of the twentieth century, with the experience of the past and the painful facts of the present, as regards the results of the liquor traffic, piled up before us like mountains piled upon mountains, and still making it legally right for men to engage in that which destroys men, women and children, bodily, financially, morally, physically, mentally, spiritually, and fills the land with pauperism and crime of every description. *Such conduct would disgrace the savages!*

Not only does liquor turn men into fools and lunatics, it turns them into murderers and begetters of murderers? Read and consider the following startling case as recorded in the article quoted from above:

"A few months ago I was present in Dr. Garnier's consulting-room watching the prisoners from the Depot filing past. We were informed that a child had been brought by its parents to be examined. These people were shown in. They belonged to the respectable working class, and were quiet and well-mannered. The man was the driver of a dray belonging to one of the railway stations, and had all the appearance of a stalwart working man. The boy was barely six years old. He had an intelligent, rather pretty, face, and was neatly dressed.

"See here, Monsieur le Docteur," said the father, "we have brought you our boy. He alarms us. He is no fool; he begins to read. They are satisfied with him at his school, but we cannot help thinking he must be insane, for he wants to murder his little brother, a child of two years old. The other day he nearly succeeded in doing so. I arrived just in time to snatch my razor from his hand."

"The boy stood listening with indifference and without hanging his head. The Doctor drew the child kindly toward him and inquired:

"Is it true that you wish to hurt your little brother?"

"With perfect composure the little one replied:

"I will kill him—yes, yes—I will kill him."

"The Doctor glanced at the father and asked, in a low voice:

"Do you drink?"

"The wife exclaimed, indignantly:

"He, sir! Why he never enters a public house, and has never come home drunk."

"They were quite sincere. Nevertheless the Doctor said:

"Stretch out your arm."

"The man obeyed; his hand trembled. Had these people told lies, then, in stating that the man had never come home the worse for drink? No; but all through the day, wherever he had called to leave a package, the people of the house had given him something to drink for his trouble. He had become a drunkard without knowing it, and the poison that had entered his blood was at this moment filling the head of his little child with the dreams of an assassin."

This presents a spectacle that it is simply awful to contemplate. Governments license the sale of liquor. It is sold, and a man drinks it, and begets a child who is born with the instincts of a hardened murderer! It is enough to make one's head go round to think upon such a thing; and yet the picture is true to life—it is taken from real life.

Is there no way of getting the attention of our legislators to this enormous evil and crime? For several years fruitless efforts have been made to get the Congress of the United States to appoint a Commission to examine and report upon the effects of liquor on the health and other material interests of the people of this country. In the name of God, why is this? In the name of suffering humanity, why is it that legislative bodies that look after the health of cattle, appoint food inspectors, etc., can not be induced to look into that which is turning scores of our people into paupers, lunatics and murderers—that which is literally breeding murderers? Will some statesman answer?—*Cincinnati Standard.*

—The 35,000 native Christians in China gave \$44,000 last year for the spread of the gospel in their own land. That is, every native convert gave one dollar and twenty-five cents for mission work. Yet there are multitudes in Christian America that did not do so well.

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.]

A Moslem Convert.

Some time ago there was a young Mohammedan, the son of a great Mohammedan saint and doctor, who had great anxiety of soul because of him. He read the Koran through and through without finding light, when he found in it an expression referring to the Old Testament and the New Testament. The thought came into this young man's heart, "If I can only get possession of a Bible, I might get what I need." Most wonderfully, two ladies happened to be in the district, and he got what he wanted. He began with the Gospel of St. John, and by the time he had got to the third chapter he was a free man and desirous of throwing off Mohammedism. When his father heard of it he offered a reward of five hundred rupees to any one who would kill his son, and two hundred to any one who would bring him the good news. For two years I had to watch over that young man, and then his father found him, and with much difficulty we managed to keep him safe. At last the old man went back with a New Testament. A year after he came and said that he had brought together other mullahs and had read it to them. He also said, "We have noticed that this is the New Testament; that shows me that there must also be an Old Testament; and they have sent me to get an Old Testament." I had the pleasure of giving him one; and later on he came with his son, and said, "The God of my son, whom I wished to murder, is now my God; baptize me in the faith of Christ."—*Dr. Clarke in Missionary Review.*

THE INFLUENCE OF A LIFE.

Woman, as the head of the household, may seem to have a narrow sphere, but here is the center of all organization, society and government—the initial point of influence and power. A writer for the *Rural New Yorker* says: "It may be but a small world of home that may be influenced by our courage and effort; it may be that the circles of our influence shall widen and touch hundreds of hearts. The cumulative power of a good deed is something upon which we do not meditate often enough. It carries a train of constantly increasing good deeds on and on as long as time shall last. And although our own lives may be apparently insignificant, we may touch with our little helpful act some life that will sway hundreds of other lives. Shall not then some of the credit of all the good that all these lives may do be ours? Who can think of it without a thrill of earnest desire to make use of all opportunities, and of exultation at the possibilities of a life."

A HERITAGE OF IGNORANCE.

The vast population of India has received a heritage of ignorance. India's women and girls have been kept in illiteracy for a thousand years. As late as 1881 only seventy thousand out of this total female population of over a hundred millions were able to read and write. Even now, there are nearly three millions of girls untaught in the Madras Presidency alone. But the whole are now approachable by the women of Christendom. No class of this population need help more, and none are more glad to receive it, than the widows. Probably one in six of the female population of all ages is a widow. The women of Christendom have learned much about the method of approach to these women, and the call for workers in this special department is imperative. Opportunities to reach the women with the gospel are now widespread. Never were these people thrown so pleadingly before the Christian world as now.

—In 1851 there were ninety-one thousand Christians in India. This year the Christians are nearly two million in number.

—A missionary in China calculates that four hundred millions of dollars are spent annually in China for idolatrous purposes.

"Do you want to know what breaks down our missionaries?" writes one now home from Brazil. "It is not so much the actual work they see left undone for lack of a sufficient corps of workers. They are bowed down because, while there is bread and to spare in the Father's house, thousands of souls are starving for want of messengers to dispense it."

Churches in Berlin.

Berlin has for its 80,000 Jews, 8 synagogues; for its 120,000 Catholics, 10 churches and chapels; for its 1,250,000 Protestants, 44 churches and chapels, namely, 32 parochial and six "personal" congregations. In addition there are 36 places where public Protestant services are held each Sunday. Of these 20 are in institutions of various kinds, the remainder are the gathering places of the City Mission Society. In recent months seven new churches have been begun, of which, however, three are to take the places of existing churches. The actual additions to the churches are then only four. The means for these new structures have either been given or promised by the Church Erection Society, or by the City or State Government, or by the District Synod. Since 1888 the number of clergymen in the city has been increased by twenty per cent., but is still far from being large enough. The congregations themselves, and not the Government, pay these additional men. The actual facts, however, are, that if it had not been for the personal intervention of the Emperor and the Empress probably not a single one of these seven new churches would now be in process of erection. Permission to build a new church in Berlin can be secured only when the proposal is passed upon favorably by no fewer than nineteen official bodies and persons—an unheard of amount of red tape! Many of these bodies and persons, that range from the Emperor down to the sanitary police, are antagonistic to the interests of the Church, and, if possible, delay or defeat such projects. In this way, only recently, two of the best building places in the city were lost to the Protestants and secured by the Catholics. The largest of the new churches has a seating capacity of 2,000.

An interesting instance of the efficacy of the London-Paris telephone occurred the other day. The Salvation Army band were marching, playing the "Marseillaise." The windows were thrown open, and the attendant at the Paris end was asked if he could hear anything. "Yes, I can hear a band playing the 'Marseillaise.'" That a band of music playing in the streets of London could be plainly distinguished in Paris is we think, a sufficiently striking marvel of the nineteenth century science.—*Electrical Engineer.*

Britain in India.

It is about impossible to believe that Great Britain rules her East India possessions—vast as they are—with an army of only 60,000 men. If the natives were to engage in anything like concerted action of a hostile character, they could in one day sweep this force out of the country. But it is not even remotely likely that anything of the sort will ever take place. Exceptional facts to the contrary, British rule has been of incalculable advantage to India, and the true friends of mankind must hope that it may be indefinitely prolonged. Have our readers paid any attention to the increase of population in that wonderful country? The decennial census taken in 1891 shows a grand total of 289,000,000. This is a gain of 36,000,000 since 1881. Such figures, representing a number of souls equal to almost the entire population of Italy or of France, quite stagger us. How are all these teeming millions to be fed and clothed? Do the facts confirm the theory of Malthus, that the multiplication of mouths to be fed is more rapid than the increase of means for feeding them? Fortunately it is not so. The productive power of the country is more than keeping pace with the growth of the population. The building of new lines of railroad, the opening up of new stretches of agricultural and the adoption of scientific methods of forestry and irrigation, are all hopeful features of the situation. India is now exporting vast quantities of rice and wheat. As far as the latter commodity is concerned, she is one of the chief competitors of the United States in the markets of the world.

A LAND WITHOUT PRISONS.—Iceland is a model country, there being neither prisons, soldiers, drunkenness nor police. Colonized in 874, it soon after became independent, and its isolated position, far away from the beaten track of ocean commerce, has preserved its population from many of the vices which seem almost inseparable from a high state of commercial prosperity and extensive intercourse with the rest of mankind. The Icelanders are a hospitable, genial people in spite of the hardships of their life and though they live on a volcanic island within the Arctic zone and their existence is a continual struggle for bread, they preserve so much kindness of disposition as to commend themselves to the respect and admiration of even the most casual visitor.—*The Democrat.*

TOTAL ECLIPSES OF THE SUN.—Every year there must be two eclipses of the sun, and there may be five. These are partial eclipses, however, except in the comparatively rare case in which the moon passes nearly centrally over the sun's disk and produces a total obscuration of his light. Since the invention of the spectroscope, in 1860, there have been barely a score of total eclipses, and a number of these could not be observed because the belt of totality fell at the earth's polar regions or upon the oceans. The belt of totality is a narrow strip—never more than one hundred and seventy miles wide—where the point of the moon's shadow falls upon the earth. Total eclipses rarely recur, therefore, at the same point of the earth. At London, for example, there has been no total eclipse since the year 1140 except that of 1715, and there will be none during the next century.—*April Century.*

Among Exchanges.

SHOULD HAVE CHARACTER. No one should be allowed to teach in school whose moral character and associations are not good. It is not necessary that teachers should profess Christianity but it is necessary that in all matters essential to good citizenship that should be examples to their pupils.—*Christian Advocate.*

NOVELS. Minister Phelps says that the sensational novel is at the bottom of most of the modern divorces. His theory is that a woman who becomes absorbed in this kind of literature judges all men by the impossible heroes of fiction, and her husband suffers in the comparison. He is destitute of the poetic and romantic qualities she has learned to admire; and when she begins to feel in this way, some stranger comes along, when her heated imagination transforms into a hero, and the result is a divorce.—*Telescope.*

RIGNESS. Surely Canada is old enough now to have outlived the vulgar notion that large and good mean the same thing. If our reading population judge papers and books mainly by their size, the schools the Legislatures were boasting about last week and voting large sums of money for cannot be doing much good work. We have all laughed at the Michigan man who wanted a library to match the carpet. He was just as intelligent as the people who judge newspapers by their size. Open-mouthed admiration of bigness is one of the vulgar things we learned from our neighbours across the line. They are getting over the weakness and so should we.—*Presbyterian.*

ABOUT DANCING. A young lady wants to know whether it is wrong to dance. This is what the Word of God says about it: "Whether ye eat or drink or whatsoever ye do [that covers dancing], do all to the glory of God." (1 Cor. 10: 31).—*Yes, leyan.*

INFLUENTIAL MEMBERS. One of our periodicals lately had an address to "Influential Members of Churches." Every member is influential. No one can live without exerting some influence, and very often those who are "at ease in Zion," by their lukewarmness and worldliness, are the most influential members a church possesses.—*Inquirer.*

DON'T DO IT. It is not wise to build churches on leased ground, or on ground the deed of which has a reversion clause. A deed of this latter character is no better than a lease, and prevents the property from being sold if the church should desire to dispose of it for any reason. When Mr. Spurgeon projected the building of the Metropolitan Tabernacle he sagaciously refused to have anything to do with a site that was not freehold. The builders of the church in which Dr. Donald Fraser ministered were less farsighted. They put up a building which cost \$22,000 on leasehold ground, and have to pay \$430 per annum on ground rent. This is a heavy millstone to hang round the neck of even a wealthy church whose minister is dependent upon seat rents.—*Telescope.*