

Religious Intelligencer.

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

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NOTES AND GLEANINGS.

THERE ARE SEVEN communitarian societies in the United States, of which the Shaker Society is the chief. They have 1,728 members. Altogether there are 2,176 persons in the "all-things-in-common" organizations.

MINNESOTA has now a regularly appointed agent of the state to look after and secure employment for released convicts. This is a humane movement, and may save many an unfortunate from drifting again into crime.

DR. TALMAGE'S CHURCH has much financial difficulty. Mortgagees and threatened foreclosures cannot add much to the comfort of the preacher or the deficiency of the church. It seems pretty clear that Dr. Talmage's congregation, whatever else it may be and do, has not yet learned how to pay liberally for religious purposes.

REFUGEES from the famine districts in Russia have been pouring into St. Petersburg by the thousands. The Prefect quarters them upon the citizens with orders to furnish them food and shelter. The Government has voted an additional sum of 60,000,000 rubles—\$45,000,000—for relief, and seems to begin to realize the magnitude of the disaster and something of its responsibility. An extensive system of public works has been planned for the benefit of the unemployed. While these things are creditable to Russia, the calamity is so great as to leave room for the help of all Christendom.

PEOPLE who do not know much about it, wonder sometimes why the Negroes in the South, beginning with nothing, get on so faster. Perhaps they might wonder that poor people make any progress at all in some States, considering the way taxes are laid. In Tennessee, for example, the tax is put not simply on wealth but on labour itself. A poor widow who takes a boarder is charged by the State two dollars a room; a meat shop pays \$50 a year; a fruit stand \$10; a sewing machine dealer \$75; an insurance agent \$100; an old clothes cleaner \$10; a machine shop \$50; a horse trader \$25; a feather cleaner \$25; a delivery push-cart \$3; a grocery a percentage on business, and every unspecified buyer and seller of anything except newspapers, \$50. Then comes a poll tax of \$3, which is a condition of voting. Poor people are not considered in such taxes.

AUSTRALIA and the Argentine Republic started in their career as civilized countries at about the same time. They are about the same size, and have nearly the same population. But their progress has differed greatly. The "Journal & Messenger" says,—"Australia now has a public revenue of \$146,000,000, while the Argentine has only \$22,000,000. Australia has a foreign commerce of \$661,000,000, and the other of only \$171,000,000. The Australian debt is greater, but the country has nearly ten times as much to show for it in the way of harbors, railways and permanent public improvements. Australia spends \$11,000,000 a year on her public schools, and the Argentine only \$2,600,000. Australia is an English Protestant civilization, while the Argentine Republic is Roman Catholic."

THE AGITATION against the opium trade, says a Scotch paper, is being carried on with a keenness which shows how much the hearts of those who know about it are engaged in its overthrow. Last month three whole days were spent in London in prayer for the arresting of the evil, and literature of an exciting kind is being scattered broadcast. It is evident that the Government is beginning to feel the pressure that is being put upon it, and are not indisposed to compromise. To politicians the financial difficulty is the most serious one, but this difficulty appears to be exaggerated. It is calculated that a subsidy of ten millions, spread over seven years, would settle the business. That seems a wonderfully small sum to secure our deliverance from complicity in a wrong which is ruining such multitudes of people.

THE CONGRESS of the United States is being petitioned to make such changes in spelling as will drop silent letters in the printing of Government

documents. The six rules of spelling recommended by the Philological Society are these:

1. Drop *ue* at the end of words like dialogue, catalogue, etc. where the preceding vowel is short. Thus spell demagog, epilog, synagog, etc.
2. Drop final *e* in such words as definite, infinite, favorite, etc. where the preceding vowel is short. Thus spell opposit, preterit, hypocrit, requisit, etc.
3. Drop final *te* in words like quartette, coquette, cigarette, etc. Thus spell cigaret, roset, epaulet, vedet, gazet, etc.
4. Drop final *me* in words like programme. Thus spell program, oriflam, gram, etc.
5. Change *ph* to *f* in words like phantom, telegraph, phase, etc. Thus spell alphabet, paragraph, philosophy, fonetic, fotograf, etc.
6. Substitute *e* for the diphthongs *ae* and *oe* when they have the sound of that letter. Thus spell eolian, esthetic, diarrhoea, subpena, esofagus, atheneum, etc.

A Rapidly Growing Empire.

Few persons understand that the British empire is growing in extent more rapidly at this time than in any other period of the world's history. A comparison of the Statesman's year book statistics for 1881 shows that the area of British possessions, dependencies, protectorates, and "spheres of influence" has increased almost exactly fifty per cent. in ten years. The exact area as given in the year book of 1882 was 7,647,000 English square miles. The area in 1891 according to the last year book is 11,475,057 square miles. It should, however, be explained that the older year book contains a few mistakes, the correction of which accounts for a portion of the increased area. The area of Canada in the year book of 1882 was nearly 100,000 square miles below the mark. The Newfoundland section of Labrador was omitted. On the other hand the dimensions of Australia have been reduced in the latter statement by 75,000 square miles.

The territory added to the sphere of British control during the ten years is chiefly in Africa, but a considerable extension of jurisdiction has been made in Asia and Australia. In the last named region British New Guinea, with an area of 90,000 square miles, has been proclaimed. In Asia, British India proper has been extended to take in Upper Burma. The number and extent of the feudatory states in the neighborhood of India is increased. British India, according to the year book of 1892, includes 1,068,314 square miles of British territory, and 731,944 square miles of feudatory states. By the statement of ten years before, 902,500 square miles were under British administration, and the extent of feudatory states was 575,193 square miles. This shows a gain of 323,000 square miles in the sphere of British control in Asia.

The area of British possessions proper in Africa has not greatly changed during the past ten years. It is when we come to consider British protectorates and spheres of influence that the advance is made apparent. There is a difference between a dependency and a sphere of influence. The latter term indicates a less degree of ownership than a protectorate. In Africa, however, the distinction can only be temporary. Theoretically the country belongs to the native rulers and their people, the same as it always did. Agreements are made with them for the privilege of constructing a railway, making an expedition, or establishing a trading post. But, as a practical matter, the railway surveys go on, posts are established, trade is opened up, slavery is abolished, while all the time the native chiefs at heart prefer that matters should remain as they are. The development of the trade and resources of the country by British trading companies must of necessity bring in and perpetuate British rule. British organization, and if need be British force will protect the investments made and interests established in Africa, and so it will only be a question of time until the sphere of control becomes a protectorate, a dependency, and finally an integral portion of the nation under the name of a colony, a federation, or an empire.

According to the year book of 1882, the sphere of British control in Africa included the Cape of Good Hope, with dependencies, with an area of 347,855 square miles, Natal with 18,750, Gold

Coast 6,000, Lagos 5,000, together with Ascension, St. Helena, Mauritius and Sierra Leone, whose total area was about 1,200 square miles. In January 1892, according to a table prepared by Mr. E. G. Ravenstein, British Guinea included 354,900 square miles. This section is on the east coast north of the equator. It includes the Gold Coast and Sierra Leone, but takes in an immense region along the valley of the Niger and its tributaries. The Niger territories are governed by the Royal Niger Company, which was chartered six years ago, but had been in existence under other names some years before. The company secured control over the richest part of the Soudan region, by making 300 treaties with native authorities. In respect to this district treaties of delimitation were made by Great Britain with Germany in 1886 and with France in 1890.

British South Africa has extended to an area of 959,480 square miles. Bechuanaland (170,000 square miles) was annexed in 1885, part as a crown colony and part as a dependency. This region is directly north of Cape Colony and entirely inland. The Portuguese occupy the eastern, and the Germans the western coast north of Cape Colony. Between these and still north of Bechuanaland lies an immense territory now known as British Zambesia. Portions of this territory, called Matabeleland and Mashonaland, were in 1888 declared to be under British control, and placed under the government of the British South Africa Company. This corporation pushed railways into the country, established trading posts and worked its way northward, securing concessions from the chiefs. Finally the central region up to the Congo county was declared to be in the British sphere. From 1889 to 1892 no less than 520,000 square miles in southern Africa passed under British control.

The East African operations were still more extensive. The forward movement there also was promoted by a company. This concern is known as the British East Africa Company. The company obtained its first concession, which was on the Zanzibar coast, in 1888. Other concessions from the Sultan of Zanzibar followed, until last year the company was in occupation of 400 miles of the coast line, the northern limit being near the equator. German traders were the southern neighbors of the company, and in the process of time came an Anglo-German agreement of partition. The territory which has passed under British influence, extends from the coastline mentioned, somewhat increasing in width, in a north-westerly direction, extending beyond the valley of the Upper Nile, reaching northward to Upper Egypt, and touching the desert of Sahara. Her majesty's East African sphere of control is said to include 1,256,000 square miles.

The total extent of British Africa is estimated to be 2,570,000 square miles. The only other European country which controls a million square miles of Africa is France, which owns the desert Sahara, 1,550,000 square miles, and 1,400,000 square miles besides, including Algeria, part of Guinea, part of Congo and Madagascar.

The following table gives the present extent of British influence in the world, and the supposed population of the empire:

	Area Sq. Miles.	Population
Europe	121,600	38,679,670
India	1,800,258	284,652,336
Asia (besides India)	26,970	3,784,010
Asia (protectorates, etc.)	129,400	1,112,000
Africa	3,111,858	4,963,062
Africa (protectorates)	2,120,000	35,000,000
America	3,768,118	6,708,042
Australia	3,175,153	4,416,843
Total	11,475,057	378,725,857

According to this statement the British Empire includes more than one-fifth of the earth's surface and contains more than one-fourth of the population of the world. Ten years ago the Statesman's year book made the triumphant announcement that the colonies and dependencies embraced one-seventh of the land surface of the globe.—*The Sun*.

The Salvation Army publishes thirty-one weekly newspapers and five monthly magazines in thirty-seven different colonies and countries, with a total annual circulation of 45,000,000 copies.

Canadian Newspapers.

The progress made by the British North American provinces since they became a Confederation is in no way more strikingly illustrated than in the advance made by the Press.

Many highly instructive facts bearing on the progress of Canadian newspapers appear in a new hand-book of the Canadian Press just issued by A. McKim & Co., Newspaper Advertising Agents, Montreal, to whose enterprise we are indebted for the first Directory of Canadian newspapers that at all approaches completeness.

It is certainly true that Canada had a newspaper directory of its own, instead of looking to foreign sources for information of its press, and the work just issued reflects credit upon the skill and enterprise of the publishers. It has over 200 more papers than are reported in any other directory, and the information is very comprehensive indeed.

Mr. Anson McKim, the proprietor of the Advertising Agency from which this work is issued, has been in the advertising business about 13 years.

It is now less than 4 years since he opened out in the Newspaper Advertising Agency business in Montreal under the style of A. McKim & Co., and the success already achieved by this enterprising firm can only be the result of experience, industry, and indefatigable attention to every detail of the business.

Perhaps it is not too much to say that this agency now handles more business with Canadian newspapers than all other agencies combined. One of the most interesting features of the work is a history of Canadian journalism, in which an account is given of the papers published in each province, with a sketch of the rise and progress of the most noteworthy papers down to a comparatively recent period. Accompanying the history is a fac-simile of the first newspaper printed in the Dominion, the *Halifax Gazette*. It appeared in March 1752. It consisted of only two pages 9 x 15 inches.

The compilers of the Directory, have been at considerable pains to gather facts regarding newspapers, and have framed what appears to be a very complete table of the newspapers of all the provinces, as far back as 1864. There were then in all British North America only 298 papers, of which 12 were in Newfoundland. At the end of 1891, these had increased to 1044, including Newfoundland, which now has 11. In 1864, Manitoba had but one paper, now it has 57; British Columbia had 3, now it has 33; then the North West Territories had not a single one, though now they have 19. And though the increase in the other provinces does not bear so great a ratio, it is still remarkable. The papers of Ontario have increased from 172 to 573; Quebec from 55 to 209; Nova Scotia from 25 to 80; New Brunswick from 22 to 43; Prince Edward Island from 8 to 14; Newfoundland alone stands with one less paper to-day than it had in 1864, and Newfoundland alone of all the British American Colonies, has remained out of the confederation. In 1864 Canada had scarcely any of what are known as class papers. Now we have 26 devoted to agriculture and rural interests, 34 to the interests of benefit societies and brotherhoods, 10 to the law, 15 to medicine, pharmacy and hygiene, 15 to temperance and prohibition, 32 to literature, 7 to education, besides 29 published as school and college papers, and 43 to trade, finance and manufactures. This new directory brings out the interesting fact that there are 100 religious publications in Canada, of which the Roman Catholic Church claims 24, the Church of England 15, the Methodist 13, the Presbyterian 10, the Lutheran 6, the Baptist 6, while 26 belong to various denominations or are classed "unsectarian." There are 144 papers published in Canada in languages other than English. Of these 126 are published in French.

Messrs McKim are to be congratulated on having compiled so interesting and useful a Directory.

TAKE IT OFF.

Are you the holiness man who goes around "with a chip on your hat" for somebody to knock off, as a signal for a fight? Better take the chip off your self now, once for all, for all time henceforth.—*Phil. Standard*.

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.]

Pundita Ramabai.

Pundita Ramabai, whom Prof. Max Muller has called "one of the most remarkable women of this century," is the daughter of a Marathi priest, who was driven into exile for holding and carrying into practice liberal views in regard to child-marriage and the education of women. Ramabai was educated by her father and mother in the literature of her high caste. She accompanied her father many thousands of miles on religious pilgrimages, employing her leisure hours in the study of Sanskrit. Before the age of sixteen she was left an orphan. At the age of twenty-two she married a Bengalese lawyer. Two years later, while she was preparing to go to England to study medicine, her husband died, leaving her the care of an infant eight months old. This noble woman, however, did not despair. She sold her little home, paid off the debts, and wrote a book which brought money for the journey; and in 1883, sixteen months after her husband's death, she left India for England. Here she was made Professor of Sanskrit, in Cheltenham College, where she remained till 1886, having in the meantime become a Christian. The following two years she spent in America, writing textbooks; lecturing, and endeavoring to awaken an interest in her projected work for the elevation of child widows in India.

In India the custom is to betroth girls in marriage while mere infants, in many cases to men old enough to be their fathers or grandfathers. In the high caste a man frequently marries as many as fifty of these children. Should he die, they become widows. There are over 20,000,000 of these child-widows—about 80,000 of them are under nine years of age. A widow is not permitted to marry again, is looked upon with contempt as enduring punishment for some horrible crimes committed in a former state of existence. Her clothing is a single coarse garment; her food only one meal a day, of the very poorest kind. She is the household drudge, secluded, beaten, cursed. Her life, empty of every pleasure, void of all hope, often becomes intolerable and forces her to suicide or a life of infamy.

Through contributions given and pledged to Ramabai while in the United States and Canada, she has established a school in Poona for the education and elevation of high-caste widows. The school was opened in March, 1889, with one child-widow and one non-widow. At the close of the second year, Ramabai writes, "The school has been doing very good work, and has been of much use to many a child-widow, and has grown larger and larger in spite of all the oppositions, criticisms and difficulties it had to face. We have twenty-six widows and thirteen non-widow girls. My heart fills with joy and gratitude when I see so many dear girls enjoying their lives." The Toronto Ramabai Circle has contributed \$1,091 to this work.—*Onward*.

Two Heroic Missionaries.

Little more than a year ago an English gentleman and his brave wife travelled among the most unfrequented parts of Syria. Among other out-of-the-way places they visited Kerak, in the land of Moab. You may read about its assault by King Jehoram, in the Second Book of Kings, chap. 3. 23, where it is called Kirharaseth. It is built on a high, rocky platform, with deep valleys running round it and high hills rising above it on every side. Though only about seventy miles from Jerusalem, as the crow flies, it is a very lonely spot, and to get to it one has to pass through one of two tunnels, each a hundred feet long, cut in the rock.

Up the steep hill on which Kerak stands the English traveller and his wife urged their jade horses. When near the top they saw a little man in a European dress worn to shabbiness, coming to meet them. This little man was a missionary. Walking by the side of their horses, he guided them through the tunnel into the town.

Looking curiously about them, they saw a wretched collection of one-storied hovels, with dirty lanes running between them. Lean dogs were prowling about; wild, uncouth children, and ill-looking faces of men and women stared suspiciously upon them. Passing these, their guide paused before a mud walled hovel, which consisted of one room lighted only by the door. Here they were greeted by a woman clothed in a neat, clean, simple English dress and apron, crowned by an honest, smiling, friendly English face. This was Mrs. Lethaby, the wife of their missionary guide. In this one poor

room, which served at once for bedroom, parlour, kitchen, and school-room, these noble missionaries have worked for five years among Arabs who are "as fanatical, as covetous, and as reckless a set of vagabonds as ever polluted a country."

But how came Mr. and Mrs. Lethaby to choose Kerak as a place to work in? I cannot give you any other reason for Mr. Lethaby's choice except that the people in this robber-fastness were, of all he could find, most in need of the Gospel.

He was an English Wesleyan local preacher, owning a little property, having some knowledge of medicine, and filled with a desire to do something for his much-loved Lord. Going to Jerusalem with this noble desire, he was told of Kerak, and of the bad character of its people. "I will go there!" said he. "You had better not," replied the advisers. "Your life will not be safe there."

But go he would, and go he did. The Arabs let him in, but did not rob him, because they saw he had nothing worth stealing.

"Let me live in one of these hovels," he said to the sheik. "I will doctor your sick and teach your children. I will ask nothing of you; only let me do you what good I can."

The sheik grimly consented; but he coolly told the English traveller: "I intend to kill Mr. Lethaby some day." The people coldly tolerated their stay. But they rented a hovel; and despite the snakes and scorpions which infested its walls, began their work of love and mercy. They taught the children, gave medicine to the sick, spoke words of gospel truth to all who would listen; and were so gentle, so patient under ill-treatment, so peaceful, so earnest, and so pure in all their conduct, that they won the respect of many, and are now looking more and more hopefully for success in winning these Bedouins to Christ.

Mr. Lethaby asks Christians everywhere to pray that "Our dear Bedouin boys and girls may, in yet greater numbers, be made wise unto salvation, and a blessing to their own people!"

In the mission schools of Japan more than four hundred young men and women are preparing for special Christian work.

Miss Soonderbai Powar, a native of India, is lecturing in England on the opium question, under the auspices of the Woman's Anti-Opium League.

As an illustration of the frequency of infanticide in China, it is said that upon a stone near a pool outside the city of Foochow there is an inscription "Girls are not to be drowned here!" It is estimated that 200,000 infant girls are destroyed every year in China in the most cruel manner.

How to Drink a Farm.

Bob Burdette gives this simple recipe: "My homeless friend with a chromatic nose, while you are stirring up the sugar in a ten-cent glass of gin, let me give you a fact to wash down with it. You may say you have longed for years for the free, independent life of the farmer, but have never been able to get money enough together to buy a farm. But that is where you are mistaken. For some years you have been drinking a good improved farm at the rate of a hundred square feet a gulp. If you doubt this statement figure it out yourself. An acre of land contains 43,560 square feet. Estimating, for convenience, the land at \$4356 an acre, you will see that it brings the land to just one mill per square foot, one cent for ten square feet. Now pour down the fiery dose and imagine you are swallowing a strawberry patch. Call in five of your friends, and have them help you gulp down that five hundred foot garden. Get on a prolonged spree some day, and see how long it requires to swallow pastureland enough to feed a cow. Put down that glass of gin; there is dirt in it—one hundred feet of good, rich dirt, worth \$43.56 per acre."

The British Succession.

The London Times has recently given an interesting list of the first eighteen names in succession to the British throne. The letters S., G. S., G. D. and G. D. D. stand for son, grandson, grand-daughter and great-grand-daughter to Her Majesty the Queen.

- | | Ages. |
|---|-------|
| 1. Prince of Wales, S. | 50 |
| 2. Prince George of Wales, G. S. | 26 |
| 3. Duchess of Fife, G. D. | 25 |
| 4. Lady Alexandra Duff, G. D. | 1 |
| 5. Princess Victoria of Wales, G. D. | 23 |
| 6. Princess Maud of Wales, G. D. | 22 |
| 7. Duke of Edinburgh, S. | 48 |
| 8. Prince Alfred of Edinburgh, G. S. | 17 |
| 9. Princess Marie of Edinburgh, G. D. | 16 |
| 10. Princess Victoria of Edinburgh, G. D. | 15 |
| 11. Princess Alexandra of Edinburgh, G. D. | 13 |
| 12. Princess Beatrice of Edinburgh, G. D. | 7 |
| 13. Duke of Connaught, S. | 41 |
| 14. Prince Arthur of Connaught, G. S. | 9 |
| 15. Princess Margaret of Connaught, G. D. | 10 |
| 16. Princess Victoria of Connaught, G. D. | 5 |
| 17. Duke of Albany, G. S. | 7 |
| 18. Princess Alice of Albany, G. D. | 9 |