

Religious Intelligencer.

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

FREDERICTON, N. B., NOVEMBER 15, 1893.

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NOTES AND GLEANINGS.

Now used, incandescent electric lights are either turned "on" or "off," with no graduation between these two states. A regulating device has been invented, by which it is said, this light may be controlled like a gas jet.

The three Slavie States of Russia, Rumania and Servia are said to possess the highest percentage of illiterates of any in the world. Eighty per cent. of the people are unable to read or write. Of the Latin speaking races Spain heads the list with 48 per cent., France and Belgium having about 15 per cent., Austria 30, and Ireland 21. In England the percentage is 13, Holland 10, United States 8 and Scotland 7.

The late Dr. Smith, of Bible dictionary fame, was a layman. He was born in 1810, and at thirty had given to the world his dictionary of Greek and Roman antiquities, which outlasted any of its kind in English scholarship. All his work he secured the services of eminent specialists, and his dictionary became famous for the learning and ability of their articles. At the time of his death he was engaged in the revision of the Bible dictionary, the volume of which had just been finished.

Science is performing miracles. Recently Miss Nellie Bullard, of Waynes, Ga., was dumb. The cause of her being speechless was a cleft palate. Now she talks fluently. The change was wrought by means of an artificial palate obturator made of vulcanized rubber by a skillful dentist. She was adjusted in her mouth, and for the first time in her life she uttered a word, and after a few days of trying simple words she has become able to converse with her friends.

The friends of Miss Willard everywhere have been anxious in view of her protracted physical condition for the past few months. Lady Somerset brought the news to this country that the eminent physician, Sir Benjamin Ward Richardson, after a most careful examination, says that while Miss Willard has no organic disease, the intensely hard work of a lifetime renders it important that she take an interval of one year's entire absence from public speaking. He gives assurance of her complete recovery, and believes she has the best ten years of her life work before her.

Batteries are not better, but worse, when being held under religious auspices. Every form they are demoralizing. A dispatch from Winnipeg says: "The Tribune learns that a lottery has been organized through the liberal friends of separate schools in this city, and that a large number of tickets have been issued, and will be sold throughout the province. It is said to be under the patronage of two clergymen of the Roman Catholic Church. Funds badly needed to keep the separate schools going."

A French company secured a concession for a railway from Beyroot to Damascus, and has already commenced work on a narrow gauge road. An English syndicate is building a railway from Hama to Damascus, which is to be one hundred and forty miles long. Starting from the northern base of the range of Carmel to the Plain of Esdraelon, leaving Mount Tabor, it will cross the Jordan on a trestle, and traverse the south shore of Galilee. The primary object of all this is to promote the interest of Syria in an agricultural and commercial way, and find a means for reaching upon the market the rich products in which the region abounds. To advise travelers, however, if they wish to enjoy and profit by a tour in the Holy Land, not to go faster than a horse can carry them.

The Dead Sea is to be navigated at last. It is part of the private domains of His Highness the Sultan—Abdulkul Hamayoun—and as he is always in need of money he has resolved to make Lake Asphaltites profitable, if possible. The salt, bitumen, sulphur, &c., so plentiful in its waters and on its shores, are to be made use of in recently two sailing boats—rather large and heavy, for cargo; and other smaller and neater, for passengers—were conveyed by train to Jerusalem, and thence to the lake. Perhaps the dream of an enterprising

American tourist is yet to be fulfilled. He is very enthusiastic about a scheme for providing steam launches and bands for pleasure excursions on the Jordan and Dead Sea, and thought that a pickle manufactory on the shores of the lake would be a thriving speculation. Thousands of bottles might be exported, and every visitor would want to carry away, as an appropriate souvenir, olives, &c., pickled in Dead Sea brine! Certainly no one who had tasted the water would ever be persuaded to try the pickles.

It was in the early years of the present century that Napoleon constructed his wonderful military road over the Simplon—a highway forty-one miles long. Since his day the discovery of powerful explosives and the application of compressed air for working drills have enabled engineers to solve the problem of mountain barriers in a more effective and expeditious way. They pierce the barrier instead of crossing it. Already the Alpine range has been thrice tunneled. What has been done at Mont Cenis, St. Gothard and the Arlberg is now to be undertaken at the Simplon. The bore will be twelve and a quarter miles long, will be finished for a single line of rails in five and a half years, and will cost a little over ten millions of dollars. Provision is made for widening it for a second line of rails at a cost of three millions more.

Wholesale Temperance Reform.

HOW AN ISLAND IN THE SEA OF JAPAN TURNED OVER A NEW LEAF AND PROSPERED.

In the northern part of the sea of Japan, some forty miles distant from the large island of Ezro, lies a tiny island called Okushiri. Its soil is fertile. Trees of varying proportions cluster thickly over its surface. The agriculturist and the lumberman might find profitable occupation there. But the chief pursuit of the people is fishing. Every spring great shoals of herring approach the coast, and the fish are easily captured in such quantities that this one bountiful dispensation of nature suffices to feed and clothe the inhabitants from year's end to year's end.

Living thus in ease and plenty the people might be expected to develop qualities usually incidental to such circumstances, and they appear to have fallen pretty freely into the vice of drunkenness. In 1885 there were some 260 sals in the island. They possessed only four fixed nets. They lived in houses thatched with coarse grass; they had scarcely any roads, and they could boast only a single school. Yet they consumed annually \$3,000 worth of sake in addition to shochu and other strong drinks. In short, these common fisher folk spent upon intoxicating beverages more than \$1 per month for every unit of their number, including women and children. The same ratio of intemperance applied to the whole of Japan would signify an annual expenditure of \$500,000,000 on intoxicating beverages alone. In the face of this reckless outlay for liquor the people often suffered severely from the hunger and cold during the winter, the price of rice ranging very high in the midwinter months and the dwelling houses being ill adapted to exclude the inclement atmosphere. The local authorities prevailed upon them to adopt a system of storing provisions against times of scarcity, but their resources, reduced by payments on account of sake, were insufficient to accomplish anything effective in that line.

These circumstances induced some bold men among them to openly denounce the excessive use of alcoholic beverages as the cause of all the people's sufferings, and to preach the necessity of applying to useful purposes the funds thus squandered. The crusade provoked violent opposition, but in 1884 the inhabitants were induced to enter into the following agreement:

"Covenant made by the people of Okushiri Island concerning the sale and purchase of alcoholic beverages and the use of the same in the island of Okushiri. "This land which we inhabit is a lonely island in the Pacific Ocean. Its inhabitants, numbering ninety families, find almost their only means of amusement in drinking alcohol. Nine out of every ten are addicted to sake, the sums annually spent upon which aggregate a heavy amount.

"Debtors are unable to meet their engagements, and some are even compelled to depend on official aid for supplies of food. We are threatened with misery and some extraordinary measure is necessary to save us. Frugality must be the rule of our conduct, and every kind of excess must be avoided. We, therefore, hereby resolve to abstain from the luxury which we relish above all others, namely, sake, so as to terminate the importation of the liquor into the island. The money heretofore devoted to the purpose of sake shall be applied to lay in stocks of rice and other grain as a provision against future want, on the one hand, and to increase the capital available for fishery purposes on the other.

[SIGNATURES OF THE PROMOTERS.] "Dated July, 1884.

"Article 1.—We, the inhabitants of Okushiri Island, jointly and severally, in accordance with the covenant hereby signed, do pledge ourselves to abandon wholly the sale, purchase and use of alcoholic beverages.

(Signed) 117 OKUSHIRI ISLANDERS. "The consequences of this covenant were very marked. It was rigorously observed. Even government officials, whatever their rank, had to give up sake drinking when they visited the island, and, as a matter of course, every stranger who could not reform was compelled to take his departure. Order thenceforth reigned completely and prosperity came with rapid strides. The population increased fivefold in five years and the capital invested in the fishing industry tenfold. Reed thatches were replaced by shingles. Four large granaries were kept full of rice, and, in addition, each house had a store of its own. It is stated that there is now stored in the island rice sufficient to support the people for three or four years, even though the herring fishery should fail entirely. Roads have been constructed in places where nothing of the kind existed before. The principal schools have been greatly improved, and several branch schools have been established.

New lands have been brought into cultivation, and hemp to the value of \$2,000 is grown annually for the manufacture of fishing nets, which before the signing of the covenant, had to be imported entirely from the mainland. Statistics also show a marked decrease of crime, and so famous did the success of the experiment become that a large community of settlers in the neighboring island of Ezro pledged themselves to a covenant similar to that of Okushiri, and with similarly happy results. Finally, we may add that when the five years originally contemplated by the covenant expired it was renewed for another term of five years, despite the opposition of an influential official.

Are we Cherishing a Viper?

The most powerful organized enemy civil liberty has ever contended against is the papacy. For over a thousand years there has not been an hour when this ecclesiastical organization was not a menace to the political liberties of the civilized world. She has organized and consummated conspiracies which have horrified all after ages, in her efforts to secure universal supremacy over mankind. Wholesale assassinations, such as characterized St. Bartholomew's night, were not scrupled at in effort to sustain her waning authority. Great wars have been precipitated and encouraged for the same purpose. There is not an offence against human rights and liberties but may be justly charged against the papacy. Then there is the fact that both ignorance and superstition result from her supremacy. She has always kept the masses in ignorance and poverty. By her half-heathenish system of Christianity she has held the millions under her authority in the greatest darkness, mental and spiritual. Our appeal for the truth of this assertion is the condition of Roman Catholic countries the world over to-day. There is absolutely no excuse for the degraded condition of the masses in papal lands, both on this continent and in Europe, and the only reason for it is to be found in the ecclesiastical system which has enthralled them, mind and soul.

The papacy has not changed. She cannot change. The fundamental doctrines of her system forbid it. She is so constructed that she must insist upon absolute supremacy over men and nations. Some of our contemporaries seem to flatter themselves that in this country the papacy has undergone, or is undergoing, a thorough transforma-

tion. That she is falling into line with the grand social, political and spiritual movements of the time toward a higher civilization. Her history in the last century in this country does not warrant such a conclusion. From the hour she has felt herself able to offer opposition to our institutions she has not desisted in her contention. Our conviction is that never in our history were we in greater immediate danger from this quarter than just at the present time. What is the purpose of this representative of the Pope among us? We know that he has no sympathy with free government. He has been trained up in the midst of the most intense antagonism to free government. Every member of the papal household for the last twenty years and more has been cherishing a most deadly hatred for the government of Italy. How can one who has been breathing that atmosphere have any sympathy with free institutions? He has come over here we may feel assured, with no bias in favor of our institutions. But he has supreme authority, as he has already abundantly demonstrated. Priests, bishops, cardinals and people all submit to his dictation as though he were the Almighty, and precisely for the reason that they have been taught to regard him as holding the place of the Almighty. He is not only deified by Roman Catholics, but is shown great honor by Protestants and by the government. Do you believe this Italian has come over here to reinforce our free institution by encouraging the members of the papal church and hierarchy to cease all opposition and live as true patriots? If you do you will find yourselves mightily mistaken. It is not in his education, his doctrines nor his pretensions, as representing the Pope of Rome, to do anything of the kind. The opposition may be for a time less apparent, but it will be none the less treasonable and unpatriotic.

The government that cherishes the papacy is warming a viper that will some day sting it to the heart. "Eternal vigilance is the price of liberty." The time has not gone by when that sentiment needs to be emphasized. When one sees the entire secular press filled with complimentary notices of the presence among us of a man who claims to be superior to all human government; one who counts our government as a conspiracy against the rights and the authority of his master and who is sworn in the most binding manner to bend every energy he possesses, and employ every means in his power, to reduce to obedience, absolute and unquestioning obedience, to a foreign potentate, it seems that a word of warning might not be untimeously. When one adds to this the aggressiveness of the church he represents; its persistent quarrel with our public schools; its constant and successful raids upon our public treasury; the influence it is permitted to exert in the selection of men for official position under the general government; the honor bestowed upon its dignitaries by the presence of our highest officials at their anniversaries and jubilees, does it seem out of place to utter at least a word of warning? We do not fear that papacy will ever overthrow our institutions, but it will give us a immense amount of trouble if permitted to get a stronger hold upon our affairs. Let the American people say to this foe of human liberty, "HANDS OFF."

The above is from the *Christian Statesman*, and has reference especially to the United States. It deals with matters, however, that are quite as threatening in Canada. Let the people beware.

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.]

Minutes of the Women's Foreign Mission Society.

The eighteenth annual meeting of the Women's Mission Society, was held at Waterloo Street church, St. John, N. B., on Monday Oct. 16th, 1893, at 10.30 o'clock a. m. The pres-

ident, Mrs. A. C. Smith, in the chair. Opened by singing and prayer.

OFFICERS PRESENT.

President.—Mrs. A. C. Smith.

Vice Presidents.—Mrs. Dr. Secord, Mrs. C. H. Ebbett, Mrs. C. W. Weyman, Mrs. A. C. Smith.

Corresponding Secretary.—Mrs. C. Weyman.

Recording Secretary.—Mrs. Joseph McLeod.

Assistant R. Secretary.—Mrs. D. McL. Vince.

Treasurer.—Mrs. J. S. Smith.

Auditor.—Mrs. M. Fenwick.

Board of Managers.—Mrs. W. Peters, Mrs. D. Long, Mrs. C. Burt, Mrs. Geo. F. Atherton, Mrs. G. A. Hartley, Mrs. J. W. Clarke, Miss Jane Weyman, Mrs. Dr. Secord, Mrs. Thomas Robinson, Mrs. J. J. Barnes, Mrs. A. C. Thompson, Mrs. E. Dunfield, Mrs. James Patterson.

Minutes of last meeting read and approved.

The Foreign Mission report was read by Mrs. C. W. Weyman, Corresponding Secretary.

The Treasurer read her report, also Mrs. Boyer's financial report. Ordered, That the report of the Treasurer be referred to the Auditor.

A letter from Mrs. Phillips who represented this Society in the N. S. yearly meeting, was read, also a card from Mrs. R. J. Alexander, resigning her position on the committee of Intelligencer, on account of her inability to attend to its duties.

The President appointed the following as committee to arrange for public meeting. Mrs. Wm. Peters, Mrs. J. J. Barnes, Mrs. J. McLeod, and Miss Weyman. Also the nominating committee as follows: Mrs. Long, Mrs. Secord, Mrs. C. W. Weyman, Mrs. Robinson and Mrs. G. F. Atherton.

Resolved, That the Report of the committee to make preparation for the public meeting be adopted.

Resolved that we do now adjourn to meet at 3 p. m.

Public Meeting of the W. M. Society was held in Waterloo St. church, St. John, Oct. 16th, 1893 at 3 o'clock p. m.

President, Mrs. A. C. Smith in the chair. Opened by singing, reading of Scriptures and prayer. Address by the President. Mrs. C. W. Weyman, Corresponding Secretary, submitted the following report: (The Report has already been published.)

On motion of Mrs. Purtt, seconded, by Mrs. G. F. Atherton,

Resolved, that the report of the Corresponding Secretary be adopted.

Mrs. J. S. Smith, Treasurer, submitted the following report:

(This report will appear later.)

The Home Secretary, Mrs. A. M. McNinch not being present, short verbal reports were given by local members, Mrs. J. J. Barnes, Mrs. C. H. Ebbett and Mrs. Long. (The Home Secretary's Report was since received.) Mrs. J. S. Smith Treasurer read her report as follows: On motion of Mrs. J. J. Barnes, seconded by Mrs. C. Holmes, it was,

Resolved that the report of the Treasurer be adopted. Mrs. J. Fenwick, auditor, submitted her report, after which the little children of Mrs. B. yer, missionary, were called to the platform, where they arrayed themselves in the native christian costume, and saluted the audience in the Indian fashion, making the nomasars. Four young ladies the Misses Jessie Slipp, Minnie Colwell, Charlotte Peters and Ada McLeod, took the collection, amounting to \$17.88, while the choir sang "Throw out the Life Line, &c."

Miss Gaunce, Missionary elect, was called upon, and in a brief speech told something of her call to the mission work and her experiences which led her to a decision. She spoke with much feeling and was heard with much interest. Mr. Wilson, N. S. delegate to General Conference, gave a short account of their mission work and spoke of their Missionary, Miss Wile, who is to go out in the same steamer in which Miss Gaunce will go, and which sails on the 4th November.

Miss Jessie Slipp read the report of the U. S. delegate, Mrs. Phillips.

The President stated that a trunk was being sent to Mrs. Boyer and that any wishing to send any presents to help along her work, could have them sent to Mrs. Patterson's. It was afterwards learned that the trunk would not hold all that was sent.

Meeting opened at 10.30 a. m. Oct. 17th 1893 with singing and prayer. The President in the chair. Minutes of last meeting read and approved.

The Home Secretary's Report having now come to hand, it was read and on motion accepted, it is as follows:

(It will be published in a future issue.) In reference to Mrs. R. J. Alexander's resignation, it was on motion, Resolved, That in view of the fact that Mrs. R. J. Alexander had been one of the best contributors to "the Column" that she be asked to retain her position and do what she can.

Mrs. C. W. Weyman for nominating com. reported as follows:

President.—Mrs. A. C. Smith.

Vice-Presidents.—Mrs. Stephen Barker, Mrs. A. C. Thompson, Mrs. J. T. Parsons, Mrs. Dr. Secord, Mrs. C. H. Ebbett, Mrs. C. W. Weyman, Mrs. A. C. Smith.

Corresponding Secretary.—Mrs. C. W. Weyman.

Recording Secretary.—Mrs. J. McLeod.

Assistant Recording Secretary.—Mrs. Vince.

Home Secretary.—Mrs. A. M. McNinch.

Treasurer.—Mrs. J. S. Smith.

Auditor.—Mrs. M. Fenwick.

Board of Managers.—Mrs. W. Peters, Mrs. D. Long, Mrs. C. Burt, Mrs. Geo. F. Atherton, Miss S. Carpenter, Mrs. G. A. Hartley, Mrs. F. C. Hartley, Mrs. J. W. Clarke, Miss Jane Weyman, Mrs. C. T. Phillips, Mrs. D. Secord, Mrs. Thomas Robinson, Mrs. J. J. Barnes, Mrs. E. Dunfield, Mrs. James Patterson, Miss Maud Milbury, Mrs. Milner Belyea.

It was taken up section by section and on motion, it was adopted.

On motion of Mrs. Peters, Mrs. J. J. Barnes was added to the "Com. of Intelligencer." The committee now stands as follows:

Mrs. J. McLeod, Chairman and Editor, Mrs. G. A. Hartley, Miss Fullerton, Mrs. R. J. Alexander and Mrs. J. J. Barnes.

Mrs. McFarlane of Hartland, N. B. reported that the A. C. F. Society of Hartland desired to support a Bible woman in India. The President was asked to communicate with her on the subject.

On motion of Mrs. Weyman it was resolved that a price be put upon the constitutions. It was also resolved, that the presidents of the districts are each hereby advised to procure from Mrs. G. A. Hartley, a number of copies of the constitution, (which can be had at cost, viz. \$3.00 per hundred or 75 cts per quarter of a hundred) for distribution or sale as they may think proper.

BOARD MEETINGS. A meeting of the Board of Managers was held on Thursday afternoon at 2 p. m. A letter was read from Mrs. Boyer and one from Miss Coombs who has been carrying on a part of Miss Hooper's work.

On motion of Miss Weyman \$100 was voted for support of Daniel Naik under Mrs. Boyer's direction.

On motion it was resolved that the sum of \$25 donated by a lady in sixth district for the support of a Bible woman in India be paid to Daniel's wife. Also resolved, that \$25 be appropriated for support of Daniel's Bible woman.

A note was read from Mrs. Shea enclosing the \$10 sent to her to pay expenses, and asking that it be sent to Mrs. Boyer for special work.

Adjourned to meet at 10 o'clock on Monday 16th.

Board of Managers met at 10 a. m., Oct. 16th. Opening Exercises. Minutes of last meeting, also of meeting held in Aug. 30th, 1893, read and approved.

On motion Mrs. C. W. Weyman was added to the committee to advise and assist Miss Gaunce in her preparations for going to India. The committee now stands, Mrs. J. W. Clarke, Mrs. A. C. Smith, Mrs. J. S. Smith and Mrs. C. W. Weyman.

On motion of Mrs. J. S. Smith, seconded by Mrs. Ebbett, it was Resolved, That \$50 be sent to Mrs. Boyer to help carry on her work in India.

Adjourned to meet at time and place of next General Conference.

Mrs. J. F. McLeod, Rec. Sec'y.

Mrs. D. McL. Vince, Asst. Rec. Sec.

A Methodist bishop out West who uses a chapel car speaks of it as the "Holy Roamin' church."