

# Religious Intelligencer.

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

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## NOTES AND GLEANINGS.

CHOLERA has been unusually virulent at Mecca this year. The daily death rate has been very high, sometimes over six hundred. It is suggested that if some idea of modern sanitation could gain a foothold among the Mohammedans, the annual pilgrimage to Mecca would cease to be a breeding ground for cholera. It seems strange that a religion which enjoins frequent ablutions should not regulate the vast assemblages of its devotees according to the simple laws of health. It is in the power of the Sultan of Turkey, who is the religious as well as political head of the Mohammedans, to regulate these pilgrimages; and it would seem as if the powers of Europe should request him to order cleanliness in the interests of all. The Turk never does anything cleanly or liberal unless ordered.

FROM THE CONGO Free State come reports of two victories over the Arab slave-traders. The Arabs recently attacked the forces of the State stationed at the Stanley Falls, but were repulsed, with heavy loss. The troops pursued the Arabs some distance. The latter fled in such disorder that they carried little with them except their guns. One hundred and twenty barrels of gunpowder and a quantity of other munitions of war fell into the hands of the soldiers.

ONE OF THE EXTRAORDINARY things in the Catholic educational exhibit at Chicago is a picture in hair of the "Landing of Columbus." It contains some of the hair from the head of every Catholic bishop and archbishop in the country excepting one. It must not be understood that it was from lack of sympathy that he was unwilling to give a lock of his hair. He had not any.

SOUTH AFRICA is regarded at the present as the most promising field for development in the production of the precious metals. The continued extension of mining operations in the Transvaal, and the more recent re-discovery of the ancient gold-fields of Mashonaland and the Matabele country, seem to be drawing miners and mining-engineers from other countries in considerable numbers, and the movement is likely to continue for some time to come.

ONTARIO'S most promising crops this year, according to late reports, are hay, oats and potatoes. There is abundance of hay, but it has yet to be demonstrated that it can be profitably exported to England. The potatoes are promising though they are threatened with Colorado beetles in vast numbers. Wheat will be somewhat below the average, but in all probability it will make better showing than it did in 1892. In the neighboring province of Quebec more encouraging conditions exist, and a good all-round crop is predicted.

QUEEN VICTORIA is now sovereign over one continent, 100 peninsulas, 500 promontories, 1,000 lakes, 2,000 rivers and 10,000 islands.

THE "Golden Rule" is authority for the statement that a million members of the Christian Endeavour Societies were pledged not to attend the World's Fair if opened on Sunday. Now that Sunday closing has been determined upon, they will be free to go.

THE DUKE OF VERAGUA, the descendant of Columbus, who has lately been the guest of the United States, is said to be in financial distress. Various stories are afloat as to how his financial difficulties were caused—gambling, bull-fighting, fast-living generally, being among the reasons given. Contributions are being solicited for him in the United States.

THE ANNEXATION ASSOCIATION, of which Goldwin Smith was president, has come to grief. Mr. Smith, it is announced, has become tired of paying the bills, and the association has been dissolved.

GAMBLING is most flagrantly carried on on ocean steamers. A writer, who recently crossed the Atlantic, says: On this steamer a professional gambler, night after night, has monopolized the smoking room to sell pools on the speed of the ship. One pool of £14 was won for five shillings, a tempting bait for the young men passengers. During the day this same gentleman, with many other separate groups, have spent their time at the card table, the money being placed in full view. Now as these practices are directly opposed to the conspicuously posted notice in the smoking room, it reflects little credit on the management of the steamer that they are tolerated. These things are constantly being done on all the great steamship lines. Surely such an outrage as this should receive a protest commensurate with the offense. It is strange that the officers of the ships permit such abominable things.

## French Evangelization.

The work of French evangelization in Canada, while one of the most important branches of christian work, is attended with difficulties greater than confront the church in the other departments of home work. But in spite of the difficulties encouraging progress has been made.

The Presbyterian church has had the largest share in this work, though the Baptists are doing, and with a good degree of success, an excellent work amongst the same people.

The report of the committee of the Presbyterian church in charge of French missions, as published in the "Canada Presbyterian," says:

Fifty-five years ago there was not a known Protestant French Canadian. Now work among our French-speaking fellow countrymen is being done in New Brunswick and Ontario, but chiefly in the Province of Quebec. One pastor and two missionaries labour in N. B.; two pastors and four missionary colporteurs are at work in Ontario, and the remainder of a total employed of eighty-nine, are to be found in different parts of Quebec. The work is conducted by the agencies of pastors, missionaries, missionary-colporteurs and teachers, engaged in preaching, teaching in day and Sunday schools, house visitation, reading and selling the Scriptures. Thirty-seven congregations and mission fields, with ninety-six preaching stations, were supplied last year. Connected with these were six hundred and ninety Protestant families. The average Sabbath attendance was about twenty-seven hundred and fifty, of whom nearly one quarter were Roman Catholics. One hundred and ninety-two united with the Church, making a total membership of nine-hundred and eighty-four. These new fields were occupied. The people contributed about six hundred dollars. Twenty-five mission day-schools and four night-schools were attended by eight hundred and thirty-three scholars, of whom three hundred and eighty-three were from Roman Catholic homes. One hundred and sixty-eight pupils attended the schools at Point-aux-Trembles, of whom eighty-seven were the children of Roman Catholic parents. One hundred pupils attended Colligny College, Ottawa. Fourteen French students prosecuted their studies in the Theological College, of whom two graduated and have since been licensed.

The results so far are thus stated in the report:

1. In a growing intelligence and appreciation on the part of the people of evangelical truth, and corresponding giving way of prejudices.
2. In the desire, tacit or avowed, to break away from ecclesiastical authority and domination.
3. In the thousands of Roman Catholics who read prescribed literature.
4. In the fifteen hundred pupils attending Protestant mission schools.
5. In twelve thousand Canadians of French origin who attend evangelical places of worship in Canada.
6. In the twenty-five thousand French Protestants who have gone to the United States.
7. In the fact that fifty-five years ago, there was perhaps not a French Canadian Protestant, to-day there is one for every sixty-seven of the French Canadian Roman Catholic population in Canada and the United States, giving one to every hundred and two in Canada.
8. In the election of French Protestants to chief municipal offices, and their holding the balance of power in three counties, as was shown by the last election in the Province of Quebec.

We regret to have to state that the ordinary receipts furnished by the

Church for this work were \$2,210 less last year than in the previous one, and but for a balance on hand would have left the committee in debt.

Our Church is now well equipped for this work, and as every possible consideration of religion, philanthropy and patriotism calls upon her to prosecute it in faith and hope and confidence of ultimate triumph, we would earnestly commend it, and those engaged in it, to the liberal support, to the prayers and sympathy of the whole Church.

## Mission Work in London.

The London City Mission is a society with a magnificent history. At its annual meeting held at Exeter Hall, London, in May, some stirring facts were made known in the summary of the report presented. This showed that the missionaries, numbering 483, made last year over three and a half million visits, seeing nearly three hundred thousand sick and dying, holding some sixty-nine thousand meetings, resulting in the conversion of many to the adding to the Church of 2,445 persons, the reclamation of 1,867 drunkards, and the rescue of 500 fallen women. A careful survey of the report disclosed two special features of the work—first, that there was scarcely any form of vice, of sin, of error, with which the missionaries were not called on from time to time to grapple; and secondly, that when the work of any one missionary was summarized, it left on the mind the conviction that only by faithful constancy could so much have been achieved. The exact number of missionaries on the staff on March 31 was 485, that being thirteen less than on the same day in 1892. Financially there had been a decrease in receipts, the total for the general fund having been £50,597, a decrease of £8,975. This was partly due to a decrease of £3,792 in legacies. The expenditure was also less than in the preceding year, but had reached a total of £50,333. An important feature of the work was that of missionaries to special classes, of whom there were 113, embracing such varieties as the North London scavengers, theatrical employees, gypsies, foreign sailors, Jews, and coal-heavers. Indifference was met with everywhere, and was one of the evils hardest to remove. The poverty of many was appalling, and owing to the high rentals charged, people herded together; overcrowding was followed by immorality, disease and death. With regard to intemperance, in districts not a few a decrease in drunkenness was reported. Gambling had early developed, not only among men, but among women and children. Infidelity, said the report, was not so strong and "bare-faced" as once it was. Socialism was active, and ministers had the full weight of the hatred of those holding anarchist views. Theosophy now presented itself as a foe to the truth. Sabbath profanation was rife, and Roman Catholicism was also mentioned as a difficulty with which the missionaries had to deal. Life in London may be worse in degree but hardly worse in kind than it is in some other great cities. The one power that must be depended on to stay the tide of evil and bring in aught of real and lasting good, is the power of the Gospel as revealed in the Word of God.

## Courageous Business Men Wanted.

"Moral Courage" was printed in large letters as the heading of the following items, and placed in a conspicuous place on the door of a systematic merchant in New York, for constant reference, and furnished by him for publication:

Have the courage to discharge a debt while you have the money in your pocket.

Have the courage to do without that which you do not need, however much your eyes may covet it.

Have the courage to speak to a friend in a shabby coat, even though you are in the company with a rich one, and richly attired.

Have the courage to speak your mind when it is necessary that you should do so, and hold your tongue when it is prudent that you should do so.

Have the courage to tell a man why you refuse to credit him.

Have the courage to tell a man why you will not lend him your money.

Have the courage to cut the most agreeable acquaintance you have when you are convinced that he lacks principle—a friend should bear with a friend's infirmities, but not with his vices.

Have the courage to show your respect for honesty, in whatever guise it appears, and your contempt for dishonesty and duplicity, by whomsoever exhibited.

Have the courage to wear old clothes until you can pay for new ones.

Have the courage to acknowledge your ignorance, rather than seek for knowledge under false pretences.

## 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.]

## Sixth District Society.

The Woman's F. M. Society held its thirteenth annual session at Wheaton Settlement, W. Co., on Saturday at 2 p. m. The meeting was opened by singing and prayer, the president, Mrs. C. W. Weyman, in the chair. There was a large attendance and a deep interest was manifested in the good work.

The following is the report of the Secretary:

Dear Sisters:—One can hardly realize that a year has passed since our last annual meeting. But we are glad that so many of us are permitted, in the providence of God, to meet in this, the 13th annual session. We felt fearful and somewhat discouraged on account of changes that have taken place, which we felt might be hurtful to our work. We have received reports from nearly all the societies, and have great reason to feel encouraged; there is only a slight decrease in the funds, and this is owing no doubt to not having a missionary in the field, as some would feel on that account, that less was required of them. We hope that soon we shall have another representative in that far off land. May we realize, dear sisters, that God holds us, up to the measure of our abilities and opportunities, responsible for the spread of the Gospel. It was woman who carried the first glad tidings that Jesus was risen; and thank God the same love that prompted Mary of old to carry the joyful news, is prompting us to day to send the glorious gospel to the benighted souls (yet so precious) in India. As the years roll by may love for the good work, in which we are engaged, burn deeper in our hearts.

Following is a list of the returns from the societies,—

Sussex	\$24 25
Moncton	16 50
Dover	11 10
Corn Hill	19 00
Midland	11 45
Lower Millstream	15 00
Norton Station	9 50
Coverdale	10 00
Petitcodiac	7 00
Grave Settlement	4 00
Millstream Mountain	5 00
Taylor Village	5 50
Aphahqui	7 60
Lower Ridge	8 10
Snider Mountain	3 80
Dutch Valley	9 00
Long Point	5 50
Penobscia	12 25
Collected by Miss Weyman	2 50
Central Norton	1 00
Lower Millstream, S. S. Mission Band	5 50
Corn Hill, S. S. Mission Band	3 13
Carried over from last year	
Home Mission	13 37
Lower Millstream, H. M.	3 50
Norton Station, H. M.	2 50
Central Norton	1 00
Millstream Mountain	1 00
Sussex	5 50
Collection at District Meeting	3 15

Total 221 68

Resolved that the amount of \$25.00 for Home Missions be donated to the Tobique Mission.

Resolved that the officers of last year remain in their respective places for the ensuing year.

We were much disappointed in not having our intended missionary, Miss Gaudre, with us. The business being completed the order of the meeting was changed to devotional, conducted by Miss Jane Weyman. A number spoke expressing their desire to do what they could to advance the cause of Christ's kingdom on earth.

At the public missionary meeting, held in the church, Mrs. C. W. Weyman addressed the meeting at some

length, showing the work being done and the great need of it in the foreign field. Miss Jane Weyman, in her earnest way, appealed to all, especially to the men, to be more earnest, and more liberal in giving. Mrs. Keith also spoke earnestly of her love for the mission work, and felt all who love Jesus should manifest a missionary spirit.

Mrs. DAVID LONG.

WOMAN'S WORK in India has made great progress. There are now 711 women—foreign and Eurasian—missionaries in India. These have access to 40,013 zenanas, and have 62,414 girl pupils in the mission schools.

HELPING HAND tells of Rebecca Cox, of Galway, N. Y., who has left to the Baptist Woman's Missionary Society a legacy of \$800, earned by weaving rag carpets. And reading this, who is not affecting reminded of Dorcas, and the widow's two mites, and the alabaster box of precious ointment? Therefore, is it not written in the book of life: "By faith, Rebecca Cox," etc?

THE BAPTIST ZENANA SOCIETY (England) had an income in 1892 of \$42,015, if \$3,650 be included for work in China not yet begun. Four missionaries were sent out last year, and three others are under appointment for India, with others to be dispatched to China as soon as arrangements can be made. Medical work has a prominent place. Over 200 women are now in the field.

THE PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN of the dominion of Canada are joined in a society which has 543 auxiliaries, with 12 517 members, and 221 bands, with 5,998 members. The cash income for the last year was \$41,733, and this after seventeen years from the beginning. Work is done in China, the New Hebrides, Trinidad, and among the Indians of British Columbia. The *Letter Leaflet* has a circulation of 11,205, and last year paid expenses with \$382 in addition.

## The Stature of the Most Ancient Races.

Has the species of man increased or diminished in stature since it first appeared on this planet? Have his bones increased or diminished in solidity and weight? Have the relations in these respects between the two sexes always been as they are now?

These are some of the very interesting questions approached by Dr. J. Rahn, in a recent paper in the memoirs of the Anthropological Society of Paris, entitled, "*Recherches sur les Ossements Humains Anciens et Préhistoriques.*" His conclusions may be briefly stated.

Comparing the earliest quaternary skeleton found in Western Europe with those of the present population, the former belonged to what we should call medium-sized people, with an average stature, in the males, of 1.63 metres. The tribes of neolithic times varied scarcely at all from this measurement; but the proto-historic nations—the Gauls, Franks, Burgundians, etc.—ran the figures up to a mean of 1.66 for the males. Since their epoch it has been steadily, though slowly, descending, at least in France, until the average of the Parisian men of to-day is 1.62 metres.

In all ages, the woman have averaged about ten centimetres less in height than the men. The bones of both were rather heavier and more powerful in ancient times.

Incidentally, Dr. Rahn shows that the height of the men of Cro Magnon has been over estimated; that of the man of Spy underestimated; that the Guanches of Tenerife averaged but one centimetre above the French of to-day, and osteologically were very similar to the Cro Magnon people; and that from the most remote time the human body has retained the same proportions.—*New York Science.*

## Cost of a Misplaced Comma.

There was a time when the punctuation marks as now used in common print were not known, and as the result it was often more or less difficult to arrive at the exact meaning of the writer; and to avoid this the points were introduced. Of course, about the smallest and apparently the most insignificant of them all is the comma, but its misuse is often the cause of

very annoying mistakes as well as loss of money. It should be the aim of those now in school to learn thoroughly how to use this little mark, and never be guilty of making a mistake like the following, an account of which I read not long ago.

It seems that some twenty years or so ago, when the United States by its Congress was making a tariff bill, one of the sections enumerated what articles should be admitted free of duty. Among the many articles specified were "all foreign fruit-plants," etc., meaning plants imported for transplanting, propagation, or experiment. The enrolling clerk in copying the bill accidentally changed the hyphen in the compound word, "fruit-plants," to a comma, making it read, "all foreign fruit, plants," etc. As the result of this simple mistake, for a year, or until Congress could remedy the blunder, all the oranges, lemons, bananas, grapes, and other foreign fruits were admitted free of duty. This little mistake, which anyone would be liable to make, yet could have avoided by carefulness, cost the Government not less than two million dollars. A pretty costly comma that.

A NEW SECT.—Often some of the grossest superstitions are the exaggerations of great truths. Fanaticism and credulity will have more or less sway until the schoolmaster does more thorough work. We have an example of this in a new sect which has arisen in the Provinces of Kief and Poltava, under the leadership of a peasant prophet, Kondrat. He has the gift of speech, and at one time was an inmate of a lunatic asylum. He was arrested some time ago and sent to Transcaucasia; but his followers are most energetic apostles, and continue to propagate Kondratism. "Their principal tenet, as reported, in this: that all men are as Christ was, and in exactly the same way sons of God, when they have been touched by the Spirit. The plainest facts and statements in Scripture are interpreted in a mystical spirit. There is also a tendency to free love among them. But, as this last statement is vouched for only by the Russian clergy, it may have no foundation. The Kondratists already number seven thousand."

PRESENTATION.—On Thursday 20th inst., the residence of Mr. Samuel Bishop, Jr., Perth, V. Co., was the scene of a very interesting event. About fifty guests were present to witness the marriage of his daughter, Birdie, and Frank L. Burt of Rowena, Victoria Co. The Church, of which Miss Bishop was a member, presented her with a handsome table set, in wine and crystal, with the following address:

"Miss Birdie E. Bishop, organist of F. O. B. Church, Lower Perth, Dear Sister,—In memory of your highly appreciated services among us, in presiding at the organ of our church, allow me, in behalf of the church, to present you with this slight token of esteem. It but feebly expresses the measure of regard in which we hold you. Hoping that when you go from us to another community you may be as helpful to them as you have shown yourself to be among us, we remain your friends and well wishers."

While Miss Ira Baxter played a wedding march, all repaired to the lawn, where, under the shade of the trees, the marriage ceremony was performed, Rev. J. J. Barnes officiating, assisted by Rev. T. Connor. The bride and bridesmaid (Miss Clara Griffiths) were dressed in white, with white sashes. The groom was supported by Mr. Emory Hallett. After the ceremony a wedding supper was served. The bride was the recipient of many handsome presents.

## Among Exchanges.

EXTEMPORANEOUS.

There are extemporaneous preachers and extemporaneous hearers. The former never think of their sermons before they go to church, and the latter never think of them after they leave.—*Epworth Herald.*

A SUGGESTION.

It would be a good thing for the country if all the lunatics who are trying to "break the record" in running, walking, jumping, and riding, would give vent to their superhuman energy in breaking stone.—*The Interior.*