

Religious Intelligencer.

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

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WHOLE No. 3027

WILL

the brethren who have the care of the churches recall what was said last week about the INTELLIGENCER as a help to the Ministers and churches?

If they believe that statement they will, we think,

Earnestly Endeavor

by what they may say to the people, both from their pulpits and in their house to house visitation,

To Extend

the range of its helpful influence in their congregations. There can be no doubt that

The Circulation

of a denominational paper depends, in a large degree, upon the interest which the ministers have in it. To the ministers

Of the

Free Baptist church in New Brunswick and Nova Scotia the

Intelligencer

looks, with desire and hope, for hearty cooperation in the endeavour to introduce it into the many families of the denomination which it does not enter. Will they do this needed work

Now?

Speak about it next Sunday, if you have not done so recently. And even if you have done so, another word of counsel to your people may do them good—especially if no results of your former words are apparent.

Push the canvass now for renewals and new subscribers—and push it vigorously, brethren.

NOTES AND CLEANINGS.

It is said that the post-office at Hong Kong, China, has inscribed over the door these words from the Bible which may be found by turning to Prov. xxv. 25: "As cold waters to a thirsty soul, so is good news from a far country."

The report of the Life Saving Service of the United States shows that 380 vessels in distress have been aided, and that out of 4,054 persons on board of them, only sixty-one were lost. The estimated value of the vessels was nearly \$10,000,000, of which \$7,688,000 was saved; the cost of the service was a little over \$1,250,000; the number of disasters by reason of storms was greater than in any previous year since the introduction of the present system.

There are rumors that China is on the verge of revolution, with Li Hung Chang, who has been degraded by the Emperor, as the leader of the rebels. Li and his brother are viceroys of the two leading provinces of the Chinese Empire, and are the only rulers who have military organizations worthy of being called an army. It is believed that Li Hung Chang, who is a native Chinaman, could if he pleased take advantage of the disastrous results of the war with Japan to depose the Emperor, who is of an alien race, and overthrow the alien dynasty.

Turkey exercises a press censorship as rigid as that of Russia, and no expression of sympathy from the outside world will reach the poor Armenian Christians. Turkey, is not, however, beyond the reach of the European powers; and after the measures which just come to light despite the governmental precautions, it does not seem possible that the civilized nations will permit such persecution, tyranny and atrocity to continue.

There are increasing reports in regard to the liberal tendencies of the new Czar. He is said to intend to introduce several important reforms, among them being the establishment of Parliamentary representation in the administration of the Government. He showed marked courtesy to newspaper correspondents at the time of his wedding, which is commented upon very favorably, and has frequently appeared upon the streets of St. Petersburg unattended.

Letters from Tokyo say that the Emperor of Japan has established a new title to the love of his subjects by his conduct through this war. On September 15 he assumed personal

direction at the headquarters in Hiroshima, a town on the inland sea, two days' journey by rail from Tokyo. Hiroshima has no accommodations for imperial guests. The Emperor lives in one room, 18 x 24, where he eats, sleeps and transacts business. From Sept. 15 until Nov. 3, his birthday, he left his room only once.

Bishop Dudley, of the Protestant Episcopal Church in Kentucky, pays quite a compliment to the colored people in the South. He says: "The colored people are improving in every respect year by year. A judge remarked to me recently that a strange idea had taken hold of the colored race, and that is the idea that they ought to pay their debts. The idea has come upon them with the force of novelty. And all the ideas of Christian morality are taking possession of them one by one. They have never been practiced by them because they never understood them. There is not throughout this country a more certain sense of security of life and property than there is in the black belt of Alabama. The section of Alabama, where the negro is ten to one, is the only section of this country that I have visited, where all doors are open, and a lock is a strange thing."

St. Petersburg papers announce the death, near Charkov, of a farmer named S. Suckosoff, who was one hundred and fifty years old. After full investigation they declare that this man had spent almost his entire life on the same estate. Among the numerous proofs of his great age was his marriage certificate, dated in the reign of Catherine II. The old man spoke of "recent events" as the war of 1812, and the ascension of the throne by the Czar Nicholas in 1824; but about the Crimean War in 1854 he knew little or nothing, as from 1850 on he had seldom left his country home. This man had seen the Empress Catherine II, the Czar Alexander I, the Czar Nicholas I, and the famous statesmen Suvarow and Potemkin. South America has a citizen still older.

The Work Now in Hand.

Practical, efficient work for Christ is the great need of the hour. It has been the need of the world for more than eighteen hundred years. The love of Christ, the sympathy of Christ, the honesty of Christ, truly implanted in all hearts would right all wrongs, relieve business depression, establish peace and happiness in the world, and, best of all inspire every human soul with the hope of immortality and eternal life. Hence, the work now in hand and incumbent upon every Christian is practical work for Christ; and this is the work, kind reader, to which we wish to direct your attention.

The revival season for our Church is here. To the extent that pastors lead correctly and enthusiastically, and the members follow his lead, and co-operate with him heartily in this great work, to that extent only will practical, efficient work for Christ be done. Half-hearted, faith-wavering efforts will not insure success. There must be strong faith, burning desire, cordiality, unanimity. The people, one and all, must have a mind to work. The pastor cannot, and God will not work successfully through a cold-hearted, faithless, indifferent church membership.

But, says one, where shall I begin, and how shall I work? To the pastor who makes this inquiry we would say, Begin with yourself. Look over the field and think about it until your own soul is burdened and cries out in deep agony. "O Lord, revive thy work." Awaken the people. Send salvation.

Then go to your closet and wrestle, like Jacob of old with God in prayer. Read your Bible, and with a burning desire and a living faith claim God's promises. Then visit your people, both saints and sinners, and in a few words pour into their souls the intensity of your own feelings, so that they become possessed of the same spirit. Then see to it that your sermons are truly the message of salvation to a lost world, delivered in the melting, moving Spirit of our divine Lord.

Do not defend the gospel, but preach it. Do not reply to the assaults of the higher critics, but present to the

people "the unsearchable riches of Christ." Do not discuss evolution, modern spiritualism, or theosophy, but preach "Jesus Christ and him crucified," and proclaim the great truth that there is none other name given under heaven, among men, whereby we must be saved." Preach salvation and eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord. This is what the people need. It is that for which the awakened soul hungers and thirsts. It is what Christ preached when "the common people heard him gladly."

To the member of the Church who asks Where shall we begin, and what shall we do? we would say, Begin first with yourself by recognizing the fact that God places upon you the responsibility of doing something marked, special and definite to aid in the revival work, and that woe is to you if you do not do it. Think of your unconverted neighbors whom you must soon meet at the judgment seat of Christ, and to whom you have never spoken kindly and personally about their soul's salvation. Think of this until you feel deeply burdened with the weight of your own individual responsibility. Get away from the idea that the pastor only is responsible for the conversion of sinners. Ask yourself the question, How can I face my unconverted neighbors in the judgment? Then, burdened with a sense of your former remissions in regard to your duty, go into your closet and, with all the devoutness of a Nehemiah, confess your sins and pour out your soul to God in prayer for a revival. Seek the endowment of the Holy Spirit necessary to enable you to go to your unconverted neighbors and with tears in your eyes plead with them to become Christians.

In addition to the above, begin to talk revival and pray revival in your own home. You may have children or brothers and sisters under your roof who are not Christians. Speak to them about this all-important matter. Do not entertain the mistaken notion that your children are too young to hear and believe the story of the cross—to young to become sincere lovers of the world's Redeemer. By your words, and acts, and life demonstrate to them the sincerity of your religious faith—your assurance of salvation through Christ. Do all this faithfully and pray for God's blessing on your work, and you will be surprised to see the wholesome effect on your family. The writer well remembers the deep impression made on his youthful mind by a few tender words from the lips of his now sainted mother, during the progress of a revival. She only said, "My son, this would be a good time to give your heart to the Lord. Do not let this good meeting close without your doing so." It was not so much her words as her manner that made the ineffaceable impression.

Carry your religious warmth and enthusiasm into the church services. Make some sacrifices for the sake of attending all the meetings and being there promptly. Be as deeply in earnest and as truly zealous in this work as the politicians are in pushing their political campaigns. Should you not be as enthusiastic for Jesus Christ and the triumph of his cause as politicians are for the election of their candidates? Why not? How they bestir themselves to get out large crowds at their meetings and secure votes! Be as zealous as they. Visit your neighbors; invite them to go with you to the meetings, and in every possible way convince them of your sincerity and love.

We hope and pray that this may be for our denomination the greatest revival year in its history. We know it can be, and we feel well assured that, by the grace of God, it will be if pastors and people, one and all, will earnestly, practically, zealously, and as unto the Lord, do the work now in hand.—*Telescope*.

Talmage on Heredity.

Now, the longer I live the more I believe in blood—good blood, bad blood, proud blood, humble blood, honest blood, thieving blood, cowardly blood, writes the Rev. T. De Witt Talmage in the December *Ladies Home Journal*. The tendency may skip a generation or two, but it is sure to come out, as in a little child you

sometimes see similarity to a great-grandfather whose picture hangs on the wall. That the physical and mental and moral qualities are inheritable is patent to any one who keeps his eyes open. The similarity is so striking sometimes as to be amusing.

Great families, regal or literary, are apt to have the characteristics all down through the generations, and what is more perceptible in such families may be seen on a smaller scale in all families. A thousand years have no power to obliterate the difference. The large lip of the House of Austria is seen in all the descendants, and is called the Hapsburg lip. The House of Stuart always means in all generations cruelty and bigotry and sensuality. Witness Queen of Scots. Witness Charles I. and Charles II. Witness James I. and James II., and others of that imperial line.

Scotch blood means persistence. Dutch blood means cleanliness and good breeding. English blood means reverence for the ancient. Welsh blood means religiosity. Danish blood means fondness for the sea. Indian blood means roaming disposition. Celtic blood means ferocity. Roman blood means conquest.

The Jewish faculty for accumulation you may trace clear back to Abraham, of whom the Bible says, "He was rich in silver and gold and cattle," and to Isaac and Jacob, who had the same family characteristics.

The Intellectual Life of the Minister.

The late Bishop Phillips Brooks, in one of his lectures before the Yale Divinity School, said with reference to the spiritual and the intellectual life of a theological student: "I never shall forget my first experience of a divinity school. I had come from a college where men studied hard, but said nothing about faith. I never had been at a prayer meeting in my life. The first place I was taken to at the seminary was the prayer meeting, and never shall I lose the impression of the devoutness with which those men prayed and exhorted one another. Their whole souls seemed exalted and their natures were on fire. I sat bewildered and ashamed, and went away depressed. On the next day I met some of those men at a Greek recitation. It would be little to say of some of the devotees, of them that they had not learned their lessons. Their whole way showed that they never learned their lessons; they had not got hold of the first principles of hard, faithful, conscientious study. The boiler had no connection with the engine. The devotion did not touch the work which was then and there the work and the only work for them to do. By and by I found something of the steam did escape to. A sort of amateur, premature preaching was much in vogue among us. We were in haste to be at what we called 'our work.' A feeble twilight of the coming ministry we lived in. The people in the neighborhood dubbed us 'parsonettes.' Oh, my fellow-students, the special study of theology and all that appertains to it, that is what the preacher must bedevil at; say; but he can never do it afterward as he can in the blessed days of quiet in Arabia, after Christ has called him, and before the apostles lay their hands upon him. In many respects an ignorant clergy, however pious it may be, is worse than none at all. The more the empty head glows and burns, the more hollow, and thin, and dry it grows. 'The knowledge of the priest,' said St. Francis de Sales, 'is the eighth sacrament of the church.'"

ONE MINISTER SAYS:—"I am doing what I can to extend the INTELLIGENCER'S circulation. I find that these Free Baptists who take it have much heartier sympathy for the interests of Christ's Kingdom."

THE CHIEF QUALIFICATION.—Dr. Joseph Parker says he has ceased to speak of the christian ministry as one of the learned professions, because the prime qualification for it is not intellectual but spiritual. This is a point as to where the emphasis should be put that is well made. Some of the secular journals are claiming that the pulpit is declining in intellectual power but it is a more vital question, and perhaps one that needs to be as seriously considered, whether its spiritual power is being maintained.

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.]

Another Year

To all the sisters who are interested in the mission cause—wherever they are, and whatever their circumstances, we send Christmas greetings, and the best wishes for them and their work in the New Year upon which they will so soon enter.

Some, doubtless, will cross the threshold of the new year with bowed heads and heavy hearts, seeing only the missing links in their chain of love, hearing, amidst all the music, only the wail of winds over new-made graves. May the joy and peace He gives to His beloved find their way through the darkness, into their souls, until they can look up into His face, and say, with the trustfulness of little children:—"anywhere, anyhow—so it is the Father who leads."

Some are shut in from the glad sounds that are in the air, from beds of pain they look out into the wearisome days and nights, with forebodings wondering sadly what the outcome will be. They feel laid by, as useless things are laid by, and others are doing the work they would rejoice to do. To work, is denied them, but they can still serve the Master—if they cannot do, they can endure, which is often times a greater thing. May it please God to remove their pain, and bring them out again into the blessed sunshine, always keeping them in His own light.

Others, many others, are perplexed over financial problems. The question, "how shall I make both ends meet?" threatens to absorb all other questions. There is hardly enough for that—where shall the money for the Lord's treasury be found?

Is it not the pressed olive which gives the sweet oil? So, out of our planning and care, out of our doing without, there will come a truer estimate in life—things which were deemed essentials will be classed as luxuries, and so, non-essentials; hard pressed ourselves, we will learn to pity those who stand without, looking in, with longing eyes, upon our comforts; reaching out our hands to them, there will be the "twice blessed," and there will grow up in our hearts, a stronger recognition of the brotherhood of men then perhaps we have ever felt before.

Another year! What possibilities are suggested! A dear old minister was accustomed, when praying, to head his thanks with this:—We thank Thee Lord, that we are still on praying ground. And that is much to be thankful for; here to pray for ourselves,—that we may live never to God than ever before, and so, have larger faith, stronger love, purer zeal; here, to pray still for those near and dear to us, who are out of safety; here to pray for the many who have never heard of Christ. And what a power is prayer! Not because it is prayer; no, no—but, because that back of it, and under it, and in the heart of it is love. That is the secret which lies at the root of all that is worth the having,—"who prays much, loves much."

Let us begin by thanking God, that we are still on praying ground, and to it, add this:—"We thank Thee Lord, that we are counted worthy to work with Thee."

We do not know, we do not ask what the new year holds for us. We live day by day, and that day is best lived that tells of duty well done. And this work, in which we are engaged, is the Master's own. So surely will it be accomplished that the weakest effort of his weakest follower, will have its effect, larger often times than the door dreamed. Let us be stout hearted and hopeful, determined to do greater things than in the year just gone.

Would it not be a good plan for each one of us, to aim to convert some one of our friends to the cause of foreign missions? It is a sorry state of things, but there are many Christians who need to be converted on this point, and yet the spirit of Christ is this very spirit of world round missions, and "the nearer we get to Him, the more intensely missionary we become." Let us then, for one thing, try to double our ranks of workers, and that before the year grows old—it will be another of the "twice blessed" things.

Concerning Women.

—Miss Elizabeth Polhemus, a bright young California woman, about twenty years of age, is qualifying herself as a pilot for ocean vessels entering the harbor of San Diego. In eight months she expects to pass the required examination.

—Miss Comstock, of Green Castle, Mo., is probably the youngest bank officer in the country. She entered the bank at Green City in March, 1889, as assistant cashier and book-keeper, and proved herself so efficient that when the owners of that bank organized another at Green Castle, in September, 1892, they made Miss Comstock president of the old bank and cashier of the new one.

—Ex-Gov. St. John says he attended a meeting one night in an eastern state where there were one thousand persons present and only nine women. The next night he attended another meeting where there were fifty-seven persons present and only five were men! But then, the first meeting was in a penitentiary and the second was the regular weekly church prayer meeting. Suggestive!

—The *Christian Work* says: "The young Empress of China has recently died by her own hand. The motive was not want, or disease, or loss of honor or caste. It was an ordinary domestic broil with her husband, who in the heat of anger struck his wife as drunken and ignorant men have done before. It was not the fair wife's face, it was her heart that was cut by the blow; and so a cup of poison placed her beyond the brutal husband's hand. The marriage was forced upon the boy husband by the Emperor's imperious mother."

—"Mother Stewart," of Springfield, O., the leader of the historic "Crusade" against the saloons which resulted in the organization of the National Woman's Christian Temperance Union, and who is now nearly seventy-nine years of age, was given great and fitting welcome and goodbye at the recent annual meeting in Cleveland. In her last words to them, she said, "Sisters, your work means more than you can see. Throw out the life-line. Our boys are being ruined by the terrible liquor evil. Save them. Good-bye. God be with you!"

Among Exchanges.

GRAVEL.

Some men seem to have been made out of dust that had gravel in it.—*Ram's Horn*.

THE GREAT NEED.

What the church needs first and needs most is a genuine revival of vital godliness. This may seem a very elementary truth; but elementary truths are the most important.—*Can. Presbyterian*.

OLD METHODS.

Methods cling to simply because they have come down from the fathers, or adopted simply because they are new, may be a great hindrance instead of a help. Only when they have the virtue of being practical and adapted to the present needs should they be adhered to.—*Rel. Telescope*.

A GOOD SUGGESTION.

Will our preachers take a suggestion in good part? In their New Year's sermons will they remember the Christian press? The faces of all should be turned forward at the dawning of the new year, and no strong forward movement is possible that does not provide for a liberal use of the press. If every household will take a good paper, a vast improvement is assured.—*Chris. Student*.

THE PRINCE OF WALES.

Credit is given to the Prince of Wales for the decided "bracing-up" which the young Czar has displayed since he assumed the functions of government. The death of his father and the weight of responsibility suddenly transferred to his shoulders at first almost crushed the youthful ruler, but the encouragement given by the English Prince so hardened him that the more positive and kindly elements of his character have come to the light, and he has introduced so many changes, and lightened so many burdens, and promised so many reforms, that the people are almost stupefied with wonder. It was evident that Nicholas II. would follow the lead of some stronger mind. It is fortunate for him and for his people that the Prince of Wales had occasion to visit him.—*Zion's Herald*.