

Religious Intelligencer.

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

VOL. XLII.—No. 12.

FREDERICTON, N. B., MAY 1, 1895.

WHOLE No. 3048

SEVENTY-FIVE CENTS.

To new subscribers the INTELLIGENCER will be sent from the time of receiving the money, till January 1st next for SEVENTY-FIVE CENTS.

Will the pastors make use of this offer to introduce the INTELLIGENCER into many homes in their congregations which do not now receive it?

NOTES AND GLEANINGS.

Railway traveling in Britain is the safest in the world. In America, one passenger in every 2,400,000 is killed; in France, one in every 19,000,000; and in Great Britain, only one in every 28,000,000.

The Chinese army in the northern part of the island of Formosa numbers 80,000 men, of which 50,000 are efficient soldiers who are well armed. The others are raw levies, and include a great number of beggars. Fighting is said to be imminent, but the foreigners are believed to be safe.

Judge Grosscup, of Chicago, has had the great pleasure of giving two vendors of obscene literature the fullest penalty he could. In passing sentence upon them, he gave them this just exhortation: "You are vipers and your crime is second only to murder. I would rather that a rattlesnake came into my house and crawled into my child's couch than have your vile literature carried to him."

In Germany the problem of how to treat wife-beaters has been solved in a far wiser way than in most other countries, for there the brutal husband must work all through the week, then turn over his wages to his wife on pay day and go to jail Saturday night and Sunday; about two weeks of this sort of experience has a most salutary ethical effect on the savage wife-beater.

General Booth, since his return to England, has given, in a letter to the New York World, his impressions of America, the word in this case applying to the United States. He says some very plain things, which, if taken heed to, may do great good: "I have been disappointed in the American people. I expected to find them extremely wise politically. I don't think I ever saw so much humbug. There is so much clap-trap, so much appealing to prejudice, so little of sound reasoning and calm decision in matters affecting public safety." Faithful are the wounds of a friend.

A correspondent of the London Christian Commonwealth declares that hundreds, to his personal knowledge, have been recovered from the morbid appetite for liquor by using hot water as a beverage at the time when the attacks of abnormal thirst came on. He vouches for the fact that grateful relief is felt for hours afterwards, and that this treatment persisted in has often effected a cure for dipsomania.

Business is improving in the States. There is more speculation and increasing demand for goods, while greater activity prevails in the money markets. In some establishments wages are increasing, but in other directions strikes are reported as having a retrograde effect. Prices of many commodities evince a tendency to advance, and advice to the same effect are received from Britain. The chief activity is in cotton, meats and petroleum, crude oil having advanced to the highest price in seventeen years.

On the 4th of December last, Dr. A. Berson made an ascent in his balloon "Phoenix" from Stassfurt, Germany, to the highest air level ever reached by man. He has just published an account of this daring expedition. The height reached was 9,150 metres (about 5.7 miles)—about 1,100 metres higher than ever before recorded. Glaisher, in 1862, reached a height of 8,000 metres and fainted. Dr. Berson took but two hours and twenty minutes to reach the surprising altitude attained by him. He was aided by a tremendous upward current.

Tsar Nicolas II. is terribly in earnest about the great Siberian Railway, and the details of the work are followed by him with the closest attention. Before his accession he was president of the committee in charge of the construction of the line, and he still continues the direction of their proceedings. He is greatly troubled about the condition of his brother, the Grand Duke George, who is at present in Algiers hoping to derive some benefit from the salubrious climate there for his serious lung complaint. Notwithstanding recent favourable reports as to the Grand Duke's condition, there can be little doubt that he is far gone in consumption, and that any improvement in his condition can be only temporary. He is said to be a most engaging prince, and to have been most popular in his Caucasian retreat. It was his custom every New Year's day to distribute some hundreds of New Testaments among his followers and guard.

able height dot the whole island. Hills of course limpy valleys and these valleys are the farms of Bermuda. For the most part the hills are covered with cedar trees and I understand it is a criminal offence to cut down or in any way injure one of these cedars. The palm tree and oleander are grown in abundance, and if there is anything in this life better for a weary sick man than the sight of these hills from the deck of a steamer after he has journeyed 1,300 miles from a temperature 20 degrees below zero I have yet to learn what it is.

THE BERMUDA FARM.

The following resolution was lately adopted by the New York legislature: Whereas, There are 100,000 women on many of whom families are dependent, employed in New York City, whose average wages are 60 cents a day, while a large proportion receive much smaller sums; and Whereas, From this terrible and unprecedented condition of affairs arise untold misery, immorality and crime; and Whereas, The oppression and suffering of these women arouse our deepest concern as legislators, and our every feeling of compassion and gallantry as men; therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Speaker of this Assembly appoint a committee of five with power to hold public hearings in the city of New York to look into the nature, extent, and, as far as may be, the causes of this great evil, said committee to make report to this Assembly at the earliest possible date, with suggestions for remedial legislation.

A sad condition of things, surely.

Jottings from Bermuda.

Knoxonian, the Canada Presbyterian's well-known and interesting contributor is sojourning in Bermuda for the benefit of his health—which it is pleasant to learn is improving. He writes of what he is seeing and the impressions made upon him. He is always worth reading:

Take a map of North America. Put your fore-finger on the city of New York. Run it, your finger, not the city—in a South-easterly direction for seven hundred and twenty miles. Now you are at Bermuda, the most isolated piece of ground in the world, except, perhaps, St. Helena, and the most strongly fortified spot in the British Empire except Gibraltar. If you ask why John Bull attaches so much importance to this isolated coral rock, I must, in the meantime, merely reply that John knows his business. Later on I may try to explain the reason why this island bristles with cannon, why red coats and mariners meet you at every point, why several beautiful hills are turned into forts that no civilian is allowed to enter, and the North American fleet cruises proudly around a little island with an area of less than twenty square miles. Meantime we leave you to guess the reason and repeat that old John knows what he is about in naval and military affairs. If there is only one kind of a point that he understands it is a strategic point.

"The Bermudas," as they used to be called, are a group of coral islands numbering, it is said, 365, one for every day in the year. If there are 365, the great majority of them are mere rocks that rise a little above water. A larger number are small—about the size of an average Muskoka island. Only five are of any considerable size and for all practical purposes the five are one, being connected by bridges. In these jottings the five will be considered as one island and will be called by the modern name—Bermuda.

For some reason best known to themselves, the coral insects constructed Bermuda in the form of a fish-hook. The line end of the hook points in a North-easterly direction, and the bait end is turned towards the American Continent, being directly opposite the city of Charleston and about six hundred miles East from that city. The hook is twenty miles in length and averages about two and a half miles in width. The area is less than twenty square miles and the population is 15,000, the same in number as Brantford, the home of the telephone and of energetic oratory.

Bermuda is a coral rock, covered in most places with a thin layer of soil. Hills without number, and of considerable

height dot the whole island. Hills of course limpy valleys and these valleys are the farms of Bermuda. For the most part the hills are covered with cedar trees and I understand it is a criminal offence to cut down or in any way injure one of these cedars. The palm tree and oleander are grown in abundance, and if there is anything in this life better for a weary sick man than the sight of these hills from the deck of a steamer after he has journeyed 1,300 miles from a temperature 20 degrees below zero I have yet to learn what it is.

The Bermudian soil grows no grain of any kind. Nearly everything that a man wears and eats has to be brought here, except potatoes, onions, fish and bananas. Oranges and lemons were once raised in abundance but some insect enemy killed them off. If you ask how it comes that a Bermudian, even on a rented farm, gets along so well, perhaps the main answer should be that he raises four crops a year.

THE BERMUDA HOUSE.

Bermudians are said to be the best housed people in the world. Sixty per cent. of the people are coloured but the coloured brother has a good place for himself and his numerous family to live in. With very few exceptions—I know of only two—the houses are built of coral blocks taken from the cellar or from a neighbouring hill-side. The coral when not exposed to the atmosphere is cream-coloured and is sawn much more easily than wood. The ordinary block used for building purposes is two feet long, one foot wide, six inches thick and can be produced for seven cents. Laying these blocks is a simple operation. The roof is made of the same material sawn into slabs and the chimneys too are of coral. Being porous, in order to prevent dampness, the house is covered with a thin layer of Portland cement and this whitewashed, roof, chimneys and all, with a lime made from the coral. The result is a house white from foundation to chimneytop. No small part of the beauty of Bermuda consists in the houses. Imagine a splendid house—and many of them are splendid—white as the driven snow standing in the bright sunlight on a hill side, surrounded by palms, cedars and many other varieties of semi-tropical trees; a beautiful flower garden in front with roses, geraniums and lilies in full bloom; the whole surrounded by a hedge of oleander, and you have some idea of what a good Bermudian home resembles. And remember, too, that Bermuda has nearly a thousand people to the square mile, and the houses must be near one another over the whole island.

THE BERMUDA ROAD.

is of coral. It is smooth, hard, clean, and never anything but clean. The coral being porous the road dries up in a few minutes after any kind of rain. The roads wind around or cut through the hills and one of the chief pleasures of a visit here is a drive. Some of the roads were made by convict labour—many years ago when

Bermuda was a penal colony. Driving on any road I have seen on the island simply means winding around lovely green hills, on a white road, clean and smooth as a floor. The main roads, called the North shore, middle and South shore, run the whole length of the island. Oleander hedges are as common on the waysides as fences are in other countries.

Bermuda is a small island but the people have solved social, political, fiscal, educational and ecclesiastical problems in a manner that might make them an example to larger communities.

Sweden and Norway.

Readers know that there is trouble in Norway and Sweden, but many of them may not know just what it is about. The Register states the situation briefly.

The situation in Sweden and Norway is at present very critical, and the war cloud seems to hang over the Scandinavian Peninsula. The two countries are closely allied in history, religion, language, and interest. But for many years there has been jealousy between them. The conditions of liberty are equally enjoyed in both countries. Norway has its own parliament, and enjoys every privilege of home rule. Indeed, the present complication does not arise from any question of home rule, but rather from jealousy and disagreement concerning the foreign service. As Norway and Sweden are joined in one kingdom, their foreign consulates represent both countries; and, as a matter of fact, there are as many Norwegian as Swedish, if not more, in the consular service. The Norwegian opposition claim, however, that the consuls endeavor to promote the commerce of Sweden rather than that of Norway, and ask that they may have a separate consular representation. The answer is that they are sufficiently represented now by their own countrymen, and that, if they were allowed to have separate consulates, they would also want separate diplomatic representatives, in which case foreign relations would be complicated, and there would be two powers to deal with instead of one. Under the existing union each country is pledged to assist the other in case of war; but, if each country had separate foreign representatives, the hazards of war might be increased. Though the excitement at present is great, the political majority against the king in Norway is not large, numbering only a plurality of five votes, the figures standing 59 to 54. In the event of war, Sweden has a much larger army and a much greater fleet; but, if Russia were to aid Norway, the complication would be very serious. Let us hope, however, that we shall not have the spectacle and horrors of war between the Scandinavian nations. They have little to gain, but much to lose by separation.

THE NAZARENES.—We find in the Christian World, of London, an account of a curious religious sect in Hungary, on the Eastern Danube, called the "Nazarenes," or, as some of them prefer, "Sons of Light" or "Followers of Christ." The sect was founded about sixty years ago by some mechanics of the humblest class. Their religious principles are similar in some points to those of the Quakers. They refuse to take an oath, carry no weapons, administer baptism only to adults, who receive the rite standing in the water, and have extemporary prayers, but no ritual. They principally belong to the trades classes, tho they include a number of farmers. According to Hungarian law any one may leave his former religious community, but cannot legally join one which is not recognized by the Government; and the Government has hitherto granted no recognition to this class. They, therefore, have no religion, so far as the Government is concerned; their marriages are invalid, and their dead have to be buried in that part of the cemetery which is devoted to atheists. They attract very little attention, as the Roman Catholic Church, which is the State Church, considers them too harmless for interference, and there is nothing in their teaching against the Roman Catholic religion. They, however, suffer considerably when it comes to a question of bearing arms. According to the law, every able bodied man between the ages of twenty and forty is obliged to take up arms and go through military drills. This the Nazarenes refuse to do, with the result that they are in a chronic state of imprisonment, or else the arms are strapped on them without their being able to resist. So long as there is peace this does not become very serious, but in time of war any refusal to carry arms would be punished by instant death.

WOMAN'S FOREIGN MISSION SOCIETY.

"Rise ye up women that are at ease." Isaiah 32: 9.

[All contributions for this column should be addressed to Mrs. Jos. McLeod, Fredericton.]

No Silver Lining.

There is no bright side to the picture of the child marriage in India. The child is named when about twelve days old, and after the ceremony comes the betrothal. If a child is not betrothed before she is eight, the family is considered disgraced. A husband's legal right begins at the time of betrothal, and she belongs to him for all time; should he die a few hours after, she is one of the child widows and belongs to the husband's family. She is a slave without hope of freedom or protection from cruelty. From eight to ten years is the usual age at which the wife is taken to the husband's home but many are taken from home and mother at an earlier age. Can you think of a child of six married to a man of sixty or seventy, whose very presence is loathsome to her? This husband may be a madman, a leper or an idiot. Whenever he chooses to claim the child wife there is no eye to pity or law to protect. Is there any form of slavery on the earth equal to it? Do you wonder that these little ones prefer death to lives of such wretchedness? Christian wives! Christian mothers of girls! when you pray for the daughters of America, forget not the many millions of child wives in the Zenanas of India.

"She was a Stranger."

The following story has a lesson for all, old and young.

A Sunday-school missionary while addressing a Sunday-school noticed a little girl shabbily dressed and barefooted, shrinking in a corner, her little sun-burned face buried in her hands and sobbing as if her heart would break. Soon, however, another little girl about eleven years of age got up and went to her. Taking her by the hand, she led her out to a brook, where she seated the little one on a log. Then kneeling beside her, this good Samaritan took off the ragged sunbonnet and dipping her hand into the water bathed the other's hot eyes and tear stained face, and smoothed the tangled hair, talking cheerily all the while.

The little one brightened up, the tears vanished, and smiles came creeping around the rosy mouth. The missionary who had followed the two, stepped forward and asked, "Is that your sister, my dear?"

"No, sir," answered the child with tender, earnest eyes. "I have no sister."

"Oh, one of the neighbor's children," replied the missionary—"a little schoolmate, perhaps?"

"No, sir; she is a stranger. I do not know where she came from. I never saw her before."

"Then how came you to take her out and have such a care for her, if you do not know her?"

"Because she was a stranger, sir, and seemed all alone, and needed somebody to be kind to her."

LOWER PERTH SOCIETY.—The W. F. M. Society of this place held a very interesting meeting on Wednesday evening, April 10th, at the residence of Mr. F. Bloodworth. The following programme was carried out:

Singing, "Nearing the Harbor," Mrs. J. W. Grant presiding at the organ; Scripture Lesson, Psalm II; Prayer, Mr. A. H. Sisson; Singing, "Speed the Gospel day;" Responsive Bible reading by the members; address by the President, Mr. F. F. Bloodworth; recitation, "Little Graces," by four little girls; reading, "Tell it again," by Mrs. Fred. Grant; recitation, "A little child shall lead them," by Miss Amy McGibbon singing, "Speed away;" reading, "The Spread of the Kingdom," by Miss Alanda Tompkins; recitation, "For my King," by Pearl Grant; singing, "Ripe for the Harvest;" reading, "Died as a Christian," by Mrs. J. W. Grant; recitation, "Suffer Little Children," by four little girls; reading, "Nellie's Gift," by Flossie Roman; remarks by Messrs. Sisson,

Murphy and Kilburn; singing "Good Night;" benediction by Mr. Sisson.

At the close of the meeting there was a plain tea, provided by the ladies, at twenty-five cents a couple. The proceeds were \$6.30.

A. E. GRANT, Sec'y.

DON'T BE DISCOURAGED.—There is a suggestion to the great multitude who think that they are called to enlighten the public with the pen, in the following from the Boston Transcript: "It is estimated that about seventy-five per cent. of book manuscripts offered to book publishers never become books at all. A member of a Boston publishing house once said that if one manuscript in a hundred of those offered proved acceptable, he thought it a very good average. Yet the vast mass of literary production continues to grow vaster every year."

Among Exchanges.

SELF-DENIAL.

The man who shrinks from self denial pushes the cup of happiness away from his lips.—*Ram's Horn.*

WRONG METHODS.

Obtaining money for the aid of the church through a resort to lotteries, church fairs, and festivals destroys the true spirit of philanthropy and self-sacrifice which is the very essence, the very foundation, of all practical Christianity.—*Telescope.*

ARROGANCE.

No denomination has the right to write itself down as The Church. That is not Christianity, it is arrogance. The Church consists of all those throughout the world who exercise faith in Christ and obedience to him. He who rules them out is in danger of himself being ruled out by him to whom they are infinitely precious.—*P. Witness.*

THE BATTLE ON.

There never was a time like the present for discussing the liquor problem. It is the living issue. The whole world sees it. From the Storting of Norway to the Reichstag of Germany and the Parliament of Great Britain the saloon question is in evidence. The fight is just opening. Hell can't be extinguished with a garden hose. We shall have to buckle on our armor, and enlist for the war. Whatever hindrances we must be laid aside. We are God's men. We stand or fall with his cause.—*Western Advocate.*

A TROUBLE.

He is a troublesome man in a not over intelligent community, who reasons as follows: Show me divine authority for a Sunday-school, or give it up. Produce your Scriptural warrant for a young people's meeting, or disband it. Bring out your "thus saith the Lord" for church socials, or let them cease. Give chapter and verse for a baptistry in a church building, or remove it. Men of this kind are in the way of success. They do not understand the teaching of the New Testament. Think of a man wanting to debate with his brethren their right to have a Sunday-school, he taking the negative.—*Chr's Standard.*

WILL BE LISTENED TO.

No matter whether he is eloquent or not, the man who lives right will be listened to with interest by somebody every time he stands to speak in church.—*Chr's Standard.*

FLUNKYISM.

Flunkysim in the Senate has taken a great turn! Caterer Simma, of the Senate restaurant, has created a mild sensation by having his waiters, with powdered hair, arrayed in liveries. Just fancy the venerable Senators having their "appetizers" brought to them by flunkers, arrayed in gorgeous liveries and with powdered hair! Yet we are a democratic people.—*The Transcript.*

GOOD ADVICE.

The New York Observer gives a bit of good advice to writers for the press in commenting on this advice of an old editor, "Take care of your 'ults,' and 'insts.'" We have often been confused by writers who state that an event took place on a certain "ult." or "inst." When such statements are two or three months old there is no way to determine when the occurrence took place. The Observer quotes the following from the Examiner: "We beg to reiterate the request that contributors to our news columns omit the use of all such vague and misleading expressions as 'last week,' 'next Sunday,' 'ult.' 'inst.' 'prox.' etc. Give the day of the month, good friends, as well as the day of the week; then there will be no doubt as to the date intended." We heartily indorse the comment, "and all the editors say so."—*Telescope.*