

Religious Intelligencer.

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

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WHOLE No. 3082

NOTES AND GLEANINGS.

The sale of wine by a convent in Brooklyn is so large that the neighboring rum-sellers have asked for protection against the competition.

The reign of the horseless carriage appears to be marching on. They are now in use to a limited extent in New York, Philadelphia and Washington, and they are giving general satisfaction. Those now in use are imported, but their manufacture is soon to be commenced in the United States.

Nihilism is more active throughout Russia than at any time since the death of the Czar Alexander II. It has grown bolder and bolder since the accession of the new Czar to the throne. The police have made many arrests, and now guard the Czar's movements as carefully as those of his father, Alexander III, were guarded at the most perilous period of his reign.

The Japanese did not lose many lives by the war with China, but they are losing a great many by the much more deadly epidemic of cholera. In Osaka alone 1,076 cases have been reported, of which 717 are fatal, and the disease has been introduced into the Hawaiian Islands, the deaths at Honolulu being 32 out of 39 cases. The shutting up of the churches in Honolulu may have been a necessary and an unusual precaution.

The cause of temperance in Europe has found great encouragement in the Anti-Alcoholic Congress, which was held at Biele the latter part of August. There were about five hundred in attendance from different parts of Europe—physicians, scholars, churchmen, laborers, men of every class and condition in life. There were several reunions of the Blue Cross, and twenty-five of the attendant physicians formed a total abstinence association.

According to official returns, the Indians now included within the United States number about a quarter of a million. Of these about 76 per cent. are self-supporting, of whom over 18 per cent. live outside the reservations, pay taxes, and are counted in the general population. Last year the Indians raised over eleven million bushels of wheat, beside other products. After so many years of decline, the remnant of the once numerous race seems likely to survive.

Spiritualists in Michigan have just been holding an encampment at Devil's Lake, where some of the most notorious mediums have been giving all sorts of tests to the people, who with open mouths cry for more. It is curious to see how exploded humbugs reappear as though they had not been exploded. They are like certain insects, of which it is said that if you cut them in two the body will go off and in a little while have a head, and the head depart and in a little while have a body. Whatever the character of the site, the name of this camping ground could not have been more appropriately selected.

Twelve of the late Dr. Spurgeon's sermons have been translated into Bengali and published under the title, "The Heavengone Mahatma, C. H. Spurgeon." Mr. Robert Spurgeon writes: The word "Mahatma" is a current word in Bengali, and has around it or within it no mystic idea such as Mrs. Besant gives it. It is made up of two words, "Maha"—meaning "great," and "Atma"—meaning "spirit." Thus the dictionary renders it, "magnanimous, great-minded, generous, noble-spirited." The common conception of the word is "great-souled," or "the great and famous one."

For forty centuries, says "Z. Herald" the white man scrupulously avoided Africa. To-day there is a turn in the tide. One of the most significant facts of our century is the tendency of the white race to the "Dark Continent." At first they went to trade; they now go as colonists. The continent has become dotted with white settlements. Not less than a million white persons have driven their stakes in Africa. The impulse is moving all western Europe—English, Dutch, Portuguese, Italian, Belgian and German alike. Each wishes not only a sphere of influ-

ence, but a habitat in the desert continent. It is one of the great providential movements of history, destined to produce more important results in the twentieth century.

THE CONFERENCE.

The report of Conference proceedings in last week's issue ended with the reading of the Report of the Corresponding Secretary, Saturday afternoon. A large and interested audience listened to the statistics and other facts about the year's work and the condition of the churches, as set forth in the Report.

The adoption of the report was moved by Rev. J. W. Clarke, who made a brief speech. The year's history of the churches, their activities and successes had given him pleasure, he said. He knew something of the difficulties attending the work of the Corresponding Secretary, and was gratified that so full returns had been secured, and so encouraging a report made. The fact that about thirty churches had not been heard from was cause for regret. Measures should be adopted to secure in future years reports from all the churches. We need to know all the facts, else we cannot adapt help to the needy. The glad fact of the fulfilment of the gracious promise that our "labour is not in vain in the Lord" must rejoice all hearts. The number converted during the year is large. Doubtless many more, of whom we have no record, were converted during the year through the instrumentality of our ministers and churches. He emphasized the important part the laity has in the work of winning souls to Christ; and, also, the vast importance of home christian teaching and example. The young must be won to the love and service of Christ.

Rev. A. Perry seconded the motion to adopt the Report, saying,—"God is with us; let us rejoice and be glad in His presence. He expressed special satisfaction that the contributions of the churches to christian work are as large as the report shows. There are claims upon us; we are under obligation to spread the Gospel, and to make known the doctrines of the New Testament as we understand them. He instanced Albert Co. in which we have only one church. And yet, according to the last census, there were in the county nine hundred persons who registered themselves as Free Baptists. This year we should go forth with more purpose to discharge our obligations. We cannot do this without more money. Wherever our people are, as in the County referred to, we should send missionaries to gather them together. It is, perhaps, not popular to say that we must have more money, but it is a fact, and, therefore, must be stated. We should not be satisfied to hold our own; we must go ahead. Indeed no church or denomination does hold its own which is not aggressive and advancing.

The Report was then adopted. Rev. G. A. Hartley, corresponding Delegate to the N. S. Conference at its last session, presented the following report:

BROTHER MODERATOR,—Your delegate appointed at the last session of this Conference, to bear your fraternal greetings to the Annual General Conference of our brethren in Nova Scotia, has pleasure in reporting that he greatly enjoyed attending to that pleasant duty.

His first, like official visit, to the brethren of that province, was made in 1858, just 37 years intervening. During this interval he has quite frequently been sent by this Conference to mingle with those dear christian workers. He has rejoiced and also wept with them.

The hearty, soulful welcome accorded to your delegate, especially given by the older members of Conference who remembered earlier visits, assured him that the bond of fellowship had not loosened since 1858 when he last met with that Conference in the beautiful town of Yarmouth.

The annual session of 1895 was held last month with the church at Port La Tour, Shelburne Co., a distance of about 60 miles from Yarmouth town, which had to be travelled by carriage. Our brethren hold a semi-annual session in June.

Your delegate reached the seat of Conference just in time for the Reporting meeting, and felt very much at home in again conveying the fraternal greetings of this Conference to his Nova Scotia brothers and sisters. Yes, sisters, for he found in that Conference christian women occupying the position of delegates. The interest manifested in the report showed how sincerely

our brethren across the bay appreciate the love and good will of the New Brunswick Conference. They are in spirit and labour one with us, and rejoice in our prosperity.

In the matter of attendance I think our Nova Scotia people exceed us in proportion to numbers. This may be accounted for, when it is remembered that their churches are all directly represented in the General Conference, not indirectly through District meetings as ours are. Their deacons and Sunday School Superintendents are members of General Conference by virtue of their offices. Beside these, delegates, now of both sexes, are appointed from each church. These with the ministers, the officers of the Mission Society, officers of the Young People's Convention, and the visitors, made a large gathering, quite filling the spacious and beautiful church edifice.

Our brethren are carrying on the several departments of their denominational work with spirit and ability. The business of the Session was done expeditiously and with marked harmony. Their churches are taking an increasing interest in their Mission work. Since they have been directly represented in India by one of themselves, the people have come to feel that greater responsibilities rest upon them and they contribute more liberally. Such is the increase in their Home Mission work, that they anticipate putting a missionary in the field this year, in addition to making the usual grants to their weaker pastorates. They have several young men attending the schools at Lewiston, preparing for the work of the ministry, whom they assist somewhat through their Education Society.

Their Sabbath schools are reported as efficient and doing good work. They have a Convention of Young People's Societies, much like our own, which met during the session of Conference. These Societies assist their churches in raising funds for church needs and Mission purposes.

They are sustaining their record on the temperance question, and take strong ground as prohibitionists.

Their interest in the RELIGIOUS INTELLIGENCER seems unabated. They regard it as the organ of their denomination, although many of them take, and think highly of, that excellent paper the *Morning Star*.

Usually a number of F. W. Baptist ministers from Mass. and Maine, and several of our brethren, attend the Nova Scotia Conference, but this year the only visiting ministers present were Rev. David Byrd, delegate from the Free W. Baptist Maine State Association, and your delegate. Even the editor of the RELIGIOUS INTELLIGENCER, whom they almost claim as one of themselves, was hindered making his annual visit.

A continuation of this pleasant correspondence by delegation was solicited, and the Rev. S. K. West, of Barrington, a brother highly esteemed and the Moderator of their Conference, was appointed, whom I am sure we are all pleased to see with us to-day, and whom we heartily welcome personally and representatively.

Your delegate will not speak of numbers or general statistics; of these our brother the Nova Scotia delegate will tell you. He will not say what has been done to bring about closer fellowship and organic union of all Free Baptists. The committee to whom was entrusted that matter, will report at the proper time.

Sincerely thanking you for the honour conferred.

Rev. Joseph K. West, Corresponding Delegate from the Nova Scotia Free Baptist Conference, being introduced, said:

You have, I am sure, very complete knowledge of our work. Reading the INTELLIGENCER from week to week, as I trust you all do, you cannot but be familiar with us, the work our ministers and churches are doing, and the successes God gives us. In my boyhood, faces of your older ministers were very familiar to me, their pictures being amongst the most cherished in my father's home. When a young man I left Nova Scotia, and until three years ago my knowledge of the workers and the work was quite limited. But now that I am again in the home land, sharing in the joys and sorrows, the toils and triumphs of the good work, I am getting acquainted with the facts about the condition and needs of the cause. He gave some statistics, including the statement that there are in N. S. forty churches, having 3,796 members; and that last year one hundred and eight were added by baptism. He spoke of the two New Brunswick ministers—Revs. A. W. Currie and A. M. McNinch—who are in charge of pastorates in Nova Scotia, and said they are doing good work. He said his Conference was always good to receive delegates and visitors from the N. B. Conference, and asked a continuance of the correspondence.

On motion, bro. West was welcomed and given a seat in the Conference.

Rev. Thos. Kinney, of the Maine State Free Baptist Association, was introduced. He expressed his great pleasure at being present. He had attended the Conference held at Hampstead a few years ago; he spoke of the changes that had taken place since then, the preacher of the annual sermon that year, Rev. Wm. Downey, and several others were missing from this session—they had gone to their blessed reward. He gave some facts about the work of the Maine Association, and said the brethren there are in perfect sympathy with the N. B. Conference; the fraternal feeling is strong. He spoke of the young men from N.B. and N.S. who are with them; they are doing good work and are amongst their best ministers. Coming to N. B., he said, is like coming home, for he is a native of the Province, and he hopes to spend some time soon visiting the scenes of his early life. Again assuring the Conference of the love of their brethren in Maine, he desired a renewal and continuance of the correspondence by delegates between the two bodies.

Bro. Kinney was voted a welcome to and a seat in the Conference.

By request of the W. C. T. U. of Woodstock a committee was appointed to confer with a committee of the Union about a mass temperance meeting. The committee reported that it had been arranged to hold such meeting under the auspices of the Union, the speakers to be Messrs. G. W. Foster, B. H. Nobles and Jos. McLeod. Adjourned; prayer by Rev. H. A. Bonnell.

SUNDAY SCHOOLS REPORT,—The Conference met at 7.30 p. m. Scripture lesson by the Moderator; prayer by Rev. J. Perry.

Revs. M. P. Orser and G. A. Giberson, of the N. B., N. S. and Maine F. B. Conference were introduced and invited to seats in the Conference. Both spoke briefly, telling of their pleasure at being present, expressing a desire for closer union of the bodies, and requesting a return delegation.

In the absence, on account of illness, of bro. James E. McCready, Corresponding Secretary for Sabbath Schools, Rev. D. Long presented his report as follows:

BRO. MODERATOR,—The Executive Committee for Sabbath Schools have much pleasure in presenting the following report on denominational Sabbath School work for the year 1894-95.

1. The first District reports six schools, having 198 pupils and 19 teachers, being 26 pupils and 6 teachers less than reported last year.

2. The Second District reports 18 schools having 905 pupils and 84 teachers, being 96 pupils and 12 teachers less than reported last year. The number of conversions in the Sabbath Schools of this District during the year was 59.

3. The Third District reports 11 schools, 717 pupils, 70 teachers, and 36 conversions during the year.

4. The Fourth District reports 12 schools, 590 pupils and 51 teachers, being a gain over last year of 4 schools and 91 pupils. The number of conversions from the schools of this District was 54.

5. The Fifth District reports 10 schools, 326 pupils and 33 teachers, being 2 schools 50 pupils and 6 teachers less than last year. The number of conversions from the schools of this District was 31.

6. The Sixth District is the banner District in the number of schools, there being 22 schools, 1115 pupils and 106 teachers, being a gain of 3 schools, 15 teachers and 95 pupils. The conversions from the schools of this District were 62.

7. The Seventh District reports 11 schools, 1415 pupils and 116 teachers, showing a gain over last year of 35 pupils and 6 teachers. The number of conversions from these schools was 114.

Total number of schools reported, 90; " " " pupils enrolled, 5266; " " " teachers enrolled, 479; " " " conversions, 365.

Your committee note with gratitude and pleasure that the number of conversions during the past year was 356, for which we give thanks to Almighty God who has so abundantly blessed this part of our christian work. May we as a denomination become more enthusiastic in Sabbath School work, that the young may become well instructed in the word of the Lord, and be brought to the Saviour in the days of their youth. There is also an increase reported in the number of schools kept open during the whole year which is an evidence of greater interest.

Respectively submitted on behalf of the Executive Committee for Sabbath Schools.

JAS. E. MCCREADY,

Corresponding Secretary.

Rev. G. W. Foster moved the adoption of the report in a practical and interesting speech. The gains, he said,

are gratifying, and should incite us to still more zeal in the good work. While in hearty sympathy with the objects of the N. B. S. S. Association, he thought it would be well if some of the time and energy given to that might be put into our denominational work. He spoke also of the importance of more and fuller reports.

Rev. Jos. McLeod seconded the motion to adopt, and made a brief speech.

Rev. J. H. Erb said the wise builder is particular about the foundation. Sabbath Schools are doing foundation work. To do it well they must love the work and those with and for whom they are working. Much, as to the future of the church and the world depends on the treatment and training given the children.

Rev. G. A. Hartley told of a murderer's confession to him—that if he had not been laughed out of going to Sunday School he would have avoided the habits and associations which led to his ruin. He said it pays the pastor to give attention to his Sabbath School. Teachers can never tell how much good they are doing.

The report was adopted, and Conference adjourned to meet at 9 a. m. Monday.

THE SABBATH,—Sunday was a beautiful day, and larger congregations attended all the services. The first meeting was one of praise and prayer at 9 a. m. For nearly two hours the people prayed, sang and talked about their Lord and the joy they have in His service. The meeting was led by Rev. T. Connor, and was a season of much spiritual refreshing—an excellent beginning of the day's worship. The preaching services were as follows:

11 a. m., the annual sermon, by Rev. F. C. Hartley; at 3 p. m., by Rev. J. K. West; the Lord's Supper, presided over by the pastor and Revs. J. Noble and T. Connor; 7 p. m., by Rev. B. H. Nobles. The Sabbath School met at 2.15 p. m. There was preaching in other churches by members of Conference as follows:—Methodist 11 a. m., Rev. Dr. McLeod; 7 p. m., Rev. G. A. Hartley; Baptist—11 a. m., Rev. J. W. Clarke; 7 p. m., Rev. G. W. Foster; Presbyterian—11 a. m., Rev. W. DeWare; 7 p. m., Rev. W. J. Hale; Reformed Baptist—11 a. m., Rev. C. B. Lewis; Jacksonville Baptist—3 p. m., Rev. D. Long; Waterville Free Baptist—7 p. m., Rev. W. DeWare.

Monday,—Business was resumed at 9 a. m., Monday. Moderator Currie presided. Singing Hymn 476. Prayer by Rev. C. F. Rideout. Roll call. Reading of Minutes. The first business was the election of Moderator. The ballot resulted in the choice of Rev. G. W. Foster, with Rev. G. W. Swin Assistant Moderator. The retiring Moderator and his successor made suitable remarks on leaving and taking the chair, respectively.

Rev. Mr. McDonald, pastor of the Woodstock Baptist church, being present, was introduced. Rev. Thos. Todd, (Baptist,) and Rev. Mr. Denton (Adventist,) were also present during the session and introduced.

The committee on Deceased Brethren reported, by Rev. G. A. Hartley, as follows:

BROTHER MODERATOR,—Your Committee on Deceased Brethren seldom pass through a General Conference without having to perform the sad duty of reporting the departure, by death, of some one or more of our dear brethren.

The last year has been afflictive on account of the deaths of several prominent lay brethren, some of whom were active in the doings of last year's session. The death, at Calcutta, of the late and lamented Dr. James L. Phillips, so long our worthy representative in Mission work in India, has cast a gloom over our entire denomination.

But as the work of this Committee is supposed to be confined to the ministry of this Conference, we will make no further reference to others, but proceed at once to say that, during the ecclesiastical year just closed, the Master has called two of our ordained brethren to their rest and reward.

Rev. Samuel W. Shaw, of Hartland, Carleton County, after years of wasting and suffering in the flesh, quietly passed away to rest. He died at his home on January 22nd, 1895, aged 62 years. Bro. Shaw was licensed by this Conference in 1876, and ordained in 1883. He laboured more or less, here and there as opportunity offered, mostly in the upper part of the country. He had never been very prominent in care of churches, but in his capacity filled his place and was made a blessing

to souls. He has gone to the home of the holy where we all hope to greet him again.

Rev. Ezekiel Sipprell, of Somerville, Carleton Co., died at his home, April 9th, 1895, at the advanced age of 96 years. This patriarch of our denomination, was probably, at the time of his death, the oldest minister of the Gospel in the Dominion of Canada. He was one of the earliest pioneer settlers on the St. John river above this town.

This denomination was organized in 1832, then having but two ordained ministers, with the name of "New Brunswick Christian Conference."

By June, 1835, the number of elders had increased to eight. Our deceased brother was one of the six added between 1832 and 1835, and was ordained, probably, in 1833, or possibly 1834, quite soon, however, after his marriage, which was in 1833. He had been an ordained minister of the Gospel with this people sixty odd years.

He was well known and highly respected throughout our whole denominational field. He laboured mostly as an evangelist, but as long ago as 1852, when the Conference was divided into "Districts of Care," Elder Sipprell had for his district the Beekamie church, and Creek Settlement church, as shown by the minutes of Conference of that year. In 1860 he had for his circuit, the Ghee, Gallop, Greenfield and Perkins' Corner churches, as per minutes of that year. But for the most part he travelled as his mind led him. All the churches were always glad to welcome "Father Sipprell."

So strongly was he attached to the people of his long life of care, and so much did he enjoy meeting with them at the annual meetings, that even up to last year, when so enfeebled with age that he could not endure the least fatigue, he was anxious to once more meet with his brethren in General Conference. He was a sincere and faithful man of God. He possessed the tenderness of real strength, and the strength of real tenderness. He could no more bear with a sham than he could be a sham himself. He believed the Gospel to be God's spell for man, able to save all who would believe in Christ. Sanguine in temperament and faithful in duty during the prime of his life, he was always an inspiration to his brethren. Often during his life of labour amongst us, when things were heavy and the outlook dark, he has been like a prophet of the morning, foretelling brighter days. But with "Uncle Zekel," as he was by so many called, all the dark times are over, forever over. He has entered the brightness and the sweet rest of the Saints of the Most High God. Though he is dead he yet speaketh. May God bless his memory to the good and encouragement of us, who are younger, and who now have the care of the churches on our hearts.

"Mark the perfect man, and behold the upright: for the end of that man is peace."

"The pains of death are past; Labour and sorrow cease; And, life's long warfare closed at last, His soul is found in peace."

Attention was called to the need of a revised form of church reports, a form was presented, and a committee was appointed to complete the revision and have the forms printed. The committee consists of brethren Clarke, Hale, Hartley and Nobles.

The Secretary of the Ministers' Conference, Rev. J. T. Parsons, communicated to General Conference the action of the Ministers' Conference in granting letters of dismissal to Revs. A. W. Currie and A. M. McNinch to unite with the Nova Scotia Conference, and asked Conference's concurrence. The requested action was taken, and the brethren transferred as they desired.

The Secretary of the Ministers' Conference also communicated the request of that body that the paper on Christian Baptism, by Rev. J. H. Erb, be read before the Conference.

The attention of Conference was called to the importance of contributions from the churches, more generally, to the fund for the relief of aged, sick and disabled ministers, and the following resolution was adopted:—

Resolved, That the Sunday immediately preceding General Conference in each year, or such other Sunday as the pastor in charge may think best, the Ministers' Relief Sunday, and that the churches be requested to take, each, a collection for the Ministers' Relief fund.

According to notice given, it was moved to change Rule of Order 16, substituting a majority vote for a two-thirds vote. The motion was lost.

.....Revs. F. C. Hartley and G. Swin and Dr. McLeod Vince were appointed a committee to examine licenses.

Rev. Jos. McLeod, from a committee on Free Baptist Union, presented a report:

Your Committee on Free Baptist Union, appointed by resolution 23 of last session, beg leave to report as follows:

(Continued on fourth page.)