

Religious Intelligencer.

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

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WHOLE No. 2194

NOTES AND GLEANINGS.

One of the peculiarities of the new constitution elaborated by South Carolina statesmen for the purpose of securing the supremacy of the white over the coloured population is that it disfranchises persons who have been convicted of theft, but not murderers, who have escaped prison or the gallows. The reason seems to be that theft is the peculiar sin of negroes, while murderers are generally whites.

A steamer running on rails is a curious sight to be seen near Copenhagen. Two lakes are separated by a narrow strip of land, on which rails are laid, running into the water on either side. The steamer which is 44 ft. long and carries seventy passengers, is guided to the rails by piles like a ferry slip; it has wheels on either side which fit the rails, and is driven full speed up one side of the incline and down the other into the water on the other side.

To relieve the frequent and awful dread of being buried alive, the Mortuary Waiting Room Company has been organized in Paris, which proposes to provide a suitable building and furnish appropriate rooms for the temporary deposit and care of the dead until such time as the certainty of their dissolution shall be established beyond question. The bodies will be watched by skilled attendants. The capital of the Company is \$100,000.

The National Medical Congress of Switzerland has requested the newspapers of that country to maintain a strict silence on the subject of suicide. It has been found, both in Europe and in this country, that the high average of suicides is due to the fact that announcement in the newspapers of a sensational suicide is immediately followed by a large number of other suicides perpetrated in the same manner.

At the Drunkards' Retreats, in England, the plan is to make the patients stop drinking at once, and make them abstain entirely for a long period, twelve months when possible, keeping them busy during that time. The Lancet reports that no harm, but good is done by the sudden and complete disuse of alcohol in such cases. It further declares that a large number of cases are permanently cured, and that habitual drunkenness in women is by no means a hopeless disease. These encouraging statements are based upon fifteen years' existence of the said retreats. Captain Bunting's Home in New York pursues the same plan as respects stopping at home.

Attempts to construct overland telegraph lines along the River Amazon in Brazil have been abandoned, owing to the rapid and dense growth of the tropical forest. A cable will now be laid in the bed of the river. The Amazon system is perhaps the most remarkable in the world. The Andes in Peru, the extreme southern part of Bolivia, and the interior of Colombia may be reached by the waters of this mighty stream or its tributaries. Small boats can even pass from it into the Orinoco, and traverse Venezuela. Were its shores peopled by a hardier and more intelligent race, this vast network of interior waterways would convey to the markets of the world an astonishing variety and volume of tropical products.

A correspondent of a St. Petersburg newspaper in the Caucasus states that the Dakhobori, the sect now suffering such fearful hardships for refusing to bear arms, are people who lead a Christ-like and spotless life. Neither rich nor poor exist among them. They all lived in comfort, each peasant possessing from six to eight horses, and from ten to twelve oxen and cows, besides sheep, pigs and poultry. If one of them lost a cow or a horse, his loss was made good by a neighbour. They call one another 'brother' and 'sister.' Their day begins with prayer and the singing of a psalm. Their food is frugal—bread, potatoes, cabbage and other vegetables. They eat no flesh meat although they freely enjoy milk, butter and eggs. Their drink is water, and 'Kvas,' a kind of small beer. There is little distinction between the dress of men and women, both sexes wearing long blue cloth caftans, or coats; bound with a coloured sash

round the waist, and high boots up to the knees.

Every loyal Canadian, says the *Canada Presbyterian*, will welcome with all his heart, every measure that will tend to bind us more closely to the Mother country and to our sister colonies in the different parts of the widely extended empire of which we have no unimportant part. Every thing that brings us more closely together, in lessening distance and time between us, helps to this great end. The Colonial Conference was a most significant event and it is beginning to bear fruit. The Pacific cable scheme and a line of fast Atlantic steamships, now giving signs of materializing, are the latest fruits. The *Times* has published an article on the Pacific cable and the proposed fast steamship service to Canada direct. It says the success of the movement is largely due to Canada. In both the steamship and the cable schemes the principle is recognized that in order to have British connection exclusively, the line must, in the first instance, be carried westward from the centre. By the acceptance of this principle, Canada obtains a position she has never occupied before, as the main highway of the British Empire.

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Christian Citizenship, and Good Government.

The movement for good government gains. Everywhere thoughtful people are feeling that there must be reform in government—civic, municipal, provincial, and federal. The number who are feeling this is increasing. It is the duty of the christian pulpit and press to urge the matter upon the attention of all, and encourage such thought of citizenship as will find its expression in the choice of none but good men for representative and other official positions.

A recent article in the "Religious Telescope" states clearly what christian citizenship is, and what is involved in it. It is nothing other or less than a citizenship in which the principles of the Christian religion, as taught and practiced by Jesus Christ, control all human actions, whether private or public. One, to be a christian citizen, needs only to be a christian. Wherever the true christian goes, and in whatever he engages, he will be a christian. Christianity is both a principle and a life. Wherever, therefore, the christian goes he must take with him the dominant principles entering into his conduct and character. If true to his christian profession, he must from the very nature of the case carry his religion with him to the primary and the polls as much as to prayer meeting. He cannot be one thing in politics and another thing in religion. He cannot lead two lives, one for Christ and the other for his party at the election. In other words he cannot be a good christian and a bad citizen at the same time. He must be one or the other. If a man is corrupt at the ballot box and knowingly a supporter of bad men, he is not a good citizen, to say nothing of being a christian in practice, even if he be a minister, a Sunday-school teacher, or a worker in the church in some other relation.

The true christian, then, is the christian citizen, and there is no other. He performs his civic duties with the same fidelity to Christ that he does to the church or his fellow-men in other relations. We shall, therefore, never have practical christian citizenship till professing christians take their religion into all their relations, in life, social, business, and political, as well as those which are purely churchly. The fact is, that unless we have christian citizenship, as some one has wisely said, there will ultimately be no citizenship in America worth having. Christian citizenship, we must then conclude, is not something inconsistent with "practical politics," as many have supposed.

What is being done to promote this high and necessary type of citizenship? Much in many ways. Efforts are being put forth to accomplish at least two things in the interest of civic righteousness and good government.

1. To have good laws enacted by lawmaking bodies.

2. To enforce good laws in the interest of society.

There are ends at which christian citizenship aims, and they can only be reached by a citizenship in deep sympathy with them. There are too many who seem to think that the only end, or the chief end, to be sought is good laws, and that when these are secured there is nothing more to do. But this is a serious mistake. The securing of good laws is only the first step toward good government. The great task follows. All good citizens need first of all to be so aroused that they will personally be law-abiding, and that they will continuously and not spasmodically work for the enforce-

ment of all righteous laws. A paragraph in a late Sunday School Times is to the point here. The writer says: "Good laws are a poor substitute for personal virtue. Society needs the laws, but the laws need the moral man back of them. Too often the quiet, orderly citizen gives a sigh of relief when he hears of the enactment of a seemingly wise law. He imagines that the wrong is now practically righted. And yet there is danger that that very law, with all its excellence of intention, may help along the evil it is designed to correct, because so many good men place their whole dependence in the law instead of in the human heart. Laws do not execute themselves nor make men virtuous, any more than swords and rifles make war. 'Not the glittering weapon fights the fight, but the hero's heart.'"

The movement on behalf of Christian citizenship goes farther. It puts special emphasis on the enforcement of law, as is indicated by the following clearly stated objects of the National Christian Citizenship League, which was organized two years ago in Chicago. Briefly stated, the objects of this organization, which has already become one of the established institutions of the land, are to unite the followers of Christ in consistent, harmonious, and aggressive action, not as church members, but as christian citizens for the following purposes:

1. To prevent, by personal effort, the nomination and election of corrupt candidates, and the enactment of corrupt laws in city, state and nation.
2. To secure fidelity on the part of officials entrusted with the execution of the laws.
3. To exterminate the saloon as the greatest enemy of Christ and humanity.
4. To preserve the Sabbath.
5. To purify and elevate the elective franchise.
6. To promote the study of social wrongs and the application of effective remedies.
7. In general, to seek the reign of whatever things are true, honest, just, pure, lovely and of good report.

The league having these ends in view is nonsectarian and nonpolitical. It simply aims to unite all christian citizens of all political parties in a war upon political corruption. It seeks to secure the enforcement of all righteous laws. We heartily commend the purposes and work of this organization, and urge all christian citizens to co-operate with it in its good work.

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The Week of Prayer.

The following topics are suggested for the Week of Prayer.

SERMONS.

Sunday, January 5th.—"But the Comforter, the Holy Ghost, whom the Father will send in my name, he will teach you all things, and bring all things to your remembrance, whatsoever I have said unto you."—John 14:26.

HUMILIATION AND THANKSGIVING.
Monday, January 6th.—Confession: Of sins and of omission.
Praise: For temporal and spiritual mercies to individuals, communities and nations.—1 John 1; Ps. 32:1-5; Ps. 116:12-19; Ps. 100; 1 Chron. 29:10-13.

THE CHURCH UNIVERSAL.

Tuesday, January 7th.—Praise: For increasing fellowship among believers since the formation of the Evangelical Alliance, fifty years ago.

Prayer: That the presence and power of the Holy Ghost may be felt; that the communion of saints may be perfected; that the Word may be preached in its purity.—Acts 1:5-8; John 17:20-23; Eph. 4:1-16.

NATIONS AND THEIR RULERS.
Wednesday, January 8th.—Praise: For increasing recognition of the rights of conscience during the past fifty years; for the revival of civic patriotism.

Prayer: For all in authority, that laws may be wisely enacted and faithfully executed; for religious liberty; for peace; for the persecuted; for the abolition of the opium, slave and strong drink traffic; for all needed reforms—moral, social, industrial and political.—1 Tim. 2:1-4; Matt. 5:10-12; 1 Pet. 2:13-25; Rev. 11:15.

FOREIGN MISSIONS.

Thursday, January 9th.—Praise: For missionary progress; "for the 'Students' Movement,' and the increased number of candidates for the work."

Prayer: For all missionaries in their labors and trials; for missionary societies under their financial burdens; for the opening of new doors as the result of wars in the East; for the suppression of the African rum traffic, and for the removal of all hindrances; for the conversion of the world.—Isa. 40:1-5; Ps. 67; Rom. 10:11-15.

HOME MISSIONS.

Friday, January 10th.—Praise: For increased appreciation of opportunities and obligations.

Prayer: For missionaries and other laborers; for missionary societies; for increased offerings; for the heathen at

our doors; for depleted rural districts and neglected city populations; for increased christianity.—Luke 10:1, 2; 14:21-23; Isa. 60:1-5; Mark 9:38-40.

FAMILIES AND SCHOOLS.

Saturday, January 11th.—Praise: For the gracious promises to the godly and their children, and for the increasing number of young disciples.

Prayer: For a deeper sense of the sacredness of the family relation; for parents, children and servants; for increased christian nurture; for Sunday and day schools; for christian associations of young people.—Mark 10:13-22; Matt. 19:3-9; Deut. 11:18-21.

SERMONS.

Sunday, January 12th.—"Let him take hold of my strength, that he may make peace with me."—Isa. 27:5.
"The greatest of these is charity."—1 Cor. 13:13.

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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.]

Christmas Greeting.

To all our sisters interested in mission work we send hearty greeting, and wish them the sweetest Christmas joys.

Full nigh two thousand years have passed

Since Christ lived on the earth; And still the world commemorates The day that marks his birth.

We come with gifts to those we love, And celebrate the morn, Thy songs of joy and praise to him Who on this day was born.

Let, too, an offering from us each Be to the Master given, An earnest purpose, firm resolve To make earth more like heaven.

Good will be ours, and ready hearts His mandates to obey, O Christ, accept these as thy gifts Upon this Christmas Day.

Work for the Children.

Miss Hattie Phillips, in the last India Report, gives this account of work in the Hindu girls' schools at Balasore:

My seven little Hindu girls' schools continue, with an average number of 256 belonging and an average of 185 in daily attendance. The lack of efficient teachers renders this work far less satisfactory than it would otherwise be. Besides, the parents of the little girls are still so ignorant that they can see no special reason why they should send their children to school unless paid for it by having them furnished with books, pictures, and now and then a cloth—which means a suit of clothes.

No department of work has occupied more of my effort during the past year than that of our Christian children. In these days, when Christian Endeavor societies, Loyal Temperance Legions, Bands of Mercy, mission societies, etc., are springing up on every hand, one realizes how much there is to teach children in addition to their regular week day and Sunday lessons. To have a separate organization for each is simply out of the question. The best solution of the problem I have formed is having a single organization for each grade of children or adults, and introducing these various themes on successive weeks of the month. "My parish" is divided into six sections, meeting for an hour in the morning on the successive days of the week. I believe that several have begun a new life. Several of the large girls have been baptized during the year; and of the boys I think two, at least, have become sincere followers of Christ.

At Compound Interest.

An old lady one day said to her pastor, who had a short time before made an appeal for money: "It is little that I can do, Mr. H., with my scanty means, to help along this good work. Where others give ten, fifteen, twenty dollars, I can give but one. What can one dollar signify where so many are needed?"

An expression of sympathy flitted across the minister's face. "I know how you feel," he answered. "I, too,

have been through that experience. But, my friend, let me ask you a question. Did you ever calculate the increase of a dollar at compound interest?"

"Never," replied the other wonderingly; "at least, not since I was a child at school."

"I did not long ago," was the minister's response, "and I found in less than two hundred and forty years, it would amount to more than two and a half millions of dollars. And I asked myself whether God would not make a dollar given for His cause grow as rapidly as it does by the laws of trade. What do you think about it?"

"I am satisfied now to give my one dollar," was the reply, and the minister was well content.

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No COMPULSION.—When Napoleon was about to be elected Consul for life General Saint-Hilaire assembled his troops and addressed them as follows: "Comrades, the people are debating whether General Bonaparte is to be elected Consul for the term of his natural life, or not. Opinions are free. I do not wish to influence your votes in any way. You are at liberty to vote as you please. However, I merely wish to add that I shall order the first man who does not vote in favour of Bonaparte to be shot in the presence of the whole regiment. Long life to the Republic! Long life to Liberty."

PROPHETCY MONERS.—The Adventists and others see in the Turkish crisis the fulfillment of prophecy and the nearness of the end of the world. There has not been a crisis of any kind in history for fifteen hundred years in which some have not seen therein the fulfillment of prophecy. The difficulty with these people is that they wish to be prophets themselves. They have not received inspiration; therefore they seek to become prophets by interpretation, not understanding that God's methods of foretelling temporal events are not so much intended to cause people to foreknow, as to enable His people and all devout students of His word, when prophecy is fulfilled, to recognize the correspondence between the events themselves and the page which the final events illuminate.—*N. Y. Advocate.*

The Hampton Magistrates.

Having exhausted the other means of escaping the penalties for violation of the Canada Temperance Act, the rum men are trying another plan. Some time ago the Stipendiary Magistrate at Chatham became distasteful to the rummers of that town, and their friends, and they applied to the Provincial government to have his official conduct investigated. The investigation took place, but whether the commissioner has reported we do not know, no announcement of it having yet been made. The evidence given at the investigation, as reported in the papers from day to day, showed that the magistrate's only offence was that he faithfully discharged his duty in cases of violation of the C. T. Act.

The same form of attack has now been made upon Magistrates McLaughlin and Piers, at Hampton, before whom a number of rum cases have been tried, and convictions obtained. A petition having been presented to the Provincial government for a commission of inquiry into their conduct as magistrates, a commission, it is said, has been or will be appointed. The law-respecting people of the Province may well watch with deep interest the investigation of the Hampton magistrates. For years the temperance people of that county have been making war on illicit rummers. They have encountered and overcome the many difficulties arising from appeals and the other delays and defeats which are incident to law enforcement against a strong and unscrupulous class of men. When they had fairly overcome all the ordinary difficulties, a new one was created by the appointment of one of the chief offenders as a licensed vendor. Just as soon as the law began to be enforced against him, it was attempted to prove that a chief witness against him had committed perjury. That failed, the accused being discharged. It would seem that it might have been the proper thing for the crown officer to institute pro-

ceedings against Scribner for perjury, for if Peck was innocent of perjury, as the court decided, Scribner was guilty of something very like it. But it is, evidently, not on the programme to have the rummers convicted of anything, or even prosecuted, except before a magistrate who can be depended on to protect them. And so the magistrates who dared to deal impartially with the cases brought before them are to be investigated, in the hope that something may be discovered which will warrant their dismissal from office. The people will not fail to notice these things, (1) that only magistrates who have done their duty faithfully in rum selling cases are thought to need investigation, (2) that the rum men are compelled to use political influence to save them from the penalty of their law-breaking, and (3) that they seem to have a strong "pull" with the political leaders. Two things remain to be seen, (1) whether magistrates who know their duty and do it, even against rummers, will be dismissed; and (2) if so, whether the people will permit the administration of justice to be degraded at the bidding of the rum gang.

MANITOBA SCHOOLS.—It is understood that the Manitoba Government, on Saturday, completed the reply to the Dominion Government's last communication on the School's question. The *Winnipeg Tribune*, Premier Greenway's organ, says: "With the engrossing and the necessary time to get the signatures, it will possible be a day or two before it can be mailed. As to its contents, it is understood that the document will not alter the position of the government in any essential particular. That the government will not consent to separate schools is made abundantly clear. The document will likely be made public toward the latter end of next week when it will reach Ottawa."

Literary Notes.

The Christmas *Century* is notable both pictorially and for its literature. Perhaps the most striking illustrations are those by Tissot from his well-known series, "The Life of Christ." Another set of interesting illustrations accompanies an article on "The Passion Play." This number gives the opening chapters of a story called "Tom Grogan." A real old-fashioned Christmas story is entitled "Captain Eli's Best Ear." Among the short stories none will attract more attention than Rudyard Kipling's "The Brushwood Boy." Mr. Leslie J. Perry describes the "Appeals to Lincoln's Clemency." There are editorial essays on "Congress and the Currency System," "Fruits of Civic Spirit," etc.

The Christmas spirit runs through the December number of *St. Nicholas*. "How a Street-Car Came in a Stocking" is told. It was not a little toy affair, but one that had carried passengers in a great city for many years. Just how happy it made the recipient of every little boy can imagine. "Betty Leicester's English Christmas," and "A Christmas White Elephant," are good. James Whitcomb Riley contributes a child-poem, "The Dream March of the Children." "Our Secret Society" will prove to its readers that boys are very much the same now as long ago. In "Owney, the Post-office Dog," some new pictures are given of this remarkable canine traveler. "Bombshell: An Artillery Dog," who saved the lives of two little children by his instinct, is described. The serials are represented by interesting chapters.

Among Exchanges.

How To Know Him.

We know what a man is at heart when we know what he is opposing.—*Ram's Horn.*

A PREVENTATIVE.

Strict attention to your own life will prevent you from seeing faults in the lives of others.—*Rel. Telescope.*

WHAT IT NEEDS.

What this country needs more than anything else is an avowed, continuous and practical recognition of the fact that the Gospel is the only remedy for all the ills that afflict both Church and State.—*Can. Presbyterian.*

RELIGION IN ACTION.

One quiet, earnest consistent Christian man is of more value to a community than a cargo of howlers and kickers, whose religion is never seen in action, except when they disturb the peace of the church by unseemly and disorderly demonstrations in the house of God.—*Methodist Protestant.*

UP TO DATE.

Keep your religious experience up to date. There are some people who are going about showing the experience they had a dozen years ago, just as though God had had nothing else for them. It is all very well to look back, sometimes, to the beginning, but one who is really walking the upward way can not fail to note the increasing light.—*Lookout.*