

Religious Intelligencer.

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

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Special Offer.

New subscribers, for the price of one year (\$1.50) may have the INTELLIGENCER from the time their subscriptions are received until January, 1898.

Pastors and other friends of the paper will find this one of the best times to canvass for new subscribers.

NOTES AND GLEANINGS.

Carriages are apparently great luxuries in the Transvaal Republic; for news has come that Mrs. Kruger wife of the President, is soon to have one for the first time.

And now it is said that Mr. Gladstone has the bicycle fever and is about to learn to ride a wheel. His little granddaughter, Dorothy Drew, inspired the old statesman to attempt the new achievement by her fine riding.

Diphtheria statistics for 1895 have been issued by the Paris Enfants Malades Hospital, where the serum treatment was used. Of 1,140 children, 158 or 13.85 per cent. died; 87 of these within twelve hours after the patient was admitted to the hospital. The average of deaths used to be between 45 and 56 per cent.

The perfection of the public telephone system may be said to have been reached in Switzerland, in which country it is now possible to telephone from the smallest village to any place in the country at a fee of from one penny to fourpence for the most distant points, on instruments on which one can hear with perfect distinctness and which are kept in thorough repair.

There is a statement coming on good authority from Spain, that out of 90,000 soldiers drafted for Cuba, 6,268 fled the country; and that the soldiers sent to Cuba have to be taken to the steamer under guard of other soldiers who do not have to go. It is further stated with great plausibility that the Spanish generals do not dare to risk a pitched battle with the insurgents for fear that a defeat would overthrow the Spanish throne, and result in two republics, one in Spain and the other in Cuba.

The Russian Greek Church claims that the bodies of saints are incorruptible. The alleged remains of Archbishop Theodosius, who died two centuries ago, have just been canonized, the ceremony lasting five days and attracting 100,000 people to the Russian town. The body, which showed no sign of decay, was unearthed as the result of a dream, and on being brought to light was supposed to have worked some miraculous cures.

A steel rope for the new Glasgow (Scotland) district subway has just been completed, which is said to be the longest ever used for hauling purposes. It is about seven miles long and four and five-eighths inches in circumference, and weighs nearly sixty tons. It has been made in one unjointed and unspliced length of patent crucible steel. When in place it will form a complete circle around Glasgow, crossing and recrossing the Clyde in its course, and will run at a speed of fifteen miles an hour.

The centre of the continent of Africa which used to be set down in the maps of our school-boy days as a great unexplored desert, has wonderfully changed in late years. In addition to the discoveries of Livingstone, Speke, Grant and others, Dr. Snyder of the American Southern Presbyterian Mission, who arrived lately from the Congo region reports that he had penetrated into the interior for over a thousand miles, and had discovered a new lake, which was many miles long, and so broad that his eye could not trace its width.

A striking instance of how obstinate litigants expose themselves to pay heavy costs recently came to light in the case of a farmer from the parish of St. Cuthbert, Quebec, who went through the Superior Court and the Court of Review, in

connection with a water course which he had made up his mind should be opened on his neighbors' farm. He finally lost his case, and the litigation, which originally involved a matter worth about five dollars, has now developed into costs representing nearly two thousand dollars.

It is rumoured that an interesting discovery has lately been made in Jerusalem by Mr. Bliss, who is in charge of the work of the Palestine Exploration Fund. He has found, it is said, a staircase forty feet wide and extending back one or two hundred feet, leading down to the Pool of Siloam, where Jesus bade the blind man go and wash and be healed. The stairway had been covered up and concealed by a building erected by the Empress Eudocia. Other important discoveries are likely to be announced in the next publication of the Fund which will go far to settle the topography of the walls and gates.

Dr. Nevin, rector of the American Episcopal chapel in Rome, in a letter to 'The Churchman' tells this remarkable story of Piacenza, a city of forty thousand inhabitants, far more clerical than Rome or Naples: While I was there the daughter of the principal notary was found, on a consultation of the leading physicians, to be suffering from an accumulation in her stomach of bronze medals of a locally celebrated Madonna. She had for two weeks been taking one a day, by direction of her confessor, to cure a suspected internal cancer; and a physician assured me that other like remedies, taken by advice of confessors, often interfered with his practice.

The last New South Wales census showed that of the total population of 1,132,234 of the colony in that year, 818,446 were Australasian born, mostly in New South Wales; 266,101 came from the United Kingdom and Ireland, and 4,639 from the remainder of the British Empire, forming a total of 1,089,186 born under the British flag. Of the remaining 43,048, 9,565 were German, 2,279 French or French colonists, 3,379 American, 13,157 Chinese, 11,426 from other foreign countries and 4,639 (mostly British) born at sea or unspecified.

The effects of the drought under which New South Wales languished in 1895 are now registered in dry statistics, and the record is sufficiently startling. The drought, as measured by the official tables, may be said to have cost the colony (we read in the Australian Review of Reviews) 2,000,000 bushels of wheat, 18,000 horses, nearly 400,000 cattle of various kinds, more than 10,000,000 sheep, and 5,000,000 lambs. If to these figures be added the natural increase which under the ordinary conditions the flocks and herds and wheat lands of the colony would have known, the mischiefs of the drought take still more tragical dimensions. The natural calamities which smite the great interests of a colony like New South Wales are sufficiently startling; but they are scarcely so wonderful as the courage with which their mischief is repaired. Already the scars left by the great drought of 1895 grow faint.

According to the opinion of Dr. George F. Becker, the eminent American geologist, the little South African republic of Transvaal is going to work a great revolution in the gold market of the world. A French-English syndicate sent him out recently to that country to investigate and ascertain the extent of its gold deposits. Having returned he reports that the heretofore rumors respecting the richness of those gold fields are not only well founded, but absolutely true. He declares that, altho for some time gold has been produced there at the rate of \$100,000,000 annually, yet the surface of the gold-producing territory has been barely scratched, and that the little republic contains the most marvelously rich gold deposits ever discovered. He says: "I am quite within bounds when I say that within fifteen miles of Johannesburg, on what is called the main reef series, the gold that is practically in sight is worth \$3,500,000,000 nearly as much as the present volume of the world's gold coin."

The Holy Spirit in Christian Life.

In Sir Wm. Dawson's address on the Holy Spirit and work, of which we made mention last week, he took the ground that we are dependent entirely upon the Spirit of God for all ability to do anything that is acceptable or useful. The Spirit gives wisdom; gives ability to do life's work of whatever kind it may be. He is the source of all spiritual life and through him alone can we live and grow and be useful as members of Christ's body. It is when individuals or bodies of Christians lose sight of the Spirit of God and trust in something else that they grow cold, formal, fall into ritualism, error and other evils. The dark ages illustrate this. The Reformation was the result of a mighty work of the Spirit of God. More recently there have been great movements which were due to the same power. Sir William urged his hearers not to strive against or quench the Spirit, ever to acknowledge their dependence upon him and seek his aid in everything. He warned them also not to be discouraged if they were disappointed or received not what they expected. The Spirit led our Lord into the wilderness to be tempted of the devil and, when he triumphed over Satan he returned in the power of the Spirit to enter upon his life's work. Thus he often led men into the wilderness and allowed them to endure sore trials and then led them forth to do a great work in the world.

In the course of his remarks Sir William made a personal reference to the effect that his whole life had been lived under the guidance and control of the Spirit of God, that the wonderful work he had been permitted to do as a scientist, as an educationist, as the builder of a grand university, as a Christian writer and teacher, has been through the power of the Holy Ghost in him.

The Church and Politics.

There is a great difference between the church in politics and politics in the church; as much as between the church in the world and the world in the church; or, to use a familiar figure, as between the ship in the water and the water in the ship. Sometimes the preacher puts politics into his church; and this is a grievous error. He does so when he becomes a partisan and carries his partisanship into the pulpit; when he thinks the virtue and intelligence of the community are all to be found in one party, and the vice and ignorance all in the other, and endeavors to put the weight of his church, or even his own ministerial influence, in the one party scale; when he turns his pulpit into a party platform and preaches for doctrine the principles of any party; when he endeavors to make his church or his pulpit serve the cause of any one party as against other parties, instead of the cause of pure purposes and a noble spirit in all parties. Then he puts politics into his church, and degrades it if he does not also divide it. Putting the church into politics is quite another matter. In their antagonism to the union of church and State, many have unconsciously adopted a theory of secularism which is as untenable in philosophy as it is immoral in tendency. Christianity is social as well as individual. Religion is the art of living, and concerns life in the State as truly and directly as it concerns life in business, in society, or even in the church.—Outlook.

Rum Traffic Notes.

AWFUL DEATH RATE.

The New York 'Examiner' says, "It seems incredible, but the statement is made, that in Belgium 200,000 people die annually, out of a total population of between five and a-half and six millions, as the result of the use of intoxicating liquors, and that 75 per cent. of the crime in the kingdom is due to the same cause."

HAVE LEARNED BETTER.

So convinced were the authorities at one time that Europeans could not live in India without alcoholic stimulants that they actually prohibited the formation of temperance societies among the soldiers. The theory is now altogether changed, and the English soldiers in India to-day include no fewer than 20,000 total abstainers.

IT MAKES MADMEN.

In an article in the Paris 'Figaro,' on 'Alcoholism and Madmen' it is shown that at the beginning of this century comparatively little liquor was drunk in France. It shows that since 1800 when the practice of distilling brandy from corn, potatoes, etc., began in that country, the number of insane people has increased with the consumption of liquor. In the four years

1826-30, there were 1,739 cases of self-destruction, while from 1876 to 1880, there were 6,259.

PROHIBITION TERRITORY.

There are now thirteen states in the United States, and over 14,000,000 of the population of the country under prohibition or local option laws. The temperance campaigns of the past season have been among the most spirited ever known, and there is every reason to believe that, in spite of local obstacles, the cause the country over is advancing more rapidly than ever before.

PROVED BY STATISTICS.

In a recent publication Mr. James Whyte, secretary of the United Kingdom Alliance, asserted and proved by statistics that intemperance was most rife among the well-to-do classes, and that the adult male population of Great Britain above forty years of age is deprived of the increased expectation of life due to sanitation and other beneficial circumstances. In commenting on the article, the London 'Times' has admitted that it cannot deny that teetotallers have an advantage in point of health.

BANKERS TESTIFY.

In response to a letter of inquiry sent by the 'Voice' to a number of leading banking institutions additional testimony is given in favor of total abstinence. From the replies it appears that there is an unwritten law in all such places of business against the employment of an habitual drinker and, other things being equal, preference is given to total abstainers. Among the reasons given are that drinking takes away the man's 'level head'; 'leads to improper associations,' makes him 'unsteady and unreliable, and hence, unsafe,' 'makes the intellect stupid and dull,' 'the temptations to do wrong are more frequent,' 'injures the standing of the institution.'

WHERE THE MONEY GOES.

The Rev. Luther McSweeney says, in 'The Catholic World': "A great manufacturing company in Massachusetts recently paid its workmen on Saturday evening seven hundred ten-dollar bills, each bill being marked. By the following Tuesday four hundred and ten of these marked bills were deposited in the bank by the saloon keepers of the town. Four thousand and one hundred dollars had passed from the hands of workmen on Saturday night and Sunday, and left them nothing to show for this great sum of money but headaches and poverty in their homes. Well might these men cry out to the State: 'Save us from ourselves!' And their hapless wives and children: 'Save us from our husbands and fathers on the Lord's Day, at least!'"

EMINENT TESTIMONY.

The late Sir Andrew Clark, the eminent English physician, said, "Now let me say that I am considerably within the mark in saying that within the rounds of my hospital wards to-day seven out of every ten that lie there in their beds owe their ill health to alcohol. I do not say that seventy in every hundred are drunkards; I do not know that one of them is, but they use alcohol. So soon as a man begins to take one drop, then the desire begotten in him becomes a part of his nature, and that nature, formed by his acts, inflicts curses inexpressible when handed down to the generations that are to follow him as part and parcel of their being. When I think of this I am disposed to give up my profession—to give up everything—and to go forth upon a holy crusade to reach to all men, 'Beware of this enemy of the race!'"

WHAT HE SAYS.—A long time and prompt paying subscriber writes: "I always feel much better to pay my subscription as soon as it becomes due. I feel it my duty to do so; and it is your right. I have always tried to do this in the past; and you will have to pardon my delay this time, for I have been away for some months. It may not occur again in years."

The delay of other payments may have been for like reason. Make it right by paying now, like this good man. No matter what the cause of delay may have been, now is the time to pay.

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.

Now that the reports presented at the Annual Meeting of the W. F. M. Society have been published, a few words about the annual meeting and the year before us may be in order.

The meeting, according to reports that have come to us, for we were deprived of the privilege of being present—was one of considerable interest. The devotional spirit was even more marked than usual, which is one of the best signs of an appreciation of the character of the work in which we are engaged—whose it is, for what purpose, and the source of wisdom and strength for its prosecution. The reports of the several officers showed an increase in the contributions, which may be regarded as indicating an increase of interest in the work. We are not sure whether there are more members, but hope there are. The appropriations were evidently made after careful consideration, and are, doubtless, wise. The money voted to the work at home, as well as to the foreign work, will surely accomplish the good which is so earnestly desired by those who have offered it to the Lord.

Entered upon another year, we all desire it to be a better year in every way than any year in the history of the Society. For this many prayers have been offered, and many will continue to be offered. That the sisters who have served so faithfully and so successfully for many years, as well as those who have entered the work more recently, will continue their good work there is no doubt. And God will surely bless them in it.

Would not it be a good thing to make special effort this year to extend the work of the Society? There are churches which have no Society. In some of them, perhaps, efforts to organize have failed because the sisters in them have not believed that they could successfully conduct a Society. Another effort might be made to organize them. At least two or three women could be found in each church willing to meet once a month to pray for missions. From such small beginnings large things often grow. Existing Societies might endeavor to increase their membership. There are, perhaps, not many societies which include in their membership all the women in their several communities who ought to be members. Try to get them. If effort has been made, and been unsuccessful, try again. And keep on trying till all the Christian women in the denomination are enrolled in this good cause. Every society should determine to have regular meetings for prayer and to consider the needs of the work and plans for carrying it on. It is good to collect the yearly fee from a good many, but it will be better if the meetings are kept up. There will be difficulties and discouragements, no doubt, during the year; but they are not new things, nor peculiar to this work; they are found in the way of every good cause. They test our faith and develop it; they try our love, of what sort it is; and they make occasions for precious experiences which we could not have otherwise. In His name, whose Kingdom we all long to see extended, go forward in the work which He has called us to do, we may confidently expect His blessing, and an ever increasing degree of success. Amen.

News of the Work.

"O God, let no more women be born in India," was the prayer of an intelligent Hindu woman who realized the misery and degradation of her sisters, and the terrible wrongs they suffer.

The Mikado of Japan has recently issued a decree allowing a Japanese woman to lead, if she chooses, a single life. Hitherto, if found unmarried after a certain age, a husband was selected for her by law.

The missionaries in Africa count the work of one woman worth that of

twelve men, since women can go anywhere, even amongst the fiercest tribes. Their motives are never questioned, and they are listened to with greatest respect.

—Corea, Turk y and India are sending their women to America in large numbers to study medicine. In the Oriental countries it is desecration for a man to touch a woman not his wife, and thus an excellent field is open to the women who are intelligent enough to equip themselves as doctors.

—One of the most interesting developments of the Student Volunteer Missionary Union is a plan formed by women students at our Universities for a Missionary Settlement of University Women at Bombay—a kind of deaconess institution for evangelistic educational, and medical work. It is not like a society which sends missionaries. Those who have projected the scheme are going themselves, mostly at their own charges.

—A lady missionary in the East tells that one day a woman came to her with a baby whom she had found in a ditch. The poor child had been cast out by its own father, as thousands of others in heathen countries had been, because it was "only a girl." In begging the lady to take charge of the poor, little, unattractive object (it was covered with mud), the woman said: "Please do take this little thing; your God is the only God that teaches us to be good to little children."

JERRY McAULEY.—In a recent address Mr. Moody paid a tribute to Jerry McAuley, of New York, in these words:

"Jerry McAuley was a prisoner at Sing Sing N. Y. He was converted, and after his release returned to New York and began testifying to the mighty power of Christ to save. Filled with the Holy Ghost, he was a powerful magnet in drawing men to Jesus Christ. I believe Jerry McAuley did more work for Christ in New York than any other ten men, and I also believe that more people have been led to Christ through Jerry McAuley than through any other man in the country. Not alone among the criminals and slum habitues did McAuley find his converts. Rich people, living in Fifth Avenue and other fashionable streets, visited his missions in order to be led to the feet of the Saviour. It is a wonderful thing for a church or mission to have the reputation of live evangelistic services, for it is to such churches and missions that Christians take their unconverted friends, in the hope that some song, some prayer, or some testimony will touch their hearts and induce them to be reconciled to God."

Among Exchanges.

WHAT IT WILL BECOME. English is destined to become the speaking language of the world, and whatever promotes its use promotes the advance of civilization and of Christianity as well.—The Chris. Work.

SOMETHING WRONG. The husband who asks a blessing over and expresses thanks to God for the dinner, and then growls at his wife because the meal is not so prepared as to exactly fit his peculiar taste, shows that there is something radically wrong in his religion, or his disposition, or both.—The Telescope.

IT MAY BE. A sermon or an address may as properly be used again and again, especially if adapted to the occasion by revision, as dishes may be used again and again with proper washing. It would be just as foolish to throw away a good address after once using, as to break the dishes after a meal.—The Lookout.

THE SHORT CUT. The reply that Dr. Morgan made to a student who asked him if he could not shorten this course of study into the ministry is very significant and full of meaning. Dr. Morgan said: When God wishes to make an oak he takes many years to complete his work; if he would make a squash a few weeks would suffice.—Guardian.

THE GREATEST DANGER. Listen to the politicians and you would imagine that their absorbing passion was for their country's good. But the whole brood of them are silent on the greatest danger which threatens our national life. What should concern every patriot, and especially every Christian voter, is the correction of the false moral standard which derives the revenues of government from the iniquitous liquor traffic, and licenses, for gain, the lowest element of our population to debauch and destroy the rest.—Chris. Standard.