

Religious Intelligencer.

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

VOL. XLIV.—No. 34.

FREDERICTON N.B., AUGUST 19, 1896.

WHOLE No. 2227

NOTES AND GLEANINGS.

One of the most remarkable sights to be seen in Australia is a burning mountain, eighteen hundred and twenty feet in height. The mountain is supposed to be underlain with an inexhaustible coal seam, which in some way became ignited. It was burning long before the advent of white men to that part of the country.

The Duke of Connaught had a military parade at Aldershot of 600 bicyclists. The Duke himself and other officers were mounted on bicycles, and among the spectators who rode wheels were the Duchesses of Connaught and Albany and their daughters. It looks as if the wheel was to have its place in mimic war if not at the bloody front.

A London journal says that for some time Mr. Gladstone has been going through the dozens of huge boxes in which he has carefully preserved his correspondence for years. A great many letters of little or no interest have been weeded out, but there still remain no less than 60,000 missives, which are tied up in bundles and carefully docketed.

If the telegraphic statement can be trusted, the most enormous meteorite ever yet reported fell to the earth last week in the district of Chihuahua, Mexico. It is said to have struck the side of a mountain as it fell, bringing down with it in its course masses of the cliffs, and finally plunging many feet into the ground. It destroyed the house of a miner, killing his two children. This is not the first case on record in which a meteorite has destroyed a house.

The French government has adopted the same financial plan for the exhibition of 1900 that was used with so much success in 1889. Unfortunately it is a lottery scheme. On the 29th of July, 3,250,000 bonds will be issued, the value of each being \$4, with twenty entrance tickets attached. The bonds are also tickets for twenty-nine lottery drawings which will take place between the present year and 1900. The holders of the bonds are also to be given reduced rates of transportation and lower prices of admission to special exhibits. It is a keen spur to the gambling instinct.

Sir Archibald Geikie, Director-General of the British Geological Survey, says in a letter to Joseph Chamberlain, British Colonial Secretary, that the Newfoundland coal and iron deposits are immensely valuable. Sir Archibald advises the appointment of special experts to report upon the size and character of the deposits, giving general particulars regarding them with a view to their development. The Admiralty will test the coal on British warships and every effort will be made to induce British capitalists to invest their money in the development of Newfoundland's mineral resources.

The United States postal laws, which forbid the use of the mails for fraudulent purposes, have been made to serve a novel use in causing the arrest of a widow in Texas for deceiving a young man in a matrimonial correspondence. They had exchanged photographs and promised marriage; whereupon the widow wrote to her youthful swain for cash to pay her railway fare and other expenses in order to meet him and be married. The money was sent, but the widow was heard from no more. Whereupon the deceived lover put the case into the hands of the post-office authorities, at whose instance the faithless correspondent was arrested.

It is proposed to celebrate the four hundredth anniversary of the birth of Philip Melancthon, which occurs February 16th, 1897, by establishing a Melancthon museum in his native town of Bretten, Baden. Although the house in which the reformer was born is no longer in existence, its exact site is known, and the building that now occupies it has already been bought by the committee having the matter in charge. The collection, the idea of which originated with Dr. Nik Muller, of Berlin, will include letters and other manuscripts of and about Melancthon, paintings, engravings, woodcuts, and a complete set of Melancthon's works.

According to a Copenhagen paper the largest encyclopedia in the world

is the Buddhist work "Tangym," which has been from ancient times preserved in several of the larger Buddhist cloisters. In comparison to this book of reference the *Encyclopaedia Britannica* itself sinks into insignificance, at least as regards size. It consists of 225 volumes, each of which is two feet high and six inches thick. The 225 volumes weigh 3,000 pounds, or twelve pounds a volume—rather heavy reading even for a Buddhist priest. The original edition seems to have been limited and comparatively few copies still exist. One of these is owned by the British Government and another by the Russian. The latest price noted is 7,000 francs.

The largest feature of the work of the United States Church Temperance Society, of which Mr. Robert Graham is secretary, is the maintenance of lunch wagons, of which it now has five in successful operation at different points. The work of the wagons was first suggested by the proposition to grant two hundred and fifty all-night liquor licenses in the city of New York. It was considered the best kind of temperance work to provide food and harmless drinks as a counteractive; and so the first wagon, the "Owl," was started. There was no charity about it, but it checkedmate the saloon.

The Chicago Advance says that Indiana follows Illinois in discarding stripes for penitentiary convicts and the adoption of a classified plan. The prisoners in both penitentiaries, it says, will be divided into three classes. The first class will be composed of those who maintain a perfect record in conduct and labor until October 1; the second, of those who try hard but fail through thoughtlessness; and the third, those who willfully violate the rules and make trouble. Prisoners of the first class are to be dressed in suits of neat dark gray; those of the second class in suits of gray check. Both these grades are to be permitted to march in military style, two abreast, to eat in a spacious, airy dining room. The upper grade men will also occupy the best cells, have books and newspapers, write and receive letters, and may receive visits from their friends, wear beards and use tobacco if they so desire. The third grade men will be deprived of all these privileges, will wear the regulation stripes and march in lock step. The second grade will be half way between, and to this all new convicts will be assigned. The adoption of the plan is already working a marked change in the conduct of the prisoners.

About Donations.

Donations to pastors are not an unenvied evil, though they may sometimes be only evil. A donation does not always mean that a pastor is in need, much less that he is an object of charity. While supplementing in many cases a salary far too small, it is vastly more than the addition of so much money, or so much flour, wood, or something else to the pastor's income. It is often a spontaneous expression of good will that results in bringing the shepherd and his flock closer together. The people delight to have a share in the contributions which thus minister to good cheer and happy relations. A donation party, what a happy gathering it usually is! How it unifies and helps!

But not every donation which a pastor receives is what it seems to be. It is a delusion and a sham sometimes. Dr. Talmage, in the *Christian Heald*, with a good deal of irony and sarcasm, makes some good hits, which are strong because all too true. He says:

His congregation had kept him on a small salary, which they did not pay. Noticing that their minister's overcoat was getting shabby, and his wife looked very much troubled, the good people met together and resolved to atone for the past by giving him a donation party. The night came, the sleighs drove up, the people stamped the snowclods off their heels, and the party began. The most of us had not eaten much during the day, in order that our appetites might be sharp and keen. Some had brought smoked beef, and others bread, and others cheese, and others tea, and others coffee, and others turkeys and pease. The few liberal souls who brought largely and generously ate but little, and demanded no thanks; but we who had brought twenty-five cents' worth of provisions ate fifty cents' worth,

and we who had brought forty cents' worth ate nearly to the amount of one dollar, taking away in our handkerchiefs for the children at home enough to make up the full dollar. The carpets which ought to have been replaced three years ago by something better, were about finished that night by the tramping of several hundred feet. We broke a lamp and dropped one trayful of crockery for Mr. and Mrs. Starvedto death. We left, when we came away, many pieces of fruit cake with the raisins picked out. Our horses had eight quarts of the minister's oats; for we had come a long way. We left the dominion ten or fifteen book marks, more than enough to put on the empty plates of the parsonage some day when the fare is short. We added to the minister's library some fine copies of the "Patent Office Reports," which had been franked us by our congressman in Washington at public expense. We ran our elbow through a pane of glass, which will help in the ventilation of the parsonage when the weather is warm.

And now, if any man in all the world ought to be happy and grateful it is Dominie Starvedto death. Let others, if they will, support their pastors by contributions of money, which has been the ruin of so many people; but improving on the words of the orator we cry, "Give us donation parties or give us death."

We would now make the following observations:

1. A donation should not be made to take the place of what should and could be paid as salary.
2. A donation should not be made a scapegoat to rest the consciences of those who could but will not pay their proper share toward the pastor's salary.
3. A donation should not consist of such articles as the people have no need of, and for which the pastor and his family have no need.
4. A donation should be an expression of good will to a faithful pastor, who, having been paid his salary in full, will thereby be made to feel in a special way that his labors are appreciated.
5. A donation should be a donation.

Mark Guy Pearse on The Boers.

Rev. Mark Guy Pearse lately visited South Africa. What he saw of Boer treatment of English in the Transvaal did not impress him favorably. As soon as the Vaal River was crossed, he says in *The Methodist Times*, to speak Dutch was to have the mystic sign put upon everything in the Custom House. To be English meant an irritating snub. 'Now, a man may be a good Christian, and yet to be delayed for hours, to be ordered out into the cold, to creep forth breakfastless for the ordeal of Custom officers' suspicious examination, to stand waiting until it shall please some lordly underling to snap at you, and then to turn your wife's petticoats inside out in search of revolvers—all this does not tend to provoke brotherly love. As to Johannesburg, the whole place is English; English energy discovered it; English enterprise developed it; English capital sustains it; Englishmen direct its mines. The immense majority of the white population is English. Yet this great English community is excluded from any control of the city which it created and owns. The Boer laws are quite Puritan in their severity, but the Transvaal Government has made itself quite powerless by a series of 'concessions,' for which large sums have been paid—in plain English, bribes for permission to defy the law. Mr. Pearse's blood boiled at three instances he witnessed on one Sunday of outrageous conduct on the part of the police. He visited the Reform prisoners in Pretoria Gaol, and called on Mr. and Mrs. Kruger. He sat with Mrs. Kruger for half-an-hour, and had a delightful talk. She told him that the President would like to see him at seven in the morning, and that was the only time he was free. He gets up at five o'clock, and has his household together for prayer daily at half-past five. He believes that the President, in spite of the corrupt influences surrounding him, is a man who seeks thoroughly to do his duty in the fear of God, and he came away feeling that his wife was a grand old mother in Israel that would have made at home as fine an old Methodist as one could wish to see.

MORE CHRISTIANS MURDERED.—A correspondent of the *London News* telegraphed that on Tuesday of last week a body of Mussulmans butchered 30 unarmed Christians within the precincts of the monastery at Anopolis, near Candia. One priest was burned alive.

Canada's Gold Deposits.

The recent discovery of extraordinarily rich gold deposits in British Columbia, coupled with Sir Archibald Geikie's report on the iron and coal deposits of Newfoundland, has drawn unusual attention to the mining interests of the Dominion. The reports of several engineers say that British Columbia is the richest gold region in the world. The Kootenay district has the greatest number of mines, and is commonly spoken of as the most productive; but the more thorough examination, the more evident it becomes that no particular locality can claim to be the best. Rich veins of quartz are being found for hundreds of miles in all directions; and the influx of population is assuming large proportions. Roseland, a mining town, which had only three hundred inhabitants one year ago, now has nearly four thousand, and is expected very soon to more than double the number. The gold output for the present year will, it is expected, be more than four times that of last year. There are some drawbacks which need immediate attention before the best results can be realized. Owing to defective railway communication the working of new mines is seriously interfered with, and there is a great deficiency of coke for smelting purposes. New lines of railway are being planned, and British and Canadian investors are active. For the past two months official returns show that gold-mining companies have been formed at the rate of one a day, and there seems to be no diminution of the feverish interest. Canadian journals and mining authorities have sent forth warnings not to overdo speculation, but in vain. The funds are so indubitably rich that such warnings have no effect. Thus far capitalists from the United States have owned and worked most of the mines; but now the rush is from all sides, and is likely to continue. The Newfoundland coal and iron deposits are also of extraordinary richness. They have been known for some time; but the report of an eminent geologist like Sir Archibald Geikie has naturally given greater prominence to the facts.—*The Outlook*.

When They May Marry.

In Hungary a man may marry at the age of eighteen, a girl at sixteen. In Spain, Portugal, and Greece, the respective ages are only fourteen for the man (?) and twelve for the prospective bride. In France he must be eighteen and she fifteen. In Russia the laws vary between eighteen and twenty for the men and fifteen and sixteen for the women. In Switzerland the various cantons have different laws, and the minimum ages for marrying are eighteen and twenty years for men and from thirteen to seventeen for girls. In Austria and Germany men seldom marry under twenty-one, although the law allows at eighteen. Girls may wed at sixteen in these countries. In Egypt boys of thirteen are often married, and brides of ten and twelve are not scarce by any means. But India carries off the palm. Here marriages are closed in infancy, and a girl of two is sometimes married to a groom of four or five years.

The Jews.

—The Jewish people of the United States have 533 synagogues, valued at \$9,764,275, and claim 130,406 adherents.

—Mr. I. C. Zangwill, the well-known Jewish novelist, is of the opinion that America will yet be the chief country of the Jews.

—It is estimated that there are from 100,000 to 120,000 Jews in the city of London. Nearly 20,000 Jewish children attend the public schools.

—A new mission has just been opened at Aleppo, under the auspices of the English Presbyterian Church, among the 15,000 Jews of that city, hitherto untouched by any Christian agency.

—The following is curious, if true. It is said that the Jews have at last had their revenge on Babylon. Nearly 2,500 years ago Babylon took their whole nation into captivity, but now two Jews have bought all that is left of the famous city.

CIGARETTES.—Last year there were manufactured in the United States 4,181,000,000 cigarettes, being an increase of 436,000,000 over the year 1894.

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.]

News of Women's Work.

—Miss Lizzie Hughes, daughter of Rev. B. N. Hughes, is soon to go to the Baptist Mission in Burmah.

—There is a Danish woman, the Countess Schimmelman, who last summer, in her own yacht, cruised about the Baltic, preaching the Gospel of Christ in the ports. This is a very unusual thing for a German woman to do. She met with great success, winning thousands of hearers and many souls.

—The Female Association of the Irish Presbyterian Church sends out three new representatives this year, and has under its care in India and China 18 women, of whom 4 are medical missionaries.

—The Church of England Zenana Missionary Society has 53 stations in India, 8 in China, 1 in Ceylon, 186 European missionaries, 90 native missionaries, and 637 native workers. The associations contributed £24,299 last year.

—Infant marriage in India shows no signs of dying out. In lower Bengal alone there are now 30,322 married girls, and 6,780 married boys under four years of age, besides some 7,000 widows while nearly 4,000,000 girl wives are under nine years of age.

—The Rev. Dr. Griffith, the representative of the London Missionary Society at Hankow, in a record just published of the progress of religious work in China, states that whilst in 1842 there were only six communicants in the whole of China belonging to the Protestant Church, now connected with the various Churches there are 70,000, and he predicts that at the present rate of increase the number will have risen to 100,000 by the end of the present century.

—In Great Britain and Ireland there are 12 women's missionary societies, supporting 770 female workers in foreign fields, 38 of these being medical workers. These societies reach 20 different countries, employ 200 native workers, and have over 60,000 girls and women in their schools.

—In 1893 the Presbyterian Woman's Boards contributed over \$329,000 for foreign missions; in 1894, \$324,000; in 1895, \$309,000; and now, \$302,000. But there seems to be as many fine feathers as ever, as many Christian women travelling, as ample home comforts. No more boasting from us, until we make a new record "concerning the collection."

TREASURER'S ACKNOWLEDGEMENT.—Received from Mrs. R. J. Alexander, Treasurer 2nd District, \$208.47. Received from Mrs. D. Long, Treasurer 6th District, \$190.00.

M. A. VINCE,
Treas. W. M. Soc.

AT EIGHTY.—Rev Newman Hall, at eighty, 'preaches several times a week all over the land, and every summer performs feats of mountaineering that for a man of his years are simply amazing.' Dr. Hall, being asked the secret, answered: 'Sober habits, attention to the laws and habits of health going to bed in decent time, and not working hard late at night. I have never been a diner-out, nor indulged in heavy suppers. I take a cold bath all the year round, and have always been a walker: I can now do ten miles at a stretch without fatigue. My sight and hearing are perfect. Teetotalism has had a great deal to do with my good health. My father and mother were total abstainers, and I have been one for sixty years. I have never smoked.' Dr. Hall has always been an industrious student and ceaseless worker; and the care he has exercised over the body has given him increased power to accomplish much and accomplish it easily.

SIXTY YEARS.—Queen Victoria, on June 20 next, will have reigned sixty years, a reign longer than that of any previous British sovereign, and lately many schemes have been mooted for the proper observance of the occasion. Most of the plans advanced provided for a commemoration of the event before the full sixty years had passed. They have all been disposed of by official intimation from Her Majesty, who makes it known that, while she is gratified by the evidences of loyalty and affection displayed by her subjects, she wishes that should she be spared to rule sixty years any celebrations shall be reserved until that period shall be actually completed.

APPROPRIATE.—The *Congregationalist* reports the following amusing coincidence, and suggests that the members of the committee must have gained an entirely new conception of the range and use of Christian hymnology: "A supply committee spent a Sunday in a city not a hundred miles from Boston, and, after hearing a stimulating sermon from the minister, whom they had been sent to judge, weigh, and appraise, were nearly confounded when he gave out the hymn whose second stanza reads:

"Let strangers walk around
The city where we dwell,
Compass and view Thy holy ground
And mark the building well;
The order of Thy house,
The worship of Thy court,
The cheerful songs, the solemn vows,
And make a fair report."

NEWFOUNDLAND.—Mr. James Murray, in his *Centenary Magazine*, claims that Newfoundland is the wealthiest country in the world for its size and population. This he proves by showing that in three or four months 40,000 or 50,000 fishermen gather enough of the products of the sea to supply the wants of 200,000 souls. This harvest of the sea is worth from \$8,000,000 to \$10,000,000. About \$6,000,000 is exported. While all other articles of food have declined 40 to 50 per cent in recent years, fish continues at a good price. A Newfoundland had in 1876 to give 7 quintals of fish for one barrel of flour and one of pork; and this year he can get these latter articles for four quintals.

U. S. SILVER.—It is suggested—and the suggestion is a very proper one—that it would be well for the Dominion Government, with the concurrence and aid of the Banks, to put a check to the valiance of United States silver currency in Canada. American quarters and dimes pass as if they were worth as much as our own silver pieces, whereas in fact they are worth one-third less.

TO VISIT CANADA.—Li Hung Chang is to visit Canada on his way home from England, and will spend a day at Ottawa.

Among Exchanges.

OUT OF PLACE.

A Christian is as much out of place at a whist or euchre party as a dove is among a flock of buzzards.—*Rel. Telescope*.

NOT EVEN HIS SALARY.

Churches that are troubled with preachers that don't "draw," would tell nearer the exact truth sometimes if they added that he didn't even draw his salary.—*The Outlook*.

FINDS A DIFFERENCE.

It is easy to profess virtue in opposition; it is not so easy to practice virtue in office. It is easy to condemn waste when the enemy is in possession of the treasury; it is not so easy to practice economy when the children of one's own political household are profited by the expenditures. It is easy to cut down the offices when we do not cash the monthly cheques; it is more difficult when our friends are on the pay roll.—*Toronto Globe*.

HIS PROPHECY.

Prince Bismarck is said to anticipate a general European conflict—a crash not long to be delayed—in which Britain will occupy the most dangerous position. He believes that Britain's interests separate her from the rest of Europe and indeed antagonize some of the other nations. Russia and France acting as allies, as now seems likely, may prove too strong for Britain, he thinks. Possibly, he is right; but then prophesying is always a dangerous business, and the man of blood and iron may have underestimated the strength of Great Britain. It has been done before.—*Westeyan*.