

TERMS AND NOTICES

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Religious Intelligencer.

REV. JOSEPH McLEOD, D. D., EDITOR.

WEDNESDAY, DEC. 2ND, 1896.

Accompanying the article on "First Sermons," which appears on the second page, Dr. Cuyler writes: "It may interest your ministerial readers, and encourage them. God bless your good and faithful paper."

The Institutional church—the church which provides the reading-room, the gymnasium, the bath-room, the night-school and such things—is much talked about now-a-days. There is no doubt that in large cities such churches may accomplish great good. But there is, as Dr. Abbott puts it, danger that the importance of better spiritual life may be forgotten. Nothing can supplant the Holy Spirit as the agency through which the life is to be uplifted spiritually and renewed in its holy aspirations. It is a very easy thing to unduly exalt the methods and agencies that touch the man outwardly only. It is "by my Spirit, saith the Lord."

In the latest number of the British and Foreign Bible Society's Monthly Reporter there is an interesting sketch of the work done in the translation of the Bible for the various populations of the globe. Portions of the Scriptures have been translated into three hundred and fifty languages and dialects and the entire Bible has been translated into one hundred and seven. Of these latter, forty belong to Europe, forty-one to Asia, thirteen to Africa, ten to Australasia and Oceania, and three to America. Almost all the Asiatic versions have been made within the present century, and already outnumber those in European languages, which in all probability have nearly reached their utmost limit. The African and South Sea versions are also all of this century. African translation is still only in its infancy. The Dark Continent is busy throughout with translators, and additions to the work of translation are made every year.

A Church of England rector in an English parish, a few Sundays ago, on the occasion of the harvest thanksgiving service, showed his fondness for ritualistic performances for the first time. He paraded the church attired in a crimson robe elaborately embroidered, and was preceded by a cross-bearer, while behind came two acolytes, one carrying a thurible (a metal vessel in which incense is burned) and the other an incense-boat. After processioning the church, incense was burned at the altar, the odours filling the church. There was a fairly large congregation, who stared in amazement at the unique spectacle, introduced for the first time, and in order to obtain a better view of the spectacle, the country folk stood on their seats and freely commented upon the "show."

Many good church people in the parish were indignant at what they called the Popish innovation, and expressed their indignation through the press and otherwise. The clergyman had defenders, however, one of whom wrote in justification of the incense burning, thus:

"If any one does not like incense he will not enjoy the worship of Heaven, where much incense is continually burning. We all, I hope, want to go to Heaven, so part of the education for Heaven is getting accustomed to the incense here on earth."

Now, that ought, perhaps, to have satisfied the complaining people of their error, and made an end of dispute. But one irreconcilable was bad enough to say, in reply: "I should imagine such an obnoxious smoke and perfume to be more like a preparation for the other place."

The Manitoba schools question is "settled." The terms of

agreement between the Federal government and the government of Manitoba were published in our columns last week. Various opinions are expressed about the settlement. The prevailing feeling seems to be not so much one of satisfaction, as of hope that the matter may soon be forgotten. This hope, however, is mingled with fear, for Archbishop Langevin, who represents the minority which made all the trouble, has condemned the agreement in no measured terms, and has declared that he and his people will keep up the agitation till they get what they consider justice. On the other hand there are those who think the agreement is a capitulation on the part of the Manitoba government, which practically destroys the character of the school system of the Province. The INTELLIGENCER's opinion is now, as from the beginning of the case, that there was no need of any agreement. Manitoba had done what it had a right to do in establishing its unsectarian public schools system. Neither the Federal government nor any other power, needed to interfere, just because the Roman Catholic church demanded interference. Manitoba was quite capable of looking after its own interests, and should have been left alone to settle with any of its dissatisfied people. There is far more of politics than of desire for justice in all the fuss which has been made in the case. Politicians of all stripes seem to think they must secure Roman Catholic support, and they seek to do it, by attempting to satisfy Roman Catholic demands, no matter how unreasonable. And the Roman Catholic church, made bolder by the readiness of the politicians to yield to it, acts as though it has only to express a wish to have it granted. The sooner politicians and political parties cease to make concessions to any class of people, at the expense of the others, as in this case, the better for the country. There is no reason why Protestants, of every name, and Roman Catholics may not dwell together in harmony, neither of them having nor demanding special privileges, and working together for the common good. This happy condition will not be realized, however, till our Roman Catholic fellow-citizens are given distinctly to understand that they have not, and that there will not be given them even in exchange for their support, any rights or privileges which are not enjoyed in common by all the people.

A Crisis.

The letter, in another column, from Free Baptist missionaries in India, is the saddest thing, bearing on Christian work, we have printed for many a day. We have had the letter three weeks, waiting to see if it would be published in the "Star" and "Free Baptist," United States organs of the denomination. We knew, of course, that it had been sent to them, and, as it is addressed especially to the churches in the United States, we naturally hesitated to print it till we knew whether they would do so. They have printed it. The only differences between our letter and theirs are that ours bears date Oct. 5th, and theirs Oct. 10th, and that the names of six missionaries are attached to the letter in the "Star," and two names to that in the "Free Baptist," which are not appended to the letter we received. We assume, however, that all the missionaries having signed the letter, the absence of some names from the copies of it is a mere accident. They all agree in the statement of the facts about the condition, the needs and the jeopardy of the work, and in the appeal to the thousands of Christians whom they represent for immediate help to avert threatened disaster.

Our feeling on reading it was one of mingled pain and shame—pain that such a state of things should exist, and shame that a Christian body should be responsible for such a state of things. While our eyes filled with tears of sympathy for the sorely burdened missionaries and the needy millions to whom they long to give the message of salvation, our spirit was stirred with a feeling very like indignation at the wrong of which the people are guilty whom God called to send the missionaries, and whom He calls to support them and the various activities they deem necessary to the success of the work they went there to do.

In a note accompanying the letter to us, Rev. E. B. Stiles, who is known to many of our readers and whose devotion to the work keeps him in India while his wife and children are in America, says:—"You have the editor's privilege of publishing or not as seems best to you. There is a great deal to encourage us; we are not repining; we will do the best we can with what is sent; but we will not let the people at home remain in ignorance of the condition of things if we can help it. It is time that the churches stopped playing at missions, if we are ever to win

the land from the powers of darkness." In a note accompanying the letter to the "Free Baptist" Rev. M. J. Coldren says:—

"This is a sad letter to send, but it is every word true. I have not received a rupee for the mission work from the treasurer for six months but I have borrowed on private account to run the station, and I believe every other missionary—who won't borrow if the work all stops, in fact he has closed the debt, and I can't take any more. It is the most serious time I have ever known in the mission. If the mission closes the denomination dies. We are all physically well, but heart-sick. However, I don't worry. The work is the Lord's and if we won't, he probably has some one else who will."

The Treasurer of the U. S. Foreign Mission Board makes the following statement and appeal in the "Star," which he heads "Foreign Mission Crisis:—

"It is upon us. Never has more depended upon a full remittance than now. Shall we sustain our little zone in India or call them home? Shall we give up part of our stations and sell the buildings, or shall we hold what we have and plan to do more? It rests with our people to decide. The decision must be made very soon. God save us from the disgrace of starving out our missionaries. If we are not going to support them, then by all means we should tell them so and let them go into some other mission or come home. A special remittance of \$1500 was sent early in September to meet bills due at the close of that month. They are fairly well supplied just now, but the letters written before receiving the special sum are almost heart-rending. About \$3000 should be sent this month. On the first of November there was on hand \$222 44, and there has come in since to the 14th \$814.37. Some glorious responses are coming. God bless the givers. . . . I must hold back the remittance for other gifts. I state the facts and await the decision of our people. May God help everyone to do his duty and feel it a privilege."

It is a crisis, surely. Not the fate of a mission alone is at stake, but the fate of a Christian body. That the Christian people responsible for this work are fully able to support it, and to do it well, there is not the slightest doubt. The fact that the missions of some other denominations have suffered from lack of funds is no excuse for their failure, it does not even palliate it. Let us hope that the heart-breaking facts set forth by the sorely tried missionaries and the appeal of the much burdened and perplexed treasurer will not only be met with a response so prompt and generous from every part of the denomination concerned as to enable the payment of all the accumulated deficiencies and the supply of every present need of the mission, but will also have the effect of causing the people to resolve to never permit a repetition of the crisis. If both these things do not result, then the pain and humiliation of the crisis will have been in vain. We hope. God grant the realization of our hope, and much more.

But somebody, perhaps, is wondering how all this concerns us in New Brunswick or any of the Provinces. We will have something to say about that in another article. Meantime we print in another column the appeal of the Foreign Mission Executive to the churches to take collections for the work in December. The appeal was not suggested by the India condition of which we have been writing, but was ordered by vote of the Executive at the close of the Conference session. The needs set forth in the India letter should, however, give much emphasis to the Executive's appeal.

Notes on Current Events.

Lieutenant Governor Fraser died in Genoa on Tuesday of last week. He had been in poor health for several months. It was believed that he could not stand the winter at home, and so, on the advice of physicians, he started for Europe a few weeks ago, in the hope that in the warmer climate of France and Italy he might spend the winter more comfortably, and perhaps gain a good deal of strength. No particulars of his death have been received, nothing but the bare fact—a sad one to many warm friends—that he died on Tuesday. His body will be brought home for burial, the Provincial Government having cabled instructions to that effect.

Mr. Fraser had been in public life a good many years; he was Provincial Secretary, then Attorney General and leader of the N. B. Government, and later a judge of the Supreme Court for eleven years. On the death of Governor Boyd, in 1893, he was appointed Governor of his native Province. In all the positions occupied by him he commanded the confidence and respect of the people generally, and those who knew him most intimately had a real affection for him. He was sixty-seven years old.

The members of the government who are conducting the tariff inquiry are getting a lot of opinions about

what ought to be done. They spent several days in Toronto, and heard representatives of all branches of trade and manufactures. So far as can be judged from the newspaper reports of the statements made and the answers to questions by the ministers—and we presume they are substantially correct—the ministers have been told by nearly everybody who has been before them that it would be damaging to the business interest generally to reduce the protection now afforded them. The ministers expect this week to visit Hamilton, Brantford and London.

The British fleet in the North Pacific is to be increased considerably in number and efficiency. The increase of Pacific Russian fleet is said to be the cause of this. Great Britain is not often caught napping.

Reports from the Philippine Islands continue to tell of atrocities committed by the Spaniards. Many persons suspected of sympathy with the rebellion have been summarily executed, the executions taking place, generally, within twenty-four hours of the issue of the death warrants. Many spectators witness the executions and seem to enjoy the spectacle, among them being Spanish women. It is, also stated that the Spaniards have arrested many of the wealthy natives or half-castes on suspicion and confiscating their property, whether there be sufficient proof of their guilt or not. In this way the Government is said to have acquired a great deal of valuable property.

The ministers of Winnipeg have begun a crusade against gambling, illicit liquor selling and houses of prostitution, which evils, it is declared, abound in that city. There are other cities in which a like crusade is much needed. And it would seem that the men who are the appointed teachers of religion and morals should be the leaders in such work. What is the good of all the preaching of the pulpits if the public conscience is not moved?

In New South Wales temperance sentiment has grown rapidly, and the purpose to prohibit the liquor traffic is becoming very strong. A local option bill gives localities power to reduce or abolish licenses.

The full returns in the Presidential election show that McKinley's popular majority is not nearly so large as at first reported. It is sufficient, however, to show that the country desires sound money and the continuance of protection.

The rinderpest is making sad havoc in South Africa. According to late reports it threatens the destruction of all the cattle from Uganda southward to Rhodesia, the Orange Free State and Cape Colony. The slaughter of the infected herds is impracticable since it would involve a fresh series of native revolts, and the plague will have to take its course, with the probability that only a small fraction of the cattle in South Africa can be saved. It is feared that it will alter the whole character of life in South Africa, for to put an end to dairy farming and most other present forms of agriculture in that country will drive the rural colonists by thousands to the towns where there is nothing for them to do.

At the meeting of the Baptist Social Union of Manhattan Island a few weeks ago, the gains and present position of the Baptist denomination in the United States were considered. Dr. MacArthur claimed that out of a population of 67,000,000 in the United States the Baptists have 3,750,000. He marshalled the denominational statistics after this fashion—"In 1874 there was one Baptist in the country to every ninety-four of the population; in 1812, one for every forty-two; in 1840, one for every thirty; in 1860, one for every twenty-three; in 1890, one for every twenty-two. Multiplying the total membership by three, we can safely estimate the number of people in the country who have Baptist affiliations to be 12,000,000. The annual growth for the past ten years has been 102,000. On an average, two ministers are received into the denomination every day in the year."

The evils of the drink traffic are realized by the Transvaal Volksraad, which, a short time ago, passed a law prohibiting the sale of liquors to natives. It is estimated that fully twenty per cent. of the laborers in the mines—who number about 47,000—are absent or incapable each day by drink. To prevent this waste the prohibitory law has been passed. The canteens which have flourished at the expense of these poor people and to the detriment of the mining operations, have been run by Russian and Polish Jews, who were able to make an average profit of about \$5.00 a month out of each cus-

tomers. Some of these grog-sellers were willing to pay as much as \$14,000 a year for the privilege of selling; but the authorities did not believe that even so large a license fee would, even from a business point of view, pay.

The Pope's health is reported very feeble. One time last week it was said he was dying. Reports about his health are always so quickly denied that it is difficult to determine just what his condition is. He is, however, an old man, and his death at any time need not be surprising.

In the case of the death of Patrick Brown, in St. John, which was mentioned last week, the Coroner's jury said the death was caused by "exposure." The statement is correct so far as it goes. But the exposure resulting in death would not have occurred but for drink. Why is it that in such cases there is nearly always so great care to avoid any reference to the real cause of the tragedy? The poor fellow's death is to be deplored. His habit of drinking exposed him to the sharks who lie in wait to make a profit out of such ashes, and who do not care what awful thing happens so long as they get their profit out of the transaction. The city authorizes the tariff. And then Coroner's juries attribute the deaths of the victims to "exposure," "visitation of God," or some such thing.

The annual report of the Inland Revenue department, for 1896, just out, shows a slight reduction in the quantity of spirits entered for consumption in Canada. The consumption per head was .62 gal.; in 1895 it was .66 gal. There was, however, an increase in the consumption of malt liquors, the average per head being 3.52 gals., as against 3.47 gals. in 1895. While any diminution in the use of intoxicants is gratifying, it is not pleasant to know that the annual consumption is equal to over four gallons per head of the population. And for these liquors the consumers pay yearly about \$40,000,000.

It was intimated that the successor to the late Governor Fraser would be named on Friday last. But at this writing, Monday, no appointment has been made. The names of Messrs. Gilmour, McLellan and Mitchell have been mentioned. There is an impression that Senator McLellan will be appointed, and that Mr. G. G. King will take his place in the Senate. Mr. McLellan is a very worthy man, and will, doubtless, fill the position acceptably. But Mr. Gilmour is the man who had stronger claim than any other to recognition by the bestowment of this honour. It is only another case of the ingratitude of political parties.

Voices and Echoes.

The preacher who does not know what his people are reading does not know his people.—Dr. Van Dyke.

Free Baptist preachers should know that their people are reading the INTELLIGENCER. If any of them are not reading it, the present is a good time to introduce it to them—and gently, yet firmly, persuade them as to their duty.

Advices from New Hebrides show that natives of the islands are being sold to masters of trading vessels at from £6 to £10 apiece. Some of the natives so sold are subjected to great cruelties.—The Globe.

Why does not somebody propose to authorize and regulate their sale and purchase? The traders would, doubtless, be glad to pay a considerable fee for the right to carry on the trade. The boys and girls in this and other "Christian" countries are sold. The New Hebrides people are behind the times, or they would be getting a revenue out of slave trade.

Generally, an editor "rests" by working in his sanctum six days of the week, and then preaching on Sunday. Even if he does indulge in the luxury of a ten days' visit in the country he has to preach each Sunday.—Telescope.

But he usually enjoys it, glad that he has the privilege to preach and is strong enough to do it.

We have never been able to understand why any man should hesitate to cast a vote according to his conscience.—N. Y. Advocate.

The reference is to votes in Conferences, and other church courts, where, above every place, nothing but conviction should govern votes and other acts. And yet considerations of expediency and of personal feeling do sometimes determine action. It is well said that it must be a painful state of mind to be continually discussing and wondering what will happen to a person if he vote this way or that way. In some cases it develops into a general intellectual hypochondria.

It is difficult, if not impossible, to maintain the spirit of religion in the

household without regular daily worship, including reading of the Scriptures, song and prayer.—Nashville Advocate.

How does this fit your home life?

What Next?

TO THE FREE BAPTISTS OF THE UNITED STATES.

"To be or not to be, that's the question" that now confronts your representatives in India.

It is not a false cry of "Wo! wo!" that we are raising. A hungry wolf, named "Insufficient Receipts," is threatening the very life of the mission. He has grown old and more fierce since he first began to threaten us. We have told you of him again and again, and besought you to kill him ere he kills us, but so far you have turned a deaf ear to our appeals.

Once more we appeal to you for help: unless you help soon it will be too late. We are at a turning-point in the affairs of our mission. A little more of the Lord's money that is being withheld to the hurt of the indifferent and neglected ones at home, turns the scale of life; stationary or decreased receipts turns the scale for death.

The raising of the home debt at the General Conference had a hopeful look; but we soon lost hope when we saw how the regular receipts were lessened, and how inadequate they were to the needs.

March 30, 1896, there was due the missionaries Rs. 1941, or about \$600; Sept. 30, 1896, after distributing the remittance for the last quarter of 1896, there was a shortage of Rs. 4967, or more than \$1600, with nothing to use for preachers and other work except what them missionaries can use of their own salaries.

But, it may be asked, "Why do you not close the work? Why will you run in debt?" We did not know that we were sent here to close the work. We have been laboring under the impression that we were sent to build up, and not to tear down. Some of us have given the best years of our lives to the work, and love it as our lives; and because of this love, and because of our confidence in your ability and willingness to support the work, we have ventured to put our little all into the breach. God grant that our confidence in your love for the work may not have been misplaced! We cannot bear to think of stopping any of our work, we are doing so little in comparison with the needs, and that little has been built up at so great cost; but unless help comes, and comes at once, there is no other alternative.

WHAT NEXT?

We now mention some of the things that might be done.

1. Dismiss one or more missionaries, using their salaries to carry on other work. Perhaps we have too many men. One ordained missionary to each 600,000 of the population. These spare missionaries could go home to help meet the need in a land with an ordained minister to each 700 of the population.

2. Close up one of the stations, selling the property if possible, using that money as long as it lasts to make up the shortage in what you send us.

3. Dismiss the teachers and preachers that we have been so long seeking and training, and without whom we cannot hope to evangelize the field.

4. Close the orphanages, turning the hundred or more orphans out to starve or to a worse fate.

5. Close up all the work and go home, thus relieving the Free Baptists of the burden of carrying on a mission. This latter is the wisest thing to do, if you propose to carry on the work as you have been doing it for the last few years.

Which of the above remedies shall we apply? This concerns you if you are a Free Baptist and a Christian. We have tried to avoid the application of any of these remedies; we may possibly be able to hold on till New Year's; we will try.

WHAT NEXT?

If help does not come with the next remittance we shall be compelled to stop work till the expenses and receipts balance. If you do not help this will be the order of things: the dismissal of missionaries, of preachers and teachers, and ignominious retreat, to the delight of hell and to the grief of the Saviour, who says to you and to me, "Go ye into all the world, and preach the Gospel to every creature."

Dear brethren, your missionaries have not been given to fault-finding; indeed, we are not finding fault now—but we mean every word that we say, when we say help, immediate help, or the closing up of the work to the disgrace of our denomination.

We would spend and be spent for the cause and to prevent such disgrace but seven of us have not the capital to carry on the work that belongs to 80,000 Free Baptists. Tell us quickly and tell us plainly what you want us to do. Leave us no longer in doubt. "And now if you will deal kindly and truly with my master, tell me; and if not, tell me; that I may turn to the right hand or to the left."

We beseech you by the compassion of Christ, that has done so much for you, that you will have compassion on these shepherds less multitudes.

Yours in the love of Christ,
THOS. W. BURKHOLDER,
JULIA P. BURKHOLDER,
E. C. B. HALLAM,
LIDA J. HALLAM,
EDNA C. WILE,
E. B. STYLES,
H. E. WYMAN,
GEO. H. HAMLEN,
M. J. COLDREN,
GEO. AGEER.

Oct. 10th, 1896.